

Dead voters will be taken out of EC database from Dec 1
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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 12 — The police will now link death records to the National Registration Department (NRD) and the Election Commission (EC) automatically as part of the effort to clean up the electoral roll, the polls reform panel was told today.

NRD Director-General Datin Jariah Mohd Said told the Parliamentary Select Committee (PSC) on electoral reforms that NRD do not have record of deaths if the deceased's next of kin do not inform them.

"The Home Ministry has informed that starting December 1, when an informer applies for a burial permit, the permit will be streamlined the death database and the police will link with NRD and NRD will link to the EC," she said.

Bersih 2.0 Chairman Datuk Ambiga Sreenevasan (picture) was testifying to the PSC when she pointed out that the current electoral roll still has at least 1,000 names of deceased voters.

"If they can register births, they must register deaths as well," she said of NRD.

Jariah explained that in the current system, she said the informer of a death, who is the deceased's next of kin, have to apply for a burial permit from the police.

"When they get the permit then only the body can be buried.

"After that, the informer is supposed to register the death at NRD. But if the informer doesn't do so, it's okay," she said.

It was reported previously that a total of 69,293 names of dead voters were removed from the electoral roll between July and September 15.

The EC also removed 1,068 names of voters who had been stripped of Malaysian citizenship by the NRD.

Ambiga said while she acknowledged that some clean up work has been carried out, there is still a significant number of deceased voters on the electoral roll.

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