



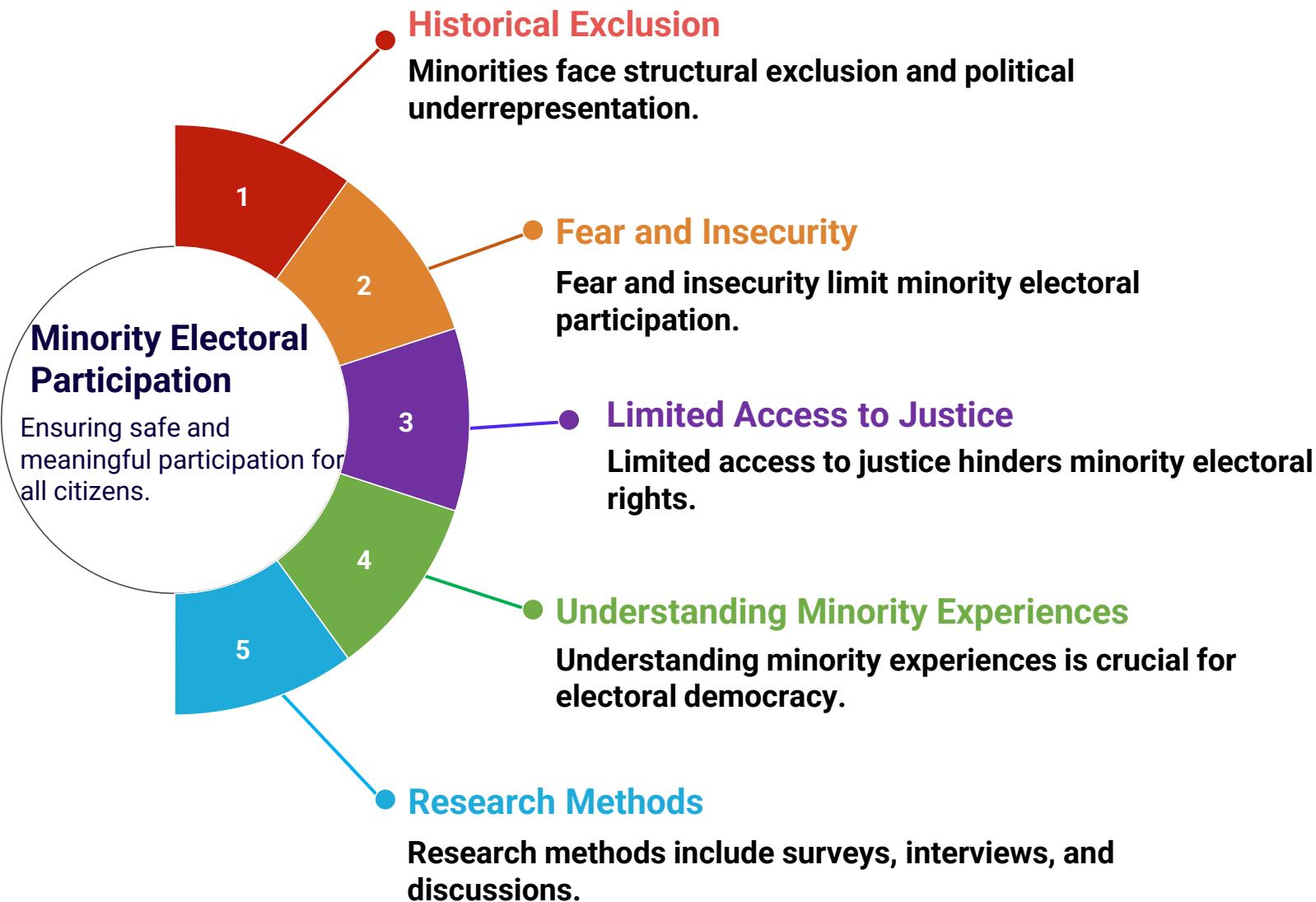
FROM PLEDGES TO PRACTICE

*Report Launch*

# POLITICAL INCLUSION & DEMOCRATIC ACCOUNTABILITY

অঙ্গীকার থেকে বাস্তবায়ন: রাজনৈতিক অন্তর্ভুক্তি ও গণতান্ত্রিক জবাবদিহিতা

8 FEBRUARY 2026 | SUNDAY | DHAKA

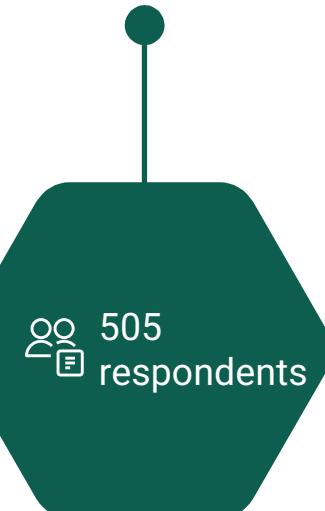




## Study Design and Data Sources



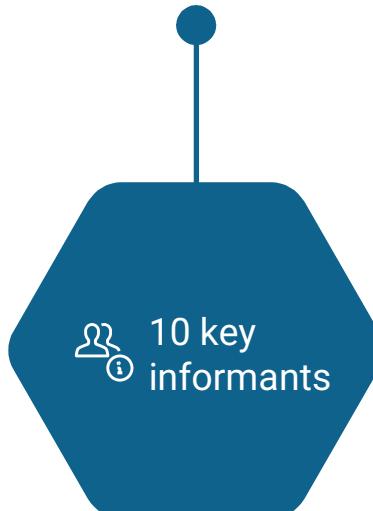
**115** were CHT Indigenous, **125** Plains Indigenous, **165** religious minorities, and **100** socio-economic