

**Electoral clean-up: Commission to display 40,000 'questionable' names**  
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**By Mazlinda Mahmood**

SHAH ALAM: The Election Commission (EC) will soon be displaying 40,000 "questionable" names in the electoral roll to clean up and dispel perceptions that it is tainted.

EC chairman Tan Sri Abdul Aziz Mohd Yusof said the list would be displayed for public viewing at more than 1,000 places nationwide, as well as on the EC website and in newspapers. He said only the individuals concerned could correct the errors found on the list, and not EC.

"We will divide the list into states, constituencies and localities. We will then display the list so that everyone can see if the people actually exist or have died." He was speaking after a briefing for returning officers and assistant returning officers in preparation for the 13th general election here yesterday.

The term "questionable" refers to a number of discrepancies and inaccuracies, including cases where a voter's name differs from that in the National Registration Department.

There were also cases brought up by political parties of voters who were once civilians but have since joined the army, and cases of non-citizens who had been granted citizenship.

Aziz said the EC had a team to continuously review questionable addresses on identity cards, and other discrepancies on gender status and religion.

"It is just that we did not announce this to the media. The NRD and EC are not 100 per cent perfect.

"Therefore, we welcome the assistance and cooperation of political parties.

"What I am sad about is when political parties do not refer discrepancies to the EC but highlight them in blogs and the media instead, and (in the process) belittle the EC." Aziz said the EC had stopped the services of 94 assistant registrars and given stern warnings to 163 others for various reasons, including submitting dubious registration forms.

On yesterday's briefing, he said it was the first of a series organised for returning officers and assistant returning officers so that they were in a state of preparedness whenever the next general election was called.

The next briefing will be held in Kelantan, followed by Perak, Penang, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Johor, Kedah and Sabah.

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