



Fijian Elections Office
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Two Years to Earliest Possible Writ Day



His Excellency the President, Major-General [Ret'd]
Jioji Konrote, hands over the Writ for the 2018
General Election to EC Chairperson Mr Suresh Chandra.

26 May 2022 is the earliest date on which the Writ for the next General Election can be issued.

Chairperson of The Electoral Commission [EC] Mr Suresh Chandra, revealed this to the media during a presser in May.

The aforementioned is the day on which the three [3] years and six [6] months of the current Parliament expires based on the 2013 Constitution of the country.



Scan the QR code to access e-copy.

Ballot Boxes Ready for 2022



The Fijian Elections Office **[FEO]** kick-started its pre-electoral preparations beginning with the cleaning up of ballot boxes from the last General Election.

After the 2018 General Election, the ballot boxes housed ballot papers and other sensitive materials for a year until the destruction process was conducted in early 2020.

With that process over, FEO staff commenced the clean-up of approximately 2,173 ballot boxes that are currently stored in the FEO warehouse.

The task included the removal of labels from the ballot box that had the Polling Venue and Polling Station codes as well as other critical details necessary for the tracking of the ballot boxes for the 2018 General Election.

Potential Candidates Reminded about Eligibility Requirements

Chairperson of the EC Mr Suresh Chandra has reminded potential candidates to be wary of their residential status if they are keen on meeting the candidates eligibility requirements in the next General Election.

Mr Chandra said residency qualification, was an issue faced by several candidates in the 2014 and 2018 General Elections.

“If you are planning to contest in the next General Election, as per section 23 [5] of the Electoral Act, 2014 you will need to be in the country for an aggregate period of not less than 18 months out of the two [2] years immediately after being nominated,” Mr Chandra said.

Consultation: Polling Venues

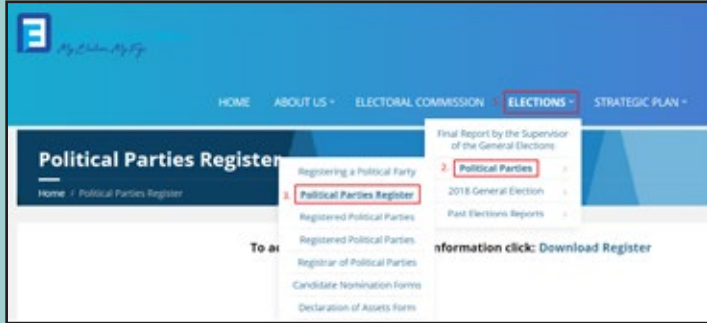
The FEO has invited voters to give their feedback on the Polling Venues that will be used in the next General Election.

The Provisional List of Polling Venues was published in May and can be accessed through the FEO website.

Whilst making the announcement, Chairperson of the EC Mr Suresh Chandra said the List currently contains 1,423 Polling Venues including Election Day and Pre-Poll venues. “These are the same Polling Venues that were used in the 2018 General Election,” Mr Chandra said.

“We are inviting interested individuals and stakeholders to provide FEO with feedback on these Polling Venues by using the Online Survey available on the Polling Venue Locator App at www.pvl.feo.org.fj.” The FEO will conduct its verification process on the availability and suitability of those venues towards the end of this year.

Electoral Commission Launches Online Register for Political Parties



Chairperson of the EC Mr Suresh Chandra launched the Online Register for Political Parties during a media conference on 25 May 2020.

The Online Register was developed in line with the FEO 2020-2023 Strategic Plan.

Mr Chandra said the Online Register contains the name of the Party, the details of the Registered Officer, name of office holders, the date of registration and the Party's constitution.

The Register can be accessed at www.feo.org.fj. Users can navigate to the Political Parties menu under the Elections tab and click on the Political Parties Register to access it.

