



Ethnic Relations Commission
ELECTION OBSERVATION REPORT

GENERAL & REGIONAL ELECTIONS 2025

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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC), mandated under the Constitution of Guyana to promote harmony and good relations among all ethnic groups, played an extensive and proactive role in protecting social cohesion during the 2025 General and Regional Elections. Drawing on lessons from the highly contentious 2020 electoral cycle, the Commission implemented a multi-layered programme focused on public education, hate-speech mitigation, campaign and media monitoring, stakeholder consultations, and formal observation of the electoral process. These efforts were designed to reduce ethnic tensions, counter inflammatory rhetoric, and promote a peaceful environment before, during, and after the elections.

Beginning in 2023, the ERC executed a broad public awareness programme that significantly shaped the national climate. Through its Countering Hate Speech Campaign launched in partnership with the United Nations, the Commission conducted national workshops with youth, media practitioners, social media influencers, and broadcasters. A comprehensive traditional and digital media strategy deployed election-themed messages across newspapers, television, radio, social media, YouTube, and high-visibility e-billboards. These initiatives consistently promoted unity, respect, tolerance, and lawful conduct, preparing citizens for peaceful participation. Community outreaches were also conducted in areas historically susceptible to election-related tensions, further supporting the Commission's preventive mandate.

As part of its engagement with political actors, the ERC hosted the signing of its Code of Conduct for political parties contesting the election. This initiative reaffirmed the legal and moral obligations of political leaders to avoid hate speech, inflammatory rhetoric, and discriminatory practices. Although four of the six parties signed the Code, APNU and FGM declined to participate. The Commission also held extensive consultations with several international and regional observer missions, including the European Union, CARICOM, the Commonwealth, the Organization of American States, International IDEA, and The Carter Center. These engagements ensured alignment on monitoring standards and strengthened the overall oversight of the electoral process.

Throughout the election period, the ERC's Media Monitoring Unit tracked the online and broadcast content of media houses, political parties, and political influencers. From July to September 2025, the Unit recorded 111 infractions, a figure significantly lower and less severe than what was observed during the 2020 elections. Campaign monitoring across nine regions revealed relatively few instances of racially divisive or inflammatory statements, highlighting an overall improvement in public discourse and political messaging. The Investigative Unit recorded 29 complaints during the election-sensitive period, 17 of which were directly election-related. This represents a substantial reduction compared to the 124 complaints

recorded during the protracted 2020 elections. The decrease is attributed to strengthened election management, improved timeliness of electoral processes, and increased ERC public education efforts.

On Election Day, September 1, 2025, the ERC deployed 169 observers across eight administrative regions, allowing the Commission to observe 441 polling places. Observers reported that the elections were conducted peacefully, professionally, and in accordance with national law. Voters from all racial and ethnic groups were able to freely exercise their franchise without intimidation, discrimination, or obstruction. Although minor inconsistencies were noted regarding the placement of ballot compartments, visibility of signage, and accessibility for persons with disabilities, none of these issues compromised the integrity or inclusiveness of the process. The Disciplined Services voting, held on August 22, 2025, was also executed smoothly, with ERC observers noting high levels of order, transparency, and professionalism.

The ERC concluded that the 2025 General and Regional Elections were executed in a manner that was free from fear, fair, transparent, and respectful of the rights of all Guyanese. This positive outcome reflected the collective efforts of GECOM, the disciplined services, political parties, religious and community leaders, international and regional observers, and the ERC's Commissioners, staff, and election observers. The Commission emphasized that continued attention should be given to improving accessibility for persons with disabilities, standardizing voter education and signage, and strengthening uniform procedures to ensure ballot secrecy in future elections.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) is a constitutional body established under the Constitution (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 2000, which inserted Articles 212A–212F into the Constitution of Guyana, delineating the Commission’s mandate, powers, and composition. Its creation arose from the Herdmanston Accord, signed on 17 January 1998 between then-President Janet Jagan and Opposition Leader Desmond Hoyte under the mediation of CARICOM, following the political unrest surrounding the 1997 General and Regional Elections. Although constitutionally established in 2000 and assented to on 11 August 2000, the ERC was formally constituted in 2003 to promote ethnic harmony, investigate complaints of discrimination, and foster national peace and unity across Guyana’s pluralist society.

Guyana’s society is ethnically and racially diverse, comprising six principal racial groups: Amerindians, Europeans, Afro-Guyanese, Indo-Guyanese, Portuguese, Chinese, and a mixed-race population. In recent years, Guyana has also experienced a growing migrant population, particularly Venezuelans fleeing economic and political instability, and migrants employed in the oil and gas and other sectors. Religious pluralism further enriches Guyanese society, with Hinduism, Christianity, and Islam being the most widely practiced faiths, alongside Indigenous spiritual traditions and smaller religious minorities, including Rastafari and the Baha’i Faith. This diverse religious landscape is marked by a high level of tolerance, with citizens commonly participating in the religious observances of other faiths.

Historically, major political parties have drawn support largely along ethnic lines, with the People’s Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) traditionally supported by Indo-Guyanese, and the People’s National Congress (PNC), later the A Partnership for National Unity (APNU) coalition, predominantly supported by Afro-Guyanese. In recent decades, broader social integration has gradually shifted patterns of race-based political allegiance.

During the 2020 General and Regional Elections, the ERC was officially accredited by GECOM and served as a Local Observer group, with eight (8) of the ERC Commissioners participating as observers. In 2023, the newly reconstituted Commission observed the Local Government Elections for the first time, fielding sixty (60) accredited observers across five regions of Guyana.

3.0 INTRODUCTION

In alignment with its constitutional mandate to promote harmony and good relations among all the people of Guyana, the ERC was officially accredited by GECOM and served as a Local Observer group for General and Regional Elections 2025. Beyond serving as a Local Observer group, the ERC played a long-term role preceding the elections, fostering conditions to prevent racial tensions and ensure national unity.

This report documents the ERC's election-related efforts, including key findings and recommendations from its observation of Elections 2025. The Commission's role in cultivating a peaceful environment prior and during the electoral period was essential to maintaining amicable ethnic relations. Efforts commenced as early as 2023, including engagement with political leaders and the development of the Countering Hate Speech Campaign, officially launched in June 2024. These initiatives aligned with the ERC's 24 constitutional functions and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), promoting understanding among races and prohibiting hate speech.

Pre-election initiatives included workshops on countering hate speech, a uniting cricket tournament, jingles and film contests to generate creative messaging, regional outreach programs, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Trainings, and development of advertisements promoting togetherness, respect, and tolerance. These activities maximized public education and deterred the negative racial behaviours historically associated with election periods in Guyana. The ERC also strengthened the Media Monitoring and Investigative Units with conflict resolution training and the implementation of automated tools, such as OtterAi, to enhance monitoring capabilities.

The 2025 General and Regional Elections featured six (6) political parties contesting: People's Progressive Party/ Civic (PPP/C), A Partnership for National Unity (APNU), Alliance for Change (AFC), and first-time parties We Invest in Nationhood (WIN), Forward Guyana Movement (FGM), and Assembly for Liberty and Prosperity (ALP). The ERC conducted campaign monitoring and monitored media coverage. deployed 169 observers on election day, The campaign period was highly competitive, with a minimal number of violations compared to the 2020 elections. Election Day, 1 September 2025, was orderly, calm, and tension-free, allowing voters to exercise their rights without hindrance. The Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) effectively administered polling procedures in accordance with national electoral laws. Transparency was enhanced through amendments to the Representation of the People Act, including public posting of electronic Statement of Polls (SOPs) and stronger penalties for obstruction or interference with voting. These measures fostered stability and increased public confidence in the electoral process.

In alignment with the Constitution of Guyana and international covenant such as Inter-American Democratic Charter (OAS), which affirms citizens' right to democracy and obliges states to promote and defend it, the ERC recognised that threats to electoral integrity could undermine harmony among Guyana's ethnic communities.

As such, the Commission observation of the 2025 elections aimed to safeguard peace and cooperation among Guyana's diverse ethnic groups. Specifically, the Commission sought to:

- i) Assess fairness and credibility:** Evaluate compliance with national laws and procedures across campaign activities, voting, counting, and results tabulation.

- ii) Support public confidence and peace:** Transparent observation reassures citizens and political actors that election outcomes reflect the popular will, reducing the potential for post-election tension or violence.

- iii) Issue recommendations** where necessary, to enhance future elections.

4.0 PUBLIC EDUCATION

The Public Education and Awareness Unit (PEAU) of the Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) undertook a comprehensive communication and outreach programme to support the Commission's mandate of promoting peace, tolerance, and ethnic harmony during the 2025 General and Regional Elections.

4.0 Pre- Elections- Countering Hate Speech Campaign

The ERC in collaboration with United Nations (UN) Guyana has partnered and successfully launched its countering Hate Speech campaign. The campaign was officially launched at the National Library Conference room on June 18th, in observance of the international day itself and received support from the government, diplomatic corps, private sector, and youths, among others. The launch was the first phase in a series of others as the campaign was intended to run into the election year of 2025 and beyond.

i) Countering Hate Speech with Youth

Following the successful launch of the Countering Hate Speech campaign held on June 18th, the ERC in collaboration with UN Guyana successfully hosted its first Countering Hate Speech workshop with youths on August 12th, 2024, in observance of International Youth Day.

The event was held at Cara Loge and brought together thirty-two young people from a diverse network of youth organisations to engage in meaningful dialogue, education, and capacity-building exercises aimed at combating hate speech and promoting harmonious relations.

ii) Countering Hate Speech with Media, DJ's & Influencers

In partnership with the United Nations (Guyana) and the Guyana National Broadcasting Authority (GNBA), the ERC hosted its second Countering Hate speech workshop on October 8, 2024, at the Pegasus Hotel in Georgetown.

This important event brought together 41 participants from both traditional and non-traditional media, inclusive of broadcasters, political commentators, DJ's, social media influencers, and journalists to engage in discussions, training and capacity-building exercises aimed at combating hate speech and promoting harmonious relations.

Through group discussions and practical activities, participants were encouraged to reflect on their experiences and contribute to the development of a draft action plan, outlining steps they can take within their circles of influence to counter hate speech and its effects.

Draft action plans emanating from these workshops were refined and used in ERC's awareness efforts to further counter Hate Speech in Guyana.

4.1 Traditional Media

Given the recommendations and subsequent approval by the Commission, a comprehensive traditional media campaign was conducted by the PEAU using the radio, television, newspaper and e-billboards to proliferate Election themed Public Service Announcements (PSA's) and messages created by the Unit.

Newspapers

In the lead up to the General and Regional Elections, held on September 1st, 2025, the ERC implemented a broad-based awareness campaign across multiple communication platforms. In addition to its robust online presence, the Commission strategically utilized the four national daily newspapers in Guyana (Kaieteur, Guyana Times, Stabroek News, Guyana Chronicle), to ensure maximum visibility and reach.

While digital platforms have become increasingly important for youth and urban audiences, newspapers remain one of the most trusted and accessible sources of information for a wide cross-section of Guyanese, particularly older demographics, rural communities, and those with limited internet access. Newspapers continue to be influential in shaping public opinion, providing credibility, and reaching audiences across the ten administrative regions.

Scope of the Campaign

- **Advertisements:** Leading up to Election Day, the ERC placed recurring advertisements in all four daily newspapers. These carried consistent messages of **peace, unity, tolerance, and national responsibility**, urging citizens and political parties/leaders to conduct themselves respectfully during the electoral process.

Publications were made on:

- i. August 24th – Elections Come & Go, Unity Must Stay
 - ii. August 30th – Respect all, Let Peace Prevail
 - iii. August 31st - A call for Peace- Statement
 - iv. September 1st - A call for Peace- Statement
- **Full-Page Statement:** As the election period intensified, the Commission published a full-page statement in each newspaper. This statement reinforced the ERC's constitutional mandate to promote harmony and called on all Guyanese to uphold the principles of non-discrimination and respect during one of the most sensitive and historically tense national events.

Objectives of the Initiative

The use of traditional media sought to achieve several strategic objectives:

1. Reinforce ERC's Presence and Authority

By maintaining a visible presence in all major newspapers, the Commission positioned itself as a proactive, impartial, and credible national institution guiding the public dialogue during elections.

2. Reach the Wider Public

In keeping with its mandate, the campaign ensured messages were accessible to diverse demographics, from professionals and policymakers to grassroots communities, many of whom rely more heavily on newspapers than online platforms.

3. Condition the Public Mindset for Peace

In a period where political tensions often ran high, repeated exposure to messages of peace, unity, and respect contributed to shaping public attitudes and expectations of civic behaviour. These reminders served as a stabilizing influence, countering inflammatory rhetoric or misinformation circulating in other spaces.

4. Balance Modern and Traditional Outreach

Complementing online campaigns, the newspaper placements created a multi-channel strategy. This increased the likelihood of message penetration across age groups, literacy levels, and geographic locations.

5. Demonstrate Neutrality and Inclusivity

Publishing in all four daily newspapers ensured that no section of the population felt excluded. The Commission's outreach was seen as impartial and universally accessible, reinforcing its constitutional role in serving all Guyanese.

Impact

Through this initiative, the ERC's call for peace and unity reached thousands of readers daily. The campaign not only promoted awareness but also served as a psychological anchor in preparing the electorate for responsible participation in the elections.

This was particularly important in preventing escalation of tensions and in conditioning the public mindset to expect, and to contribute to, a climate of tolerance and harmony during and after the polls.

Below are images of content published by ERC, pre-elections.



Press Releases

In the months prior to the September 1, 2025, General and Regional Elections, the Commission issued a series of press releases and public appeals directed at political leaders, supporters, and the general public. These were intended to reinforce messages of peaceful conduct, respect for democratic norms such as freedom of association, lawful campaigning and to complement the other forms of public communication strategies.

These releases served several interlocking strategic objectives:

1. Priming the Discourse Environment

Setting the tone early: by issuing statements months in advance, ERC sought to shape public expectations about acceptable behaviour, campaigning norms, and civic responsibility.

Framing the narrative: Placing reminders about peace, respect, unity in public space early helps in making such themes mainstream, reducing the acceptability of divisive or inflammatory behaviour.

2. **Reaching Broader Audiences Beyond Advertisements:** The press releases were disseminated through media outlets (print, broadcast, online) that reach people who may not see or engage with ERC ads or social media. They provided detailed argumentation or reasoning, reminding of constitutional rights and legal obligations.

3. Encouraging Accountability and Leadership Responsibility

By directly addressing political leaders/supporters in official releases, ERC set expectations that leaders should not only avoid harmful conduct but also actively promote peace and restraint. This establishes a public record: if later actions contradict what was called for, ERC and others can point to what was requested.

4. **Reinforcing Other Media Efforts,** The press releases acted as a backbone to the newspaper adverts and full-page statements. Where adverts provide repeated visual/emotional exposure, press releases provide the substance and reinforce credibility. They also serve as reference points for media coverage: journalists can draw on ERC's statements, quote them, analyse them, and thus amplify the reach of the message.

5. **Legal and Constitutional Education** Most of these targeted press releases refer to constitutional rights (freedom of association, religious tolerance, freedom of expression) or legal statutes (laws governing elections, rules against hate speech, among others, that help educate the public about their norms and rights.

See elections related to press releases below that were ERC disseminated.

