

## FAFEN Pre-Election Update II

### **Political Campaigning at Government Buildings**

#### **Executive Summary**

The ruling Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians had the highest incidence of campaign materials posted at public buildings/offices between February 1 and 7, 2013. These observations were made by the Free and Fair Election Network's District Long-Term Observers (DLTOs) in 14 districts across Sindh and Punjab.

The material included party banners, posters, stickers and wall chalking on the premises of public offices. FAFEN observers saw PPPP posters, graffiti and stickers at 17 public offices, followed by Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) which had such material at five. Seven other parties also had their campaign material at public places.

Campaign material was seen at public buildings in all observed districts. Most of the material was found at the offices of Deputy Commissioners (DCs) and District Coordination Officers (DCOs), followed by those of Executive District Officers (EDOs) Education. Across 14 districts, FAFEN observers found party stickers pasted at 13 offices and posters up at nine. They saw wall chalking at eight offices and banners of political parties at four offices.

The following table summarizes the preliminary observations reported by FAFEN observers:

<b>Province</b>	<b>Reporting Districts</b>	<b>Number of Reporting Districts</b>
<b>Punjab</b>	Narowal, Sialkot	2
<b>Sindh</b>	Karachi East, Karachi West, Jamshoro, Sukkur, Larkana, Matiari, Thatta, Badin, Ghotki, Hyderabad, Shaheed Benazirabad, Malir	12
<b>Total</b>		14

FAFEN has deployed 130 DLTOs across the country as part of its election observation program. DLTOs are monitoring both the pre-election and post-election environment in every district of Pakistan. Constituency Long-Term Observers will observe the two-month official political campaign period in all National Assembly constituencies.

#### **Party-wise analysis**

According to data gathered by FAFEN District Long-Term Observers (DLTOs), Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians' (PPPP) banners, wall chalking, posters and stickers were seen at 17 government offices, while Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) had its campaign material at five.

Observers also found material belonging to Pakistan Peoples Party - Shaheed Bhutto (PPP-SB), Pakistan Muslim League - Functional (PML-F), Jamaat-e-Islami (JI), Pakistan Awami Tehreek (PAT), Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM), Sindh Taraqqi Pasand Party (STPP) and Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians Patriots (PPPPP) on the premises of various government offices. In addition, a government worker was observed stationed in an office of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F).

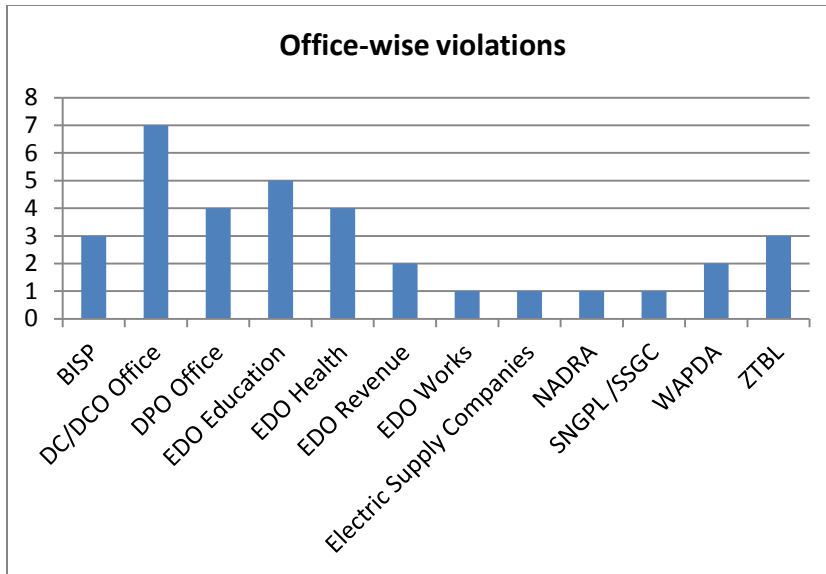
<b>Political Party</b>	<b>Number of Violations</b>	<b>Number of Districts</b>	<b>Districts</b>
PPPP	17	9	Sindh: Thatta, Shaheed Benazirabad, Malir, Badin, Jamshoro, Sukkur, Larkana, Matiari Punjab: Sialkot
PML-N	5	2	Sindh: Larkana Punjab: Sialkot
PPP-SB	4	3	Sindh: Thatta, Hyderabad, Karachi West
PML-F	2	2	Sindh: Ghotki, Matiari
JI	2	2	Punjab: Sialkot, Narowal
PAT	1	1	Sindh: Badin
MQM	1	1	Sindh: Karachi East
STPP	1	1	Sindh: Thatta
PPPPP	1	1	Sindh: Larkana
JUI-F	1	1	Balochistan: Mastung

### **Province-wise analysis**

FAFEN observers found campaign material in all 14 districts observed - 12 in Sindh (76%) and two in Punjab (24%). Reporting districts in Sindh were Karachi East, Karachi West, Jamshoro, Sukkur, Larkana, Matiari, Thatta, Badin, Ghotki, Shaheed Benazirabad, Malir and Hyderabad. Punjab districts were Narowal and Sialkot. Types of materials seen in specific districts are noted in another section below.

### **Office-wise analysis**

Most of the campaign material seen by FAFEN observers was on the premises of Deputy Commissioner/District Coordination Officer (DC/DCO) offices, followed by those of Executive District Officer (EDO) Education. The fewest materials were seen outside electric supply companies, National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) and Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL)/Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) offices.



### Types of Campaign Material

FAFEN observers reported seeing PPPP stickers in different government offices in Thatta, Shaheed Benazirabad, Malir and Badin in Sindh, while those of PPP-SB were seen in Zarai Taraqiati Bank Ltd. (ZTBL) and EDO Education offices in Thatta and Hyderabad.

In Sialkot, banners of JI, PML-N and PPPP were up at the DPO and DC/DCO offices, while those of JI were also seen at the DC/DCO office in Narowal.

FAFEN observers also reported PPPP posters plastered outside the offices of EDOs, electric supply companies and District Police Officer (DPO) in Jamshoro, Larkana and Sukkur in Sindh, and Sialkot in Punjab. Also seen were PML-N posters at Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) and EDO Revenue offices in Sialkot. Posters of MQM were observed at EDO Health office in Karachi East while PPP-SB's posters were at the DC/DCO offices in Karachi West.

PPPP wall chalking was observed in Larkana, Matiari and Thatta outside the SNGPL/SSGC, DC/DCO and EDO Health offices, while wall chalking of PML-N was observed outside the DPO's office in Larkana. Observers reported PML-F graffiti outside NADRA and EDO Health offices in Ghotki and Matiari. Similarly, there was PPP-SB wall chalking at the BISP office in Hyderabad, and that of STPP at the EDO Revenue's office in Thatta.



In addition, a FAFEN observer in Mastung reported the presence of a health department computer operator in the office of a JUI-F senator.

### **Recommendations**

FAFEN recommends that the district administrations:

1. Acknowledge the partiality involved in allowing parties to use public offices for politicking.
2. Get a mechanism in place to monitor public offices across the district.
3. Get political parties on board with the idea and ensure that public offices remain free of party campaign material.