minorities



The survey covered **505 respondents**, of whom, with a small number of non-responses



**10** KIs were conducted



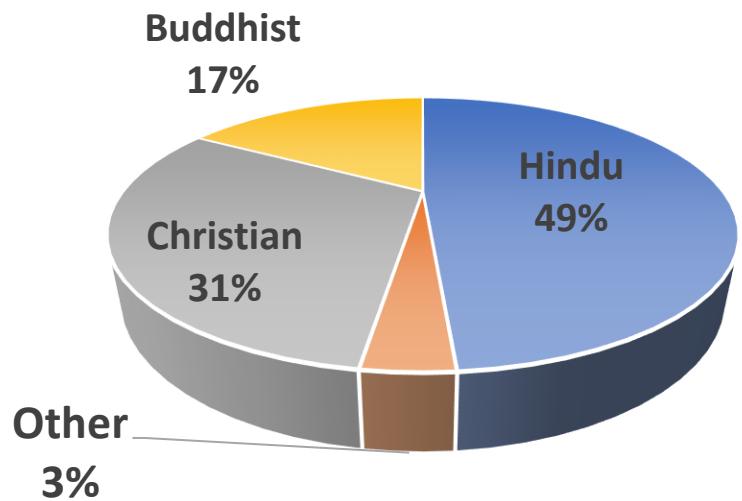
The KIs involved **civil society members, journalists, and minority representatives**



**Four regional roundtables** were conducted



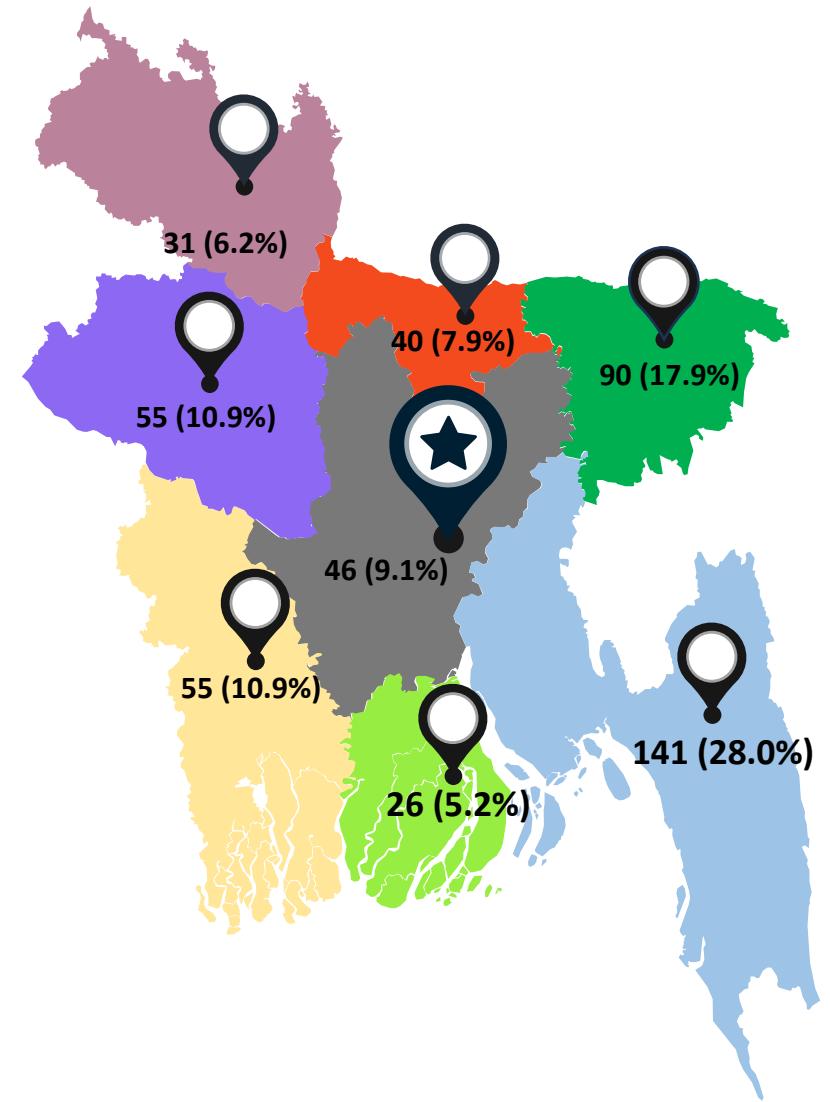
held in **Dhaka, Sylhet, and Rangpur** with **minority communities, civil society members, and journalists**