1.) ERC Cautions Political Leaders to Promote Peaceful Conduct ahead of 2025 General & Regional Elections



2.) ERC hosts successful Code of Conduct Signing to promote peaceful Elections ERC



PRESS RELEASE



August 5th, 2025

ERC HOSTS SUCCESSFUL CODE OF CONDUCT SIGNING TO PROMOTE PEACEFUL ELECTIONS

Georgetown, Guyana - In a strong show of unity and democratic commitment, the Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) hosted its Code of Conduct Signing Ceremony on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at the Arthur Chung Conference Centre (ACCC). The event brought together political parties contesting the 2025 General and Regional Elections, along with representatives of the diplomatic corps, elections observers, and the media.

Political parties present at the signing included the Alliance For Change (AFC), Assembly for Liberty and Prosperity (ALP), The People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) and We Invest in Nationhood (WIN). The event commenced with interfaith prayers for peace, at elections, from religious leaders representing the Christian, Hindu and Islamic faiths within Guyana.

The signing ceremony reaffirmed the ERC's constitutional mandate to promote ethnic harmony, safeguard national unity, and support peaceful democratic processes. Leaders and representatives of participating political parties formally signed the Code of Conduct, pledging to uphold mutual respect, reject divisive rhetoric, and prioritize national interest throughout the election period.

Delivering opening remarks at the ceremony, Chairman of the ERC, Shaikh Moeenul Hack, underscored the importance of responsible leadership and national solidarity. He stated, inter alia, "Let us also reaffirm that the political space in Guyana must never be reduced to hostility or intimidation. It must remain one of dignity, responsibility, and decency, where all citizens feel safe to participate and express themselves without fear. The Code of Conduct, in this sense, is not just a pledge made to the ERC; it is a promise to the people of Guyana, a vow to conduct campaigns peacefully, to reject hate speech and divisive rhetoric, and to put the national interest before partisan ambition."

The Chairman noted that the primary objective of the Code of Conduct's signing is to ensure that the rule of law is upheld. "It affirms that all political parties must conduct themselves in accordance with the Laws of Guyana and must actively appeal to their supporters to do the same," he said.

He posited further that while imperfections exist in all democracies, "that reality must not be exploited to sow discord, but rather, must be met with political maturity and restraint." He called on political leaders to set the tone and asserted that the true strength of a democracy is not merely tested at the ballot box, but in how its leaders conduct themselves before, during and after elections. To that end, Shaikh Hack appealed to all the political parties to choose the path of civility, maturity and collective responsibility.

Following the formal signing of the Code of Conduct, the political parties were also given the opportunity to provide remarks and unanimously echoed sentiments of commitment and adherence to the principles outlined in the document.

The signing ceremony concluded with the Commission expressing appreciation to the political parties and called on all stakeholders commitment to monitoring and supporting efforts that promote peace, inclusivity, and respect during the elections and beyond.

The ERC reaffirms its commitment to promoting harmony and good relations amongst all peoples of Guyana.

Please see attached the signed copy of the Code of Conduct.

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3.) ERC Observes Disciplined Services Voting Ahead of 2025 General and Regional Elections



PRESS RELEASE



August 23, 2025

ERC OBSERVES DISCIPLINED SERVICES VOTING AHEAD OF 2025 GENERAL AND REGIONAL ELECTIONS

Georgetown, Guyana – The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) has successfully completed its observation of the Disciplined Services voting, held on August 22, 2025, in advance of the upcoming General and Regional Elections scheduled for September 1, 2025.

In fulfillment of its constitutional mandate, the ERC deployed twenty (20) accredited Local Observers across all ten Administrative Regions of Guyana. These observers monitored polling stations where members of the Guyana Police Force, Guyana Defence Force, and Guyana Prison Service exercised their right to vote.

Led by the Chairman and Commissioners, ERC Observers visited polling stations at thirty-five (35) locations across the ten Regions.

The ERC observed that polling day activities were carried out in an orderly, peaceful, and transparent manner. Election officials demonstrated professionalism throughout, as members of the Disciplined Services exercised their franchise without incident. The Commission commends the disciplined and cooperative approach of the Officers and recognizes the efforts of electoral officials in ensuring efficiency, integrity, and smooth conduct of the process.

As Guyana prepares for the September 1, 2025, General and Regional Elections, the ERC will continue to monitor the electoral environment and expand its deployment of observers nationwide. The Commission calls on all Guyanese to respect the constitutional rights of their fellow citizens, demonstrate tolerance, and contribute to an atmosphere of peace and unity during this crucial period.

The ERC reaffirms its commitment to its role as a Local Observer Group, dedicated to monitoring the electoral process to ensure fairness, transparency, and integrity essential pillars for sustaining peace and harmony in society.

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4.) Respect Freedom of Association Ahead of General and Regional Elections



PRESS RELEASE



August 26th, 2025

RESPECT FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AHEAD OF GENERAL AND REGIONAL ELECTIONS

Georgetown, Guyana – As Guyana prepares for the 2025 General and Regional Elections, the Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) is reminding all citizens and supporters of political parties that every individual has the inalienable right to freely support the political party of their choice, without intimidation, fear, or harassment.

The ERC emphasizes that the Constitution of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana guarantees the freedom of association, assembly, and political participation, including the right to join, support, and express allegiance to any political party.

Article 147(1) of the Constitution affirms that "...no person shall be hindered in the enjoyment of his freedom of assembly and association, that is to say, his right to assemble freely and associate with other persons and in particular to form or belong to **political parties** or to form or belong to trade unions or other associations for the protection of his interests."

This means that the choice to wear political paraphernalia, attend rallies, or express political support is a protected right, and any form of intimidation, verbal abuse, harassment, or violence aimed at individuals because of their political preference is a direct violation of laws of Guyana.

The Commission calls on all Guyanese to engage in respectful dialogue and to remember that political opponents are not enemies. The free exchange of ideas and the visible support for different parties are signs of a healthy and functioning democracy.

The ERC also calls on political leaders, campaigners, and supporters to set the tone by discouraging acts of hostility toward those with differing political affiliations, both in public spaces and online. Such actions not only undermine individual rights but also threaten national unity and good relations.

The ERC reaffirms its commitment to promoting harmony and good relations and encourages all Guyanese to play their part in ensuring that the 2025 elections are conducted in an atmosphere of peace, mutual respect, and dignity.

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5.) Statement by the Ethnic Relations Commission



PRESS RELEASE



September 1st, 2025

STATEMENT BY THE ETHNIC RELATIONS COMMISSION

Georgetown, Guyana – The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC), having deployed approximately 200 Observers across the country, reported, based on preliminary observation reports, that the General and Regional Elections 2025 were conducted professionally and transparently by the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM). The ERC notes that the electoral process was free, fair, and carried out in an atmosphere devoid of fear or intimidation.

ERC Observers reported that polling stations were generally well organised, with procedures being followed, and that GECOM staff displayed professionalism and courtesy in the execution of their duties.

The ERC emphasises the importance of the ballot counting and verification of Statements of Poll (SOPs) being conducted with the same level of transparency and professionalism, and the official results to be made public within the shortest possible time.

The Commission commends the people of Guyana for their peaceful participation in the process and for their collective contribution towards ensuring credible elections.

In anticipation of the results from GECOM, the ERC calls on all Leaders of Political Parties, to appeal to their supporters to remain calm, respect and avoid actions that would build tensions in our society.

Let harmony and good relations prevail.

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6.) ERC Congratulates H.E, Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, on his re-election as President



PRESS RELEASE

September 7th, 2025

ERC CONGRATULATES HIS EXCELLENCY, DR. MOHAMED IRFAAN ALI, ON HIS RE-ELECTION AS PRESIDENT

Georgetown, Guyana –The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) extends congratulations to His Excellency, Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, on his re-election as President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

The Commission also conveys congratulations to the Prime Minister and Ministers who will form the Government for the next five years and offers best wishes for continued success in their service to the nation.

The ERC acknowledges the peaceful and orderly conduct of the electoral process and the participation of citizens across the country. As Guyana moves ahead, the Commission encourages continued emphasis on togetherness, healing, and reconciliation in keeping with the ideals of “One People, One Nation, One Destiny.”

The Commission looks forward to ongoing engagement with President Ali and the Government in support of efforts that strengthen harmony, inclusivity, and respect among all citizens.

The ERC reaffirms its commitment to working with every stakeholder towards advancing national unity and celebrating Guyana’s cultural and ethnic diversity.

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4.2 Social Media

ERC's social media pages inclusive of Youtube, Facebook, Instagram and Tik Tok were provisioned with elections related content and elections related coverage. The social media campaign was designed to complement ERC's traditional media and press release strategies while achieving objectives unique to the digital space:

- **Widening Audience Reach**

Social media ensured ERC's messages reached not only urban and younger demographics but also diasporic Guyanese and other international stakeholders monitoring the elections.

- **Timely Messaging and Rapid Response**

Posts and updates allowed the Commission to issue reminders and updates in real time, especially on Election Day itself, emphasizing peace, lawful conduct, and mutual respect.

- **Visual and Creative Impact**

Graphics, videos, jingles, and PSAs were adapted into shorter, eye-catching formats suitable for rapid consumption and greater impact on digital audiences.

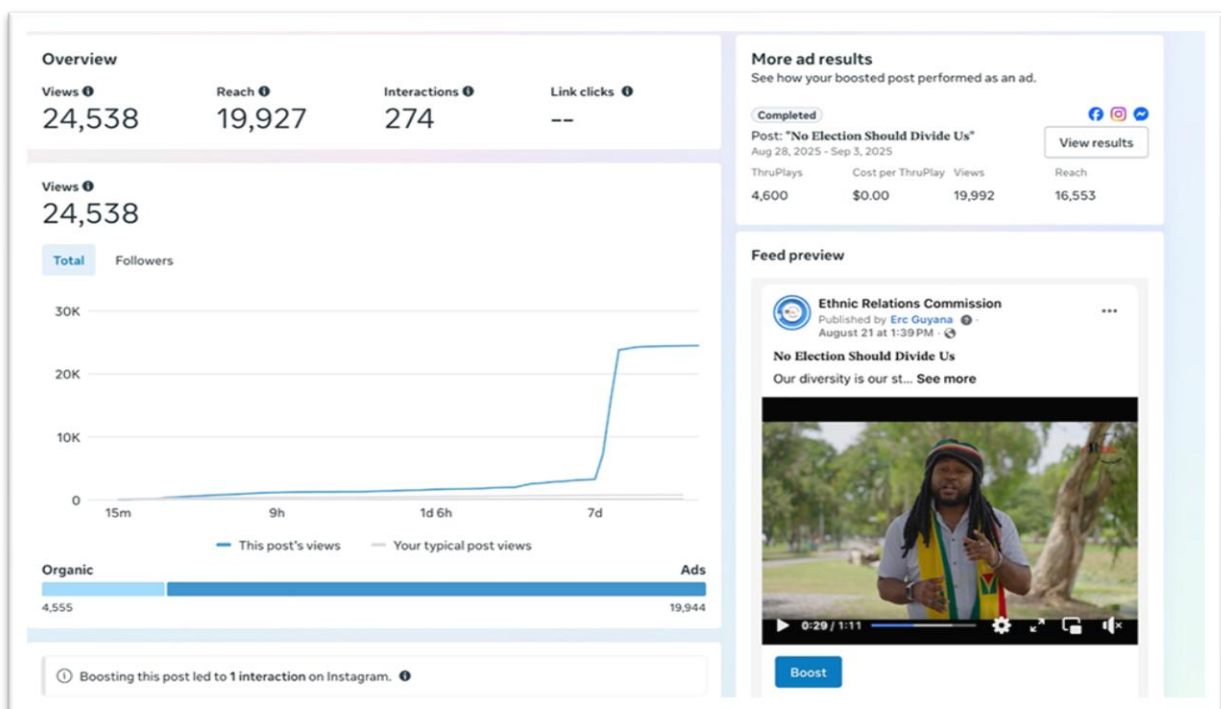
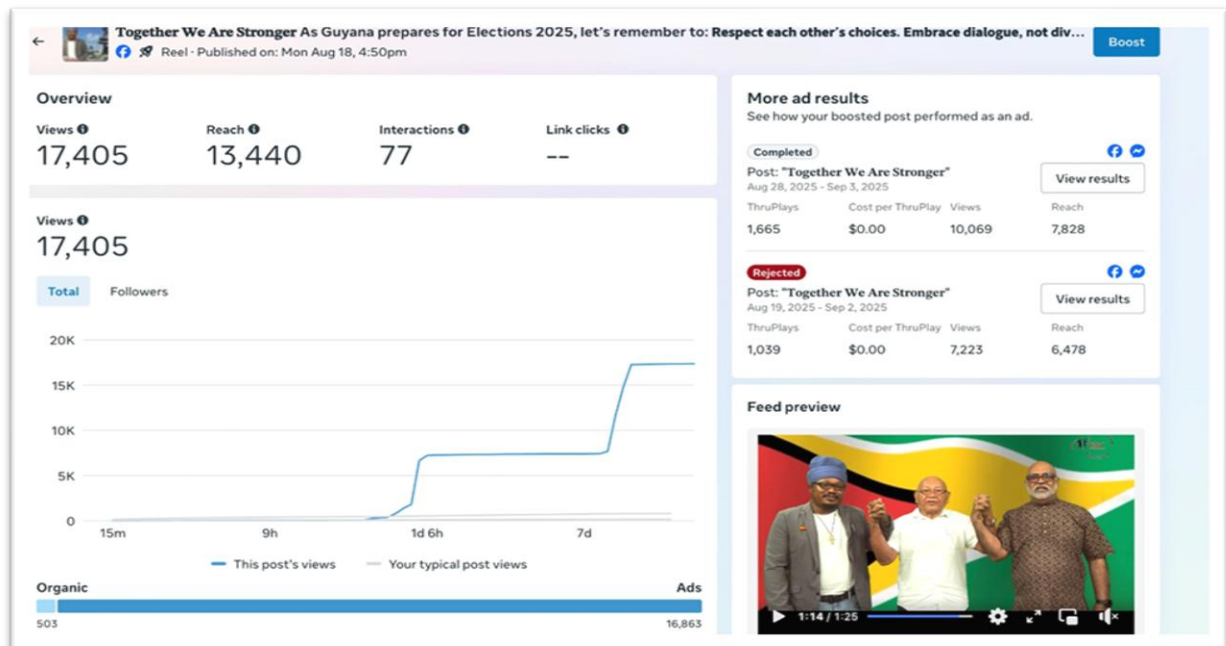
- **Counteracting Misinformation and Polarization**

