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Analysis of Delimitation of Constituencies under Sindh Local Government Act, 2013 and Election Act, 2017 (A Case Study of Last Delimitation Process of Hyderabad, Sindh)

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines the delimitations laws and rules made thereunder for carving the constituencies especially of local bodies. In this regard district Hyderabad Sindh as Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (HMC) was focused for the sake of analysis. Qualitative method has been adopted by way of which primary data was collected in shape of bare statutes whereas secondary data was gathered from precedents of the court and delimitation forms issued by the Election Commission of Pakistan with a view to delimit the constituencies of local bodies of Hyderabad Sindh for the last local government elections. It has been concluded that gerrymandering has been committed by violating the existing and relevant statutes for political gains.

 Keywords:
 Delimitation, Devolution of Powers, Election, Gerrymandering, Hyderabad

 Municipal Corporation (HMC), Hyderabad Sindh, Local Government

Introduction

Delimitation is a process by which boundaries are drawn, particularly of electoral precincts, states, and counties or other municipalities in the context of election in order to prevent unbalanced of population across district and so also considering physical features. The history shows that prior to the amendments made in Sindh Act No: XXXII of 2021 (The Sindh Local Government (Amendment), 2021) and promulgation of Election Act, 2017 (Election Act, 2017) by virtue of the directions issued by the Honorable apex courts, the delimitation of the constituencies for the local government elections was the prerogative of Government of Sindh. After the above-mentioned amendments in Sindh Local Government Act, 2013 and enforcement of Election Act, 2017 the Election Commission of Pakistan was empowered to delimit the constituencies for local government elections as an autonomous and impartial body. The last local government elections were held in throughout Sindh which were called in question from the day one i.e. since the initiation of delimitation process. The case study of Hyderabad was conducted in order to analyze, evaluate and examine whether the delimitations are in accordance with the prevailing laws and rules or not.

Literature Review

Reviewed the Literature that was available in the shape of relevant Laws, Rules and Instructions and notifications issued by the department concerned. Two Articles published in the different Newspapers were also studied. The opinion of the authors states that the delimitation process is not up to the mark and standards settled by the laws and rules (Imam, 2022) & (Majeed & Mallick, 2018). The main study was taken from the landmark and

leading Judgements passed by the Honorable Superior Courts of Pakistan whereby the amendments were incorporated in SLGA, 2013 and a new law Election Act, 2017 was promulgated (PLD 2014 Supreme Court 531, 2014) & (2014 CLC 335). It may be mentioned that to the extent of Delimitation Process in Pakistan, No more Study in the form of Research Article, Thesis or Dissertation was found. However, it was studied that Pakistan is easier to delimit the constituencies (Rashiduzzaman, 1968). The paper analysis that as one of the many solutions to bring back the city on a path of peace and stability is possible by devising a strategy of delimitation (Lashari & Mirza, 2013). The article founds that delimitation of constituencies in Punjab went against the constitution of Pakistan (Mirbhar, 2019)

Material and Methods

A research is based on qualitative descriptive research so most of the work was carried out through secondary sources such as utilizing, internets, books, newspapers, precedents, case laws, research journals and law journals, & while on other hand all the primary data in shape of Form-08- and Form-09- prepared under rule 19 and rule 21(5) of Election Rules, 2017 respectively of district Hyderabad was also collected. An analytical approach was adopted to analyze and interpret for drawing the results, conclusion, and recommendations.

