

Media Release No.: PE/2024/73

2024.11.12

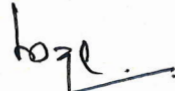
Parliamentary Election – November 14,2024

Facilities provided by Election Commission for Disabled Voters

Following facilities have been provided by the Election Commission for the disabled voters to go and cast vote at the upcoming Parliamentary Election

1. Legal provisions provided under Section 40(2) of the Parliamentary Elections Act No 1 of 1981 an amended by the Elections (Special Provisions) Act No 28 of 2011 to any voter who is totally blind or partially blind or subject to a disability, to accompany an assistant to the polling station to assist such person is marking the vote.
2. Permission provided under Section 83(4)(d) of the Parliamentary Elections Act by the Returning Officer of the relevant Electoral District to allow any voter unable by reason of any physical disability, to convey himself/herself to and from the polling station on foot or in any public transport service, to use any vehicle for the purpose.
3. Providing transport by a three-wheeler to physically disabled persons when the distance from the entrance of the polling station premises to the building where the polling station is located, is more than 100 meters or when the polling station is located in a hilly area with steps to climb.
4. Facility for the totally or partially blind persons to use on his own, the Tactile Stencil Frame to mark the vote
5. Facility for the disabled persons to use the temporary identity cards issued by the Election Commission as valid identity documents in casting the vote.
6. Display of notices in the polling station premises in sign language
7. Live transmission of election results with sign language interpretations when results are announced
8. Other facilities available for disabled voters
 - 8.1. Assistance provided to the disabled voters to mark the vote when they come to polling stations.
 - 8.2. Placing of the voter cubicle with sufficient light or provision of electric lighting.
 - 8.3. Placing of the ballot box on a shorter level table (for the convenience of voters using wheel chairs or for little people.)
 - 8.4. Permission granted for the voters with partially blindness to carry implements (such as hand lenses, special reading glasses) to the polling station.
 - 8.5. Sufficient time granted to those who are unable to read the ballot paper and who need clarifications on the contents in the ballot paper.

It is informed that the Election Commission has advised the SPOs / JPOs engaged in polls duty to facilitate voters with any disabilities, to cast vote without any obstacle.


R.M.A.L. Rathnayake,
Chairman, Election Commission
(For the Election Commission)