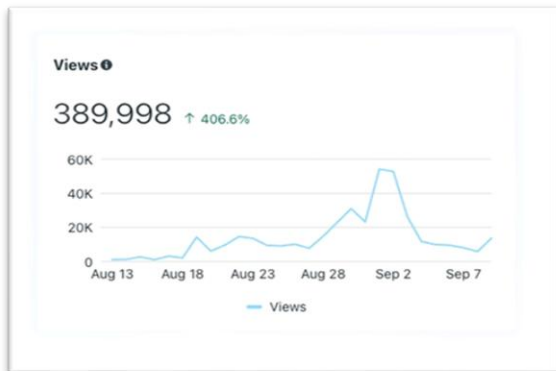
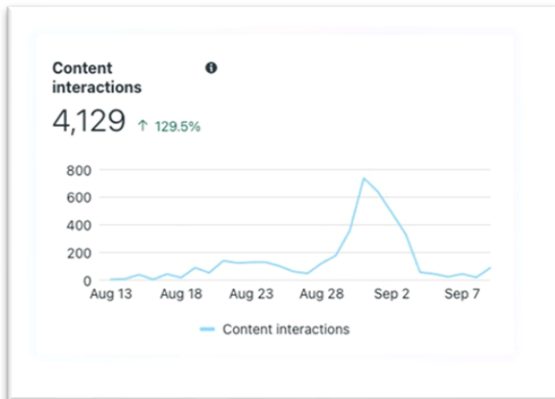
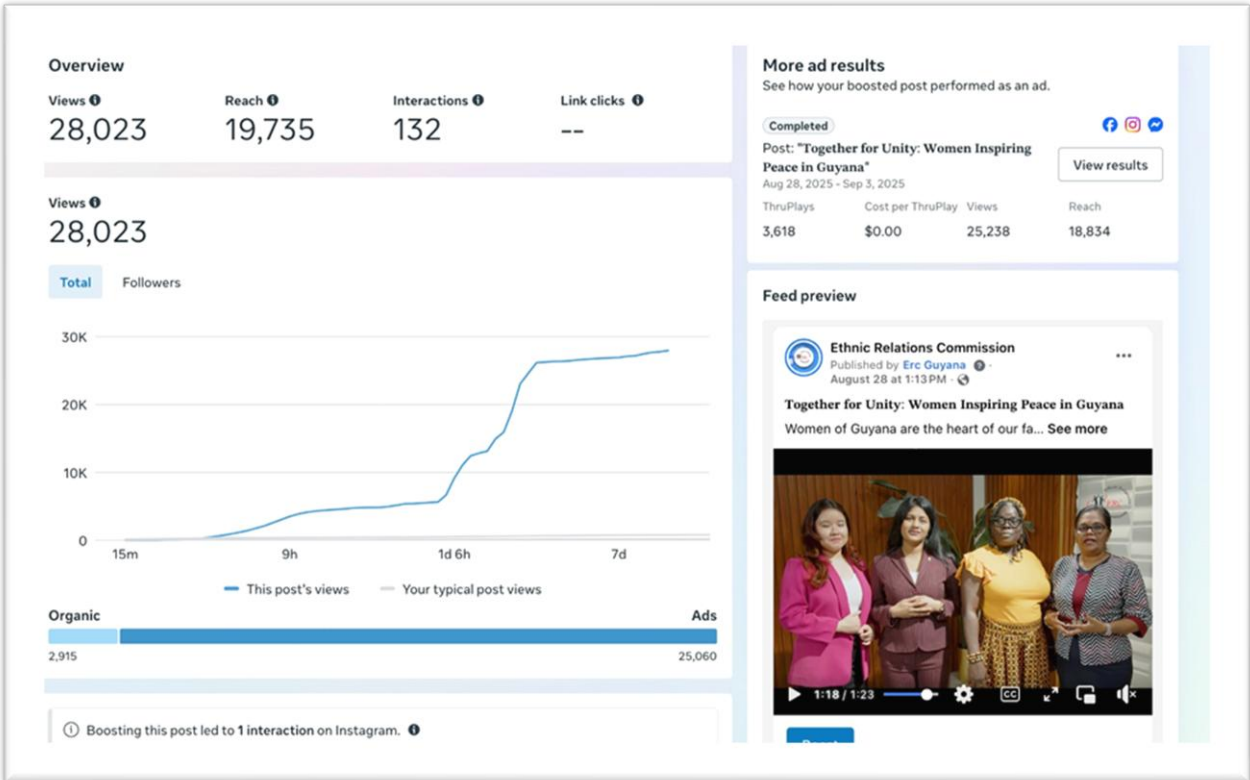
By maintaining a steady presence online, ERC provided credible, authoritative content that helped neutralize divisive narratives and reduced the spread of misinformation during a politically charged period.

Impact

- Social media analytics (see below) indicated high engagement rates during the week of elections, with significant shares and comments reflecting citizen support for peace-oriented messaging.
- The immediacy and visibility of ERC's posts helped "condition the minds" of citizens in real time, reinforcing messages already carried by newspaper ads and press releases.
- By maintaining consistent content across multiple digital platforms, ERC presented itself as modern, responsive, and accessible, appealing especially to younger demographics who consume information primarily online.

See below for sample of social media analytics for ERC's Election themed PSA's calling for peace, unity, tolerance and respect on ERC's Meta platform.





Public Service Announcements

The Ethnic Relations Commission developed three election themed public service announcements (PSAs) that were proliferated on all of ERC's social media pages as well as all the most popular television stations across Guyana. The audio from these PSA's were also rotated on most of the popular radio stations within Guyana.

Radio & Television

In addition to print, online, and social media, the ERC, through its Public Education and Awareness Unit executed a broad-based radio and television campaign in the lead up to the September 1, 2025, General and Regional Elections. Recognizing the wide geographic and demographic reach of broadcast media, the ERC disseminated jingles, and PSAs on major radio and television stations. This ensured that the Commission's messages of peace, unity, and tolerance reached both urban and rural communities across all ten administrative regions. The Broadcast campaigns across these two major platforms were intended to;

1. **Maximize National Coverage:** Radio and television remain two of the most accessible and far-reaching communication channels in Guyana, particularly for households in hinterland and riverain communities with limited internet or newspaper access.
2. **Reinforce Messages Through Repetition:** Frequent airing of jingles and PSAs created continuous exposure, embedding ERC's calls for peace and tolerance in the public consciousness during the most sensitive pre-election period.
3. **Appeal to Emotion and Culture:** PSAs in audio and visuals conveyed messages in creative, culturally resonant formats that appealed to emotion as well as reason.
4. **Synchronize with Other Platforms:** Airing diverse content in newspapers, social media, radio and TV provided a multi-channel echo effect that considerably strengthened ERC's message consistency and reach.

Impact

- **Nationwide Penetration:** Broadcast ensured messages reached audiences in every administrative region, including populations with little or no access to digital media.
- **Conditioning the Public Mindset:** Repetition of jingles and PSAs contributed to shaping public expectations of peaceful conduct and tolerance throughout the elections period.
- **Cross-Generational Reach:** While younger audiences engaged more with social media, other demographics such as rural populations were consistently reached through radio and television.
- **Credibility and Neutrality:** Placement on multiple broadcast stations underscored ERC's impartiality and non-partisan approach, ensuring no demographic was excluded.

The ERC's radio and television outreach significantly amplified its election awareness strategy. By harnessing the broad reach and emotional power of broadcast media, the Commission successfully reinforced its constitutional mandate and helped condition the national mindset for peace, tolerance, and unity in the lead up to the 2025 General and Regional Elections.

List of popular radio and television stations that aired ERC's Election themed PSA's

No.	RADIO	TELEVISION
1	Mix FM 90.1 FM	Channel 2 GWTV
2	Real FM 93.1 FM	Channel 11 (NCN)
3	NCN 98.1 FM	Channel 72 (HJTV)
4	LITE FM 104.1	Channel 6 (IGNITE)
5	NTN 89.1	Channel 69 (NTN)
6	HJTV 94.1FM	Channel 9 (GUYTV)
7	RGI 89.5 FM	Channel 67 (HGPTV)
8	VOG 102.5 (interior)	Channel 65 (MTV)
9	Power FM 104.3	Channel 28 (TVG)
10	News talk Radio 103.1 FM	Channel 8 (RCA TV)
11	Voice FM 96.1	E-Networks (E1, E2)
12	Little Rock 88.5 FM	Daves TV Channel 8 N/A
13	97.5 MAAD FM	Channel 10 (LRTV N/A)

E- Billboards

Furthermore, as part of its efforts to ensure comprehensive coverage and dissemination of content geared towards enhancing harmonious relations during the usually tense elections period, the ERC engaged two of the most popular E-billboard companies in Guyana, to advertise artworks on all of their public screens within Guyana calling for peace, respect, tolerance and unity during the 2025 General & Regional Elections.

Objectives of the E-Billboard Campaign

- 1. High-Visibility Messaging:** The Commission delivered short, impactful messages of peace, tolerance, and respect to large audiences who traversed the high traffic locations where the screens are positioned.
- 2. Repetition and Reinforcement:** Continuous cycling of ERC-branded visuals reinforced the Commission's central themes across the election period, complementing similar messages in print, broadcast, and social media.

3. **Target Urban Audiences:** E-billboards allowed ERC to target urban populations, including working professionals, students, and commuters, who might not engage as heavily with radio or print media.

Impact

- **Wide Public Reach:** Thousands of citizens across urban areas were exposed to ERC messages daily during commuting hours.
- **Conditioning the Environment:** The persistent visibility of peace-oriented messages created a backdrop of civic responsibility, subtly influencing public expectations of behaviour.
- **Reinforcement Across Platforms:** Citizens who saw ERC's messages on newspapers, social media, or television encountered the same themes in public spaces, strengthening message recall.
- **Neutral, Non-Partisan Branding:** The use of official ERC branding on billboards highlighted impartiality and underscored the Commission's role as a national body serving all Guyanese.

The use of E-billboards represented a modern and highly visible element of the ERC's election awareness strategy. By leveraging prominent digital screens in urban spaces, the Commission successfully proliferated its messages of peace, tolerance, and respect in the lead up to, during, and immediately after the 2025 General and Regional Elections. This innovative approach complemented traditional and digital outreach, ensuring that the call for harmony was both unavoidable and memorable.

4.3 Outreaches

In the lead up to General and Regional Elections, 2025, the PEAU coordinated several election themed outreaches within villages that have been historically prone to tensions during and after elections are held.

Date: July 11, 2025

Venue: Golden Grove, Market Square

Theme: Peace, Harmony, and Respect During the Election Season

Date: July 15, 2025

Venue: Tipperary Hall, Buxton

Theme: Promotion of Peace, Unity, and Social Responsibility During the Election Period

Date: July 19, 2025

Venue: Little Diamond/Herstelling NDC Office

Theme: Promotion of Peace, Unity, and Tolerance During the Election Period

Date: July 23, 2025

Venue: Agricola Primary

Target Communities: Houston, McDoom, Agricola

While these events were successful in their execution and intent, realising that the ERC was essentially competing with the political parties who were in campaign mode, a decision was made by the Commission to suspend the outreach engagements and focus more of its efforts on reaching Guyanese through the aforementioned established mediums.

5.0 CODE OF CONDUCT SIGNING



The representatives of ERC with members of political parties.

In keeping with its constitutional mandate to promote harmonious relations among all the ethnic groups of Guyana, the Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) hosted the signing of its **Code of Conduct** for political parties contesting the 2025 General and Regional Elections.

In the lead up to the signing, the ERC engaged the six political parties contesting the elections, inclusive of A Partnership for National Unity (APNU), Forward Guyana Movement (FGM), the People's Progressive Party Civic (PPP/C), the Alliance For Change (AFC), the Assembly of Liberty and Prosperity (ALP), and We Invest in Nationhood (WIN) respectively. The Code of Conduct reflected both the legal framework established under the Representation of the People Act (RoPA) and the broader principles of tolerance, equality, and non-discrimination enshrined in the Constitution.

The Signing Ceremony

The signing ceremony was held on August 6, 2025, at the Arthur Chung Conference Centre. Representatives of four political parties, the PPP/C, the AFC, the ALP, and WIN, signed the Code of Conduct in the presence of ERC Commissioners, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives from the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM), civil society organizations, and the media.

The Chairman of the ERC, Shaikh Moeen-ul-Hack, in his featured remarks, underscored the importance of the Code as a tool for reinforcing Guyana’s democratic traditions. He noted that many of its provisions draw directly from the RoPA, the Prevention of Discrimination Act, and other national legislation. He emphasized that the Code was “binding in spirit and principle” and that political leaders carried a moral responsibility to appeal to their supporters to act with tolerance, respect, and restraint during the campaign period. **See Annex for Signed Code of Conduct.**

Key Provisions Highlighted

The Code of Conduct required signatory parties, inter alia, to:

- Avoid inflammatory language, hate speech, or incitement.
- Respect the rights of all voters to participate freely and without intimidation.
- Uphold lawful campaigning practices consistent with RoPA and related legislation.
- Promote peace, tolerance, and acceptance of diversity as fundamental national values.

Media Coverage and Public Messaging

The event was widely covered in the national media and on ERC’s official platforms. Public messaging emphasized that the Code served as both a reminder of legal obligations under RoPA and a public declaration of commitment to peaceful campaigning.

The signing of the Code of Conduct represented a significant milestone in the ERC’s election preparedness activities for 2025. By securing commitments from political leaders in the presence of national stakeholders, the Commission reaffirmed its constitutional role in promoting ethnic harmony and fostering a climate of tolerance during the electoral process.

While confirmations were given by all six (6) of the political parties contesting that they would take part in this important activity, APNU and the FGM however, did not attend the Code of Conduct signing. The two parties subsequently indicated their reasons for not doing so in the press.

6.0 ERC ENGAGEMENTS WITH ELECTIONS MISSIONS

The Ethnic Relations Commission met with several electoral missions that were deployed to Guyana, ahead of the General and Regional Elections 2025. The purpose of these meetings were to discuss areas of mutual interest, such as observing the elections, pre-election awareness to promote peace, media and campaign monitoring, among others.

During the pre-elections period, the ERC met with the following electoral missions:

1. International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IIDEA)
2. European Union Elections Exploratory Mission
3. European Union Election Observation Mission on Elections 2025
4. Commonwealth Pre-election Assessment Mission (PEAM)
5. CARICOM Elections Observer Mission on Election 2025
6. The Carter Centre
7. Organization of American States

6.1 International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IIDEA)

The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) met with representatives from the European Union (EU) Delegation to Guyana and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) on Wednesday February 19, 2025, to discuss areas of collaboration concerning Guyana's 2025 elections. The meeting took place in the ERC's Boardroom.

The EU Delegation to Guyana was represented by Mr. Spiro Polycandriotis van Duynhoven, Deputy Head of Mission. The IDEA team was represented by Mr. Luis Consuegra, Adviser, and Mr. Juan Caycedo, Financial Adviser. Representing the ERC were Deputy Chairman Charles Ogle, Commissioners Ashton Simon, Chandrowite Sarra, Alphonso Porter, Neaz Subhan, Norris Witter, Krishn Sharma, Deon Dick (Ras Khafra) and Chief Executive Officer, Gomin Camacho.

The ERC provided an overview of its previous elections-related work, which included monitoring election campaigns, signing the code of conduct, and observing on election day. The Commission also highlighted its ongoing efforts, such as the "Countering Hate Speech" campaign, the implementation of the E-monitoring Tool, extensive public education and awareness activities, and other collaborative initiatives to ensure preparedness to counter racial hostility leading up to the 2025 National General Elections.

International IDEA adviser, Mr. Consuegra provided an overview of their planned activities in Guyana for the coming year. In addition, Mr. Polycandriotis van Duynhoven informed the group that the EU has accepted an invitation from the Government of Guyana to organize an Election Observation Mission (EOM) to the 2025 General Election. The agencies agreed that such collaborations can enhance the electoral process and strengthen efforts to ensure that democratic principles are upheld during the elections.

6.2 European Union Elections Exploratory Mission



The ERC Meeting with the European Union Elections Exploratory Mission

On April 4, 2025, the Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) met with the team from the European Union (EU) Elections Exploratory Mission to discuss areas of mutual interest.

The EU team comprised Spiro Polycandriotis van Duynhoven, Deputy Head of Mission at the European Delegation to Guyana, Dr. Lydia Malmedie from the European External Action Service, Dr. Armin Rabitsch, Political-Legal Team Leader for the EU Elections Exploratory Mission, Ms. Kairi Kasmann, Head of Sector for Election Observation, Mr. Scipion Du Chatenet, and Mr. Arild Nodland.

