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About PATTAN-Coalition38

PATTAN is one of the leading civil society organisations of Pakistan and has been working to empower marginalised classes to make state and govt bodies accountable for improving governance of elections, disasters and rights. Currently, PATTAN is the secretariat of Coalition38 - a largest network of CSOs, labour unions, CBOs, and intellectuals.

Coalition38 aims to influence the state institutions for the implementation of Articles 3; 29; 37, and 38 of Pakistan's Constitution in letter and spirit through research, awareness raising, social mobilization, networking of civil society including marginalised people and women.

PRESS RELEASE

Civil society strongly rejects ECP's silent and non-transparent move to hide its wrongdoings under the garb of verification of election result forms.

Islamabad, 6 September 2024: PATTAN Coalition-38 - a network of more than 250 associations, CBOs, labour unions deeply shocked to know that the Election Commission of Pakistan, without following any legal process, has quietly formed about 38 teams of its staff to 'verify' the election result forms, which have already been uploaded on its website.

We noted this development with extreme concern as it will not only deepen the existing political polarisation and chaos in the country, but also cover up the misconduct and legal offences.

We are apprehensive that this silent act of the ECP was not only taken in haste but also in a highly suspicious manner. In our view, it has further damaged the already low credibility of the ECP in discharging its constitutional obligations of conducting free, fair and transparent elections.

Our audits of the election results forms of several dozen constituencies posted on the Election Commission website have revealed massive rigging, forgeries and manipulation of the General Election results. We have been demanding since 8th February that a thorough audit of all the election results must be carried out transparently by a third-party to identify the election frauds and the culprits are held accountable under the law. The ECP, instead of acting according to the law and prescribed procedures, appears to have taken this suspicious act to hide election irregularities and rigging.

Therefore, we appeal to the Supreme Court of Pakistan to take Suo Moto notice against the purportedly unlawful act of the ECP and pave the way to conduct a thorough independent audit of all election result forms.

We also urge the Chief Election Commissioner and its members to resign from their posts as they have failed to safeguard the mandate of the people from massive theft.

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