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## **Electoral Reforms**

Definition: "Electoral Reform" is a broad term that is used to describe changes aimed at improving the responsiveness of the electoral process to public desires and expectations.

They may be legal or administrative in nature; or political; which takes place in the political environment within which the EMB operates, such as giving it more autonomy, or creating a more effective framework for its funding and accountability.

#### LIST OF ELECTORAL REFORM ITEMS

- A. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION & IMPLEMENTED
- 1.Institutionalization of IPAC
- 2.Define the Term "Ordinary Resident"
- 3. Extend the period of notice for the Voter Registration Exercise from 14 to 21 days
- 4. Use BVD for Exhibition of the Provisional Register
- 5.Implementation of continuous voter registration
- 6. Election Officials and Party Agent to take oath before a Magistrate instead of an Officer of the **Electoral Commission**
- 7. Reduce the number of Voters per Polling Station
- 8. Raise the minimum Education qualification requirement for recruitment as election officer
- 9. Improve compensation package for Election Officials
- 10.Improve upon the training of Election Officials
- 11. Expand the list of special voters to include accredited media personnel and Election Observers.
- 12.Returning Officers should give copies of Proxy, Special and Absent voters lists to candidates.
- 13.EC should give copies of the final voters register to the political parties 21 days before elections
- 14. Priority to be given to vulnerable persons at the polling stations
- 15.EC should take steps to reduce rejected ballots
- 16.Redesign and simplify the statement of Poll and Declaration of Results forms
- 17. Serially number all Statement of Poll and Declaration of Results forms
- 18.Clear provision to be followed on the adjournment of poll
- 19.. Appoint Collation Officers for each Constituency
- 20.Set up National Collation Centre to replace the Strong Room.
- **B. REFORMS PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED**
- 21. Continuous Voter Registration- Regulation 9(1&2) of C.I 91
- 22. Expand the list of Special Voters to include Media Personnel and Election Observers
- C. REFORMS YET TO BE IMPLEMENTED
- 23. Hold presidential and parliamentary elections on 7th November.
- 24. Electoral Commission to publish in the gazette all polling stations with
- their Codes and locations not later than 42 days before election.
- 25. Publication of the Presidential Election Results on a polling station by polling station basis.
- 26. Electoral Commission should be given the mandate to apply to Court to delete names of unqualified persons from the Provisional Voters Register.
- D. REFORM RECOMMENDATIONS OUTSIDE THE AMBIT OF THE COMMISSION
- 27. Shorten the period for the determination of a presidential election petition 28. Spell out the grounds for invalidating the election of a president.

29. Establish election tribunals to hear and determine electoral cases and petitions

- 30. Empower the EC to prosecute election offences. 31. Remove the requirement for the consent of the of Attorney-General before prosecution of election
- 32. The financial estimates of the electoral commission should be sent directly to parliament without being subjected to the control of the executive.
- 33. Appointments of members of EC should be with the prior approval of parliament.
- 34. The term of office of the chairperson and members of the Electoral Commission should be limited to two five-year, periods.

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March 12, 2025

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON ON THE OCCASION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY March 7, 2025



offences.

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