



# CENTRE FOR MONITORING ELECTION VIOLENCE

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தேர்தல் வன்முறைகளைக் கண்காணிப்பதற்கான நிலையம்

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## Local Authorities Election 2018

### Final Communiqué Election Day

**10 February 2018**

CMEV deployed approximately 2000 monitors (including stationary observers) in the field and in polling stations for the purpose of monitoring incidents of violence and malpractice on Election Day. CMEV also deployed 90 mobile teams in selected areas across the country.

We can conclude that Election Day and the campaign period leading up to it was one of the most peaceful on record. By 4.00pm, CMEV recorded a total of 145 incidents. 21 have been categorised as Major incidents and 124 as Minor incidents. Of the recorded incidents 44 complaints are against the United National Party and 33 complaints against the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna.

Majority of the incidents recorded have mainly been regarding material inducements, providing transport to voters to go to polling stations, campaign material being strewn around polling stations, and the presence of candidates and supporters in the polling station area.

CMEV recorded more than fifty incidents from the Northern Province. However none of them were categorised as Major incidents, and significantly when compared to previous elections none of them alleged the involvement of the military, and were mainly regarding canvassing and the display of election material in polling station areas.

Voter turnout was high in all districts compared to previous Local Government Elections. We would like to thank the Election Commission, the police and all election officials for creating an environment that enabled a free and fair Election Day.

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.

All CMEV reports and communiqués can be accessed online at [www.cmev.org](http://www.cmev.org).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Saravanamuttu', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr. P. Saravanamuttu  
Co-Convener