▶▶ Phasing out of VoterCard 1.0 Extended

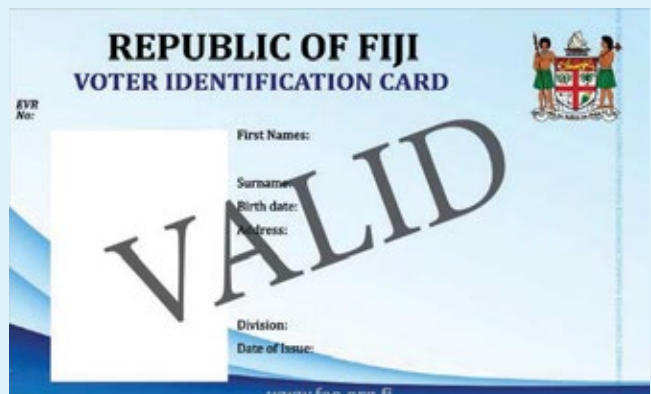
The FEO extended the phasing out of VoterCard 1.0 or the green coloured VoterCard to 30 June 2021. The decision to extend the VoterCard's expiry by a year was made in consideration of the COVID-19 crisis.

Supervisor of Elections Mr Mohammed Saneem said in light of the immediate challenges Fijians were grappled with because of the pandemic, it would be irrational to burden them with such a requirement at this time.

"We are in difficult times and as such we do not want to burden voters with having to rush and replace their VoterCards," Mr Saneem said. "Therefore, voters who are still holding onto the green coloured VoterCard now have one more year to upgrade to VoterCard 2.0 or the blue coloured VoterCard."



VoterCard 1.0.



VoterCard 2.0.

Ball Draw for Ballot Papers to Take Place Within a Year

One year from now, the EC will be conducting a ball draw to select the first number that will appear on the Ballot Paper for the next General Election.

EC Chairperson Mr Suresh Chandra said the numbers used in the 2018 General Election will not be used again. The number draw is pursuant to Section 36(2) (c) of the Electoral Act, 2014. The Act outlines that the EC is required to approve the first, three-digit number of the Ballot Paper.

Mr Chandra said the conduct of a public draw promoted the principle of transparency which is essential to the electoral process.



Supervisor of Elections Mr Mohammed Saneem with EC Chairperson Mr Suresh Chandra during the ball draw in 2017.



FEO staff during their trip to Mt Korobaba in June.

Voter Services Centre Operating Hours

Monday to Friday: 8.30am to 03.00pm
Weekend: CLOSED

At a Glance...



EC Member Ms Kavita Raniga during the Commission's first meeting in May.



The FEO Social Club organised a Mid Year Staff Lunch at the HQ in June.



Supervisor of Elections Mr Mohammed Saneem, Director Operations Ms Anaseini Senimoli and Manager Legal Ms Ana Mataiciwa attended a group discussion organised by the Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation in June.



New Appointee Looks Forward to a Fruitful Term

Newly appointed member, Ms Mere Roden, is looking forward to a fruitful three [3] year term in the EC.

Ms Roden who joined the Commission in March this year said her appointment has given her an opportunity to represent people with disabilities on a national platform.

"The right to vote is guaranteed for every Fijian and the Commission has always aspired and worked towards ensuring that persons with disabilities are included in the electoral process," Ms Roden said.

"It is empowering to be included in the decision-making aspect of the electoral processes and I look forward to doing my best to represent the disability sector."



EC Member Ms Mere Roden.

Ms Roden suffered an internal injury in 2006 that has kept her confined to a wheelchair for the past 13 years.

Nevertheless, she has achieved many milestones in her career representing Fiji at various sporting events including the 2015 PNG Pacific Games and the Rio Summer Paralympics in 2016.

She has also served as the Vice President of the Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation and is currently the Office Manager for the Spinal Injury Association.

COVID-19

Prevention Tips:

- Clean your hands often. Use soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Maintain a safe distance from anyone who is coughing or sneezing.
- Cover your nose and mouth with your bent elbow or a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention.

How To Wash Your Hands 2min



WET HANDS



APPLY SOAP



RUB HANDS



LATHER BACKS



SCRUB BETWEEN FINGERS



RUB BACKS OF FINGERS ON OPPOSING PALMS



CLEAN THUMBS



WASH FINGERNAILS



RINSE HANDS



DRY WITH TOWEL



USE TOWEL TO TURN OFF FAUCET



YOUR HANDS ARE CLEAN

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