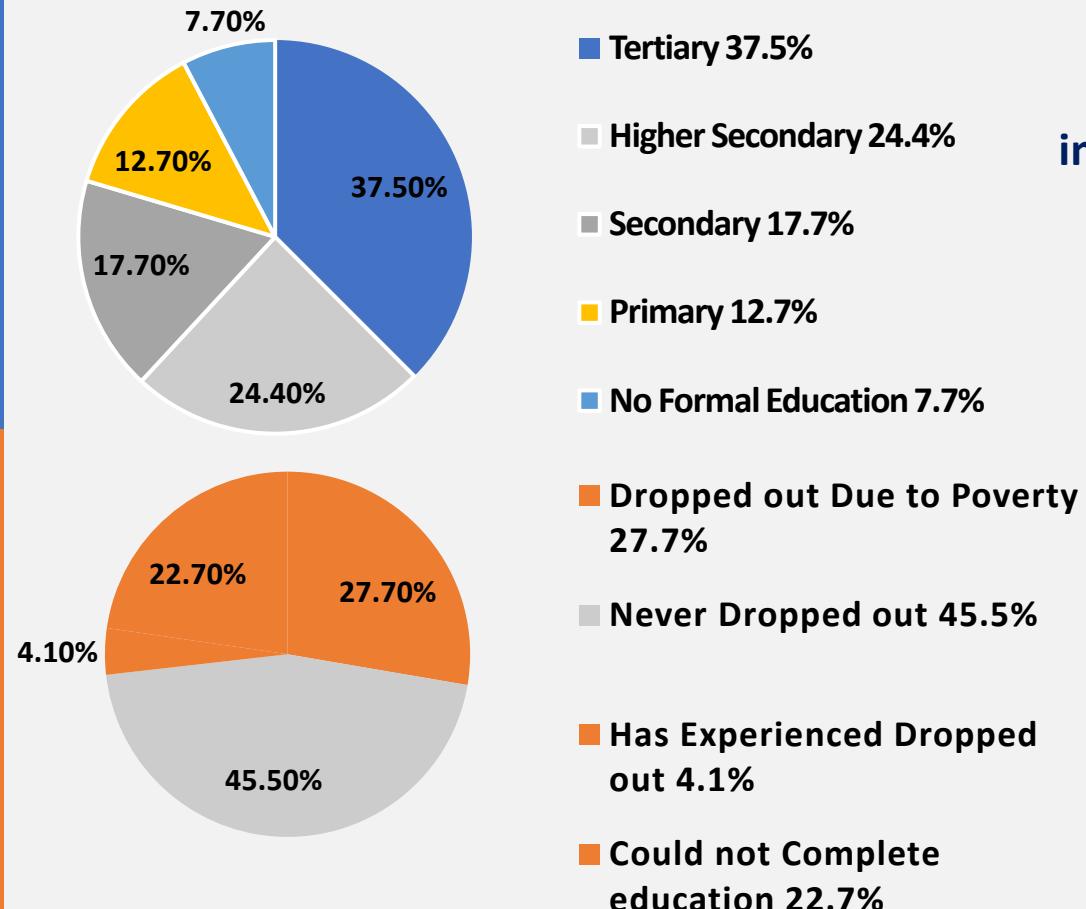
**Women**  
Out of a total of 504  
respondents, 227 were  
women



