



**PAFFREL**

# **PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2024**

**FIRST INTERIM REPORT (PRE-ELECTION PERIOD)**

12th September 2024

PEOPLE'S ACTION FOR FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS  
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## 1. Background

September 21, 2024, is the scheduled date of the presidential election that will select Sri Lanka's ninth Executive President. From 1982 until 2019, eight presidential elections were held in Sri Lanka to choose executive presidents. For a five-year term, people in Sri Lanka directly elect the executive president. The Sri Lankan constitution established the executive presidential system in 1978, and the president served six (06) year terms until 2015. The results of the presidential elections from 1982 to 2019 indicate that five (05) weeks is the average time allocated for campaigning. This time it is within 04 to 06 weeks. All political meetings regarding the election should be stopped by 12 am (midnight) of 18th August due to the two day "cooling off" period.

Additionally, it is evident from examining the duration of the elections held before the official term ended that, in the case of the presidential elections held in 1994, 2005, and 2015, the elections were called 54 days, 25 days, and 54 days ahead of the official term expiration, respectively. Accordingly, the next President's appointment, which will occur after the current President's tenure ends, ought to have happened before October 17, 2024.

The public was reasonably concerned about postponing the date of the Presidential Election 2024. This resulted from prior experience in postponing elections in the country. The terms of Municipal Councils, Urban Councils, and Pradeshiya Sabhas have been extended until March 19, 2023, nominations were called but the elections have been postponed indefinitely. Likewise, Provincial Council Elections were postponed in the same period for more than 05 years until today through an amendment to the provincial council electoral system adopted in accordance with a proposal made by the current President.

For a variety of reasons, the forthcoming presidential election will be important to Sri Lankans. This will be the first election after a people's struggle (*Aragalaya*) that occurred against the former president of the country after the economic crisis which has continued to the present. Thousands of people took to the streets to protest against the previous president and government policies. The protests were driven by the government's decision to implement prolonged power cuts, and the long queues people had to endure to meet their daily needs. These factors fueled the *Aragalaya*. However, the incumbent president was appointed with the resignation of the former president. The incumbent president is running as a candidate too. Through the *Aragalaya*, the people tried to bring out that they want a change in the entire system of governance with transparency and accountability. Also, people's right to express their aspirations was strongly reflected and the upcoming election is the first opportunity to express their opinion.

### 1.1. Nominations

The Election Commission announced the receiving of nominations, making deposits, and holding of polls on 26th July 2024. According to this declaration of the Election Commission, nominations for the Presidential Election were to be accepted on 15th August, from 09 AM to 12 PM at the Election Commission. Objections related to nominations could be made the same day, 15th August, from 9 AM to 12 PM. Candidates were required to deposit a prescribed amount as security before submitting nominations: Rs. 50,000.00 for candidates from recognized political parties and Rs.75,000.00 for independent candidates. The deposits were received on working days starting, July 26, until 12 Noon the day before the nomination date, which was 14th August.

A total of 40 candidates made deposits by 14th August 2024. 39 candidates submitted their nominations, including 17 candidates proposed by individual voters, 22 from registered political parties, and one of the candidates was unable to submit his nomination while another candidate died prior to the election. There were a record number of candidates, but none of them were females.

There are 17,140,354 of voters who are eligible for the Presidential Election 2024. These voters may use their voting right through 13,421 polling divisions. Similarly, this election is significant for the population as well, who hope that the election will bring about changes to the political system and culture at large.

## 1.2. Excessive number of candidates

The large number of candidates presents an issue for the country, particularly in light of Sri Lanka's current circumstances. The country's financial resources have been put under strain as a result of the increased number of candidates and increased campaign spending of the election. In addition, overseeing so many candidates during the election process has raised expenses and caused logistical challenges.

While PAFFREL acknowledges and upholds the fundamental right of an individual to run for heightened government office of the country, it is important to make a thorough analysis of how many candidates submit their nominations to genuinely strive to win by articulating their political beliefs and how many attempt to deceive the public in order to further their own personal and political goals.

