

# CENTRE FOR MONITORING ELECTION VIOLENCE

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தேர்தல் வன்முறைகளைக் கண்காணிப்பதற்கான நிலையம்

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## Uva Provincial Council Election – August 2009

### Media Communiqué No -02

07<sup>th</sup> August 2009

07<sup>th</sup> August 2009, Colombo; At the end of the Uva Provincial Council Election campaign at 12.00 hrs. on August 05<sup>th</sup>, CMEV received 44 incidents of election related violence. Of the total number of incidents reported 22 are from the Monaragala District and 22 have been reported from the Badulla District. CMEV observes that the relatively peaceful situation, which prevailed at the beginning of the election campaign, has been disrupted by incidents of violence towards its end, which in turn, will affect the environment for a free and fair poll on August 08<sup>th</sup>. There is a noticeable increase in the number of assaults, misuse of public property, threats and arson.

The highest number of major incidents are of assault [14]. According to CMEV records, the alleged perpetrators in these incidents have been identified as supporters of the UPFA. One of the main reasons for this is the intra-alliance competition for preferential votes.

Police inaction is also a major factor in the continuing violation of election laws and the misuse of public property. The large size cutouts of almost all candidates, poster campaign, use of large fleet of state vehicles for campaigning, election rallies and use of unauthorized public address systems in vehicles continues.

CMEV has received confirmation from Assistant Election Commissioners that they have issued more than 17,000 temporary identity cards. Of the temporary identity cards issued, nearly 7,000 were in Monaragala district and more than 10,000 in the Badulla district.

CMEV has completed preparatory arrangements to monitor the election and will deploy 230 Election Day monitors to cover the polling. In addition, CMEV will deploy 25 mobile teams and 15 field monitors to cover at least 70% of polling booths.

We request all parties concerned to extend their cooperation and support to CMEV monitors to carry out their duties without any hindrance.

Following telephone numbers at CMEV are available throughout the Election Day for voters, political parties and independent groups to report any information of election related violence.

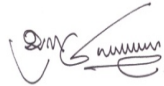
### CONTACT INFORMATION

Location	Telephone Number	Fax Number
Colombo	0112 564404	0114 722632
Uva Province	060 2030462	
Jaffna & Vavunia	0112 5621904	

CMEV was formed in 1997 by the Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA), the Free Media Movement (FMM) and the Coalition Against Political Violence as an independent and non-partisan organisation to monitor the incidence of election related violence. Currently, CMEV is made up of CPA, FMM and INFORM Human Rights Documentation Centre.



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