The ERC was represented by Shaikh Moeenul Hack, Chairman, alongside Commissioners Chandrowite Sarran, Norris Witter, Krishn Sharma, Neaz Subhan, and Deon Dick (Ras Khafra) and Gomin Camacho, Chief Executive Officer.

The Chairman took the opportunity to highlight the Commission's efforts during previous elections and outlined the ongoing and upcoming initiatives for the 2025 elections. He emphasized that, in addition to the ongoing Countering Hate Speech campaign, the Commission would be engaging with parliamentarians and political parties as the election approaches.

The Commissioners discussed the crucial role of the ERC in promoting peace and harmony during the election period, emphasizing the collective responsibility of all stakeholders in this endeavour. The ERC plans to deploy 100 campaign monitors and 200 election-day observers for the upcoming elections later this year.

The EU team explained that their presence in Guyana is at the request of the Government to observe the 2025 General and Regional Elections, and the team is currently conducting

preliminary assessments. The EU had previously deployed an Election Observation Mission (EOM) in 2020 and has since maintained ongoing engagements with the ERC.

The Ethnic Relations Commission expressed its appreciation for the EU's interest and the significance of their presence for the 2025 Elections. The ERC welcomed the opportunity to collaborate with the EU as a valued partner in the process.

6.3 European Union Election Observation Mission on Elections 2025



The ERC Meeting with the European Union Election Observation Mission

The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) on August 4, 2025, with representatives of the European Union Election Observation Mission (EOM) to discuss matters pertaining to the 2025 General and Regional Elections in Guyana.

The European Union EOM was represented by Mr. Colm Fahy, Legal Analyst; Ms. Veronica Laputska, Media Analyst; and Ms. Inta Lase, Social Media Analyst.

Present on behalf of the ERC were Chairman Shaikh Moeenul Hack, Deputy Chairman Charles Ogle, Commissioners Alphonso Porter, Norris Witter, Neaz Subhan, Ras Khafra, and Ashton Simon, and Chief Executive Officer, Gomin Camacho.

The meeting served as a platform for both parties to exchange information on their respective roles in promoting a peaceful, transparent, and credible electoral process. The ERC shared its key initiatives for the elections period, including the signing of the Code of Conduct for Political Parties- slated for August 5, 2025, the monitoring of campaign activities, and Election Day observation.

Similarities in operational approaches were also discussed, particularly in the areas of monitoring media, social media, and political campaigns, underscoring shared objectives in safeguarding the integrity of the elections.

The ERC reaffirmed its commitment to fostering national harmony and mutual respect during the elections, and welcomed the support of local and international agencies, such as the EU EOM, in advancing these efforts.

6.4 CARICOM Election Observer Mission



The ERC Meeting with the CARICOM Election Observer Mission

The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) met on August 27, 2025 with representatives of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Election Observer Mission (CEOM) to discuss matters pertaining to the 2025 General and Regional Elections in Guyana.

The CARICOM Observer Mission was represented by the Deputy Chief of Mission, Ian Hughes, and is expected to be led by the Chief of Mission

Present on behalf of the ERC were Chairman Shaikh Moeenul Hack, Deputy Chairman Charles Ogle, Commissioners Chandrowtie Saran, Alphonso Porter, Krishn Sharma, Norris Witter, Neaz Subhan, Ras Khafra, and Ashton Simon, and Chief Executive Officer, Gomin Camacho.

During the meeting, the two sides shared information on their respective roles in promoting a peaceful, transparent, and credible electoral process. The Chairman of the ERC, Mr. Hack, expressed appreciation to CARICOM for the leading role they played in Guyana's 2020 Elections, particularly the recount process and ensuring democracy was upheld.

The ERC shared its key initiatives for the elections period, including the signing of the Code of Conduct for Political Parties, the monitoring of campaign activities, Election Day observation, and public awareness to foster peace and respect throughout the electoral process. And also

provided updates from its observation of the Disciplined Services voting, conducted on August 22, 2025, in which the ERC deployed twenty (20) observers across all ten (10) regions.

Both the CARICOM and ERC teams underscored their shared objectives in safeguarding the integrity of the General and Regional Election 2025.

The ERC reaffirmed its commitment to fostering national harmony and mutual respect during the elections and welcomed the support of local and international agencies, such as the CARICOM Observer Mission, in advancing these efforts.

6.5 Commonwealth Pre-election Assessment Mission (PEAM)



The ERC Meeting with the Commonwealth Pre-election Assessment Mission (PEAM)

The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) on 21st July 2025, met with the visiting Commonwealth Pre-election Assessment Mission (PEAM) at the ERC Boardroom.

During the engagement, the ERC briefed the delegation on the Commission's ongoing efforts in support of the 2025 General and Regional Elections, particularly its initiatives aimed at promoting peaceful and inclusive electoral processes.

The Commonwealth delegation included Mr. Linford Andrews, Adviser and Head of the Electoral Support Section; Prof. Michelle Scobie, Adviser and Head of the Good Offices and Caribbean and Americas Sections; Ms. Anita Collins, Political Adviser in the Good Offices and Caribbean and Americas Sections; and Ms. Susan Jarvis, Legal Adviser in the Rule of Law Section.

Present on behalf of the ERC were Chairman Shaikh Moeenul Hack, Commissioners Chandrowtie Sarran, Alphonso Porter, Krishn Sharma, Norris Witter, Neaz Subhan, Ras Khafra, and Ashton Simon, and Chief Executive Officer, Gomin Camacho.

The meeting formed part of the Commonwealth's broader pre-election assessment activities and underscored the importance of collaboration between electoral stakeholders in fostering social cohesion and democratic governance.

6.6 The Carter Center



The ERC Meeting with The Carter Center

The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) on July 24th 2025 met with representatives of The Carter Center to engage in discussions on matters relating to the 2025 General and Regional Elections in Guyana.

The Carter Center was represented by its Country Director, Mr. Jason Calder, Mr. Nicholas Jahr, Deputy Director and Ms. Mariam Tabatadze.

In attendance on behalf of the ERC were Chairman Shaikh Moeenul Hack; Commissioners Chandrowtie Sarran, Alphonso Porter, Norris Witter, Neaz Subhan, and Ashton Simon; and Chief Executive Officer, Gomin Camacho.

The meeting provided an opportunity for both sides to share their respective plans and activities in support of a peaceful and credible electoral process. The ERC outlined its key initiatives for the elections period, which include the planned signing of the Code of Conduct for Political Parties, monitoring of campaign activities, and observation on Election Day.

6.7 Commonwealth Observer Group



The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) on August 28th, 2025 met with the Chairperson of the Commonwealth Observer Group, Mrs Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, former Foreign Affairs of Tonga and other representatives of her team, to discuss matters relating to the 2025 General and Regional Elections in Guyana.

In attendance on behalf of the ERC were Deputy Chairman Charles Ogle; Commissioners Chandrowtie Sarran, Alphonso Porter, Norris Witter, Neaz Subhan, and Ashton Simon; and Chief Executive Officer, Gomin Camacho.

The meeting provided an opportunity for both sides to share their respective plans and activities in support of a peaceful and credible electoral process. The ERC outlined its key initiatives for the elections period, which include the planned signing of the Code of Conduct for Political Parties, monitoring of campaign activities, and observation on Election Day.

6.8 OAS Election Observation Mission



The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) met on August 28, 2025, with representatives of the Organization of American States (OAS) Election Observation Mission (EOM), led by Chief of Mission Bruce Golding, to discuss matters related to the 2025 General and Regional Elections in Guyana.

Present on behalf of the ERC were Chairman Shaikh Moeenul Hack, Deputy Chairman Charles Ogle, Commissioners Chandrowtie Sarran, Alphonso Porter, Krishn Sharma, Norris Witter, Ras Khafra, and the Chief Executive Officer Gomin Camacho.

During the meeting, both sides exchanged information on their respective roles in promoting a peaceful, transparent, and credible electoral process. Chairman Hack expressed appreciation to the OAS for its longstanding support of democratic governance and its continued engagement in Guyana's electoral processes.

The ERC outlined its key initiatives for the elections period, which include the signing of the Code of Conduct for Political Parties, the monitoring of campaign activities, Election Day observation, and public awareness campaigns to foster peace and mutual respect. The Commission also provided updates from its observation of the Disciplined Services voting held on August 22, 2025, during which twenty ERC observers were deployed across all ten regions.

Both the OAS and ERC emphasized their shared commitment to safeguarding the integrity of the 2025 General and Regional Elections. The ERC reaffirmed its dedication to promoting national harmony and welcomed the collaboration and support of the OAS and other international partners in advancing these democratic objectives.

7.0 Media and Campaign Monitoring

The Media Monitoring Unit principally covers content that originated on Broadcast platforms (which was traditionally radio and television) in addition to online media and newspapers. Due to media convergence, all platforms can now be accessed through official websites, or via Facebook, YouTube or both. During elections periods, monitoring extends to political campaigns. Hence, the political social media pages of the contesting parties were monitored. Please see table below:

7.1 Media Monitoring

The Media Monitoring Unit principally covers content that originated on Broadcast platforms (which was traditionally radio and television) in addition to online media and newspapers. In addition to public social media pages with large followings. The Political pages of all six contesting parties were monitored. Please see Annex for list of sources monitored.

ERC's Categories of Ethnically Offensive Terms

The following outlines descriptions of the categories for ethnically offensive terms that have been identified by the MMU over time. The Unit inserts ERC-approved cautionary statements (or warnings) that inform social media users of the prescribed penalties of the Racial Hostility Act and Representation of the People Act, Chapter 1:03. Once the user is told of how they are in error, it is reasoned that they could correct same in a bid to reduce ethnic hate and misunderstanding in society.

Term	Meaning
Racially Divisive	This term means any word or phrase spoken or written that can logically be construed as likely to generate ill-will and/or influence discrimination against persons based solely on their ethnicity/race. Oxford Languages defines divisive as “tending to cause disagreement or hostility between people”.
Racial incitement	This term means any word or phrase spoken or written that can logically be construed as likely to influence the use of violence against persons based solely on their ethnicity/race. Incitement, according to the Cambridge dictionary, is the act of encouraging someone to do or feel something unpleasant or violent.

Racially prejudiced statement	The BBC defines prejudice as a means to form an unfavourable opinion or feeling about a person or a group of people without a full examination, having noted that the term comes from the words 'to judge before'. The Merriam-Webster Dictionary meanwhile outlines prejudice as "an irrational attitude of hostility directed against an individual, a group, a race, or their supposed characteristics".
Racial Stereotyping	The negative mental picture one holds of a person or some people which is then generalised without any basis in fact to the ethnic/racial group to which that person or persons belong.
Racially Insensitive statement	Oxford Languages lists the term insensitive as "showing or feeling no concern for others' feelings". Synonyms offered are "inconsiderate" and "thoughtless".
Inflammatory Language	The type of written or spoken language that unambiguously seeks to use ethnicity/race to instigate public disorder and has the potential to incite ethnic\racial violence\conflict.
Hatred and Hostility: Racially hostile statement Racially hateful statement	The terms 'hatred and 'hostility' refer to intense and irrational emotions of opprobrium, enmity and detestation towards the target group. Hatred is defined by Oxford as intense dislike or hate while hostility means hostile (aggressive) behaviour, unfriendly or opposition.
Racial/ethnic slurs	Slurs are defined by Merriam-Webster as an insulting or disparaging remark or innuendo. The Unit warns offenders online using racial terms such as "buck", "coolie", "house slave", "monkey", among many others.

Xenophobic statement	Xenophobia is the fear and contempt of strangers or foreigners or of anything designated as foreign, or a conviction that certain foreign individuals and cultures represent a threat to the authentic identity of one's own nation-state and cannot integrate into the local society peacefully. (Britannica)
Religiously hostile statements / Intolerant statements	Religiously hostile statements are those that desecrate, ridicule and disparage the significance and value of religious practices and observances. Recall that hostility refers to aggressive, unfriendly feelings or behaviour.

The Unit is guided by the Commission's twenty-four 24 functions, under Guyana's Constitution, with focus on Function a: *Provide for equality of opportunity between persons of different ethnic groups and to promote harmony and good relations between such persons* and Function (F): *Encourage and create respect for religious, cultural and other forms of diversity in a plural society.*

How infractions are captured during elections period

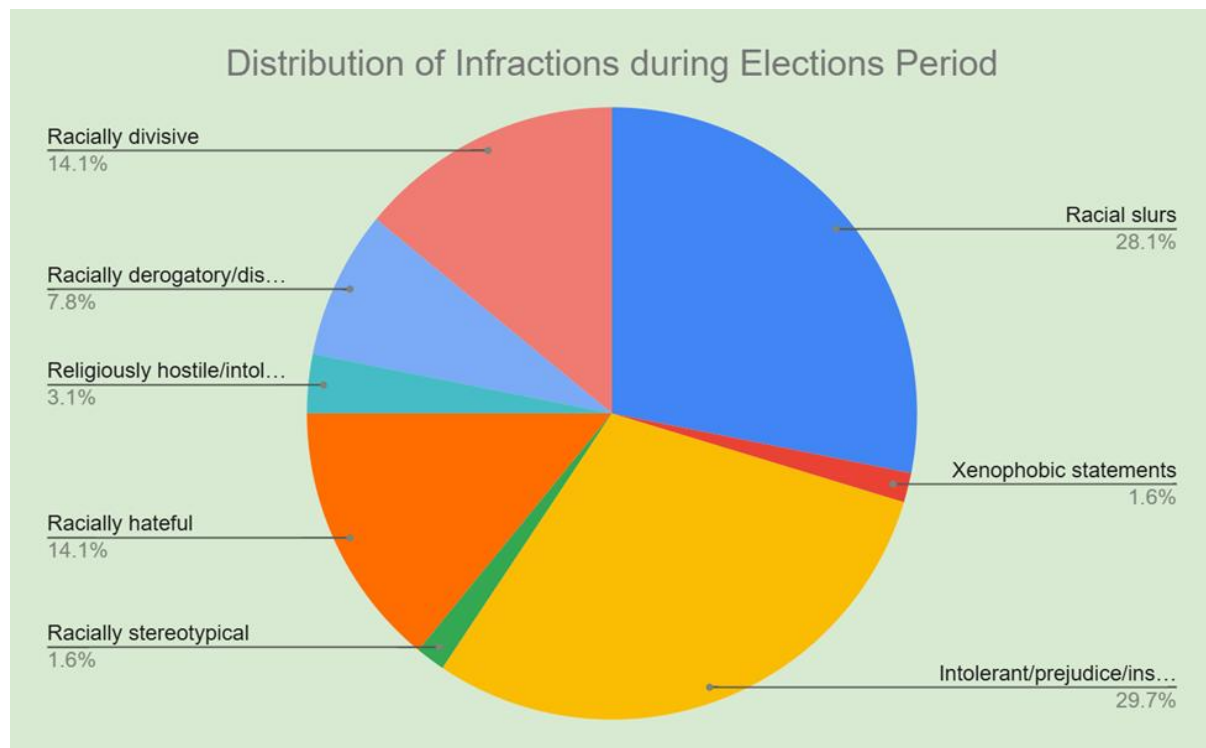
Infractions are captured via a manual process on the public pages of media entities, social media pages that contain programmes and the pages of political parties. The ERC hired three in-house temporary monitors to offset the volume of content that was assessed. When compared with 2020, it was observed that thirteen (13) times, the Unit observed social media infractions: one was elevated to the level of the Swift Response Committee involving a post by political party ANUG (A New and United Guyana), while twelve (12) resulted in the Unit issuing cautionary warnings. For 2025, the Unit issued sixty-four (64) cautionary warnings: thirty-seven (37) in July and twenty-seven (27) in August. Meanwhile in the post-election environment in September, forty-seven (47) warnings were issued. At September, 47 was the highest recorded number of infractions receiving cautionary warnings for 2025. The total figure for the pre and post-election periods was one hundred and eleven (**111**: [64+47]).