Year	Number of political parties and independent candidates contested	Number of votes obtained by others except the highest two candidates	% of votes obtained by others except the highest two candidates
1982	06	522,898	8.02%
1988	03	235,719	4.62%
1994	06	137,038	1.81%
1999	13	520,849	6.17%
2005	12	117,167	1.28%
2010	22	208,689	1.97%
2015	19	138,200	1.14%
2019	35	764,005	5.77%
2024	39		

Consequently, in the upcoming presidential election, candidates who contest on the basis of personal or political benefit should be discouraged, and the appropriate legislative framework should be put in place to support this. If not, the list of the candidates will be increased in the next elections too. The Election Commission had to spend extensive amounts of resources as a result of increment on the number of candidates. There are a lot of practical issues that align with the same. For example, when the number of candidates increase in a polling booth, longer ballot papers, counting will take an extra time, more polling agents of candidates may crowd the polling station, voters may find it difficult to select the preferred candidate out of the long list, etc.

## **2. Advocacy and Litigation efforts to hold the Presidential Election**

PAFFREL constantly aims to review existing laws, regulations, procedures and processes relating to elections and make proposals to effect changes to law and practice. Accordingly, PAFFREL was involved in some advocacy efforts with regards to the delay of the Presidential Election 2024.

In July 2024, under SCFR Application No: 177/2024, Chaminda Dayan Lenawa filed a petition against Saman Sri Ratnayake, Commissioner General of Elections, Election Commission Elections and others. The case concerns a fundamental rights petition challenging the Nineteenth Amendment to the Sri Lankan Constitution. The Petitioner-Respondent argued that the Amendment, which reduced the presidential term from six to five years, was not validly enacted because it was not approved by a referendum as required by the Constitution. The Petitioner sought to delay the 2024 Presidential Election until this issue was resolved. The Interventient Petitioners PAFFREL and its Executive Director intervened in the case. They argued that delaying the election would harm the democratic process and the voting rights of citizens. They emphasized the necessity of holding the election on time to uphold constitutional rights and ensure the integrity of the electoral process. Finally, the petition was dismissed without hearing and ordered to pay Rs.100,000 as court fees.

Again in July 2024, under SCFR Application No: 191/2024, Aruna Laksiri Unawatuna filed a petition against the Commissioner General of Election Commission and others. The case involved a fundamental rights petition challenging the legality of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Sri Lankan Constitution. The Petitioner-Respondent argued that the Amendment, which altered the presidential term and dissolution powers, was not properly enacted because it lacked a required referendum. They sought to delay the 2024 Presidential Election until this issue was resolved. The Interventient Petitioner, representing PAFFREL, argued that the amendment had been properly enacted and that delaying the election would violate citizens' fundamental voting rights. He also noted that the Twentieth Amendment had replaced the provisions in question. Finally, the petition was dismissed without hearing and ordered to pay Rs.500,000 as court fees.

In order to ensure a smooth presidential election, PAFFREL has asked that the Inspector General of Police (IGP) issue be addressed. In this case the Supreme Court declared that the IGP should be suspended from his duties pending a case filed against him. PAFFREL voiced concerns about the possibility that this may interfere with the people's ability to elect a new president. PAFFREL, however, emphasized that this uncertainty has a detrimental effect on the state, its people, and the Head of State, undermining the integrity of democracy and the electoral process and urged that alternative arrangements should be made to ensure appropriate police participation in the elections.

### **3. Election monitoring process**

Following the announcement of the 2024 presidential election, PAFFREL launched a comprehensive election monitoring campaign that will be executed in three phases: 1) Pre-election monitoring, 2) Election-day monitoring, and 3) Post-election monitoring.

The exercise of election observing has the following objectives:

- To observe and report the violence and violation of election laws and to help carry out preventive and corrective actions.
- To observe and report on the conduct of the election stakeholders to ensure the elections are legitimate and accepted by the voters.
- To promote greater involvement of the public to be proactive beyond election, and be involved in democratic and governing processes.

#### **3.1. Pre-election monitoring**

Pre-election monitoring has been conducted by PAFFREL with many district-level Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs). To cover every polling division in the country, PAFFREL has dispatched 160 Long Term Observers (LTOs). These LTOs have received training to observe and report any malpractice, including the misuse of resources, violation of election laws and regulations, election preparations by the Election Commission, campaign trails on campaign trail of candidates, special reference to derogatory actions/ speech/ propaganda against minority/ marginalized sectors.

