

# **Administration Report of the Commissioner of Elections - 2011**

The enumeration of electors for the year 2011, certifications of the electoral register revised for the year 2010, holding of elections to Local Authorities, filling of vacancies in the membership in Parliament, Provincial Councils and Local Authorities were the main activities of the Department of Elections in the year 2011.

## **2.0 Registration of Electors Act No: 44 of 1980**

### **2.1 Revision of the Electoral Register - 2010**

- 2.1.1 The enumeration of electors for the year 2010 was commenced on 01.06.2010. The notice under Section 12(1) of Registration of Electors Act No: 44 of 1980 was published in Gazette No: 1656/20 of 01.06.2010 to inform the eligible persons the method of including names into the electoral register 2010 and the same notice was published in Sinhala, Tamil and English news papers as well on the same day.
- 2.1.2 Instructions were issued to the Registering Officers on the enumeration of electors in all electoral Districts and steps were taken by the Commissioner of Elections on 20.04.2010 to inform the Secretaries of Recognized Political Parties on the revision and on the appointment of representatives of political parties for the purpose.
- 2.1.3 After the completion of the task of enumerators the “A” and “B” lists were prepared and the operative electoral registers were exhibited along with them from 01.01.2011 - 28.01.2011. An opportunity for the submission of claims and objections for the year 2010 also was provided for the public during this period. The notice under Sections 13(2) of Registrations of Electors Act in this connection was published in Gazette No: 1634/29 of January 01<sup>st</sup>, 2011 and in the news papers.
- 2.1.4 Number of claims and objections received by District Registering Officers during this period is shown in Table I. 97,215 claims and 573 objections were received from all Electoral Districts
- 2.1.5 After the operations launched to defeat terrorist groups in the Northern Province in the year 2009, Government took steps to settle displaced families in welfare camps mainly established in Vavuniya. In addition, a considerable number of such families were living in temporary residences of their choice. Those families were from almost all polling divisions of the Northern Province, but most of them were from Kilinochchi, Mullativu, Mannar and Vavuniya polling divisions.
- 2.1.6 The resettlement of displaced families had to start only after defining is completed and security situation of resettled areas is confirmed by security forces. Resettlement had to be carried out in stages and therefore, there were a large number of areas unsettled even by 01<sup>st</sup> June, 2010.

- 2.1.7 Resettlement activities of displaced families were more prevalent Kilinochchi and Mullativu polling divisions at the time of enumeration of electors for 2010. Action was taken this year to open an Election Office in the Mullativu District in addition to Election Office in the Kilinochchi District. The number of voters enumerated house to house in these polling divisions for 2010, was more than in 2009.
- 2.1.8 According to the Registration of Electors Act, the period for calling of claims and objections relevant to a revision year of the electoral register, can be postponed only up to the end of January in the following year, maximum. Accordingly claims and objections were allowed for 28 days of January 2011. This step was taken especially to ensure that the displaced persons get registered.
- 2.1.9 It was revealed that most of displaced families from Mannar district had put up their own permanent houses in Puttalam. Most of them did not like to get their names registered in the Puttalam District, but were trying to register their names in the electoral register of Mannar under their previous residential address. Therefore the number of persons submitted claims for registration in Mannar polling division was high and that number was 20,251. Action was taken to appoint Deputy/ Senior Assistant and Assistant Commissioners of Elections of other Electoral Districts as Assistant Registering Officers for Vanni Electoral District in order to expedite the process of holding inquiries over claims, within the limited period.
- 2.1.10 The displaced electors who have not been resettled by the time of the enumeration of the 2010 revision of electoral registers in the North were registered for year 2010 in their previous resident areas without any change and the details of those polling districts are shown in the Table II.
- 2.1.11 Though there were some difficulties in enumerating the electors in the Northern Province for 2010, it could be completed through the distribution of BC forms among chief occupants and therefore the errors in the electoral registers of that area were minimal.
- 2.1.12 Section 12(7) of Enumeration of Electors Act No: 44 of 1980 stipulates steps that should be taken in regard to plural registration. The Computer software used for the preparation of Electoral Registers in all electorates for 2010, provides with a facility to obtain reports on persons who have registered their names in several address in an electorate with same National Identity Card numbers.
- 2.1.13 When Districts Registering Officers detected that persons have asked for their names to be registered in more than once place, they were informed to register their names under one address and steps were taken to register them accordingly avoiding plural registration. Thus 44,123 names of plural registration were deleted from the electoral registers in 2010, and 15,986 names out of that were in Colombo Electoral District. Details in this connection are shown in Table III.

