

ELECTION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT ECP SECRETARIAT, ISLAMABAD ON 1ST MARCH, 2021

A meeting of the Hon'ble Election Commission was held on under the Chairmanship of Mr. Sikandar Sultan Raja, Chief Election Commission of Pakistan which was attended by Hon'ble Member Election Commission, Mr. Justice (R) Altaf Ibrahim Qureshi, Justice (R) Mrs. Irshad Qasir, Mr. Shah Muhammad Jatoi and Mr. Nisar Ahmed Durrani.

2 The Commission deliberated on the order/opinion of the Supreme Court passed today in Presidential Reference No. 1/2020 and decided to implement it in letter and spirit. Commission is taking all possible steps and measures to fulfil its constitutional duty to check that corrupt practices in the Senate Elections are guarded against. The Commission has so far not received detailed order/opinion. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of Pakistan has held that the election to the Senate of Pakistan is under the Constitution and the law which is through secret ballot. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in short order mentioned that Election Commission is required to utilize the technologies and to develop mechanism for fulfilment of its constitutional duty in terms of Article 218(3) of the Constitution. The Commission is of the view that input may be taken from different professional/technical organizations which may help to conclude upon it. The Commission decided to constitute a Committee in this regard comprising of:-

- i. Special Secretary as Convenor
- ii. Director General (IT), Member
- iii. Saeed Gul, JPEC, Punjab, Member

3. The Committee shall prepare recommendations regarding use of technology in Senate Election within a period of four weeks. The Committee may also take assistance from NADRA, FIA, Ministry of IT and any person from these organizations may step into it or co-opt it for giving better recommendations.

4. The Commission also decided that due to time constrain, ensuing Senate Election scheduled for 3rd March, 2021 will be conducted as provided in the Constitution and Law as per past practice.