Out of a total of 504 respondents, 277 were men



## Education



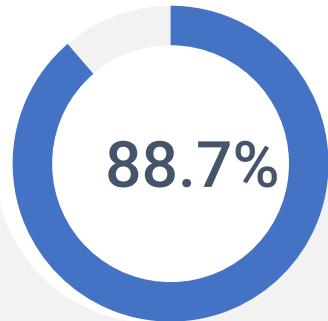
Out of the total respondents, 189 individuals (37.5 %) had completed tertiary-level education, holding a Bachelor's or Master's degree.

## Dropped out

Out of the 488 respondents, 266 (54.5 %) reported experiencing dropout from the formal education system at some stage

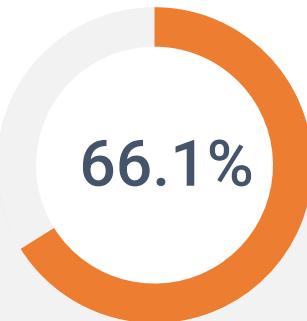
# Electoral Awareness

## Voting Rights



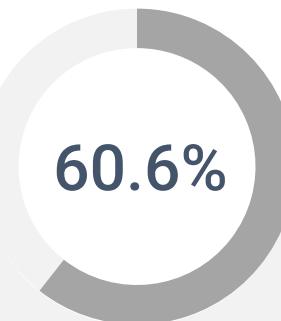
Out of **495** respondents,  
**88.7 % were aware** of their  
voting rights, while **11.3 %**  
**were not.**

## Election Irregularities



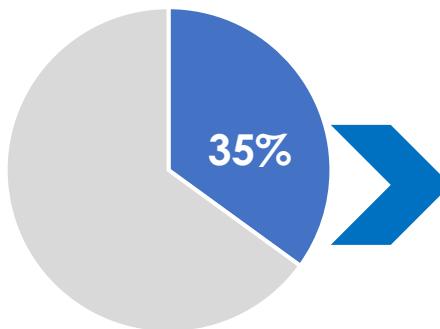
Out of **496** respondents,  
**66.1% were aware** of election  
irregularities, while **33.9%**  
**were not.**

## Reporting

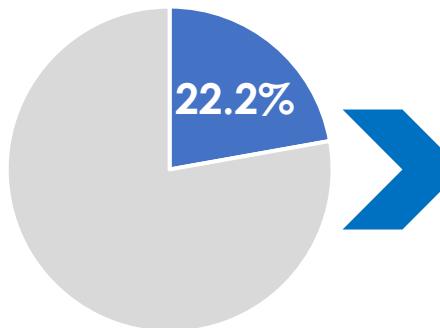


Out of **497** respondents, **60.6 % were aware** of where or to  
whom to report election  
irregularities or violence, while  
**39.4 % were not.**

## Are there enough minority candidates in the upcoming national election?

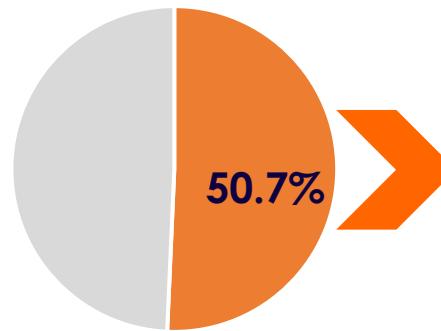


Out of 492 respondents, **172 (35.0%)** said minority candidates are insufficient due to **limited nominations by major political parties**.



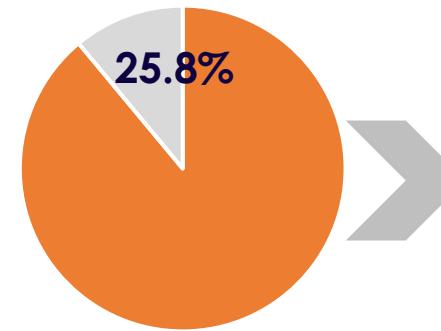
Out of 492 respondents, **109 (22.2%)** said the number of minority candidates has **decreased** compared to **previous elections**.