- 2.1.14 Electoral Registers for 2010 was certified on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2011 in terms of Section 18 of Registration of Electors Act. The notice to that effect in terms of Section 20 of the Act was published in Gazette No: 1708/13 of 31.05.2011 and in newspapers.
- 2.1.15 The determination of the Commissioner of Elections in terms of sub Article 98(8) of the Constitution on the number of Members to be elected for each electoral district is made on the basis of certifications made by District Registering Officers under Section 23 of Registration of Elector Act after certifying the Electoral Registers. This Order was published in the Gazette No: 1715 / 4 of July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- 2.1.16 Accordingly the number of members for Jaffna Electorate was decreased by 4 and the number of members of electoral districts of No: 08 - Matara, No: 15- Kurunegala, No: 19 - Badulla and No: 21 - Ratnapura was increased by one each. Decreasing of the number of members of Jaffna Electorate was highlighted by politicians in the Northern Province and the media as an act done purposely. Therefore a clarification by the Commissioner of Elections in this connection was published through media and detailed descriptions in the Department Website.
- 2.1.17 The total number of members to be elected for the Parliament at the general elections is 196, and out of that 160 Members have to be elected from electorates. This Number is distributed by the Commissioner of Elections annually under Article 98(8) of the Constitution, in proportion to the number of electors registered in each electorate as reported by District Registering Officers after certification of electoral register. The balance 36 Members to be elected were allocated to 22 electoral districts under Article 96(4) of the Constitution by the Delimitation Commission on the criteria stipulated in the Constitution. That number of members allocated for each electorate never changes. Since the electors in Jaffna Electorate have not been enumerated house to house for a long period, the names of deceased electors as well as of those who are not living in the electorate also were included in this register until 2009. But in 2010, the electors of Jaffna electorate also were enumerated house to house and as a result the number of electors for 2010 has been reduced drastically. Consequently the number of members to be elected for Jaffna Electorate on the basis of the number of electors has been reduced and the details are shown in the following Table.

Year	No of Electors	Seats allocated in terms of Article 98(8)	Seats allocated in terms of Article 96(4)	Total
2009	816,005	09	01	10
2010	484,791	05	01	06

## 2.2 Revision of Electoral Register - 2011

- 2.2.1 The notice under Section 12(1) of Registration of Electors Act relevant to the commencement of enumeration of electors for 2011 was published in Gazette No: 1708/17 of 01.06.2011 and also was published in Sinhala, Tamil and English news papers on the same day.
- 2.2.2 Instructions on the enumeration of electors in all electorates were issued to District Registration Officers on 30.03.2011 and Secretaries of recognized Political Parties were informed by the Commissioner of Elections about revision and the appointment of party representatives.
- 2.2.3 The enumeration of electors was commenced on 01.06.2011 and “A” and “B” lists prepared by enumerators were exhibited from 02.11.2011 to 30.11.2011 with the operative electoral registers and claims and objections for the year 2011 also were accepted during this period. Notice about this exhibition was published under Section 13(2) of Registers of Electors Act in the Gazette No: 1730/10 of 02.11.2011 and in the news papers on the same day.
- 2.2.4 The electors who were unable to submit their details through B.C forms in 2011 were informed through news papers to submit them before 15.10.2011 to District Elections Offices in a new form (U.E.Form). The relevant electors could submit those forms with or without the recommendation of Grama Niladhari and the District Registering Officers were instructed to consider them as claims.
- 2.2.5 Number of claims and objections received by District Registering Officers for each electorate during this period is shown in Table IV. 110,565 claims and 718 objections were received. Inquiries in relation to them were arranged to be held after December in 2011.
- 2.2.6 House to house enumeration of Electors was conducted in the Northern Province in 2011 by Grama Nildaris except for a limited area where displaced persons have not been resettled in the Electoral Districts No: 10 Jaffna and Electoral District No: 11- Vanni Electoral District.
- 2.2.7 Steps were taken to register the names of eligible displaced electors who were in welfare camps and other places outside their original resident areas, in their previous addresses where they have been registered. The names of voters in the previous year’s electoral register whose details could not be obtained through the enumeration were included in the revised register.
- 2.2.8 Number of electors registered in 2009 and 2010 is given in Table V according to the Electoral Districts.

### **3.0 Parliamentary Elections Act No: 1 of 1981**

#### **3.1 Recognition of Political Parties**

3.1.1 Provisions relevant to recognition of Political Parties in the Parliamentary Elections Act No: 1 of 1981, were amended by Parliamentary Elections (Amendments) Act No: 58 of 2009. Accordingly the Commissioner of Elections should call for applications from Political Parties for recognition in January every year. If any election is conducted during that month, applications should be called within 30 days after the conclusion of such election.

