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இலங்கை மனித உரிமைகள் ஆணைக்குழு  
Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka

Press Notice No: HRC/P/i/E/05/09/24

## Press Notice

### **Intervention by the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka to protect the prisoner's right to vote**

The Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL) convened a meeting with the participation of officials from the Election Commission, Department of Prisons, and Election Monitoring Bodies today (05<sup>th</sup> September 2024), to discuss issues pertaining to prisoner's right to vote.

The discussion focused on practical challenges in ensuring prisoners who are legally eligible to vote, cast their vote in the upcoming presidential election. The key challenges include logistical constraints, security and ensuring the integrity of the voting process within the prison facilities.

Despite the challenges, all parties present at the meeting, acknowledged the importance of prisoners' rights to vote and agreed to collaboratively find a viable solution to the identified practical issues. The officials of the Election Commission, assuring the HRCSL that suitable measures will be taken to protect the prisoner's right to vote stated that certain steps have already been taken in that regard.

The HRCSL as the key oversight body to promote and protect Human Rights will closely monitor and coordinate with the relevant stakeholders to work towards safeguarding the democratic rights of the prisoners.

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