##### **3.1.1. Monitoring of postal voting**

The postal voting for the eligible voters of District Secretariats, Election Offices, and Police was held on 04<sup>th</sup> September 2024 while those of the armed forces were held on 05<sup>th</sup> and 06<sup>th</sup> of September, 2024. Those who were not able to cast their ballot on any of these days as postal voting, used their vote on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 at the District Election Offices where their working stations are located. The total number of postal voting applications received was 736589 of which 712318 were accepted. Therefore, the number of rejected applications is 24268.

During the postal voting days, 900 observers were deployed in all politically sensitive centers such as district secretariats, bus depots, educational offices, military camps and in police stations which contain a large density of potential government officials who would be deployed on the election date.

During the first three days of the postal voting, PAFFREL received a number of complaints. There are some significant instances among the documented cases. On 04<sup>th</sup> September, one of the Northern Province's politicians was implicated in coercing the voters into not casting their votes. Ballot papers were not sent to postal voters employed by one of the Divisional Secretariats on September 05. The ballot papers are issued, according to the Election Commission. A school principal in Hatton Educational Zonal has been involved in preventing teachers from voting. In addition to these major incidents, there are minor level cases reported in different areas such as Mutur, Kurunegala, Avissawella, Kalutara, Battaramulla, Wariyapola, Seethawaka, Walapane, Weeraketiya, Homagama, and Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia.

Nevertheless, there haven't been any instances or situations during postal voting that have had a big impact on the election.

### **3.1.2. Observing District Election Dispute Resolution Centers**

The Election Commission of Sri Lanka formed All Party Operation Units in 2001 with an initiative of PAFFREL with the objective of resolving and mitigating election disputes with the involvement of all the election related stakeholders such as the Election Commission, political parties, and election monitoring bodies. Later, this was expanded to district level and converted into Election Dispute Resolution (EDR) centers.

The EDR centers were established to be implemented from 26th July 2024 until one week after the election results were published. These centers immediately intervene on the complaints regarding the violations of election laws and obstructions to polling.

PAFFREL has deployed 25 EDR observers in all 25 districts to cover the EDR processes and daily report back to the PAFFREL head office at Colombo.

### **3.2. Election-day monitoring**

In order to establish the conditions for a free and fair elections on the polling day, PAFFREL has scheduled the deployment of almost 5000 observers, including 3000 stationed observers, 164 mobile observer units, and 160 long term observers. Furthermore, PAFFREL intends to send out 10 Special Mobile Units to predetermined vulnerable areas. Also, 200 Counting Observers, 37 District Coordinators and 27 Field Coordinators will be in the field on Election Day.

### **3.3. Post-election monitoring**

Post-election monitoring activities will be carried out after the official results of the election were declared, and will continue till a peaceful and smooth transition of power, which is another salient sign of healthy democracy. The observation in this period will be mainly conducted by the Long Term Observers.

### **3.4. Monitoring social media**

PAFFREL continued to monitor social media through a long standing trustworthy partnership with Hashtag Generation and Election Commission, observation mechanism through social media which commenced from 2015. In the lead up to Sri Lanka's 2019 Presidential Election, PAFFREL observed that despite the rapid advent of socio-political discourse within social media platforms in recent years, it remained a domain that was not actively monitored for violations of national election laws.

In this context, the PAFFREL partnered with Hashtag Generation to implement a multi-pronged strategy aimed at identifying violations of election law, disinformation, and hate speech on Facebook in the lead up to, during and in the immediate aftermath of the Presidential Election as a targeted intervention.

A team has been deployed to monitor hate speeches, wrong information, inappropriate explanations which can mislead the public and create chaos, and they will be reported to the Election Commission's attention for necessary actions. After the Election Commission's attention, they will be directed to Sri Lanka Facebook Representatives for necessary actions.

PAFFREL has commenced pre-election monitoring through social media for the presidential election 2024. PAFFREL reports on social media activities and submits to the election commission on a daily basis. From 17th August to 11th September 2024, the team observed social media and found 300 on Facebook, 83 on TikTok, 19 on YouTube, and 07 on Twitter. Among these, 195 are marked as violation of election laws. 186 are noted as violations of community standards (90 misinformation, 35 hate speech, 22 Bullying and Harassment, Political Ads transparency, 14 advocacy for violence, 09 using minors, 02 on ground violence, 06 Violence and Criminal Behavior, and 08 election integrity). PAFFREL continues the social media monitoring throughout the election period.