Brief History of Local Government Laws in Pakistan

The history of local government after the emergence of Pakistan mainly begins from Basic Democracies Order, 1959 which was introduced by the then Field Marshal General Muhammad Ayub Khan whereby the local bodies were devolved and local representatives around 80,000 were elected by the voters from all over the Pakistan (Basic Democracies Order, 1959). Another enactment was presented in the form of Sindh Local Government Ordinance, 1979 in the period of General Zia-Ul-Haq, the same system was not only presented in Sindh but all the rest of the provinces of Pakistan (Sindh Local Government Ordinance, 1979). In 2001, Local Government Ordinance, 2001 was promulgated under the devolution of powers plan 2000 by the then Chief of Army Staff General Pervaiz Musharraf which lasted by 2010 the country over (Sndh Local Government Ordinance, 2001). It may be mentioned that these three local bodies system were introduced by the military regimes, it is also the factual history that no political government dared to enforce any local government system in their eras. In 2013, for the first time in the history of Pakistan, the political governments of all four provinces introduced their own local government acts by acting upon the newly inserted article 140-A by virtue of 18th Amendment made in the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973 with a view to give autonomy to the provinces and devolve political, administrative and financial responsibility and authority to the elected representatives of the local governments (Constitution (Eighteenth Amendment) Act, 2010).

Delimitation Laws at a Glance in Pakistan

The most commonly known act in the context of delimitation remained existed in Pakistan for a long time was "The Delimitation of Constituencies Act, 1974" whose section 09 which was related to principles of delimitation was not only the principles of delimitation for the seats of national and provincial assemblies but also the same principle was followed by the local governments as far as possible, the section 09 is reproduced as under:

"All constituencies for general seats shall, as far as practicable, be delimited having regard to the distribution of population in geographically compact areas, existing boundaries of administrative units, facilities of communication and public convenience and other cognate factors to ensure homogeneity in the creation of constituencies." (The Delimitation of Constituencies, 1974) The Government of Pakistan promulgated Election Act, 2017 whereby a separate chapter –III- (Delimitation of Constituencies) was incorporated to deal with the issues of delimitations and its section 20 reflects the same principle which was in section 09 of the Delimitation of Constituencies Act, 1974. It is important to mention here that the word "local government" for the first time was reduced in writing in the federal level of legislation. It may also be mentioned here that under section 241 of the Election Act, 2017 the Delimitation of Constituencies Act, 1974 was repealed.

So far as, the delimitation history of local governments in the province of Sindh is concerned it was always done by the provincial governments. An Election Authority was constituted by the Government of Sindh under section 33 and 34 of the Sindh Local Government Ordinance, 1979 to conduct the elections of local bodies honestly, justly and fairly (Sindh Local Government Ordinance, 1979). The authority was also empowered under section 36 of the Ordinance, 1979 to de-limit a local area into single or multi member electoral units or both. Likewise, almost in the same manner the Government of Sindh was empowered under section 06 of the Sindh Local Government Act, 2001 through which a union council was delimited including one or more dehs, one or more census villages or a whole number of census block. After the process of delimitation of the above-mentioned smallest units of local bodies, the Government of Sindh also had authority to constitute Town Committee, Municipal Committee, Municipal Corporation and Metropolitan Corporation in Urban Areas and Taluka Council and District Council in rural area under the Ordinance, 1979 whereas the Government used to constitute Taluka, Town, District and City District under the Ordinance, 2001.

Delimitation under Sindh Local Government Act, 2013

The legislators of provincial assembly of Sindh framed Sindh Local Government Act, 2013 whereby for the purpose of delimitation, section 10 and 11 were incorporated enabling the Government of Sindh to notify the delimited union council and union committee in the rural and urban areas respectively besides these powers the Government of Sindh was also empowered for the declaration of urban area comprising as Metropolitan Corporation, District Municipal Corporation, Municipal Committee, Town Committee and Union Committee whereas the rural area consisting upon District Council and Union Council under section 08, 09, 11 and 14 of the Act, 2013 (The Sindh Local Government Act, 2013).

