Public should have access to Election Complaints and Mgt Unit

By Ruwan Laknath Jayakody

The Parliament should institutionalise the Election Complaints and Management Unit and promote public access to the body by establishing an open data site containing updates on the cases being heard, the Asian Network for Free Elections (ANFREL) proposed.

Parliament should amend Section 71 of the Presidential Elections Act, No. 2 of 1981 which deals with offences under certain Sections of this Law to give the Election Commission (EC) prosecutorial power.

Also, to lessen the prevalence of the use of Government resources, the EC and Parliament should work on guidelines regarding the absolute prohibition on the use of Government vehicles and buildings during the Election period.

These recommendations regarding accountability and electoral dispute resolution were made in the ANFREL International Election Observation Mission Report, titled The 2019 Sri Lankan Presidential Election: A Deepening Political Divide.

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