### **3.5. Campaign finance monitoring**

For the first time in Sri Lanka, the Regulation of Election Expenditure Act No. 3 of 2023 regulates campaign finance in elections. As the Election Commission of Sri Lanka stated, the Regulation of Election Expenditure Regulation No. 03 of 2023 applies to all candidates. After consultations with candidates, the Election Commission of Sri Lanka has established a spending limit of Rs.109.00 per voter for the election campaigns. Hence, the total allocated budget for a candidate contesting in the 2024 Presidential Election is Rs. 1,120,979,151.60, representing 60% of the total allowable expenses. The remaining 40%, amounting to Rs. 747,319,434.40, can be spent by the recognized political party, other political parties, or voters who have nominated a candidate. Candidates must submit an expenditure report, including all election campaign expenses, within twenty-one days (21) of the announcement of election results. Additionally, any donations or contributions received on behalf of the candidate, including their estimated value if received in kind, must be reported. This includes specifying whether the contributions were given as gifts, loans, advances, or deposits.

A collaborative effort by multiple election observation groups including several organizations, namely, Centre for Monitoring Election Violence (CMEV), Transparency International Sri Lanka (TISL), Hashtag Generation, Campaign for Free and Fair Elections (CaFFE), Institute for Democratic Reforms & Electoral Studies (IRES), and PAFFREL is underway to track whether the presidential contenders are spending their campaign funds within the allotted limitations.

Thus, "*Chanda Salli Metare*" has been designed and introduced with the aim of monitoring, estimating and analyzing the campaign expenditures of candidates and political parties. Through this specialized website, the joint coalition of election monitoring bodies supports citizen engagement in campaign finance observation by raising public knowledge of the role of money in election campaigns and its impact on voter decisions. PAFFREL has trained 40 observers to track the expenditure of candidates in 40 specific electoral divisions and provide detailed data on several categories such as mainstream media, social media, public campaigns, public events, press conferences and launch ceremonies, and campaign offices. PAFFREL Campaign Finance Long Term Observers have reported 409 campaign officers, 178 propaganda events, and 11 Press Conferences and Launching Ceremonies thus far from 6 candidates.



## **4. Complaint Reporting and Mitigation Unit**

A dedicated Election Complaint Unit has been set up to monitor, receive, and handle any complaints with the utmost promptness. The unit has been established prior to the nomination call for the election and the unit functions until the end of the post-election period with 16 employees.

All complaints that this unit receives from individual citizens, assigned independent observers, and political parties, media channels (mass and social) will be verified, confirmed and directed to the appropriate authorities and institutions for the necessary follow-up and resolution. PAFFREL refers their complaints, depending on their applicability, to the Department of Police, the Election Commission, the Bribery and Corruption Unit, and the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka. PAFFREL will assist these organizations in conducting their investigations, and will follow-up on the complaints and take necessary mitigate and preventive actions including legal actions if necessary.

### **4.1. Election complaints**

PAFFREL has received 1153 complaints from the 27th July 2024 to 11th September 2024 (Annex 01 and Annex 02) These complaints ranged from violation of election laws, abuse of state power, resources and employees to acts of violence.

### **4.2. Violation of election laws**

The highest number of complaints is on the violation of election laws which counts 900 complaints. There are 617 complaints on carrying out illegal election propaganda while there are 94 complaints on giving incentives with political objectives. Also, PAFFREL has received 45 complaints on maintaining illegal party offices while receiving 13 complaints on spreading of fake news.

### **4.3. Abuse of state power, resources and employees**

PAFFREL has observed and taken mitigate litigation actions to the blatant misuse of state power and resources exhibited by the executive at times directly under actions by the president office.

As mentioned, PAFFREL took legal actions as necessary whilst not in disagreement with the development and aid projects unless those were designed to promote parties and candidates.

