

Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs

2000 Voter Registration Campaign

Purpose

This paper informs Members of the results of the 2000 Voter Registration (VR) Campaign which came to a close on 16 March 2000.

Background

2. Members discussed proposals of the 2000 VR Campaign at the Panel meeting on 20 December 1999. The main features of the two-month campaign included door-to-door visits to the two million households in the territory, and special efforts to encourage young people to sign up as electors.

Geographical Constituencies (GCs)

3. About 466,000 forms for registration in GCs were received by the close of the VR drive, including 21,000 forms collected during the year preceding the VR campaign. Of these, about 249,000 were from new electors, with the remaining 217,000 mainly for change of address. About 36% of the new forms received came from electors falling within the age group of 18-25.

4. Through the territory-wide household visits, we have verified the records of about 1.88 million electors in the electoral roll. Separately, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) have updated the residential addresses of about 96,000 electors with the assistance of government departments and on the basis of self-made requests by electors themselves. These efforts help improve the accuracy of the electoral roll.

5. The 2000 provisional register for GC shows that the total electorate has increased by about 223,000, from 2.832 million to 3.055 million. This figure is the result of an addition of the above 249,000

new electors and the deletion of 26,000 former electors who are no longer eligible to remain on the register.

Functional Constituencies (FCs) and Election Committee (EC) Subsectors

6. Both FCs and EC subsectors have recorded a net increase in the number of new electors, after removing former electors no longer eligible to be included in the register. According to the provisional register for FCs, the total electorate has increased from 138,000 to 176,000. As for EC subsectors, the provisional register shows that the number of registered electors has increased from 143,000 to 179,000.

The Way Forward

7. The above provisional voter registers and omissions lists, which contain the names of former electors no longer eligible to be included in the registers, will be available for public inspection at District Offices and REO between 14 and 29 April 2000. Members of the public who have signed up as electors are invited to check their registration particulars in the provisional registers. The final register will be published on 25 May 2000.

Conclusion

8. Members are requested to note the content of this paper.

Constitutional Affairs Bureau
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