

Snapshot of False Narratives during the Local Government Elections 2025

Period: 7th and 8th of May

About the Project

The Strengthening Resilience against Disinformation in Sri Lanka project is co-funded by the European Union and implemented by Democracy Reporting International and Factum. The project aims to reinforce Sri Lanka's democratic and electoral frameworks and protect human rights by prioritizing inclusivity and responsible political discourse on social media through monitoring and debunking online harmful content. Leveraging collaborative efforts of civil society organizations in Sri Lanka, this initiative capacitates fact-checkers and media outlets, creates counter-narratives and strengthens the technical expertise of the Election Commission of Sri Lanka (ECSL).

Summary

This monitoring exercise identified a range of misleading and fabricated narratives that circulated during and after the recent local government elections in Sri Lanka. The findings highlight sustained disinformation campaigns aimed at distorting public perceptions of the electoral process, undermining political cohesion, and aggravating ethnic and geopolitical sensitivities. Key trends observed include the dissemination of misleading and unofficial election results, with manipulated figures and speculative forecasts shared by partisan or anonymous accounts.



For access to the full report, please contact Paffrel Media at paffrelmedia@gmail.com

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