The following table shows the total number of infractions and categories of the various infractions for the Pre and Post Elections Period: July to September, 2025

Categories of Infraction	Jul. 1 - Jul. 31	Aug. 1 - Aug.31	Sept. 1 – Sept 19	Total for election Period
Racial slurs	6	12	17	35
Xenophobic statements	-	1	1	2
Intolerant/prejudice/insensitive	10	9	13	32
Racially stereotypical	-	1	3	4
Racially hateful	8	1	6	15
Religiously hostile/intolerant	1	1	2	4
Racially inflammatory / inciting	-	-	1	1
Racially derogatory/disparaging	4	1	2	7
Racially divisive	8	1	2	11
TOTAL	37	27	47	111

The figures showed that racial slurs and the combined category of prejudice or intolerant statements attained the highest number of infractions at thirty-five (35) and thirty-two (32) respectively while social media comments with racially statements followed with fifteen (15) recorded instances. Racially divisive remarks which would primarily feature negative sentiments expressed toward the two dominant groups (Afro and Indo-Guyanese) accounted for eleven (11) infractions during the three-month period.

Pie chart below shows the distribution of infractions between July-August, 2025



The statistics revealed infractions on the pages of news entities as well as political parties. The highest number of infractions was found on the News Source page with sixteen (16) infractions for the elections infractions, while other pages with significant numbers were KAMS TV with eight (8) and Credible Sources at seven (7). Meanwhile, for political parties, the A Partnership for National Unity (APNU) accounted for four (4) infractions while the Peoples Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C) accrued the higher number, with eleven (11) infractions.

7.2 Campaign Monitoring

The ERC's Media Monitoring Unit activated its elections campaign monitoring programme which covered the period: July 6, 2025, to August 31, 2025.

7.2.1 Campaign Monitoring Training

The training sessions included presentations on the legal framework that guides the work of the ERC and focused on how the laws work in tandem with the Guyana Elections Commission regarding the conduct of political parties and their representatives.

7.2.2 Objectives of the Training:

- (1) Provide election monitors with an overview of the mandate of the ERC.
- (2) Examine the relevant legislation which guides the work of the Commission.

- (3) Build an understanding of the concepts of ethnicity and race
- (4) Identifying ethnically offensive language by examining free speech vs hate speech
- (5) Empower trainees with requisite monitoring skills and administrative procedures required for the elections monitoring programme

A total of sixty-seven (67) persons received training across four sessions (two (2) online, one (1) fully in-person and one (1) hybrid). Sixty-three persons completed and successfully passed the assessment which represented a 94% success rate. However, in the end, fifty-four (54) monitors provided services.

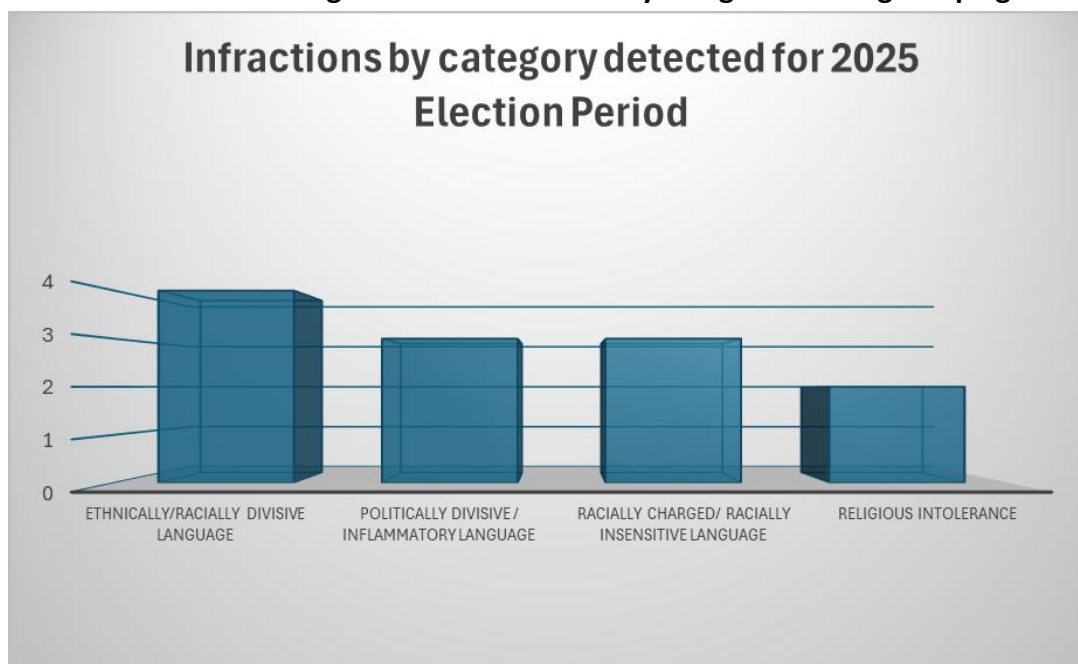
7.3 Findings of Campaign Monitoring

In 2025, the ERC was able to field monitors in nine (9) out of the ten (10) regions. Administrative Region No. Eight (8) did not receive coverage as the ERC was unable to secure campaign monitors for that Region. In 2020, seven (7) regions were monitored by the ERC which were Regions Two (2), Three (3), Four (4), Five (5), Six (6), Seven (7) and Ten (10). For the 2025 campaign period, coverage in Regions One (1) and Nine (9) was primarily centered on the Mabaruma and Lethem catchment areas respectively.

In 2020, there were four hundred and twenty-five (425) meetings covered and 2025, three hundred and ninety-two (392) were covered. A major setback in this regard was a proliferation of cancelled meetings which was at times frustrating to monitors as was noted. With the expanded campaign monitoring to Regions One (1) and Nine (9), it was found that in these remote locations and to a lesser extent other locations, monitors faced significant challenges uploading attachments including recordings. This impacted on the timely provision of reports for action by the ERC. Seven matters captured during Campaign monitoring efforts were to the Investigative Unit for further review and investigation.

For the period August to September, there were twenty-four (24) matters from MMU were sent to the Investigative Unit for further attention, inclusive of online and offline infractions captured.

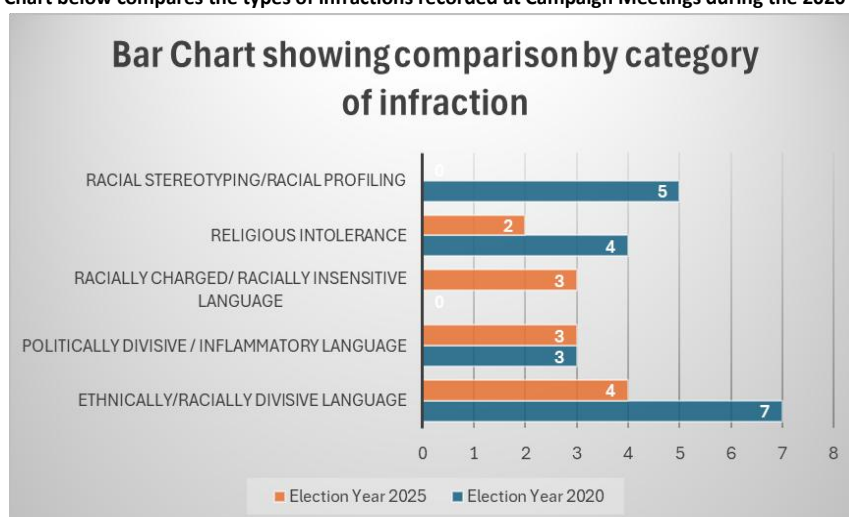
Table below showing detected infractions by categories during campaign meetings



A review of the data showed four (4) cases of ethnically/racially divisive language detected by campaign monitors while there were three (3) cases each of politically divisive/inflammatory language and racially insensitive or racially charged language. The remainder was religious intolerance at campaign meetings. It was observed that the infractions at campaign meetings were among diverse parties – APNU - five (5); PPP/C - four (4) and one (1) each for AFC, WIN and WPA (WPA forms a subset of APNU). This was compared with nineteen (19) such infractions identified during the 2020 elections period.

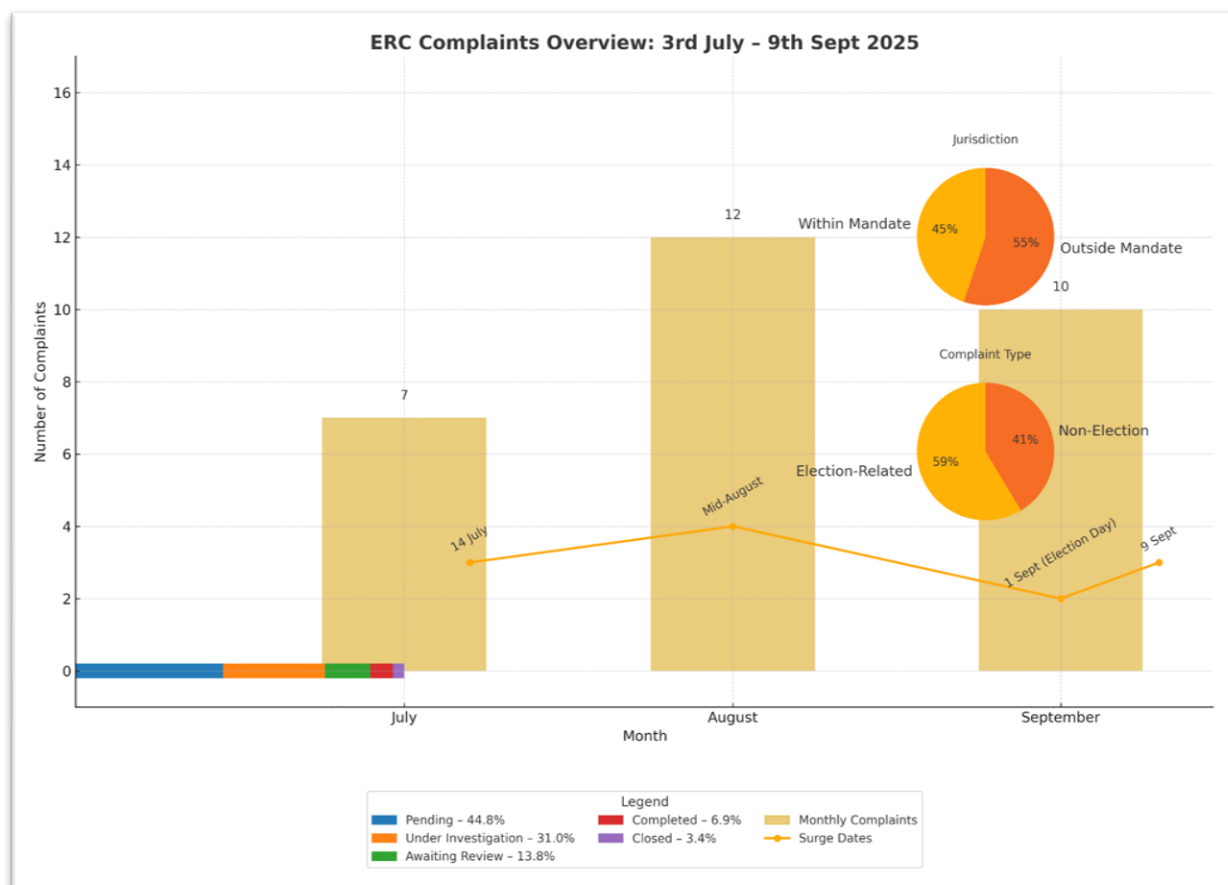
For 2020, there were four (4) cases of religious intolerance during campaigns as reported by ERC monitors. In 2025, monitors reported two (2) such cases which indicates there was a reduction of religious intolerance. However, while there were a few minor instances when monitors were identified or it was suggested from the platform that the ERC was monitoring the meeting, there was no case where a monitor was racially profiled in 2025.

The Bar Chart below compares the types of infractions recorded at Campaign Meetings during the 2020 and 2025 election cycles.



8.0 INVESTIGATIVE MATTERS

For the purpose of this record, the Investigative Unit of the Ethnic Relations Commission categorises 3rd July and 9th September 2025 as the *elections sensitive* period. During this period Investigative Unit recorded a total of **29 complaints** during the *election-sensitive* period; of these **29 complaints, 24 were received from the MMU and 5 from members of the public**. Although formally categorised as complaints captured in the election period, **17 were directly election-related**; these complaints reflect the heightened vigilance of citizens during times of political activity. The case status profile indicates that the majority of matters remain under active assessment or investigation, with 13 pending, 9 under investigation, and 4 cases awaiting review by the Sub-Committee, 2 completed, and 1 closed by the ERC. This means that approximately 72% of complaints are still active, while only a small proportion has been concluded. An important trend in the data is the high proportion of matters, **16 of the 29 cases or 55%, classified as outside the ERC's constitutional mandate under Article 212D**.

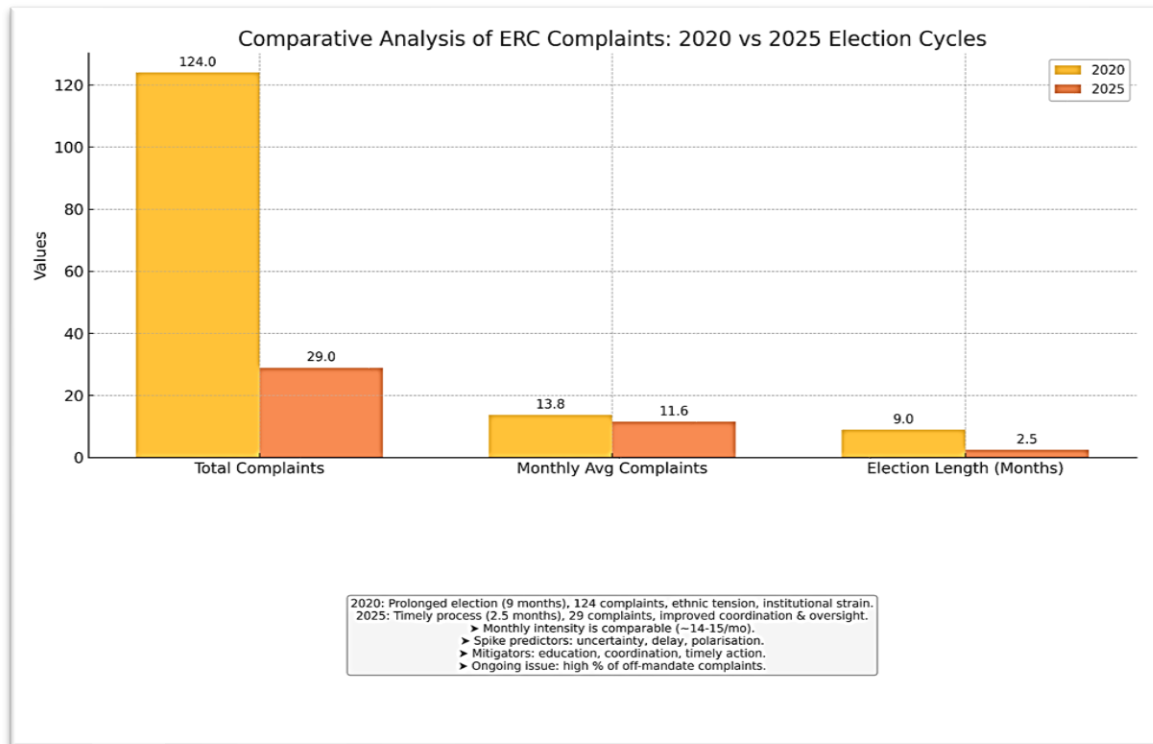


These cases, often involving personal disputes, political commentary, or non-ethnic or race issues, inflate intake figures without yielding substantive outcomes, though they still require administrative attention. The remaining 13 complaints (45%) dealt directly with issues of racial discrimination, which fall squarely within the Commission's investigative jurisdiction. Temporarily, the distribution shows a steady build-up across the period, with 7 cases in July,

12 in August, and 10 cases in early September. Notable surges occurred on 14th July with 3 cases, mid-August with multiple two-case clusters, and in September on Election Day, 1st September 2 cases, and 9th September 3 cases.