The Act, 2013 and its provisions especially related to the delimitation process was called in question in the court of law by filing a number of constitutional and writ petitions wherein the delimitation process carried out and completed by the Government of Sindh for various Union Committees, Union Councils, Town Committees, Municipal Committees, Municipal Corporation and Metropolitan Corporation(s) in the Province of Sindh was challenged and the petitioners of the above mentioned constitutional petitions had also questioned and assailed the notifications whereby the Deputy Commissioners of the respective districts were appointed Delimitation Officers in respect of local councils established under the Sindh Local Government Act, 2013. It is worthwhile to mention here that some of the petitioners had also challenged the vires of amendments made in the Act, 2013 through Sindh Local Government (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 2013 which was promulgated on 13-12-2013. It was submitted by the petitioners that the Government of Sindh on the one hand committed sheer violation of Article 09, 17, 25, 140-A, 219 and 218 of the constitution of Pakistan while on the other hand the implementation of section 03, 08 to 14, 34 and 153-A of the Act, 2013 were not made in its true letter and spirit.

The above said petitions of the petitioners was allowed by the Honorable High Court of Sindh, Karachi vide its Judgment dated 26-12-2013 having following obiter dicta as well.

Defining Delimitation

The boundary delimitation is the drawing of boundaries, particularly of electoral precincts, states, counties or other municipalities in the context of elections in order to prevent unbalance of population across districts. Sometimes these are drawn based on traditional boundaries, sometimes based on the physical characteristics of the region and often the lines are drawn based on the social, political and cultural context of the area.

Legal Framework

The Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) recommends the following pieces of information be included in this legal framework.

- The Frequency of each determination.
- The criteria for such determination
- The degree of public participation in the process.
- The respective roles of the legislature, judiciary and executive in the process; and
- The ultimate authority for the final determination of the electoral units.

Venice Commission Guidelines

The commission proposes that seats must be evenly distributed between the constituencies on the basis of one of the following criteria:

opulation, number of residents' nationals (including minor), number of registered voters and possibly number of people actually voting that may also include geographical criteria and administrative, or possibly even historical, boundaries may taken into consideration.

Dr. Lisa's Recommendations:

Dr. Lisa Handley is of the view that delimitation should be managed by an independent and impartial body that is representative of the society and be conducted on the basis of clearly identified criteria having accesses to public through consultation process and so also be devoid of manipulation for which she recommends as under:

- Population Density
- Ease of transportation and communication
- Geographic eatures
- Existing patterns of human settlement
- Financial viability and administrative capacity of electoral area
- Financial and administrative consequences of boundary determinations
- Existing boundaries
- Community of Interest

Gerrymandering

Gerrymandering is a practice that attempts to establish a political advantage for a particular party or group by manipulating district boundaries to create partisan advantaged districts, the resulting district is known as gerrymander, however, that word can also be referred to the process. When used to allege that a given party is gaining disproportionate power, the term gerrymandering has negative connotations. Furthermore, unbalanced and discriminatory delimitation is called gerrymandering.

The Honorable Court after having considered the contentions of the petitioners and the respondents and in the light of its obiter dicta disposed of the petitions whereby the entire delimitation exercise carried out by the Government of Sindh was set aside and so also it was suggested for constitution of independent commission by the Government of Sindh with proper rules and procedures to deal with the objections and also provide an independent appellate authority to hear and decide the appeal in the delimitation cases. It is important to mention here that the above-mentioned judgment of the Honorable Court became landmark judgment for the disposal of matters pertains to delimitations of local governments' constituencies (2014 CLC 335)

The respondents in the above-mentioned petitions challenged the judgment of Honorable High court in the Supreme Court of Pakistan where the Honorable Supreme court of Pakistan dismissed all the appeals/petitions filed by the respondents (Government of Sindh) and directed the Federal Government to make necessary enactments to empowers the Election Commission of Pakistan to carry out the delimitation of constituencies of local governments. The Honorable Supreme Court of Pakistan also directed respondents (Government of Sindh) to make necessary corresponding amendments in the Sindh Local Government Act, 2013 (PLD 2014 Supreme Court 531, 2014).

In the context of the judgment supra passed by Honorable Supreme Court of Pakistan, the amendment in section 10 of the Sindh Local Government Act, 2013 was carried out by the legislators of the Provincial Assembly Sindh by way of which the power to delimit the union councils and union committee was extended to the Election Commission of Pakistan (The Sindh Local Government (Amendment) Act, 2015). It may also be mentioned that the Federal Government for the first time legislated to delimit the constituencies of local governments under section 17 of the Election Act, 2017 whereby Election Commission of Pakistan was mandated to do so (Election Act, 2017).