3.1.2 Due to the holding of elections to Local Authorities on 17.03.2011, 23.07.2011 and 08.10.2011 in 2011 and the elections to Pudukudiiruppu and Maritimapatthu Pradeshiya Sabhas were scheduled to be held before 31.12.2011, action could not be taken regarding the recognition of Political Parties during the year 2011.

3.2 Details of filling of vacancies in the membership of Parliament in 2011 are shown in Table X.

3.3 Under Section 7(4) (b) of Parliamentary Elections Act the Commissioner of Elections should publish the list of Recognized Political Parties in the Gazette at the beginning of each year. For the year 2011 it was published in the Gazette No: 1690/22 of 27.01.2011 and the list of that Political Parties is given in Table XIX.

### **4.0 Administration Report of the Commissioner of Elections for the year 2010**

The report was tabled in the Parliament on 05.07.2011.

### **5.0 Provincial Councils Elections Act No: 2 of 1988**

5.1 Though the Provincial Council Election to the Eastern Province was held on 10.05.2008 on the directive of the President after the Judgment issued by a five bench of the Supreme Court against the decision over the amalgamation of North and Eastern Provinces in connection with Fundamental Right Petitions No: 243/06, 244/06 and 245/06, the President didn't issue any directive to hold elections to the North Province in 2011.

5.2 Only filling of vacancies in Provincial Councils were taken place in the year and are given in the schedules.

### **6.0 Local Authorities Elections Ordinance**

#### **6.1 Local Authorities Elections - 2011**

6.1.1 At the time of Local Authority elections in 2011, there were 335 councils and, out of that nominations were called for only 301 councils by respective Returning Officers on 06.01.2011 and elections for the remaining 34 councils were not held due to various reasons. Out of that the term of office of 22 Local Authorities were extended up to

31.12.2011 by His Excellency President under Section 5 of Public Security Ordinance. Colombo Municipal Council has been dissolved by this time. Apart from that the term of office of 9 councils in Batticaloa District and 2 councils in Jaffna and Vavunia Districts have not expired up to that time.

- 6.1.2 Accordingly nominations for 301 councils were received at the Offices of District Returning Officers from 20.01.2011 up to 12.00 noon on 27.01.2011. Out of 2,047 nominations received, 1595 were accepted and 452 were rejected. Elections were held on 17.03.2011 for 234 Local Authorities except for the 65 Local Authorities where nominations were rejected on account of the cases filed in courts and 2 Local Authorities where resettlement of displaced persons was not completed because demining was not over.
- 6.1.3 Out of 452 rejected nominations, 68 were challenged in courts and due to court orders, elections were held for 65 councils on 23.07.2011.
- 6.1.4 Nomination notices for 23 Local Authorities including 22 councils of which the term of office was extended by his Excellency the President under Section 5 of Public Security Ordinance and re-established Colombo Municipal Council were published on 04.08.2011 and elections were held on 08.10.2011 on the 264 nominations accepted for them.
- 6.1.5 The resettlement of displaced persons and removal of landmines in Pudukudurippu and Maritimapatthu Local Authority areas of Mullativu District were not completed according to the Returning Officer and elections to those Local Authority areas were postponed till 10.03.2012. It was reported that 5017 families of these two council areas were yet to be resettled.
- 6.1.6 According to the electoral register of 2009 number of voters eligible for casting of votes at the elections in 2011, held on 17.03.2011 for 234 Local Authorities were 9,438,132. The elections were held at 7,396 Polling Stations and a total number of 25,108 candidates by 927 nominations of 29 Recognized Political Parties and 388 of Independent Groups contested. The number of members elected at these elections were 3,036.
- 6.1.7 At the election held on 23.07.2011 for 65 Local Authorities on Court orders, 2,630,985 electors were eligible to cast the vote at 2,276 polling stations according to the electoral register of 2010. The election was held to elect 825 members. There were 5,688 candidates from 20 Recognized Political Parties and 237 nominations from 72 Independent Groups.

6.1.8 Elections for 22 Local Authorities postponed by His Excellency President under the Emergency Regulations and the election to the Colombo Municipal Council were held on 08.10.2011. 6,488 candidates contested representing 26 recognized Political Parties and 104 Independent Groups. These elections were held to elect 420 members. According to the Electoral Register of 2010 number of eligible voters were 15,89,622 who were entitled to cast their votes at 1,167 polling stations.

6.2 Steps taken in connection with the poll.

6.2.1 The specific feature of the elections held on nomination notices published on 06.01.2011 and 04.08.2011, was the higher number of recognized Political Parties and Independent Groups that submitted nominations. It was observed that robot parties and groups were put forward for the elections by some Political Parties to fulfill their own motives .

