REGISTERED No. M - 302
L.-7646

The Gazette of Pakistan

EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

ISLAMABAD, MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024

PART II

Statutory Notifications (S. R. O.)

GOVERNMENT OF GILGIT-BALTISTAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

Gilgit, the 5th March, 2024

S. R. O. 432(I)/2024.—In exercise of the powers conferred under section 138 of the Gilgit-Baltistan Local Government Act, 2014 (III of 2014), read with section 5, the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan is pleased to make the following Rules:

THE GILGIT-BALTISTAN LOCAL COUNCILS (DELIMITATION) RULES, 2023

1. **Short title, application and commencement.**—(1) These Rules may be called the Gilgit-Baltistan Local Councils (Delimitation) Rules, 2023.

(2) These Rules shall be applicable to the delimitation of local councils in the Gilgit-Baltistan.

(3) These Rules shall come into force at once.

2. **Definitions.**—(1) In these Rules, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject context,—

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[7421(2024)/Ex. Gaz.]

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(i) "Act" means the Gilgit-Baltistan Local Government Act, 2014 (III of 2014);

(ii) "Commission" means the Election Commission Gilgit-Baltistan;

(iii) "Committee" means the Delimitation Committee constituted and notified by the Commission under Section 222 of "The Elections Act 2017;

(iv) "Council" means a union council, district council, town committee, municipal committee, municipal corporation, city metropolitan corporation;

(v) "election" means election to Local Councils in Gilgit-Baltistan;

(vi) "Form" means a Form appended to these rules; and

(vii) "population" means the population in accordance with the last preceding population census officially published/ available.

(2) All words and expressions used but not defined shall have the same meanings as are assigned to them in the Act or the Election Act, 2017(Act No. XXXIII 2017) and the rules made there under.

3. **Delimitation by Commission.**—The Commission shall delimit Union Councils, District Councils, Town Committees, Municipal Committees, Municipal Corporations and City Metropolitan Corporation in accordance with the provisions of Section 222 of Election Act, 2017.

4. **Procedure of Commission.**—(1) The Commission shall regulate its own procedure.

(2) If, upon any matter requiring decision of the Commission, there is difference of opinion amongst its members, the opinion of the majority shall prevail and the decision of the Commission shall be expressed in terms of the opinion of the majority.

(3) The Commission may exercise its powers and perform its functions notwithstanding that any one of its members is, for any reason, unable to attend its proceedings and the decision of at least three members shall have the effect of the decision of the Commission:

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Provided that where the members attending the proceedings of the Commission are equally divided in their opinion, the opinion of the Chairman of the Commission shall prevail and the decision of the Commission shall be expressed in terms of that opinion.

5. **Delegation of powers, etc.**—(1) The Commission may authorize one or more of its members, acting singly or together, to exercise and perform all or any of its powers and functions under these rules.

(2) Where two or more members are authorized under sub-section(1).—

(a) Their decision shall be expressed in terms of the opinion of the majority; or

(b) If they are equally divided, the matter shall be placed before the Commission, for decision.

6. **Assistance to the Commission.**—(1) The Commission or any officer, authorized in this behalf, may require any person or authority, performing executive, functions in connection with the affairs of the Gilgit-Baltistan, to perform such functions or render such assistance in connection with delimitation as it or he may direct.

(2) All executive authorities of Government shall assist the Commission in the performance of its functions and for this purpose the Commission may issue such directions as it may consider necessary.

7. **Composition of union council.**—Every union council shall be a single-member ward for election of the following members:

(a) For a population of 800 to 2500 as per the last notified/available census data, one ward of Union Council may be proposed;

(b) 33% of the number of directly elected members, shall be reserved for women;

(c) One member elected to seat reserved for non-muslims in union council where non-muslims are registered as voters.

8. **Number of union council.**—The total number of union councils, in every district, shall be such as proposed by the relevant authorities after finalization of demarcation and approved by the GB Cabinet.

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9. **Principles for delimitation of union council.**—A union council shall be delimited by the Committee on the principles laid down in Section 222 of the Election Act, 2017 and such other instructions as may be issued by the Commission from time to time.

10. **Composition of District Council.**—Every district council shall have as many number of constituencies as equal to the number of members proposed by the Committee and approved by the Commission for election to the general seats which shall be determined on the basis of the following population threshold:

(a) For a population of 5000 to 9000 in a district as per the last notified/available census data, one constituency of district council may be proposed;

(b) 33% of the number of directly elected members, shall be reserved for women;

(c) One member elected to seat reserved for non-muslims in district council where non-muslims are registered as voters.