Last Local Government Elections, Held in Hyderabad, Sindh

- On 19-11-2021 Election Commission of Pakistan issues a notification for caring out the i. delimitation of Union Councils, Union Committees/Wards in each district of Sindh province in exercise of his power conferred upon it under Article 222(b) of the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973, section 17 and 221 of the Election Act, 2017 read with sub-section (2) of section 10 of Sindh Local Government Act, 2013 and so also issues notification to reconstitute/ reappoint the delimitation committees for carrying out the delimitation of union councils, union committees/wards in each district of Sindh province in pursuance of Article 222 (b) of the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973, Section 222 of Election Act, 2017, Rule 16 of Election Rules, 2017, sub-rule (1) of rule 08 of Sindh Local Councils (Election) Rules, 2015 (Notification No: F, 6(3)2021-LGE-S , 2021). It may be mentioned that the Election Commission of Pakistan had already issued a series of such type of notifications dated 31-08-2020 (Notification No: F.6(3)/2020-LGE-S, 2020), 01-09-2020 (Notification No: F.6(3)/2020-LGE-S, 2020), 01-06-2021 (Notification No: F.6(3)/2020-LGE-S, 2021) etc. but the delimitation process was not started all over Sindh especially in Hyderabad Sindh.
- ii. On 30-11-2021 the Government of Sindh issues notification whereby the areas falling in the jurisdiction of district council Hyderabad (rural areas) were declared as urban area and merged in Hyderabad Municipal Corporation and so also areas falling in the jurisdiction of Municipal Committee Qasimabad, Municipal Committee Tando Jam and Town Committee Husri were merged in Hyderabad Municipal Corporation. The political parties including the stakeholders raised their voices against the notification declaring that it is sheer violations of section 8 to 14 of Sindh Local Government Act, 2013. The analysis of these sections reveals that the notification dated 30-11-2021 is void ab-initio as the district Hyderabad Sindh was declared an urban area by way of amendment in sub-clause (ii) of clause (b) section 15 of Sindh Local Government Act, 2013 (The Sindh Local Government (Amendment), 2021) which was brought on 24-12-2021 meaning thereby the notification was issued around three weeks earlier than the amendment passed.

iii. On 31-12-2021 the Government of Sindh issued a notification (Notification No: RO(LG)/E.Com :/14(20)/2021 , 2021) whereby number of local councils including Municipal Corporation, Town Municipal Corporation and Union Committee were notified by of which district Hyderabad was declared Hyderabad Municipal Corporation comprising over -09- Town Municipal Corporations (TMCs) and 160 Union Committees. It may be mentioned here that the population of Hyderabad Municipal Corporation excluding the cantonments areas is 2099466. It is also pertinent to mention here that the delimitation of following towns was made by Government of Sindh in the garb of declaring number of towns by way of simple notification which does not touch the prudent mind who has gone through the detailed judgments authored by the superior courts of Pakistan meaning thereby such delimitation of Town Municipal Corporation on the one hand in the context of the judgment of superior courts cannot be declared lawful and legal while on the other hand if the General Instructions issued by the Election Commission of Pakistan are considered, the delimitation of Town Municipal Corporation in HMC district Hyderabad are also in sheer violations of these General Instruction which are reproduced as under:

> "The first and foremost principle of delimitation of constituencies is uniformity of population" the Election Commission of Pakistan had also illustrated the formula as follows:

> "The average population for delimitation of Union Councils/Union Committees. It shall be determined by dividing the entire population of a local area with the number of Union Councils/Union Committee to be delimited for that Local Area".

Quota for local area =	<u>Total Population of Local Area</u>		
	No. of Union Councils/Union Committee		

For Example:

Population of Local Area "A" = 50000 No. of Union Councils to be delimited in Local Area "A" =10

Quota of Union Councils = <u>50000</u> =5000" 10

Results and Discussion

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION must be carved as below.