Apart from that some candidates displayed their preferential numbers assigned to them with the names of popular persons and their photographs, in handbills, to mislead the voters with the aim of collecting preferences. Prompt action was taken in such occasions.

6.2.2 Due to the Proportional Representation System, it was observed that there was competition between political parties and among the candidates of the same party. Therefore number of complaints received was high after nominations, on displaying of illegal posters, banners, cutouts and misusing of public property for the election campaign. Commissioner of Elections took appropriate action and informed such activities to the Inspector General of Police and other related institutions to remove such items and to take necessary action.

6.2.3 Holding of these elections at three stages may be one reason for the increase of illegal activities at the election campaign. Under these circumstances, Political Parties in power put more pressure in electoral areas. With the increase of illegal election propaganda activities, election violence also took place. It has been clearly visible that the directives of the Commission of Elections issued in regard with the establishment of party offices have been neglected.

6.2.4 Illegal Political campaigns and election related violence was one of the main topics at the consultative meetings convened by the Commissioner of Elections to ensure fair and peaceful elections, where IGP and Secretaries of Political Parties represented.

As the responsibility of enforcement of laws is with the Police including the IGP, instructions were issued to that effect. Alternative steps were taken having considered the requests made by the party Secretaries at the consultative meetings at previous elections, were considered to be implemented.

- I. Taking a report from the District Returning Officers on displaying of illegal election propaganda items and referring it to the IGP.
- II. Issuing instructions to all Secretaries of Ministries on prohibitions of misusing public property and holding of discussions in depth on this matter with Additional Secretaries.
- III. Issuing of guidelines for private and public media institutions and discussing the ways of implementing them with heads of those electronic and print media institutions.
- IV. Giving instructions to respective authorities to postpone appointments and transfers to employees unless they were done on service requirements but allegedly on political reasons.
- V. Taking steps to prevent government vehicles and other public property being used for political campaign, upon the confirmations of the complaints.
- VI. Taking steps to send officials from adjoining districts and from the Colombo pool to electoral areas for the poll and for the count.
- VII. Before the transport of ballot boxes to the counting centers the ballot boxes used at the polling stations to be sealed and put in to a thick transparent polythene bag and locked with tamper proof plastic locks.
- VIII. Issuing of copies of Ballot Paper Accounts prepared after the poll, to polling agents.
- IX. Allowing polling agents to paste stickers inside the ballot boxes and also to send specimen of such stickers to the Chief Counting Officers through Senior Presiding Officers.
- X. Issuing a pass to a polling agent of a Party / Group by the Senior Presiding Officer after the poll to follow the vehicle that takes the ballot boxes for the count.
- XI. To allow one counting agent of a party or a group to be present at the assigned counting center for observing the process of receiving ballot boxes and other items.
- XII. Issuing copies of result sheets prepared in carbonized papers at counting centers to counting agents of represented parties or groups that obtained highest, second and third places of the number of votes.
- XIII. Allowing candidates in addition to the counting agents of a party or a group to observe counting of preferences of such party or groups, providing more opportunity to observe the process of preference counting.



- XIV. Issuing a copy of the result sheets on the counting of preferences to the Secretary of a Party or the Group Leader of the Independent Group.
- XV. Issuing a copy of the result sheets prepared on the preference count at the counting centers to the respective Party Secretary or the Independent Group leader.

### 6.3 Pre election period and poll day

- 6.3.1 The poll day was calm at the recent elections, though the pre election period recorded troubles to some extent. The contest prevailed between parties and among candidates of same parties. Some violence related activities were reported due to illegal election propaganda activities. However the poll was taken place under a peaceful atmosphere on the poll day.
- 6.3.2 The Commissioner of Elections published through media and informed the Secretaries of Political Parties that he would take necessary action to annul the poll at polling stations if any disturbances for the poll occurred. Producing of identity documents by voters at polling stations at the time of asking for ballot papers was made compulsory. This was effective since the Local Authority Elections in 2006. These steps were instrumental in the calm atmosphere on the poll day.
- 6.3.3 Reports on the poll were received from Senior Presiding Officers, Police Officers, on duty at polling stations. Observers who were at polling stations and Assistant Returning Officers who supervised the zones. Approval was given to the observers of PAFFREL and CMEV to remain in the polling stations and observe the poll.
- 6.3.4 Few other institutions were permitted to do field observations and report. Six professionals from Indian Elections Commission were deployed to obtain suggestions to improve the electoral system after studying the poll and the counting procedure of the Local Authorities Elections held on 08.10.2011.
- 6.3.5 On the poll day at phase 1 of the Local Authority Elections in 2011 and during the Elections period up to few days after the poll of the second and third phases held on 28.07.2011 and 08.10.2011 respectively, a complaints Co-ordinating Center was established at the Elections Secretariat to receive complaints and take prompt action as at previous elections. This unit consisted of Senior Staff Officers, Senior Police Officers, representatives of Political Parties and Observer Groups.
- 6.3.6 Counting of votes commenced in appropriate manner as there were no any adverse reports received in nature of disturbing the poll.