This trend illustrates that even non-election matters tend to cluster around election-sensitive dates, reflecting the broader environment of heightened scrutiny and tension. Overall, the 29 recorded complaints highlight both the Commission's continued relevance as a forum for public grievances and the recurring challenge of jurisdictional filtering, where a significant portion of intake lies outside its constitutional mandate yet still contributes to workload and public perception of responsiveness.

When set against the 2020 prolonged election cycle, which spanned from January to September 2020, producing 124 complaints, the differences become pronounced. The spike in 2020 correlated with the delay of the incumbent to call timely elections, followed the lack of adherence to constitutional electoral procedures following Election Day 2020, which then resulted in the five-month delay before the results were announced. This protracted period was marked by delayed tabulation, contested declarations, and extended court proceedings. This environment fuelled public uncertainty, exacerbated ethnic polarisation, and encouraged the widespread lodging of grievances with the ERC. Citizens increasingly turned to the Commission as a body of recourse amid perceptions of institutional weakness elsewhere, while the ERC's Media Monitoring Unit flagged an unprecedented volume of racially divisive or hostile online content, many of which were converted into formal complaints. The extraordinary length and contentiousness of that electoral process created fertile ground for complaint escalation and overwhelmed the IU's investigative capacity.



By contrast, the 2025 elections have so far unfolded within the constitutional timeframe, significantly reducing conditions of prolonged uncertainty. This timely process, combined with the ERC’s public education initiatives since 2023, more visible monitoring by the Media Monitoring Unit, more prudent investigations and oversight by the Investigative Subcommittee and strengthened collaboration with external agencies such as the Guyana Police Force and the Guyana National Broadcasting Authority, appears to have curtailed escalation before it could reach the crisis levels of 2020.

Taken together, the comparison demonstrates that while the absolute number of complaints in 2025 is far lower than in 2020 (29 versus 124), the monthly intensity remains similar, averaging 14 to 15 complaints per month in both cycles. This suggests that elections inevitably generate surges in complaints, and that prolonged disputes, polarisation, and uncertainty are the main predictors of extended spikes. The 2025 period underscores the importance of timely procedures, institutional preparedness, and inter-agency coordination in limiting escalation. Yet, the persistence of complaints outside the ERC’s mandate also points to the need for improved jurisdictional filtering and public education, ensuring that while the Commission remains accessible as a first point of recourse, its resources are effectively targeted toward matters squarely within its constitutional responsibilities.

9.0 OBSERVERS TRAINING

The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) aimed to field 200 Observers for the General and Regional Election 2025. The Commission received accreditation from GECOM to serve as Local Observer group for the election and 207 Observers were accredited by GECOM. Notably, 17 Observers withdrew prior to the training phase for varying reasons, ranging for personal concerns, to competing duties. Therefore, a total of 190 Observers were trained by the ERC, of which 169 officially served as Observers on September 1, 2025.

9.1 GECOM OBSERVERS TRAINING

On August 20, 2025, the Board of Commissioners and Staff of the Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) who were accredited as Local Observers, attended an initial briefing and training session facilitated by the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM). This training marked the first phase in the preparation process for the General and Regional Elections held on September 1, 2025.

Following the session, members of the Board and Staff assumed the role of trainers, tasked with equipping the remaining ERC Observers with the necessary knowledge and tools to effectively carry out their monitoring duties.

9.2 GECOM Training Overview

The training covered a wide range of critical topics essential to the effective performance of observers, which included:

- Observer Roles and Responsibilities
- Observer Code of Conduct Guidelines
- Understanding the Voting Procedure
- Completing the ERC Observation Form
- Observer Working Hours and Compensation
- Submitting Updates to the ERC
- Interactive Question and Answer Segment

The initial training session conducted by GECOM was comprehensive and well-received. It laid a solid foundation for the Board of Commissioners and Staff to train the remaining ERC Observers effectively, in addition to being complemented by the full GECOM training, which was recorded to YouTube.

9.3 ERC Observers' Roles and Responsibilities

The primary role of ERC Observers is to support the integrity, fairness, and transparency of the electoral process. Observers were expected to:

- Report all election-related crimes or violations of electoral laws to the appropriate authorities.
- Submit written reports or statements as required.
- Maintain strict neutrality toward all electoral stakeholders, including GECOM, political parties, candidates, voters, and the media.
- Avoid any behaviour that may be perceived as partisan or supportive of any candidate, party, or political group.
- Refrain from expressing opinions on election-related issues or engaging voters on matters of political significance.
- Not to display party symbols or colours at any time.
- Objectively assess all aspects of the electoral process that relate to its overall legitimacy.

9.4 ERC Observer Code of Conduct

Observers were bound by a strict code of conduct that emphasized neutrality, professionalism, safety, and non-interference. Key guidelines included:

- Acting in accordance with the laws of Guyana and regulations set by GECOM
- Avoiding any actions that could compromise or undermine the electoral process
- Disclosing any real or perceived conflicts of interest immediately
- Conducting inquiries in a professional, respectful, and courteous manner
- Refraining from obstructing or countermanding the decisions of election officials
- Not disrupting or interfering with any aspect of the electoral process

9.5 Summary of ERC Observer Trainings

The ERC held a total of five training sessions. Sessions were held in regions 3, 4, 6, 9, and virtually. A total of one hundred and ninety (190) observers were trained across the ten administrative regions. Notably, 17 persons withdrew, prior to the training phase for varying reasons, ranging for personal concerns, to competing duties.

Table below reflects Summary of Trainings Conducted by ERC for Observers

Date	Trainers	No. of Trainers	Geographical Regions	No. of Participants	Venue
Saturday, August 23, 2025	ERC Commissioners & Staff	2	3,4,7 & 10	74	Arthur Chung Convention Centre, Liliendaal
Saturday, August 23, 2025	ERC Commissioners & Staff	2	5 & 6	21	New Amsterdam Town Council
Saturday, August 23, 2025	ERC Commissioners & Staff	1	9	3	Takatu Hotel, Lethem
Sunday, August 24, 2025	ERC Commissioners & Staff	2	2,3,4,6 & 7	29	Leonora Technical Institute, Leonora
Thursday, August 28, 2025	ERC Staff	3	1,3,4,5,6,7 & 8	63	Virtual via Zoom platform

Elections Day Observers

A total of one hundred and sixty-nine (169) observers successfully carried out their duties across regions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 10 on E Day, September 1, 2025. Four hundred and forty-one (441) polling places were observed across the eight administrative regions.

Table below indicate polling place visited by ERC in each Region

Regions	Total Number of Polling Places
2	22
3	74
4	202
5	47
6	48
7	10
9	6
10	32
Total	441

10.0 DISCIPLINED FORCES VOTING

The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) completed its observation of the Disciplined Services voting, held on August 22, 2025, which was held in advance of the General and Regional Elections scheduled for September 1, 2025.

In fulfilment of its constitutional mandate, the ERC deployed twenty (20) accredited Local Observers across all ten Administrative Regions of Guyana. These observers monitored polling stations where members of the Guyana Police Force, Guyana Defence Force, and Guyana Prison Service exercised their right to vote.

Led by the Chairman and Commissioners, ERC Observers visited polling stations at thirty-five (35) locations across the ten Regions.

The ERC observed that polling day activities were carried out in an orderly, peaceful, and transparent manner. Election officials demonstrated professionalism throughout, as members of the Disciplined Services exercised their franchise without incident. The Commission commends the disciplined and cooperative approach of the Officers and recognizes the efforts of electoral officials in ensuring efficiency, integrity, and smooth conduct of the process.

11.0 ELECTION DAY OBSERVATIONS

The ERC deployed 169 Local Observers across eight administrative regions for the 1 September 2025 General and Regional Elections. While 200 plus observers were accredited and expected to be fielded in all 10 administrative regions, this was affected since Observers were unable to benefit from advance voting in order to be deployed to remote locations. Rather, observers were placed in districts closest to the Place of Poll to ensure they were not disenfranchised. Each ERC Observer was assigned a Polling Place to witness the opening of polls, deployed before 6:00am and assigned a Polling Place to witness the closing of Polls and Counting. Throughout the day each observer visited a minimum of 5 Polling Places.

11.1 Political Participation

Articles 13, 146, and 147 of the Constitution of Guyana guarantee inclusionary democracy, freedom of assembly, and freedom of expression. Additionally, Article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) safeguards citizens' rights to participate in public affairs, vote, and stand for election in genuine periodic elections.

FINDING: *Observation at 441 polling stations confirmed that all eligible voters exercised their right to vote in accordance with national law, across all racial groups. Elections were conducted within the statutory timeframe, an improvement over delays prior to the 2020 elections.*

11.2 Race and Ethnicity

Article 149E of the Constitution guarantees equality of status and opportunity for all ethnic groups in political life. Guyana has ratified ICERD, which, under Article 5(c), guarantees equal political rights without racial discrimination.

FINDINGS: *No reports of racial discrimination in political participation were received. Voters were treated with respect and professionalism by GECOM personnel, and ERC observers noted no disenfranchisement on racial or ethnic grounds, nor otherwise. While the ethnic composition of GECOM agents varied, polling stations reflected the demographic composition of their respective locations.*

11.3 Secrecy of Voting

The Representation of the People Act (Cap. 1:03) provides measures to safeguard ballot secrecy. GECOM implemented steps to prevent photographing ballots, including signage, relocation of compartments, and public announcements.

FINDINGS: *Observers noted inconsistent placement of balloting compartments and variable visibility of anti-photography signage. Verbal instructions from polling staff were helpful but inconsistently applied. Standardised practices could further strengthen voter confidence in ballot secrecy.*

11.4 Voter Accessibility

The Persons with Disabilities Act (Chapter 36:05) and Article 29 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) guarantee the political participation of persons with disabilities.

FINDINGS: *Several polling stations were not fully accessible; however accommodations were made to allow voters with disabilities to cast their ballots. No voter with a disability was disenfranchised; however, accessibility challenges persisted.*

11.5 Voter Education and Signage

FINDINGS: *Voter education and signage were largely effective. Clear instructions were provided on voting procedures, locating polling stations, and prohibited devices. Information Clerks assisted voters effectively at most stations. Minor issues included improperly placed signage and inconsistent engagement by Information Clerks.*

12.0 RECOUNT

On 4th September, GECOM agreed to a recount requested by the APNU (A Partnership for National Unity). GECOM placed twenty-five (25) stations, each consisting of a Presiding officer and two other staff members. Every twelve hours, the Presiding officers and their team were changed to new Presiding officers and staff members. The party agents and observers had somewhat similar arrangements in place.

This proved to be well done by the GECOM staff, however, there were times when clarification was sought, this was coupled with an emotionally charged environment by representation of the other parties. The recount process was transparent and accountable, GECOM staff did not proceed until all clarifications were addressed. Voter education was done by GECOM staff on spot to address the queries.

Region Four was identified as one of the areas for a recount, it was sub-district four of District/Region Four (Demerara - Mahaica), East Coast specifically. A request of three hundred and ninety-one (391) boxes was approved to be to be recounted. There was also a request for the recount from (APNU) for the Berbice ballots, District 5 of region 5, which totalled seventy-seven (77) ballot boxes. A grand total of four hundred and sixty-eight (468) ballot boxes were to be re-opened, counted and new SOP's (Statement of Polls) generated. Each Political party representative was issued with a copy; however, neither ERC nor the international observers were issued copies of the SOP's as was done on election day.

The recount exercise continued from 4th to 5th September 2025. There was no halt, throughout the night the GECOM staff took to the task of working non-stop continuing to the next day. The recount was completed on the 5th September 2025 at approximately 8:00 pm.

The legitimacy of the recount results was not challenged. The GECOM staff and parties' observers demonstrated stamina, tolerance, commitment and determination throughout the process.

13.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities

1. **Infrastructure Enhancements:** Establish criteria for selecting polling stations and conduct site visits to ensure physical accessibility. Install ramps, remove obstructions, and provide suitable polling compartments.
2. **Standardised protocols for polling staff:** To better assist voters with disabilities, comprising of all categories of disabilities.
3. **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Educate voters with disabilities about their rights and available support, including guidelines for proxy voting.

Voter Education and Signage

1. Ensure all signage is consistently placed at eye level and clearly visible.
2. Maintain proactive engagement by Information Clerks throughout polling stations to provide comprehensive guidance.
3. Standardise verbal instructions and public messaging to reinforce voting procedures and ballot secrecy.

Secrecy of Voting

1. Ensure compliance with standardised placement of balloting compartments across all polling stations.
2. Ensure signage against photographing ballots is uniformly positioned and visible.
3. Reinforce verbal instructions to voters to strengthen confidence in the secrecy of their ballot.

15.0 CONCLUSION

The Ethnic Relations Commission observation findings determined that the General and Regional Elections held on 1 September 2025 were both free from fear and was executed in a fair and transparent manner. This outcome was attributed to the collective contributions of all key actors. The Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) ensured adherence to democratic principles through effective management of electoral processes. The ERC commends the efficiency of GECOM on their delivery of fair and transparently executed electoral process.