According to the above-mentioned illustrated formula the population of TOWN

Population of HMC		=	2099466
No. of TMCs to be delimited in Local Area		=	-09-
Quota of TMCs = <u>2099466</u> 09	=233274 (±5% of Que	ota TMC	Cs)

And Whereas, According to the above-mentioned illustrated formula the population of **UNION COMMITTEE** should be carved as below.

Population of HMC			=	2099466
No. of UC to be delim	ited in Local Are	ea	=	-160-
Quota of UCs	= <u>2099466</u> 160	=1312	2 (±5%	of Quota UCs)

Municipal Corporation (HMC) District Hyderabad				
Sr. No:	Name of Town Municipal Corporation	Population	Difference	
01	TMC Nerun Kot	225258	-8016	
02	TMC Mian Sarfaraz	247626	14352	
03	TMC Paretabad	232343	-931	
04	TMC Shah Latifabad	258730	25456	
05	TMC Sachal Sarmast	279424	46150	
06	TMC Hussainabad	232270	-1004	
07	TMC Qasimabad	253816	20542	
08	TMC Tando Fazal	187122	-46152	
09	TMC Tando Jam	182877	-50397	
	Total	2099466		

Table 1
Comparison of Population of Town Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad
Municipal Corporation (HMC) District Hyderabad

The comparison of Table 1. shows that the difference in population in TMC Tando Jam and Tando Fazal is 50397 and 46152 respectively which is less than the quota of TMCs population which is 233274 derived from the above-mentioned formula set by Election Commission of Pakistan whereas the difference in Population of TMCs Sachal Sarmast, Shah Latifabad and Mian Sarfaraz is 46150, 25456 and 14352 respectively which is greater than the quota of TMCs. The analysis shows the delimitations of the Town Municipal Corporations in Hyderabad Municipal Corporation were not carried out in accordance with the existing laws and rules of the delimitation.

Corporation (HMC) District Hyderabad				
Sr. No	Name of Town Municipal Corporation	Population	Difference	
1	Union Committee No: 1	11154	-1968	
2	Union Committee No:2	11248	-1874	
3	Union Committee No:3	12229	-893	
4	Union Committee No:4	12962	-160	
5	Union Committee No:5	11117	-2005	
6	Union Committee No:6	13186	64	
7	Union Committee No:7	14634	1512	
8	Union Committee No:8	13712	590	
9	Union Committee No:9	12664	-458	
10	Union Committee No:10	13164	42	
11	Union Committee No:11	11948	-1174	
12	Union Committee No:12	13107	-15	
13	Union Committee No:13	13145	23	
14	Union Committee No:14	13984	862	
15	Union Committee No:15	11652	-1470	
16	Union Committee No:16	11063	-2059	
17	Union Committee No:17	12545	-577	
18	Union Committee No:18	11744	-1378	
19	Union Committee No:19	13709	587	
20	Union Committee No:20	13266	144	
21	Union Committee No:21	13727	605	
22	Union Committee No:22	13999	877	
23	Union Committee No:23	12252	-870	
24	Union Committee No:24	12698	-424	

Table 2Comparison of Population of Union Committees (UCs) of Hyderabad MunicipalCorporation (HMC) District Hyderabad