#### 6.4 Counting of Votes and declaration of results.

6.4.1 A number of counting centers for each Local Authority was established in the manner that the result could be prepared for each council separately and result of each council was checked at the Head Office and confirmed by the Commissioner of Elections.

6.4.2 Two seats of each council were allocated for the Party or Independent Group obtained the highest number of votes at the election and the balance sheet had to be allocated to the parties and groups proportionately on their number votes.

Accordingly, the number of members appointed from each party and group was decided and the first result of the count was published by the Returning Officers and also through the media.

6.4.3 Next, the preferences of each candidate of parties and groups that were entitled for electing members for council were counted to decide the members to be elected and after that the names of elected members were declared.

6.4.4 The Returning officers took steps to obtain information under 65(1)C Section of members to be appointed as Mayors / Deputy Mayors and Chairman / Deputy Chairman from the Secretaries of Recognized Political Parties and Independent Groups entitled for bonus seats and the notice was published under sections 66(1). The Commissioner of Elections published relevant notices in the gazette in terms of the Section 66(2) of the Ordinance.

Details of Political Parties and Independent Groups that obtained the ruling power of the Local Authorities according to the results of the elections for 322 councils at three stages are shown below.

Party / Independent Group	Municipal Councils	Urban Councils	Pradeshiya Sabhas	Total
United People's Freedom Alliance	17	29	225	271
Ilankai Tamil Arasu Kadchi	-	5	25	30
United National Party	2	5	3	10
Sri Lanka Muslim Congress	1	-	4	5
National Congress	1	-	1	2
Tamil United Liberation Front	-	-	2	2
Up-Country Peoples Front	-	-	1	1
Independence Group	-	-	1	1
Total	21	39	262	322

Details of gazette notices published by the Commissioner of Elections under Sections 66(2) of Local Authorities Elections Ordinance are shown below.

<b>Date of the Poll</b>	<b>Number of Local Authorities</b>	<b>Details of the Gazette</b>
17.03.2011	234	28.03.2011, 1699/2
23.07.2011	65	30.07.2011, 1716/32
08.10.2011	23	15.10.2011, 1727/24

6.4.5 Elections held at first stage were based on the electoral register of 2009 and it was used for postal voting purposes at the election held in second stage too. But at the time of the second stage of elections, the electoral register of 2010 was the operative electoral register and election was held on that register. This electoral register was used for the elections at the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage.

This was a significant feature in the elections history. It was also significant that the elections in second and third stages were held under supervision of the new Commissioner after the retirement of the former Commissioner of Elections after the first phase.

## **7.0 Staff**

7.1 Mr. Dayananda Dissanayke who joined to the Sri Lanka Administrative Service on 02.01.1970, started his career in Divisional Administration. From 01.06.1970 he served in Laggala, Ududumbara and Hapthale Divisions as the Divisional Revenue Officer. He joined the Department of Elections on 01.02.1975 as an Assistant Commissioner of Elections and served in Nuwara Eliya District and Colombo Municipal Council Elections Office in the same capacity and, after that he served in the Head Office as Deputy Commissioner of Elections. He was appointed as the Commissioner of Elections on 17.02.1995. Mr. Dissnayake who reached the retirement age of 60 years on 28.01.2002 had to serve in the post even after that day, due to the Section 27(2) of the 17<sup>th</sup> amendment to the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, that required the incumbent Commissioner of Elections to continue in his position until the establishment of the Elections Commission. Under Section 36(iv) of the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution attested on 25.03.2011, he got his retirement from the service. He has rendered valuable service to the Department. Computerization of electoral register, making the identity card document compulsory for voting, inclusion of National Identity Card details in the electoral register and the adoption of a proper procedure to recognize political parties are some specific activities occurred during his period. I wish to record with appreciation Mr. Dissanayaka's, excellent services to the department in various capacities.