11. **Principles for delimitation of district council.**—A district council shall be delimited by the Committee on the principles laid down in Section 222 of the Election Act, 2017 and such other instructions as may be issued by the Commission from time to time.

12. **Composition of Town Committee/Municipal Committees/ Municipal Corporation/ City Metropolitan Corporation.**—Every Town Committee//Municipal Committees/Municipal Corporation/City Metropolitan Corporation shall have as many number of wards as proposed by the Committee and approved by the Commission for election to general seats as per the following population bracket:

(a) For a population of 1000 to 2500 as per the last notified/available census data, one ward of Town Committee may be proposed.

(b) For a population of 1000 to 2500 as per the last notified/available census data, one ward of Municipal Committee may be proposed.

(c) For a population of 1200 to 2500 as per the last notified/available census data, one ward of Municipal Corporation may be proposed.

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(d) For a population of 2000 to 4500 as per the last notified/available census data, one ward of City Metropolitan Corporation may be proposed.

(e) 33% of the number of general seats, shall be reserved for women in every town committee/ municipal committees/ municipal corporation/ city metropolitan corporation who shall be the indirectly elected members;

(f) One member elected to seat reserved for non-muslims in every town committee/municipal committees/ municipal corporation/ city metropolitan corporation where non-muslims are registered as voters.

13. **Number of Town Committees/ Municipal Committees/ Municipal Corporation/ City Metropolitan Corporation.**—The total number of town committees/ municipal committees /municipal corporation/ city metropolitan corporation, in every district, shall be such as proposed by the relevant authorities after finalization of demarcation and approved by the GB Cabinet.

14. **Principles for delimitation of Town Committees/Municipal Committees/ Municipal Corporation/ City Metropolitan Corporation.**—A town committee/municipal committees/ municipal corporation/city metropolitan corporation shall be delimited by the Committee on the principles laid down in Section 222 of the Election Act, 2017 and such other instructions as may be issued by the Commission from time to time.

15. **Appointment of Delimitation Committee.**—(1) For the purposes of delimitation of union council, the Commission shall appoint a Delimitation Committee for each district in light of section 222 of the Elections Act, 2017 (Act No XXXIII of 2017).

(2) The Revenue or other executive officers, posted in the district, shall provide necessary assistance to the Delimitation Committee in carrying out delimitation in the district.

16. **Functions of the Delimitation Committee.**—Subject to the principles of delimitation, specified in the Act, the Delimitation Committee shall, within thirty days, as per schedule, prepare and publish a preliminary report and list, in Form-I for Union Councils, Form II for District Councils, Form III for Town Committee/ Municipal Committee/ Municipal Corporation/City Metropolitan Corporation (whichever is applicable), specifying the areas/ villages/ census blocks comprising a council (union councils/ district councils/ town committee/ municipal committee/ municipal corporation/ city metropolitan

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corporation) and number of members of each council against general and reserved seat(s) in the district for information of the public and inviting objections, if any:

While delimiting a council, the principle of equal representations may be kept in view and number of members in council may be fixed on the basis of its population:

Provided that if deemed necessary, the Delimitation Committee may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, alter population threshold in a Council with the prior approval of the Commission.

17. **Assistance to the Delimitation Committee.**—(1) Subject to superintendence, direction and control of the Commission, the Delimitation Committee may require any person or authority to perform such functions or render such assistance as may be required for the purposes of delimitation.

18. **Appointment of Delimitation Authority.**—The Commission may appoint from the officers of the subordinate judiciary in consultation with the Chief Judge of the Gilgit-Baltistan Chief Court as many Delimitation Authorities as may be required to hear and decide the objections against the delimitation carried out by the Delimitation Committee.

19. **Manner of filing objections before the Delimitation Authority.**—(1) A registered voter in Council may make an objection to the Delimitation Authority in respect of the preliminary delimitation of that Council within twenty five of the delimitation by the Delimitation Committee.

(2) The objection shall be signed by the person making it and be presented either in person or through an agent duly authorized in writing.

(3) The Delimitation Authority may hold inquiries, summon witnesses and record evidence as it may deem necessary and shall decide the objections within twenty days of delimitation.

(4) The Delimitation Authority shall as early as possible, but not later than five days after last day fixed for disposal of objections communicate its decisions to the Delimitation Committee.