Under the circular PS/SB/Circular/5/2024 dated 29th April 2024, the Presidential Secretariat notified regarding the establishment of Community Advisory Committees (CACs) for local government areas from 25th April 2024 with the objective of getting the optimum contribution of community to monitor development projects and programs in rural level. As an important milestone, the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka issued an interim injunction preventing the implementation of Community Advisory Committees (CACs), which were appointed to conduct Government development projects targeting rural areas. Under the circular MF/02/2023 dated 29th December 2023, the Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies introduced the Decentralized Budget Program 2024, where resources for the development projects are been authorized and released solely by the Presidents' office. Furthermore, some of

the local government related development programs, namely, 'Urumaya' Land Ownership Program, the Urban Home Ownership Program, the 'Kandukara Dasakaya' Development Program, the Agriculture Modernization Program and the Rice Distribution Program were hastily implemented during the period. This was taken as an initiative to benefit the Presidential Election. PAFFREL emphasized that the state resources should not be allocated for propaganda activities of candidates who have submitted nominations for the Local Government Election.

Moreover, PAFFREL was concerned about the appointments of candidates of the Local Government Election as representatives and coordinators of Governors of the Central Province and Western Province. This was highlighted as a clear violation of election laws, an action against a free and fair election and encouraged the Government Officials to go beyond the law. PAFFREL drew the attention of Governors, the Prime Minister and the Election Commission to this matter.

Recently, PAFFREL issued a press release regarding the cabinet decision on increasing the salaries of government employees. PAFFREL is not in the position to oppose this increment but showed this is inappropriate because this was decided just before 02 days for the postal voting.

PAFFREL received 194 complaints on abuse of state power, resources and employees including 61 complaints on appointments, transfers and promotions for state officials targeting the election. Further, misuse of state properties has 74 complaints. The cases such as exhibiting images of the candidates through social media in government's programs, requesting media personnel to cover meetings of candidates, misusing vehicles of government authorities for unofficial political affairs, inviting public to form a community police committee, issuing excise licenses to politicians by the Ministry of Finance and Presidential Secretariat, inviting and conducting meetings with state and private sector professionals, transferring state officials in Department of Police and Ministry of Health, influencing state employees, efforts to promoting and transferring employees of state entities such as Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation, Divisional Secretariats, National Crafts Council, Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka, Central Environmental Authority, Ceylon Electricity Board, Central Cultural Fund, provide appointments for teachers, Pulmudai Lanka Mineral Sands Limited, Sri Lanka State Plantation Corporation, Regional Development Bank, Urban Development Authority, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Colombo Bandaranaike International Airport, and providing government aid in political gain in *Aswasuma* (welfare benefit) are highlighted.

PAFFREL has notified the Election Commission on republishing the submission of nominations of the candidate of Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna on the official LinkedIn account of the Parliament of Sri Lanka as a case of abusing state resources. Likewise, PAFFREL informed the Election Commission of the current government's attempts to misuse public resources by offering student insurance, various kinds of deeds, and other grants.

#### **4.4. Acts of violence**

59 complaints were received on acts of violence. Significantly, there are 22 complaints of attacks on political party/candidate offices while there are 15 complaints of intimidation and threats, 10 assaults, and 06 grievous assaults. Among these complaints, there are reported incidents on destroying posters and cutouts, firing party/candidate offices, destroying party/candidate offices in areas such as Muttur, Bokalagama in Mirigama, Devalapola, Gampaha, Poddala, Vinithagama in Badulla, Weliveriya, Thunthana in Avissawella, Wellawaya, Maha Pothana, Rajanganaya,

Uguressapitiya in Harispaththuwa, Gampola, Walasmulla, Horowpathana, Welipenna, Agalawatta, and Veyangoda. Also, the incidents reported from Thaligama, Agalawatta, Veyangoda, Dikhena, and Minuwangoda on grievous assaults. Assaults ranged from protests to attacks between supporters, attacks on individuals, attacks and hospitalizing supporters reported from Wanathavilluwa, Pahatha Dumbara, Welikanda, Negombo, Balakaduwa, Hasalaka, Poddala, and Hiriyala.

#### **4.5. Positive developments**

Though there is a slight increase in violence and violations during the recent week, in general the pre-election period less number of incidents and violations are reported. There haven't been many acts of violence being reported in this period.