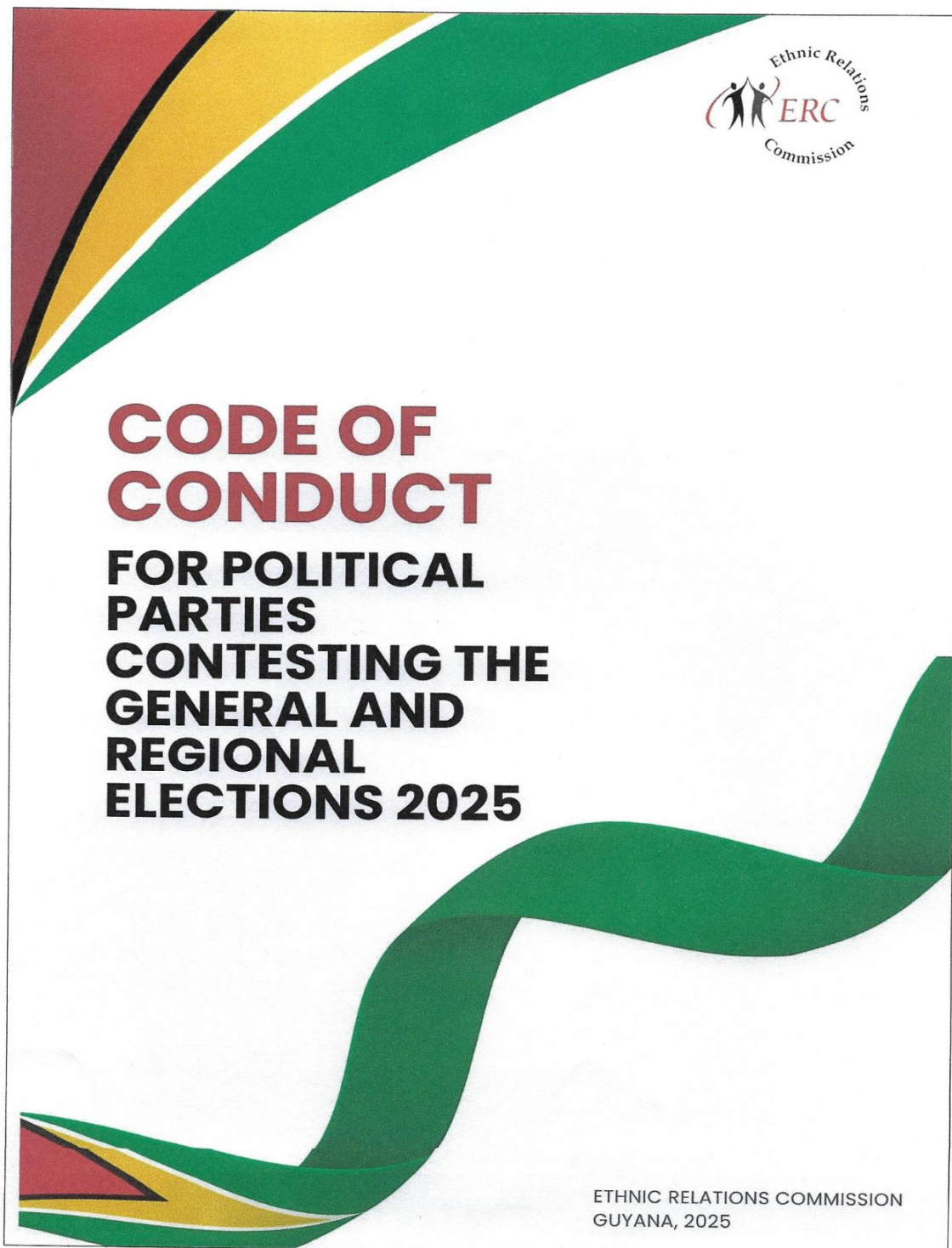
Political parties and their supporters demonstrated responsibility by generally respecting the results and refraining from promoting unrest. The ERC acknowledges the role of political parties' presence in the form of Party Agents, and commend their steadfast efforts in observing the process, which contributed to the credibility of the electoral process.

The ERC formally recognizes and commends the diligent efforts of the Guyana Police Force (GPF). Their contributions were significant and instrumental in maintaining vigilance, securing the integrity of the polling process, and upholding public order throughout the entire electoral period, specifically through the robust protection of polling stations and ballot boxes.

Religious leaders, community leaders, and other stakeholders encouraged peace, tolerance, and togetherness across diverse communities. International, regional, and local observer groups further strengthened transparency and credibility by providing independent assessments of the process.

Finally, the Ethnic Relations Commission acknowledges the commitment of its Commissioners, staff, and observers, whose efforts were critical in ensuring that peace, harmony, and good relations prevailed among the diverse peoples of Guyana.

Code of Conduct



The Ethnic Relations Commission (ERC) recognizes the powerful influence that candidates and political leaders have on public discourse, as their words and actions have a particularly wide reach and resonance, especially through social media. As ERC, we aspire to create ways in which candidates and other political leaders from across the spectrum can agree on and voluntarily commit to standards of responsible leadership and behaviour during electoral processes.

As such, the Leadership and membership of the *undersigned political parties* hereby agree to uphold the provisions of the Constitution and laws of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, with specific reference to the following articles and Acts:-

- 38G Public Service to be free from political influence,
- 146 Protection of the freedom of expression,
- 147 Protection of freedom of assembly, association, and demonstration,
- 149 Protection from discrimination on the grounds of race, etc.
- 160A Political parties prohibited from causing ethnic division,
- The Racial Hostility Act and
- The Representation of the People Act

and recognises that peace and public order, freedom of political campaigning, and compliance with the Guyana Constitution, electoral laws and regulations are essential and of paramount importance to the conduct of free, fair and peaceful elections.

In furtherance of the objectives, we, the leadership and membership of the *political parties*, declare and affirm:

1. Our Party opposes and rejects the use of any type of violence, ethnic or racial discrimination and intimidation, or plans of this nature during the campaign, on election day, and after the results are announced, and in doing so:-
 - Forbids the use of threats, harassment or tendency to commit acts of violence and forms of discrimination that might disrupt political rallies, meetings, gatherings, or elsewhere, or any other form of intimidation, including the use of violence and intimidation while political parties are announcing their activities, holding their meetings, gatherings, and rallies.
 - Forbids the use of threatening language, or language which incites people of one group to violence against any Candidate, Agent, member, or supporter of any other group.

- Forbids all actions aimed at removing, defacing, besmirching, obscuring, destroying, damaging, or altering any flag, banner, poster, notice, or other campaign materials of other Political Parties.
- Forbids the use of intimidating behavior, threatening language, or violence on Election Day to frighten people from going to the polls to vote, or whilst they are in the polling stations, or leaving the polling stations.
- 2. Our Party recognizes and respects the rights of each Political Party, its Candidates, Agents, observers, members, and supporters to freely express and demonstrate their political views and to conduct lawful, non-violent activities in support of their objectives.
- 3. Our Party opposes and rejects any type of intimidation, harassment, or tendency to commit acts of violence against media personnel while maintaining our Party's right to respond, factually, to any obvious and evident media transgressions.
- 4. Our Party insists that its candidates, agents, members, observers, and supporters avoid behavior, including making speeches or statements, that promotes racial or ethnic tension or incites people to violence, and take appropriate steps to **prevent** public disorder.
- 5. Our Party members and supporters are encouraged by senior party officials, both directly and indirectly, to refrain from any expression or action that may constitute hate speech or any form of racial or ethnic infraction, that may inflame public disorder.
- 6. Our party will immediately condemn any form of hate speech or act of incitement made by our members or supporters and institute necessary corrective measures.
- 7. Our party will ensure that all of its campaign contents and materials are validated and scrutinized for accuracy and accountability by responsible party agents.
- 8. Moderators of our party's social media accounts will immediately remove any form of hate speech, whether in the form of posts, comments, videos, audios, or graphics.
- 9. Our party will issue public service announcements to prevent and condemn any form of hate speech, incitement, and violence

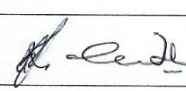
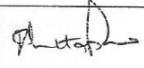


In doing so we shall observe this Code of Conduct and report and bring to the attention of the ***Ethnic Relations Commission*** any such acts.

The Leadership and membership of **our parties** agree that our failure to abide by any of the provisions of this Code of Conduct may render **our parties** liable for breach of the Agreement, and necessary actions and sanctions would be implemented against **our parties** by the Ethnic Relations Commission in the said circumstances.

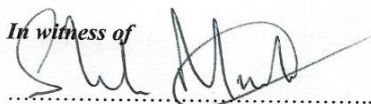
We anticipate in good faith that the ERC, in keeping with its constitutional mandate, will act with alacrity and diligently investigate and intervene to prevent such acts, protect the citizens, and ensure that the 2025 General and Regional Elections are safe, peaceful, and free from fear.

We, the undersigned, on behalf of our political parties, have hereto set our hands on this the **fifth** day of **August, 2025**, endorsing and affirming the provisions therein:-

NB: Parties are listed in alphabetical order and are subject to change following the release of the final Gazetted list of parties that will contest the General and Regional Elections 2025.

Name of Party	Name of Person(s) Signing	Designation	Signature
A Partnership for National Unity (APNU)			
Alliance For Change (AFC)	Chang Laythan NICKIE TROMAN		
Assembly for Liberty and Prosperity (ALP)	E. Thomas	Candidate	E. Thomas
Forward Guyana Movement (FGM)			
Horizon and Star Party (HSP)			
People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C)		Executive Secretary	
We Invest in Nationhood (WIN)	Leshya Lowe	Candidate	

In witness of



Shaikh Moeenul Hack,
Chairman of the Ethnic Relations Commission

Visits to Polling Places by Commissioners as Observers on Elections Day 2025



Commissioner Chandrowtie Sarra at a Polling Place in Region 3.



Commissioners Ras Khafra and Simon and staff at a Polling Place in Lethem, Region 9.



Commissioner Sharma and other Observers on the East Coast, Region 4.



Deputy Chairman Commissioner Charles Ogle in central Georgetown, Region 4.



Commissioner Neaz Subhan (on exit stairs) concluding visit to a Polling Place in Lusignan.



Commissioner Rodwell Porter and team on observer duties at Camp Jaguar, Region

TABLE INDICATING PAGES MONITORED BY THE MEDIA MONITORING UNIT- ERC			
Name of Entity/Person	Platform	Type of account	Remarks
Stabroek News	Facebook	Media outlet - News	Newspaper
Guyana Chronicle	Facebook	Media outlet - News	Newspaper - State Media
Guyana Times	Facebook	Media outlet - News	Newspaper
Kaieteur News	Facebook	Media outlet - News	Newspaper
HGP Nightly News/Travis Chase	Facebook	Media outlet - News	
News Room	Facebook	Media outlet - News	
LRTVS Newswatch	Facebook	Media outlet - News	Berbice-based newscast
Television Guyana Inc	Facebook	Media outlet - News	Linked to Guyana Times
MTV News Update	Facebook	Media outlet - News	
NCN Guyana	Facebook	Media outlet	State media including news
Safe TV2 Headline News	Facebook	Media outlet - News	
Dave's Television-8	Facebook	Media outlet - News	Berbice-based newscast
Demerara Waves Online News Guyana	Facebook	Online News	
News Source Guyana/ Gordon Moseley	Facebook	Online News	
INews Guyana	Facebook	Online News	
Capitol News	Facebook	Online News	Former TV Newscast
Village Voice News	Facebook	Online News	
Prime News Guyana	Facebook	Social Media News Outlet	Former TV Newscast
Big Smith Newswatch	Facebook	Social Media News Outlet	
Action News	Facebook	Social Media News Outlet	
Guyana Daily Post	Facebook	Social Media News Outlet	Also posts opinion and conjecture-based articles
Kaieteur Radio	Facebook	Social Media News Outlet	

Guyana News Trend	Facebook	Social Media News Outlet	
The News Desk	Facebook	Social Media News Outlet	Page operated by Courdel Jones
Norman Browne	Facebook	Political Influencer	UK Based
Voice of the Diaspora	Youtube	Political Influencer	Page operated by Norman Browne
Rickford Burke	Facebook	Political Influencer	US Based
Rickford Burke	Youtube	Political Influencer	US Based
Nigel Eliakim	Facebook	Political Influencer	Page operated by Nigel London
Nigel London TV	Youtube	Political Influencer	Page operated by Nigel London
Livewire TV	Facebook	Political Influencer	Page operated by Courdel Jones
Livewire TV	Youtube	Political Influencer	Page operated by Courdel Jones
Kevon Lorrimer	Facebook	Political Influencer	Page operated by Kevon Lorrimer
Kevon Lorrimer	Facebook	Political Influencer	Page operated by Kevon Lorrimer
Kevon Lorrimer	Youtube	Political Influencer	Page operated by Kevon Lorrimer
Benschop Radio 107.1 FM	Facebook	Political Influencer	US Based, Page Operated by Mark Benschop
Straight Up with Mark Benschop	Youtube	Political Influencer	US Based, Page Operated by Mark Benschop
Speaking out: Exposing Corruption and Incompetence	Facebook	Political Influencer	Page operated by Paul Slowe

Speaking out:Exposing Corruption and Incompetence	Youtube	Political Influencer	Page operated by Paul Slowe
Guyanese Critic	Facebook	Political Influencer	Page operated by Mikhail Rodrigues
The Freddie Kissoon Show	Facebook	Opinion Leader	Show done by Freddie Kissoon
A Politically Incorrect Guyana	Facebook	Political Influencer	Show hosted by Kian Jabour, member of ANUG Party (A New and United Guyana)
Guyanese Critic	Facebook	Political Influencer	Page operated by Mikhail Rodrigues
Dr Matthews Bey Unfiltered	Facebook	Opinion host	Page operated by Gavin Matthews
Politics 101 with Dr. David Hinds	Facebook	Political Candidate	Page operated by Dr. David Hinds of Working People's Alliance
Politics 101 with Dr. David Hinds	Youtube	Political Candidate	"
KAMS TV	Facebook	Political Influencer	Page operated by Kidackie Amsterdam-Working People's Alliance Member
KAMS TV	Youtube	Political Influencer	Page operated by Kidackie Amsterdam-Working People's Alliance Member
Team Mohamed's	Facebook	Political Influencer	Also posts Political Commentary on occasion
We Invest in Nationhood	Facebook	Political Party	

Francis Michael Bailey	Facebook	Social Media Influencer	
Alliance for Change	Facebook	Political Party	
Credible Sources	Facebook	Political Candidate	Page operated by Sherod Duncan
Credible Sources	Youtube	Political Candidate	Page operated by Sherod Duncan
APNU Coalition	Facebook	Political Party	
APNU Coalition	Youtube	Political Party	
APNU Guyana	Facebook	Political Party	
APNU Guyana	Youtube	Political Party	
People's National Congress Reform	Facebook	Political Party	
Peoples Progressive Party Civic	Facebook	Political Party	
Mohabir Anil Nandlall	Facebook	Political Candidate	Hosts weekly political programme
A New and United Guyana	Facebook	Political Party	
Assembly for Liberty and Prosperity	Facebook	Political Party	
Hon Simona Broomes	Facebook	Political Candidate	Assembly for Liberty and Prosperity Presidential Candidate
VPAC Guyana	Facebook	Political Party	
Live In Guyana	Facebook	Social Media Page	Posts opinion and conjecture-based articles
Sheriff News Network	Facebook	Social Media News Outlet	
592 Media Inc	Facebook	Social Media Influencer	Melissa Atwell Hodler (US-based)
Amanza Walton Desir - Forward Guyana Movement	Facebook	Presidential Candidate's Political Party	

Table below shows the list of Polling Places ERC Visited by Region on Elections Day 2025

No.	Regions	Polling Places
1	2	Good Hope Primary School
2	2	Aurora Secondary School
3	2	Good Hope Nursery Annex (Supenaam Creek)
4	2	Supenaam Community Centre
5	2	Anna Regina Nursery School
6	2	Anna Regina New Nursery School
7	2	Richmond Nursery School
8	2	Richmond Play Park
9	2	Anna Regina Primary School
10	2	Affiance Nursery School
11	2	Queenstown Primary School
12	2	Queenstown Community Centre
13	2	Taymouth Manor Primary School
14	2	Cotton Field Nursery School
15	2	8th May Nursery School
16	2	8th May Primary School
17	2	8th May Secondary School
18	2	Walton Hall Nursery School
19	2	Ramchand's Residence
20	2	ARMS Auditorium
21	2	Exceptional Learner's Centre
22	2	Reliance Nursery School
23	3	Metem-Meer-Zorg Primary School
24	3	Leonora Primary School
25	3	Leonora Secondary School
26	3	Leonora Nursery School
27	3	Crane Primary School

