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Afghan presidential candidate Abdullah suspends engagement with election commission

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Afghan leading presidential candidate Abdullah Abdullah on Wednesday accused the election commission of involvement in fraud and demanded its suspension.

"In many polling stations, the ballot boxes had been filled in the absence of our observers, in some places our observers had not been allowed to monitor and many more cases of irregularities have been detected and documented," Abdullah told at a press conference here.

"We have lost the trust to the election commission and that is why I am demanding its suspension and from now on our team would have no engagement with the election commission," he said.

"Vote counting should be stopped immediately," Abdullah said, adding, "If the election commission continues the process of vote counting, it has no legitimacy."

Abdullah, who secured 45 percent against his rival Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai, who secured 31.6 percent in the April 5 presidential elections, also called upon his team's monitors to leave provinces and come to Kabul.

Abdullah also accused Ziaul Haq Omarkhil, the head of election commission Secretariat of involvement in fraud and demanded his immediate suspension.

However, Omarkhil has already rejected the allegation as baseless.		