Voters, Election commission, legal system and security forces have become decisive and this is a sign leading to more developed political culture.

Hence PAFFREL appreciates the Election Commission and Police Department for their professionalism and impartiality they have exhibited in their conduct.

## **5. Initiatives to develop a framework for election manifestos**

PAFFREL has taken a number of approaches in an effort to establish a transparent political system and a clean political culture that is accountable to the citizens.

PAFFREL has been in communication with political parties and their representatives since last year. In order to start having in-depth conversations with other segments of society, such as women's and youth sections, trade unions, election commission, and various civil society organizations, we have also created an advisory board made up of academics to help formalize this process.

As a result, PAFFREL developed a framework that should be used when developing election manifestos, to get the attention and commitment of political party leaders. PAFFREL has developed this unique framework based on Five (05) themes such as foundation of the process of preparing election manifestos, things to take into account while formulating election manifestos, content/structure election manifestos, presenting election manifestos to the public, and implementation and monitoring process of election manifestos.

With a few consultation meetings with political parties, PAFFREL has introduced this framework and made efforts to receive the commitment from them to it. Also, PAFFREL could create media space for the candidates who are contesting in the Presidential Election 2024 and expose their governance principles and economic policies through their manifestos. PAFFREL expects to initiate the process of monitoring and follow-up the election manifestos of the winning candidates, parties, and alliances against the actual actions plans included in their election manifestos.

PAFFREL together with citizens plan to monitor and publish analysis of the political manifestos in the upcoming elections, thus pressurizing the political parties to implement what they have promised.

## **6. Ensuring all-inclusive election**

PAFFREL has initiated a significant inclusion process by engaging to provide 5000 identity cards for the Permanent Disabled People (PWD) with the guidance and supervision of the Election Commission of Sri Lanka. These efforts were taken in order to include all the citizens that enable the right to vote in elections. In the first phase, PAFFREL along with the Election Commission of Sri Lanka has provided around Five Hundred (5000) identity cards in 13 districts, namely, Colombo, Hambantota, Puttalam, Monaragala, Batticaloa, Jaffna, Anuradhapura, Kegalle, Nuwara Eliya, Galle, Matara, Polonnaruwa, and Rathnapura to help identify and facilitate access for people with disabilities. This has eliminated the need for special permission to enter polling stations. PAFFREL continues this process with the aim of providing identity cards for PWD in another 11 districts, namely, Vavuniya, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Mannar, Ampara- Digamadulla, Trincomalee, Kandy, Matale, Kaluthara, Badulla, and Kurunegala. The Election Commission of Sri Lanka also paid attention to providing accessible pathways for PWDs, ease of voting for those with visual impairments, and the LGBTIQ community.

## **7. Presidential debate 2024**

As part of its ongoing efforts to promote transparency and informed voter choice, March 12 Movement of which PAFFREL is a leading member, organized a significant event where candidates for the Presidential Election were brought together on one stage. This initiative aimed to provide a platform for the candidates to present and discuss their vision, strategies and action plans in this election. The Presidential Debate was scheduled to take place in three stages from 07th, 08th and 09th September at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo. The March 12 Movement invited almost 39 candidates for the debate and 15 candidates acknowledged their participation. The public was invited to ask questions from the candidates through a digital platform. The debate was live streamed on social media. This event was a crucial step in fostering an informed electorate and enhancing the democratic process by showcasing the accountability of the candidates to the citizens.

## **8. People's responsibility for a free and fair election**

PAFFREL encourages the people to take action against electoral malpractice and violence before, during, and after the election. Furthermore, PAFFREL strives for and anticipates a free and fair election. With this main goal, PAFFREL expects to achieve the objectives such as to mobilize a people-led uninterrupted election observation to ensure flawless electoral processes from local government to provincial council and parliament to presidential elections, to record and document incidents relating to all forms of violence during elections and violations of election laws, and to promote collective community initiatives to prevent violence and malpractices before, during and after elections. PAFFREL expects everyone to use their right to vote responsibly.