25	Union Committee No:25	13858	736
26	Union Committee No:26	13478	356
27	Union Committee No:27	13406	284
28	Union Committee No:28	13596	474
29	Union Committee No:29	13410	288
30	Union Committee No:30	13575	453
31	Union Committee No:31	13345	223
32	Union Committee No:32	14808	1686
33	Union Committee No:33	13692	570
34	Union Committee No:34	13181	59
35	Union Committee No:35	16430	3308
36	Union Committee No:36	15196	2074
37	Union Committee No:37	13126	4
38	Union Committee No:38	12640	-482
39	Union Committee No:39	12313	-809
40	Union Committee No:40	12421	-701
41	Union Committee No:41	13728	606
42	Union Committee No:42	12396	-726
43	Union Committee No:43	12833	-289
44	Union Committee No:44	12880	-242
45	Union Committee No:45	12415	-707
46	Union Committee No:46	13079	-43
47	Union Committee No:47	13077	149
48	Union Committee No:48	11998	-1124
49	Union Committee No:49	13052	-70
50	Union Committee No:50	12863	-259
51	Union Committee No:51	13307	185
52	Union Committee No:52	11739	-1383
53	Union Committee No:52	14613	1491
54	Union Committee No:54	13669	547
55	Union Committee No:55	11265	-1857
56	Union Committee No:55	11203	-1899
57	Union Committee No:57	10998	-2124
58	Union Committee No:57	11569	-1553
<u> </u>	Union Committee No:58	11509	-1333
60	Union Committee No:60	11128	-1994
61	Union Committee No:61	15803	2681
62	Union Committee No:62	10445	-2677
63	Union Committee No:63	10221	-2901
<u>64</u>	Union Committee No:64	11344	-1778
65	Union Committee No:65	11679	-1443
66	Union Committee No:66	10459	-2663
67	Union Committee No:67	11400	-1722
68	Union Committee No:68	11203	-1919
69	Union Committee No:69	11440	-1682
70	Union Committee No:70	11075	-2047
71	Union Committee No:71	12293	-829
72	Union Committee No:72	11248	-1874
73	Union Committee No:73	11410	-1712

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74	Union Committee No:74	11577	-1545
75	Union Committee No:75	10185	-2937
76	Union Committee No:76	9556	-3566
77	Union Committee No:77	8849	-4273
78	Union Committee No:78	10232	-2890
79	Union Committee No:79	10861	-2261
80	Union Committee No:80	9908	-3214
81	Union Committee No:81	10989	-2133
82	Union Committee No:82	9992	-3130
83	Union Committee No:83	10551	-2571
84	Union Committee No:84	12204	-918
85	Union Committee No:85	13285	163
86	Union Committee No:86	12659	-463
87	Union Committee No:87	11323	-1799
88	Union Committee No:88	15205	2083
89	Union Committee No:89	14039	917
90	Union Committee No:90	15237	2115
91	Union Committee No:91	14244	1122
92	Union Committee No:92	14502	1380
93	Union Committee No:93	13432	310
94	Union Committee No:94	12995	-127
95	Union Committee No:95	14699	1577
96	Union Committee No:96	15275	2153
97	Union Committee No:97	15510	2388
98	Union Committee No:98	15513	2391
99	Union Committee No:99	15728	2606
100	Union Committee No:100	14979	1857
101	Union Committee No:101	14383	1261
102	Union Committee No:102	16031	2909
103	Union Committee No:103	14903	1781
104	Union Committee No:104	15497	2375
105	Union Committee No:105	15829	2707
106	Union Committee No:106	11423	-1699
107	Union Committee No:107	12405	-717
108	Union Committee No:108	12962	-160
109	Union Committee No:109	13803	681
110	Union Committee No:110	15679	2557
111	Union Committee No:111	14920	1798
112	Union Committee No:112	15197	2075
113	Union Committee No:113	14627	1505
114	Union Committee No:114	14682	1560
115	Union Committee No:115	14556	1434
116	Union Committee No:116	14415	1293
117	Union Committee No:117	13762	640
118	Union Committee No:118	15008	1886
119	Union Committee No:119	14289	1167
120	Union Committee No:120	14304	1182
121	Union Committee No:121	13729	607
122	Union Committee No:122	14828	1706
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123	Union Committee No:123	15365	2243
124	Union Committee No:124	14199	1077
125	Union Committee No:125	14798	1676
126	Union Committee No:126	12890	-232
127	Union Committee No:127	10168	-2954
128	Union Committee No:128	10681	-2441
129	Union Committee No:129	10944	-2178
130	Union Committee No:130	11351	-1771
131	Union Committee No:131	11427	-1695
132	Union Committee No:132	12129	-993
133	Union Committee No:133	14505	1383
134	Union Committee No:134	12331	-791
135	Union Committee No:135	14745	1623
136	Union Committee No:136	13052	-70
137	Union Committee No:137	13797	675
138	Union Committee No:138	16208	3086
139	Union Committee No:139	13797	675
140	Union Committee No:140	13426	304
141	Union Committee No:141	11911	-1211
142	Union Committee No:142	14110	988
143	Union Committee No:143	16644	3522
144	Union Committee No:144	14293	1171
145	Union Committee No:145	14433	1311
146	Union Committee No:146	12195	-927
147	Union Committee No:147	14759	1637
148	Union Committee No:148	13185	63
149	Union Committee No:149	15815	2693
150	Union Committee No:150	17039	3917
151	Union Committee No:151	15852	2730
152	Union Committee No:152	13493	371
153	Union Committee No:153	15565	2443
154	Union Committee No:154	16535	3413
155	Union Committee No:155	11051	-2071
156	Union Committee No:156	13252	130
157	Union Committee No:157	13915	793
158	Union Committee No:158	13577	455
159	Union Committee No:159	10810	-2312
160	Union Committee No:160	11403	-1719