(5) The Delimitation Committee shall incorporate the decisions of the Delimitation Authority received by it under sub-rule (4) in the preliminary list of the Councils and shall prepare final list of **Union Council on Form-IV, District Council on Form-V and Town Committees/ Municipal Committees/ Municipal Corporation/City Metropolitan Corporation on Form-VI** and

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publish the same as may be directed by the Commission, and send a copy thereof to the Commissioner for publication in the official Gazette.

20. **Register of objections.**—The Delimitation Authority shall maintain the record of objections in Form-VII.

21. **Supply of copies.**—Any person, who intends to obtain a copy of preliminary or final list of a Council, so published under rule 19, may, on payment of fee at the rate of rupees ten per page in the shape of Court fee stamps be obtained.

22. **Power of the Commission to make amendment, alteration or modification in the final list.**—Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Commission may, at any time, of its own motion, make such amendments, alterations or modifications in the final list of the councils, as it thinks necessary.

23. **Removal of difficulties.**—If any difficulty arises in giving effect to any of the provisions of these Rules, the Commission may make such provision for the removal of the difficulty as it may deem fit.

24. **Bar of jurisdiction.**—The validity of delimitation or of any proceedings taken or anything done by or under the authority of the Commission under these rules shall not be called in question in any Court.

Form-I (see rule 16)

Preliminary List of Union Councils

Name of Sub-Division.....Name of District.....

Serial No.	Name of Union Council Approved by the GB Cabinet after Demarcation	Name/ Number of Ward	Extent of Union Council (Name of Electoral Area/Villages)	Census Blocks Included in Union Council	Population
1	2	3	4	5	6

Date.....

1.....2.....3.....

Place..... (Name, Designation and Signature of Delimitation Committee

Members

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Form-II
(See Rule-16)
Preliminary List of District Councils

Name of District.....

Serial No.	Name of District Council	Name/ Number of Constituency	Extent of Constituency (Electoral Area/UCs)	Census Blocks included in the constituency	Population
1	2	3	4	5	6

Date.....
1.....2.....3.....
Place.....(Name, Designation and Signature of Delimitation Committee Members

Form-III
(See Rule-16)

Preliminary List of town committees/ municipal committees /municipal corporation/city metropolitan corporation (strike whichever is applicable).

Name of Council.....Name of District.....

Serial No.	Name of Council	Name/Number of Ward	Extent of Ward (Electoral Area/Villages)	Census Blocks included in the Ward	Population
1	2	3	4	5	6

Date.....

1.....2.....3.....

.....

Place..... (Name, Designation, Signature and Stamp of Delimitation Authority)

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Form-VI

(Seerule19)

Final List of town committees/municipal committees /municipal corporation/city metropolitan corporation (strike whichever is applicable).

Name of Council.....Name of District.....

Serial No.	Name of Council	Name/ Number of Ward	Extent of Ward (Electoral Area/Villages)	Census Blocks included in the Ward	Population
1	2	3	4	5	6

Date.....

1.....2.....3.....

Place..... (Name, Designation, Signature and Stamp of Delimitation Authority)

Form-VII (See rule 20)

Register of Objections Filed Against Preliminary Delimitation of Councils

S#	Date of Filing	Name & Address of person Filing Representation	Name of Council	Date of Hearing	Decision of Delimitation Authority	
					Accepted	Rejected
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1						
2						
3						
4						

Date..... (Name, Designation, Signature and Stamp of Delimitation Authority Place.....

[No. ALA-1(1)/2024-GBA.]

RAHIM GUL,
Secretary.

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PUBLISHED BY THE DEPUTY CONTROLLER, STATIONERY AND FORMS, UNIVERSITY ROAD, KARACHI.

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Form-IV

(See Rule-19)

Final List of Union Councils

Name of Sub-Division.....Name of District.....

Serial No.	Name of Union Council Approved by the GB Cabinet after Demarcation	Name /Number of Ward	Extent of Union Council (Name of Electoral Area/ Villages)	Census Included in the Union Council	Population
1	2		3	4	5

Date.....

1.....2.....3.....

Place..... (Name, Designation and Signature of Delimitation Committee Members

Form-V

(See Rule-19)

Final List of District Councils

Name of District.....

Serial No.	Name of District Council	Name/ Number of Constituency	Extent of Constituency (Electoral Area/ UCs)	Census Blocks included in the constituency	Population
1	2	3	4	5	6

Date.....

1.....2.....3.....

.....

Place.....(Name, Designation and Signature of Delimitation Committee Members

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