



PRESS RELEASE

September 2, 2009

Total Complaints received on and after Polling Day	2,187
Total Complaints assessed and categorized	2,089
Total Complaints assessed as Priority A	652
Total Complaints received to date (including Campaign Period)	2,654

Complaints Updates

- 2,187 Complaints filed during Polling and Counting have been received at the ECC Complaints Processing Center (CPC) **as of 4pm on 01 September, 2009;**
- After Complaints have undergone intake, they are assessed and placed into one of three categories. Category A Complaints are those which if determined valid could have a material effect on the results. Category A Complaints are given priority in regard to investigation and adjudication;
- As of 4pm on 01 September, 652 of the 2,089 Complaints which have been assessed and categorized are considered to be Category A Complaints;
- Received Complaints vary. They include allegations of ballot stuffing, poor quality ink, intimidation and accusations against polling staff;
- Of Complaints assessed so far (A, B and C) 39.4% involve allegations of polling irregularities, while a further 29.6% concern undue influence (including intimidation, violation and campaigning). 11.4% of the Complaints involve issues pertaining to access to Polling Stations;
- The vast majority of Category A Complaints involve allegations of polling irregularities (87%). 6% involve allegations of counting irregularities;
- The province with the highest number of Category A Complaints is Baghlan (71). Kabul and Kandahar have the next highest tally of Category A Complaints (55 and 39 respectively). Please refer to the attached spreadsheet detailing A, B and C Complaints in each province.

Investigation Updates

- The ECC has downsized the Complaints Processing Center as it shifts focus and resources to investigation of Category A Complaints. Investigation is ongoing in a number of provinces;
- ECC Commissioners and investigators have visited three locations to conduct investigation, including Ghazni, Paktika and two trips to Kandahar. PECCs have been tasked to conduct investigation within a number of provinces.

Reminders

- The number of Category A Complaints is subject to change; investigation may result in an A Complaint reassessed as a B Complaint and vice versa;

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Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Electoral Complaints Commission

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- The number of Complaints does not reflect the number of required decisions; one decision may address allegations that are contained in several Complaints;
 - In order for the elections results to be certified, the ECC must first adjudicate Complaints it has received;
 - IEC conducts its own internal audits regarding polling irregularities;
 - The ECC reminds persons or organizations intending to file complaints that its Rules of Procedure require complaints to be filed within 72 hours after an alleged violation has taken place.

The Electoral Complaints Commission of Afghanistan is an independent body established under Article 52 of the Electoral Law to adjudicate all complaints concerning the electoral process. Complaints must be submitted within 72 hours of the offence. All complaints submitted to the ECC will be dealt with in an impartial, transparent and timely manner. The ECC will be thorough about serious cases, and candidates and their supporters should be patient for the outcome of the complaints process.

For more information, please contact:

Ahmad Muslim Khuram
ahmad.muslem@ecc.org.af
+93 (0) 798188605