## Contact Details of Complaints receiving and Intervention Center at the National Secretariat (Provincial Level)

No.	Province	Contact No.	email
01	North-Western	0701084013	paffrelnw@gmail.com
02	Southern	0701083949	paffrelsp@gmail.com
03	Eastern	0701083911	paffrelep@gmail.com
04	Uva	0701084034	paffrelup@gmail.com
05	Sabaragamuwa	0701083934	paffrelsg@gmail.com
06	North-Central	0701083998	paffrelnc@gmail.com
07	Northern	0701083929	paffrelnp@gmail.com
08	Western	0701084006	paffrelwp@gmail.com
09	Central	0701083974	paffrelcp@gmail.com

### General Contact Details

People's Action for Free and Fair Elections (PAFFREL)

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Whatsapp: <https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029Va9bCyOLI8YbWO7aaZ0r>

Email: [paffrel@sltnet.lk](mailto:paffrel@sltnet.lk)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Paffrel.Organization>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQtjspli-nTqqTC9fq6DcQQ>

Website: <https://www.paffrel.com/paffrel/about-paffrel>

TikTok: <https://www.paffrel.com/paffrel/about-paffrel>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/paffrel/>

Twitter: <https://x.com/PAFFREL>

Threads: <https://www.threads.net/@paffrel>

## 10. Annexes

### Annex 1: Violation of law under each category - Island wide, Presidential Election, 2024



#### Presidential Elections 2024 - Pre-election period

Violations of law under each category - Islandwide

From 2024-07-26 10:00:00 To 2024-09-11 16:00:00 - [By Recording Date]

Label	Type of Violation	Confirmed	Unconfirmed	Sub Total
1	Murders	0	0	0
2	Grievous Assaults	5	1	6
3	Assaults	6	4	10
4	Abductions	0	0	0
5	Attacks with Explosives	0	0	0
6	Shootings	0	0	0
7	Threats & Intimidation using Firearms	0	0	0
8	Damage to Immovable Property	4	1	5
9	Damage to Movable Property	1	0	1
10	Intimidation & Threats	14	2	16
11	Attacks on Political Party/ Candidate Offices	19	4	23
	<b>Acts of Violence</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>61</b>
12	Misuse of state property	33	42	75
13	Use of State Vehicles for Election Campaign Purposes	5	4	9
14	Attempts/ influencing State Officials	6	5	11
15	Appointments, Transfers & Promotions for State Officials targeting the Election	13	48	61
16	Use of State Officials & Security Sources for Election Campaign Purposes	14	14	28
16-1	Provide government aid in political gain	4	8	12
	<b>Abuse of State Power, Resources &amp; Employees</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>196</b>
17	Destruction & sabotage decorations, posters & cutouts of political parties	11	5	16
18	Disrupting Campaign Activities of Opponents	0	0	0
19	Carrying out Illegal Election Propaganda	403	228	631
20	Threatening & Disrupting Work of Election Monitors	0	0	0
21	State Officers acting in Favor of Political Parties & in Breach of Official Duties	9	11	20
22	Carrying out Unlawful Meetings & Processions	1	2	3
23	Maintaining Illegal Party Offices	16	29	45
24	Giving Incentives with Political Objectives	40	55	95
25	Using Vehicles without Number Plates	0	0	0
26	Favouritism & Misuse of State & other Media	1	4	5
27	Attempts to Influence/ Influencing by Security Sources & State Officials	0	0	0
28	Spreading of fake news	3	10	13
29	Carrying out Election Campaign Activities Harassing & Inconveniencing the General Public	10	6	16
30	Influencing Voters	2	9	11
31	Irregularities relating to Ballot Papers	0	0	0
32	Transportation of voters	0	0	0
33	Giving incentives to voters	10	5	15
34	Obstructing election officials and activities	0	2	2
35	Assaulting voters/ using force to turn voters away from polling station	0	0	0
36	Casting votes illegally/ attempts to impersonate	0	0	0
37	Other Incidents	20	27	47
	<b>Violation of Election Laws</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>919</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>1176</b>

\* During the above period, we have received 1062 complaints/incidents in relation to 1176 Electoral law / general law violations.

Annex 2: Election Incident Map, Presidential Election 2024



Election Incident Map, Presidential Election 2024

Election Law Violations Report: July 27, 2024 – September 11, 2024, 4:00 PM (All Island)

Total number of complaints - 1124

Complaints related to several Districts - 51