- 7.2 After the retirement of Mr. Dayananda Dissanayake the Commissioner of Elections, Mr. Mahinda Deshapriya, the Additional Commissioner of Elections (Parliamentary Elections) was appointed as the Commissioner of Elections by the Secretary to the President by his the letter No: CASA/06/07/11 of 23.03.2011 with effect from 25.03.2011. He joined the Sri Lanka Administrative Service on 01.07.1982 and served in various positions in the Department of Elections since 01.07.1983. Mr. Deshapriya served as the Assistant Commissioner of Elections in Trincomalee, Matara, Colombo, Kalutara and Galle Districts and in the Colombo Municipal Area Elections Office and later he served in the Head Office as Deputy Commissioner of Elections (Administration) and Additional Commissioner of Elections (Parliamentary Elections).
- 7.3 Mr. U. Amaradasa, SLAS (Special Grade) was appointed as the Additional Commissioner of Elections (Parliamentary Elections) with effect from 11.04.2011.
- 7.4 By the letter No: DMS/C/8/112 dated 30.11.2011 of the Director General of Management Services Department of the Ministry of Finance and Planning, the cadre of Deputy Commissioners in Class I of Sri Lanka Administrative Service was raised from 5 to 8. According to the letter in addition to Head Office and Colombo Metro, Gampaha, Kurunegala and Kandy. For District Election Office in Kalutara, Galle and Ratnapura also were added and the posts of Senior Assistant Commissioner of Elections were suppressed in Kalutara, Galle and Ratnapura. The two posts of Assistant Commissioners of Elections in Hambantota and Ampara were upgraded to Senior Assistant Commissioner of Elections. According to that 9 posts for Senior Assistant Commissioners of Elections for Class I and II Officers of the SLAS have been approved for Matara, Hambantota, Nuwara Eliya, Jaffna, Kegalle, Ampara, Anuradhapura, Puttalam and Badulla Districts.
- 7.5 Mr. S.D.S.A. Rupasinghe, Mr. H.I.R. Hathurusinghe, and Mr. J.S.P. Samarasena who were recruited to Sri Lanka Administrative Service Grade III on 08.10.2010 assumed duties in the Department on 03.02.2011. On the request of the Governor of Western Province, Mr. Samarasena was released to assume duties as Assistant Secretary in the Governor's Office, after 28 days of service in the Department and his service is appreciated.
- 7.6 Mrs.D.M.C.T.K. Dissanayake, who joined the Class III of Sri Lanka Administrative Service on 01.03.2006, served in the Ministry of Finance as an Assistant Secretary, assumed duties in the Department of Elections on 11.08.2011. She is the first lady-officer appointed to the Department to serve as an Assistant Commissioner of Elections. Mr. N.D. Latthuwahandi of Class III of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service joined the service on 02.03.2009 and served in the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology as an Assistant Secretary, assumed the duty in the Department of Elections on 04.11.2011 .

- 7.7 Mr. A.S. Karunanidhi, who joined the Government service as a clerk on 06.12.1970 was recruited to the Sri Lanka Administrative service on 08.09.2003. He assumed duties in the Department of Elections on 01.12.2003, and served in Jaffna, Vavuniya, Batticaloa and Colombo Districts as an Assistant Commissioner of Elections and retired from the Government service at the age of 60 years on 23.10.2012. Service rendered to this Department by Mr. Karunanidhi is much appreciated.
- 7.8 Number of vacancies in the state Management service were 57 on 15.01.2011 and 54 out of them were filled with the new recruits in 2011, after making several requests to the Ministry of Public Administrations.
- 7.9 After receiving the approval from the Management Services Department for the calling of applications to fill 20 out of 22 vacancies of Karyala Karya Sahayakas in the Department, 14,491 applications were received in response to the notice published in the gazette. 50 K.K.S.s were recruited out of 148 candidates who were called for interviews.
- 7.10 A post of Coordinating Secretary to the Commissioner of Elections was approved and Mr. R.M.A. Hameed was appointed for the post on 13.07.2011.
- 7.11 Due to the increase in activities of the Department, steps were taken to create some more posts for the Department with the approval of Management Services Department. Accordingly 3 posts of Public Management Assistant Service (Supra Grade) for Gampaha, Kandy and Kurunegala Districts, 4 post of Public Management Assistants and two Office Labourers for Kilinochchi and Mullativu Elections Office and two translators (Sinhala / English) were created.
- 7.12 On the request of the Department, the Department of Examinations held an examination on 23.11.2008 for the appointment of 23 Management Assistants with the ability of working in two official languages. 97 candidates who obtained the highest marks in the second language were called for interviews on 04 and 05 08/2011 and 16 out of them were appointed to the Colombo District Elections office, Colombo Elections office (Municipal Areas) and Kalutara, Nuwara Eliya, Galle , Matara, Hambanthota, Puttalam, Kegalle, Kandy, Kurunegala, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Badulla, Ampara and Vavuniya District Elections Offices on 15.09.2011.
- 7.13 16 employees including 14 of the Public Management Service Assistants, 1 Karyala Karya Sahayaka and 1 Staff Officer retired from the Government Service during the year and the details are given in Table XX. Out of them Mrs. M.A.C. Abesinghe, Mr. P.W.W.M.B. Meddegoda, Mr. H.M.L. Herath, Mr. R.D. Ranasinghe and Mr. K. Jayasena served as Chief Public Management Assistants in Nuwara Eliya, Polonnaruwa, Ratnapura, Kandy and Matara Districts Election Offices respectively. I admire the services rendered to the Department by all these retired officials.

