The Electoral Laws (Amendment) Act, 2002

Being an Act to amend the Electoral Laws Act, 2002

[7th February, 2002] Date of commencement

Enacted by the President and Members of Parliament in this present Parliament assembled.
1. The Electoral Laws Act, 2002 is amended—

(a) in section 3, by the substitution for the words "subsection (1)" appearing in subsection (2) thereof, of the words "this Act".

(b) by the repeal and replacement of section 35 with the following section:

35 (1) After the appointment of the day under section 28 for the holding of a Presidential Election, the Electoral Commission shall appoint such persons as it thinks fit, other than a candidate for election, to be—

(a) The Presiding Officers who shall be in charge of the polling in a polling station; and

(b) Polling Assistants who shall be under the direction of the Presiding Officers.

(2) Where Parliamentary Elections are to be held at the same time as the Presidential Election, the Electoral Commission shall also appoint the Returning Officers and the Assistant Returning Officers referred to in subsection (2) of section 60.

(3) The appointment of a Returning Officer, Assistant Returning Officer and Presiding Officer shall be published by Government Notice”.

(c) in the paragraph (a) of section 38, by the insertion immediately before the word "issue" of the following words:

"subject to paragraph (c) and (f) of subsection (2) of section 42 of the Constitution."
(d) in the Fifth Schedule, FORM II, by the substitution for the words “the highest of the valid votes cast” of the words “..........per centum of the valid votes cast”;

(e) by the repeal of subparagraph (iv) of paragraph (b) of section 65;

(f) by the repeal and replacement of section 66 with the following:—

66. Every ballot paper shall have a number printed thereon and shall be attached to a counterfoil bearing the same number as is printed on the ballot paper.”;

(g) by the repeal and replacement of section 114 with the following:—

114 (1) Where a Political Party wishes to hold a demonstration or procession during an election campaign period, it shall, at least three days before the event, submit a written notice to the Police, indicating the date, time and place of the holding of such event and, subject to subsection (2), the demonstration or procession shall be allowed to take place.

(2) Where a demonstration or procession is notified by different Political Parties for the same time and place, the Police shall allow the demonstration or procession to take place in the order in which the notification was received by the Police.

(3) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed so as to prohibit a political party from conducting any meeting, organizational activity or publishing any book or other material in connection with its normal activities as a Political Party.”
(h) in section 120, by substituting for the words "Electoral Commission" or "Commission" as the case may be, the words, "Management of the national radio or television".

(i) by inserting immediately after section 126, the following:—

"Power of Electoral Commission to prescribe additional forms, etc."

126A (1) For the purposes of its functions under this Act, the Electoral Commission shall have power to prescribe, in addition to the forms in the Schedules, such other forms as it may find necessary or expedient but such additional forms shall be consistent with this Act.

(2) Any deviation from a form prescribed in the Schedules which does not affect the substance thereof, shall not invalidate the form in which the deviation occurred.”

Commencement. 2. This Act shall be deemed to have come into force at the same time as the principal Act.

PASSED in Parliament this 12th day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand and two.

J. A. CARPENTER,
Clerk of Parliament.

THIS PRINTED IMPRESSION has been carefully compared by me with the Bill which has passed Parliament and found by me to be a true and correctly printed copy of the said Bill.

J. A. CARPENTER,
Clerk of Parliament.