28	3	Crane Nursery School Phase 2
29	3	Hack's Rice Mill
30	3	Crane Nursery School Phase 1
31	3	West Minister Secondary School
32	3	Geneve Nursery School
33	3	Belle West Primary School
34	3	Vive La Force Health Center
35	3	New Anncegt Nursery School
36	3	Endeavour & The Commons Secondary School
37	3	Kawall Primary School
38	3	Goed Fortuin Nursery School
39	3	Goed Fortuin Primary School
40	3	Versailles Nursery School
41	3	Philadelphia Primary School
42	3	Philadelphia Nursery School
43	3	Sea View Nursery School
44	3	Zeelugt Nursery School
45	3	Zeelugt Primary School
46	3	Tuschen Primary School
47	3	Victoria Lilly Primary School
48	3	De Kinderen Nursery School
49	3	Stewartville Nursery School
50	3	Stewartville Primary School
51	3	Stewartville Secondary School
52	3	Uitvlugt Primary School
53	3	Uitvlugt Secondary School
54	3	Uitvlugt Community Center
55	3	Metem-Meer-Zorg Islamic Academy
56	3	Parika Health Center

57	3	Salem Library Center
58	3	Parika Salem Secondary School
59	3	Parika Nursery School
60	3	Parika Primary School
61	3	Zeeburg Secondary School
62	3	Saraswat Primary School
63	3	La Jalousie Nursery School
64	3	La Jalousie Nouvelle Flander Community Center
65	3	Windsor Forest Primary School
66	3	Windsor Forest Nursery School
67	3	Blankenburg Primary School
68	3	La Retraite Primary School
69	3	Stanley Town Nursery School
70	3	Toevlugt /Patentia NDC Building
71	3	Vreed-en-Hoop No 2 Nursery School
72	3	Vreed-en-Hoop No 1 Nursery School
73	3	Saint Sweden Anglican Church
74	3	Vreed-en-Hoop Primary School
75	3	CPCE Building
76	3	Nismes Secondary School
77	3	La Parfaite Harmonie Primary School
78	3	La Parfaite Harmonie Nursery School
79	3	Two Brothers Primary School
80	3	Canal # 1 Health Centre
81	3	Mc Gillivray Primary School
82	3	L' Adventure Secondary School
83	3	La Grange Health Centre
84	3	La Grange Farmer COP-Shop
85	3	La Grange Nursery School

86	3	La Grange Primary School
87	3	Schoonard Special Needs School
88	3	West Demerara Primary School
89	3	Shirley Field Ridley Nursery School
90	3	Islamic Academy Metem-en-Meerzorg
91	3	Precious Lambs School and Day Care
92	3	Greenwich Park Primary School
93	3	Parika Back Dam
94	3	Vergenoegen Secondary School
95	3	Jasso's Nursery School
96	3	Tuschen Health Centre
97	4	St. Andrews Primary
98	4	Belfield Tent
99	4	Victoria Primary
100	4	Victoria Nursery
101	4	North Brook Nursery
102	4	Paradise Play Field
103	4	Paradise Primary School
104	4	Enmore Hope Primary
105	4	Foulis Play Field
106	4	Foulis Nursery School
107	4	Melanie Play Field Tent
108	4	Enmore Primary School
109	4	Ghandi Memorial Nursery
110	4	Blossom Scheme Nursery
111	4	Pam Residence
112	4	Logwood Masjid
113	4	Lusignan Learning Centre
114	4	Belfield Play Field

115	4	Plindola Nursery
116	4	Seventh Day Adventist Church
117	4	People Assembly of God Church
118	4	Ogle Community Centre
119	4	Bakja Health Centre
120	4	Beterverwagting Health Centre
121	4	Triumph Nursery School
122	4	Beterverwagting Community Centre
123	4	Beterverwagting Secondary School
124	4	Beterverwagting NDC
125	4	Plaisance Secondary School
126	4	Plasiance Primary School
127	4	Plasiance Nursery School
128	4	Graham's Hall Primary School
129	4	Cummings Lodge Secondary School
130	4	Buxton PIC
131	4	Tipperary Hall
132	4	Company Road Primary
133	4	Buxton Secondary School
134	4	Friendship Primary School
135	4	Sophia Primary School
136	4	Goal Building Guysuco Compound
137	4	Ogle Community Centre
138	4	Turkeyen Nursery School
139	4	Guiding Light Deliverance Church
140	4	Lusignan Primary School
141	4	Melanie Nursery School
142	4	Bladen Hall Multilateral Secondary School
143	4	Strathspey Primary School

144	4	LBI Primary School
145	4	Chateau Margot Primary School
146	4	Pigeon Island Play Field
147	4	Polly's Nursery School
148	4	Marshall's Residence
149	4	Holi Sprit Parish Church
150	4	Benjamin's Residence
151	4	Beterverwagting PIC
152	4	Mon Repos Primary School
153	4	Old Mon Repos Health Centre
154	4	Guyana School of Agriculture
155	4	Inderdai Shivanandan Residence
156	4	Society Hall
157	4	Better Hope Nursery School
158	4	Montrose Primary School
159	4	Apex Education INC
160	4	Allen Sugrim's Residence
161	4	Le Ressoventer Masjid
162	4	Nabaclyes NDC
163	4	Andrew Summer's Residence
164	4	Nabaclyes Nursery School
165	4	Haslington Nursery School
166	4	Prince William St. Nursery School
167	4	Annandale Primary School
168	4	Nicholas Seetaram's Residence
169	4	Zoar Congregational Church
170	4	Block 12 Non Pariel Nursery School
171	4	Enterprise Nursery School
172	4	Enterprise Primary School

173	4	Montrose Nursery School
174	4	Enterprise Community Centre
175	4	Track L Coldingen Playground
176	4	Hanoman Singh Residence
177	4	Vryheid's Lust Primary School
178	4	LBI Secondary School
179	4	South Ruimveldt Park Secondary School
180	4	Rama Krishna Primary School
181	4	JE Burnham Primary School
182	4	Tucville Primary School
183	4	Sophia PIC
184	4	Sophia Nursery School
185	4	Samoon's Residence
186	4	C Field Community Centre, Sophia
187	4	Evelyn Jublie Mission Church
188	4	Matthew's Residence
189	4	Mercy Wing Vocational School
190	4	GPSU
191	4	South Road Nursery School
192	4	Smith Memorial Primary School
193	4	Christ Church Secondary School
194	4	New Central High School
195	4	YWCA
196	4	Aquatic Centre Turkeyen
197	4	Bel Air Primary School
198	4	Redeemer Primary School
199	4	Carmel Secondary School
200	4	Head Start Nursery School
201	4	Old Mosque (Alexander Village)

202	4	New Mosque (Alexander Village)
203	4	New Campbellville Secondary School
204	4	Nurse's Association
205	4	Six Head Gym
206	4	Lions Club Festival City
207	4	Guyana National Gymnasium
208	4	Lodge Nursery School
209	4	Charlestown Secondary School
210	4	Ketley Primary School
211	4	Winfer Garden Primary School
212	4	Selman Fraser Nursery School
213	4	Dolphin Secondary School
214	4	African Museum - Bel Air
215	4	Alexander Village Nursery School
216	4	Ascension Nursery School
217	4	West Ruimveldt Primary School
218	4	Lions Club
219	4	DYC Building
220	4	North Georgetown Sub Office
221	4	Right Star Child Care Centre
222	4	St. Alouysius Church
223	4	East Ruimveldt Secondary / Annex
224	4	Bishops High School
225	4	Freeburg Secondary School
226	4	St. Ambrose Primary School
227	4	Exodus Gym
228	4	Girls Guide Pavilion
229	4	Palm's
230	4	Thomas Moore Primary School

231	4	FE Pollard Primary School
232	4	Ascension Nursery School
233	4	Gordon Nestor's Residence
234	4	Guyana Football Federation
235	4	St. Winefride's Secondary School
236	4	St. Stephens Primary School
237	4	St. Sidwell's Primary School
238	4	St. Pius Primary School
239	4	St. Roses High School
240	4	St. John's College
241	4	St. Ambrose Primary School
242	4	St. Gabriel's Primary School
243	4	St. Stanislaus College
244	4	St. Barnabas Special School
245	4	St. Paul Primary School
246	4	Albouystown Nursery School
247	4	Cummings Park Nursery School
248	4	C Field Nursery School
249	4	Liana Nursery School
250	4	Transfiguration Annex
251	4	Brickdam Secondary School
252	4	Roxanne Burnam Nursery School
253	4	Lodge Secondary School
254	4	Kingston Secondary School
255	4	UNESCO Building
256	4	Morgan's Lessons
257	4	Sophia Special School
258	4	Plindola Primary School
259	4	Campbell Trust Nursery School

260	4	Saint Mary's Primary (Soesdyke)
261	4	Yarrowkabra Secondary School
262	4	Soesdyke Secondary School
263	4	New Diamond/Grove Primary School
264	4	Diamond Secondary School
265	4	Caricom Insurance Driveway
266	4	Eccles Nursery School
267	4	Eccles Primary School
268	4	Eccles Health Centre
269	4	Eccles Community Centre Ground
270	4	Demerara Paradise Nursing Home
271	4	Peter's Hall Primary School
272	4	National Stadium Providence
273	4	Providence Primary School
274	4	Perseverance Community Ground
275	4	Success Elementary School
276	4	Farm Masjid
277	4	Herstelling Health Centre
278	4	Mocha Primary School
279	4	Diamond No. 1 Nursery School
280	4	Diamond No. 2 Nursery School
281	4	Diamond Health Centre
282	4	Friendship Secondary School
283	4	Oleander Nursery School, Supply
284	4	Craig Primary School
285	4	GT&T Exchange Compound
286	4	Diamond Primary School
287	4	Grove Primary School
288	4	Campbell Nursery School

289	4	Christopher Campbell's Residence
290	4	Tracey Matthew's Residence
291	4	Bharrat Persaud Residence
292	4	Nanda Singh's Residence
293	4	Turning Point
294	4	Campbell Trust Nursery School
295	4	Supply Primary School
296	4	Eden Place
297	4	Covent Garden Nursery School
298	4	Covent Garden Secondary School
299	5	Guyana Rice Development Board
300	5	Champayne Primary School
301	5	Airy Hall Nursery School
302	5	Mahaicony Technical & Vocational Training Centre
303	5	Novar Nursery School
304	5	Easu & Jacob Health Centre
305	5	Bath Waterloo Nursery School
306	5	Woodley Park Primary School
307	5	Bath Primary School
308	5	Experiment Health Centre
309	5	No. 29 Primary School
310	5	Groden Nursery School
311	5	Latchmansingh Primary School
312	5	Trafalgar Nursery School
313	5	Kingelly/Yeoville
314	5	Britannia Health Centre
315	5	Rosignol Secondary School
316	5	Rosignol Primary School
317	5	Bohemia Primary School

318	5	Madrasa Muslim School (Chesney)
319	5	Blairmont Primary School
320	5	No. 5 Primary School
321	5	No. 8 Primary School
322	5	Belladrum Primary School
323	5	Belladrum Secondary School
324	5	Bush Lot Secondary School
325	5	No. 5 Nursery School
326	5	Ithaca Primary School
327	5	Ithaca Health Centre
328	5	Ithaca Nursery School
329	5	Carlton Hall Primary School
330	5	Zealand Primary School
331	5	Cottage Nursery School
332	5	Baiboo Primary School
333	5	De Hoop Primary School
334	5	De Hoop Nursery School
335	5	District No. 10 Primary School
336	5	Fort Wellington Secondary School
337	5	Hopetown Primary School
338	5	Bush Lot Nursery School
339	5	Cotton Tree Primary School
340	5	Zee Zight Nursery School
341	5	Shieldstown Nursery School
342	5	Ross NDC Office
343	5	Seafeld Primary School
344	5	Little Treasures School
345	5	Lichfield Primary School
346	6	Skeldon Primary School

347	6	Corriverton Primary School
348	6	Upper Corentyne Industrial Training Centre
349	6	Skeldon Line Path Secondary School
350	6	No. 79 Municipal Nursery School
351	6	No. 1 Reff Nursery School
352	6	Chesney Multi Purpose Centre
353	6	Fryish Nursery School
354	6	Fyrish Primary School
355	6	Gangadei Budhram's Residence
356	6	Belvedere Nursery School
357	6	Tain Primary School
358	6	Massiah Primary School
359	6	No. 72 Nursery School
360	6	Andrew Harold's Residence (Anil Shop)
361	6	Darul Uloom Islamic School
362	6	No. 76 Health Center
363	6	Moleson Creek Masjid
364	6	Skeldon High School
365	6	Rajesh Kumar Deo's Residence
366	6	Lance Austin's Residence
367	6	Princetown Nursery School
368	6	Skeldon High School (Annex)
369	6	Johana Primary School
370	6	No. 43 Primary School
371	6	Devanand Ramdial's Residence
372	6	Tagore Secondary School
373	6	No. 48 Primary School
374	6	Yakushri Primary School
375	6	No. 79 Nursery School

376	6	No. 77 Nursery School
377	6	Albion Nursery School
378	6	Cropper Primary School
379	6	Albion Community Center
380	6	Albion Primary School
381	6	Adelphi Nursery School
382	6	Betsy Ground Primary School
383	6	U. Dayaram's Residence
384	6	Goed bananen Land Health Centre
385	6	Canefield Ahlus Sunnah Wal Jannah Masjid
386	6	Reliance Nursery School
387	6	Rose Hall Estate Primary School
388	6	Rose Hall Estate Community Centre
389	6	Adelphi Sunnatul Masjid
390	6	Crab Wood Creek Nursery School
391	6	Crab Wood Creek Health Centre
392	6	Crab Wood Creek Primary School
393	6	Springland Nursery School
394	7	Hill View Nursery School
395	7	St. Anthony's Primary School
396	7	Bartica Secondary School
397	7	Beach View Nursery School
398	7	Dagg Point
399	7	Byoerabo Multipurpose Complex
400	7	Agatash Primary School
401	7	Two Miles Primary School
402	7	Two Miles Primary School Annex
403	7	St. John the Baptise Primary
404	9	Tabatinga Nursery School

405	9	Culvert City Nursery School
406	9	Lot 2 Park Avenue, Lethem
407	9	St. Ignatius Secondary School
408	9	Indigenous Conference Hall
409	9	Arapaima Primary School
410	10	One Mile Primary School
411	10	Canvas City Nursery School
412	10	West Watooka Health Post
413	10	West Watooka Nursery School
414	10	Wisroc Nursery School
415	10	Wisburg Secondary School
416	10	Kuru-Kururu Primary School Annex
417	10	Kuru-Kururu Primary School
418	10	Swan Primary School
419	10	Kuru-Kururu College
420	10	Yarrowkabbra Primary School
421	10	Waiakabra Community Center
422	10	Christianburg Wismar Secondary School
423	10	Harmony Secondary School
424	10	Burnham Drive Nursery School
425	10	Christianburg Primary School
426	10	New Silvercity Secondary School
427	10	Canvas City Nursery School
428	10	Silver Hill Primary School
429	10	Linden Foundation Secondary School
430	10	South Amelia Ward Nursery School
431	10	Bamia Primary School
432	10	Moblissa Primary School
433	10	Royal Hall of Learning

434	10	Regma Primary School
435	10	Mckenzie High School
436	10	Linden Technical Institute
437	10	Smile of the Child Day Care
438	10	Supervisor's Club
439	10	Amelia Ward Primary School
440	10	Speightland Playground
441	10	Mckenzie Primary School