- 7.14 Mr.N. Nadarasa of Sri Lanka Administrative Service served as Assistant Commissioner of Elections was appointed as an Assistant Registering Officer for the Vanni Electoral District after his retirement in order to hold inquiries relevant to claims. Mr. Nadarasa, who came to under take this essential duty expired during that period. Even before this he had served at many occasions on the request of the Department. I appreciate his services in the Department and also the special services he rendered to the department after retirement.

## **8.0 Foreign Training and Educational Travel**

### **8.1 Foreign Training**

Mr. K.J.K.S. Madhawa, Assistant Commissioner of Elections, Anuradhapura District left the island on 31.08.2011, to follow a Masters Degree Programme in Public Policy for Senior Officers in Developing countries, Beijing University, China, from 01.09.2011 to 31.08.2012.

### **8.2 Official Foreign Travel**

8.2.1 Mr. Dayananda Dissanayake, the former Commissioner of Elections left the island on 20.01.2011 to participate in the Unofficial Conference of Asian Elections Commissioners, held from 21.01.2011 to 22.01.2011 in Hyderabad, India, under the patronage of the Malaysian Commonwealth Studies Center (MCSC) and the Foundation for Advanced Management of Elections (FAME) returned to the island on 26.01.2011.

8.2.2 Mr. M.M. Mohomad, Deputy Commissioner of Elections (Administrations ) and Mr. S Medawewa Consultant of the Department of Elections left the island on 06.09.2011 to Pakistan to participate in the informal Conference of Commissioners of Elections in SAARC countries held in Islamabad, Pakistan from 08.09.2011 to 10.09.2011 conducted by MCSC and FAME and they returned on 12.09.2011.

8.2.3 Mr. R.M.A.L. Ratnayake, Deputy Commissioner of Elections, Kurunegala District and Mr. E.A. Weerasena, Chief Accountant of the Department left the island on 24.10.2011 to participate in the General meeting of Association of Asian Elections Authorities held in Seoul , South Korea from 25.10.2011 to 28.10.2011 and they returned on 29.10.2011.

8.2.4 Mr. M.M. Mohomad, Deputy Commissioner of Elections (Administration) and Mr. E. Sumanasiri, Computer Programmer participated in the Second Unofficial Conference of Commissioners of Elections in South Asia, Organized by Malaysian Commonwealth Study Center (MCSC) and Foundation for Advanced Management of Elections (FAME) from 23.10.2011 to 24.10.2011 held at Allepy, Kerala in India. They left the island on the 22.10.2011 and returned to the island on 25.10.2011

## **9.0 Constructions and Assets**

- 9.1 Foundation stone was laid for a new office building for Batticaloa Elections office on 20.12.2010 and the contract of the building was awarded to Lanka Trading and Constructions Private Limited, No: 14/15, Vajira Road, Colombo 04. As a grenade was found in the site of the building when it was cleared after the flood situation in the area, the site had to be checked. The site was inspected by the military officials of Minneriya Army Camp with the guidance of the Ministry of Defence and, constructions work could be started only after getting a certificate on the security of the area from the relevant security authorities. Most of the work of the building was carried out at the end of the year 2011 and it is expected to complete the entire work during the 1<sup>st</sup> month of 2012.
- 9.2 District Secretary of Batticaloa is currently taking action to allocate a block of suitable land at No. 32, Sarawana Road, Kallady to build official quarters for the Assistant Commissioner of Elections, Batticaloa on the request made by the Department.
- 9.3 On request of the Department, District Secretary of Jaffna has taken steps to release a land of 01 r. 0.68 p. in extent in the Old Park to the Department for the required buildings.
- 9.4 A crew cab was bought on 05.06.2011 from United Motors (Lanka) Private Limited at a cost of Rs. 5,424,006/- (Registered No: LI - 2176).
- 9.5 A Toyota Motor car valued Rs. 4,600,000/- was given to the department on 17.11.2011 by the Ministry of Finance. (Registered No: KR- 0794).
- 9.6 Two Toyota cabs valued Rs. 5,900,000/- were given to the department by the Ministry of Finance on 02.12.2011 (Registered No: PD - 0748 / PD - 0749).
- 9.7 A Toyota Corolla car valued Rs.6,750,000/- was given by Ministry of Finance on 14.12.2011. (Registered No: KR - 5426).
- 9.8 A Prado jeep valued Rs. 20,500,000/- was imported on 20.12.2011 under duty concession for the Commissioner of Elections. (Registered No: KR - 6327).