The comparison of Table 2. of Union Committees of HMC Hyderabad Sindh shows that the population in 59 Union Committees is less than the quota of UCs population which is 13122 derived from the above-mentioned formula set by Election Commission of Pakistan whereas the Population of 53 UCs is greater than the quota of UCs and whereas only 48 Union Committees out of 160 UCs of HMC Hyderabad Sindh are according to the existing laws and rules of the delimitation. The above calculation categorically states that 70% UCs of HMC Hyderabad Sindh have been carved in sheer violation of the existing laws and rules.

NOTE: the above- mentioned data of both the tables have been taken from the Form-08- and Form-09- prepared under rule 19 and rule 21(5) of Election Rules, 2017 respectively made by Election Commission of Pakistan.

Conclusion

The process of delimitation of constituencies is amongst the most important subjects of a country. A truly done delimitation guarantees one vote to one person in order to elect rightful representatives by the citizens with a view to rule them for the sake of their betterment in all respect. The analysis brought under discussion in the supra paragraphs clearly states that the sheer violations have been committed by the Government of Sindh and Election Commission of Pakistan as well by way of suppressing section 20 of Election Act, 2017, Rule 17 & 21 of Election Rules, 2017, Section 10 of Sindh Local Government Act, 2013, Rule 8 of Sindh Local Councils (Elections) Rules, 2015 and General Instructions issued by the Election Commission of Pakistan with regard to the delimitation.

The study during the research work in respect of delimitation was conducted having a case of district Hyderabad, Sindh. The results and findings show that gerrymandering has been done in 112 Union Committees out of 160 Union Committees of Hyderabad Municipal Corporation and so also around 05 Town Municipal Corporations were unbalanced and disturbed out of 09 TMCs of Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Hyderabad Sindh with a view to gain political benefits. It is worthwhile to mention here that only one factor i.e. POPULATION was taken to compare and contrast the data whereas the other factors of delimitations included in the laws existing in the Pakistan such as geographically compactness of areas, boundaries of administrative units, facilities of communication, public convenience and other cognate factors to ensure homogeneity in the creation of constituencies are tested there would be more than 70% possibilities and probabilities of illegalities and irregularities in delimiting the local government constituencies in the district of Hyderabad Sindh.

Recommendations

- The period of delimitation process should be at least six months.
- The appellate authority should be judges of session courts.
- The delimitation of boundaries should be published among the people for the sake of awareness by using modern devices and tools besides the traditional methods.
- The maps of the carved constituencies should be provided at the expenses of government and it may also be mentioned that while drawing of maps the help of satellite/google maps must be taken for the ease of reading for a common man.
- Proper and efficacious opportunity of being heard should also be provided to the complainant of the delimitation process.

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