

Need to amend Election Law – PAFFREL

By NABIYA VAFFOOR

People's Action for Free and Fair Elections (PAFFREL) said they received 510 election violation complaints regarding illegal campaigning on social media and a further 143 incidents were reported yesterday (5).

According to the PAFFREL report, the highest number of complaints were appealing for votes and had been reported 33 times. An incident of assault was reported from Mirihana in the Mahiyangana District. An incident of threatening was



reported from Kundasale while an incident regarding photographs being taken was reported from the Nawalapitiya area. PAFFREL has received complaints regarding five incidents of transporting voters as well.

Reportedly two incidents of vehicle parades in Nikaweratiya in the Kurunegala District and Akkaraipattu in the Ampara District was also reported.

Further, confirming the vehicle parades incident, Executive Director of PAFFREL, Rohana Hettiarachchi noted that the incident had been reported on three occasions.

Fifteen incidents of fraudulent ballots have been reported from several areas.

“After making the National Identity Card mandatory to cast the vote, we saw a reduction of fraudulent ballots, but

unfortunately this time around there were 15 incidents of fraudulent ballots,” Hettiarachchi noted.

Meanwhile, Hettiarachchi pointed out that Public representatives who will be elected to Parliament should take steps to amend Election Laws. He said a method to regulate election campaigns on Social Media, posting a limit for election campaigning expenditure and introducing an effective voting method for patients, prisoners, health authorities, defence authorities and election observers.