## **10.0 Financial Information**

- 10.1 The recurrent expenditure for year 2011 was Rs. 2,161 million and it indicates a decrease of Rs. 1,834 millions when compared with the previous year. This increase in the year 2010 was due to the holding of two national elections in that year.
- 10.2 Rs. 2126.8 million was expended on Local Authorities Elections at the rate of Rs. 148.57 per each elector. Generally Rs. 1,900/- million is spent on a national election. The cost of election of the year has gone up because these elections were held at three separate stages.

- 10.3 The capital expenditure was Rs. 54.4 million and when it is compared with Rs. 44.3 million in 2011 it shows an increase of 10 million. This increase was due to the completion of construction work of Battcaloa Elections Office, buying a new crew cab, buying a new jeep for the Commissioner of Elections and the supply of new machinery and furniture for District Elections Offices.
- 10.4 It was impossible to meet the demand for loans from the Advance Account during this year. The loans granted in this year was Rs. 9.8 million and in 2010 that amount was Rs. 15.5 million. The reason for the decrease in granting loans was the lower level of financial allocations for the purpose.
- 10.5 The cost for the preparation of electoral register for 2011 was Rs. 102 million. It was about Rs. 100 million in the previous year and this shows an increase of 2% of the cost of this year.
- 10.6 Most of the electoral registers prepared as books were used for Local Authority Elections held this year. Therefore the request made by Government Institutions and Political Parties were managed with the softcopies of the register. By selling these softcopies of electoral registers, department earned about Rs. 1 million and Rs. 2 million rupees from issuing of extracts of electoral registers.

Mahinda Deshapriya  
Commissioner of Elections

Elections Secretariat,  
Sarana Mawatha,  
Rajagiriya.  
17<sup>th</sup> May, 2012



- I Claims and Objections under Section 14 of Registration of Electors Act No.44 of 1980. (Revision of Electoral Register - 2010)
- II Details of Polling Divisions and Polling Districts where house to house enumeration did not take place due to insecurity and disruption of civil administration in Northern Province (Revision of Electoral register - 2010).
- III Number of names that have not been registered due to multiple registration. (Revision of Electoral register - 2010).
- IV Claims and Objections under Section 14 of Registration of Electors Act No.44 of 1980. (Revision of Electoral Register - 2011)
- V Comparative Statement showing number of registered electors according to Electoral Districts.( 2009 - 2010 )
- VI Participation of Political Party Nominees. (Revision of Electoral Register - 2010)
- VII Number of persons who submitted details of their National Identity Cards. (Revision of Electoral Register - 2010)
- VIII Comparative Statement of percentage of Production of National Identity Card Numbers by persons at the revision of Electoral Registers (2001 - 2010).
- IX Comparative Statements of the Number of Electors in the Polling Divisions 2001 - 2010
- X Filling of Vacancies in the Membership of the 14<sup>th</sup> Parliament- 2011
- XI Filling of Vacancies in the Membership of the Provincial Councils - 2011
- XII Filling of Vacancies in the Membership of the Municipal Councils - 2011
- XIII Filling of Vacancies in the Membership of the Urban Councils - 2011
- XIV Filling of Vacancies in the Membership of the Pradeshiya Sabhas - 2011
- XV Number of Members which each Electoral District is entitled to return at the Parliamentary Elections according to the Order under Article 98(8) of the Constitution - 2011
- XVI Comparative Statement of the Number of Members of Parliament to be elected under Article 98(8) of the Constitution for each Electoral District (2002 - 2011).
- XVII Details of persons whose names deleted from the Electoral Register of 2011 due to serving of prison terms under Bribery Act and for offences committed at elections under Elections Laws
- XVIII The Number of votes obtained by contested Political Parties / Independent Groups and Number of Members elected from those parties and groups in respect of each Local Authority at Local Authorities Elections - 2011
- XIX List of Recognized Political Parties published on 27.01.2011 by the Commissioner of Elections in terms of Section 7(4)(b) of Parliamentary Elections Act No.01 of 1981
- XX Details of Officials of the Department of Elections retired from the Government Service during the year, 2011