

Farhat Ali Mir: The Most Prospective Sole Choice for Induction As New CEC of AJK:



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Altaf Hamid Rao:

MIRPUR (AJK): Jan. 9: Since the office of the Chief Election Commissioner of Azad Jammu Kashmir is reportedly going to fall vacant on January 13th of this year following relinquishment of the incumbent CEC Justice (Retd): Abdul Rasheed Sulehriya on completion of his stipulated 05 year term in the office, a retired BPS 22 officer of AJK Civil service is reportedly being considered by the authorities to fill the office, informed sources revealed.

As the AJK CEC office is becoming vacant, retired AJK civil service officer of grade 21 or above or retired judges of Supreme Court or High Court of AJK, having the age of 66 years, are eligible for this post, according to the Interim Constitution Act 1974 of Azad Jammu Kashmir read with AJK Members of Election Commission (Terms & Conditions) Act of 2020.

In addition, it may be mentioned here, maximum age of 68 years is a condition precedent for the post of CEC in Pakistan under the Constitution – 1973.

According to investigations conducted by our Special Jammu Kashmir state Correspondent Altaf Hamid Rao, the only name of a retired grade 22 officer of AJK civil service Farhat Ali Mir, Retired Additional Chief Secretary of Azad Jammu Kashmir government has reportedly emerged, so far, as most prospective suitable candidate for consideration to fill in the upcoming vacant office of the

Chief Election Commissioner of Azad Jammu Kashmir:

Farhat Ali Mir is the former Member Election Commission and was retired as Additional Chief Secretary and Chairman Central Board of Revenue in grade 22. In the election of the year 2021, he reportedly performed brilliantly as a Member of the Election commission, according to the relevant sources.

Mir, reportedly a foreign qualified in International Law and has been the appointed as Secretary Law and Justice besides enjoyed appointments as Secretary to the AJK government for several departments.

According to the independent observers, Farhat Mir, who belongs to a middle class family and due to his ability, hard work and fair command in dealing with legal and managerial obligations he reached to the highest position in the civil service.

Most significantly, he is being considered for the appointment as CEC as he has no political backing or tribal clout, therefore his prospective appointment as CEC might be made, by the authorities, only on his merited selection and his performance as Member AJK Election Commission, as reportedly observed and applauded all the time.

It may be added that the next general elections to Azad Jammu Kashmir Legislative Assdmbly is due to be held next year – 2026. Ends / APP / AHR

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