## How Safe Do You Feel When Participating in Elections?



**Worried**

Out of 495 respondents, **251 (50.7%)** reported **feeling somewhat anxious**.



**Unsafe**

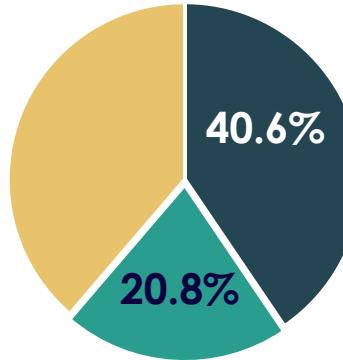
Out of 495 respondents, **128 (25.8%)** reported **feeling unsafe or extremely unsafe**.

# Culture of Fear

## Self-Silencing

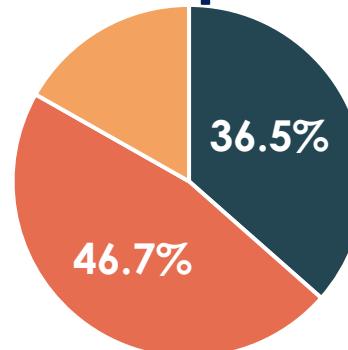
### Experienced Discrimination in the Electoral Process

Out of 500 respondents, **104 (20.8%)** reported **discrimination**, including ignored political demands, voting obstacles, or discrimination in party nominations.



Out of 500 respondents, **203 (40.6 %)** chose **not to comment** on experiences of discrimination during **political or electoral participation**.

Out of 499 respondents, **233 (46.7%)** reported facing **barriers to political participation**



Out of 499 respondents, **182 (36.5%)** chose **not to comment** on **barriers to political participation**.

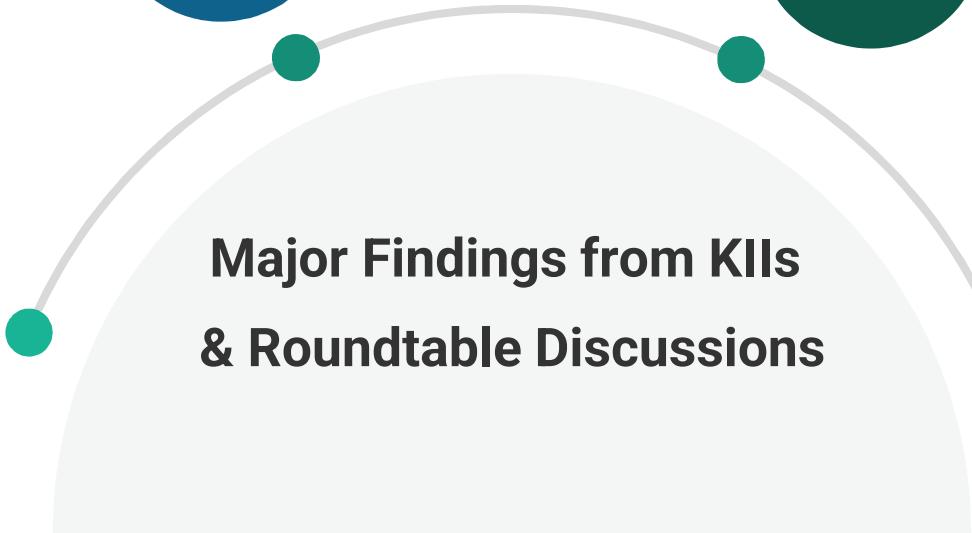


**Political parties** treat minorities mainly as **vote banks**, remain **weak** within party **decision-making** structures.

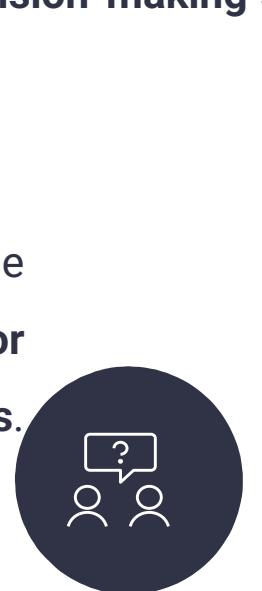
**Deep institutional distrust** reinforces a **culture of silence** and **non-reporting**.

Fear and **insecurity** shape minority **political behavior** during **elections**.

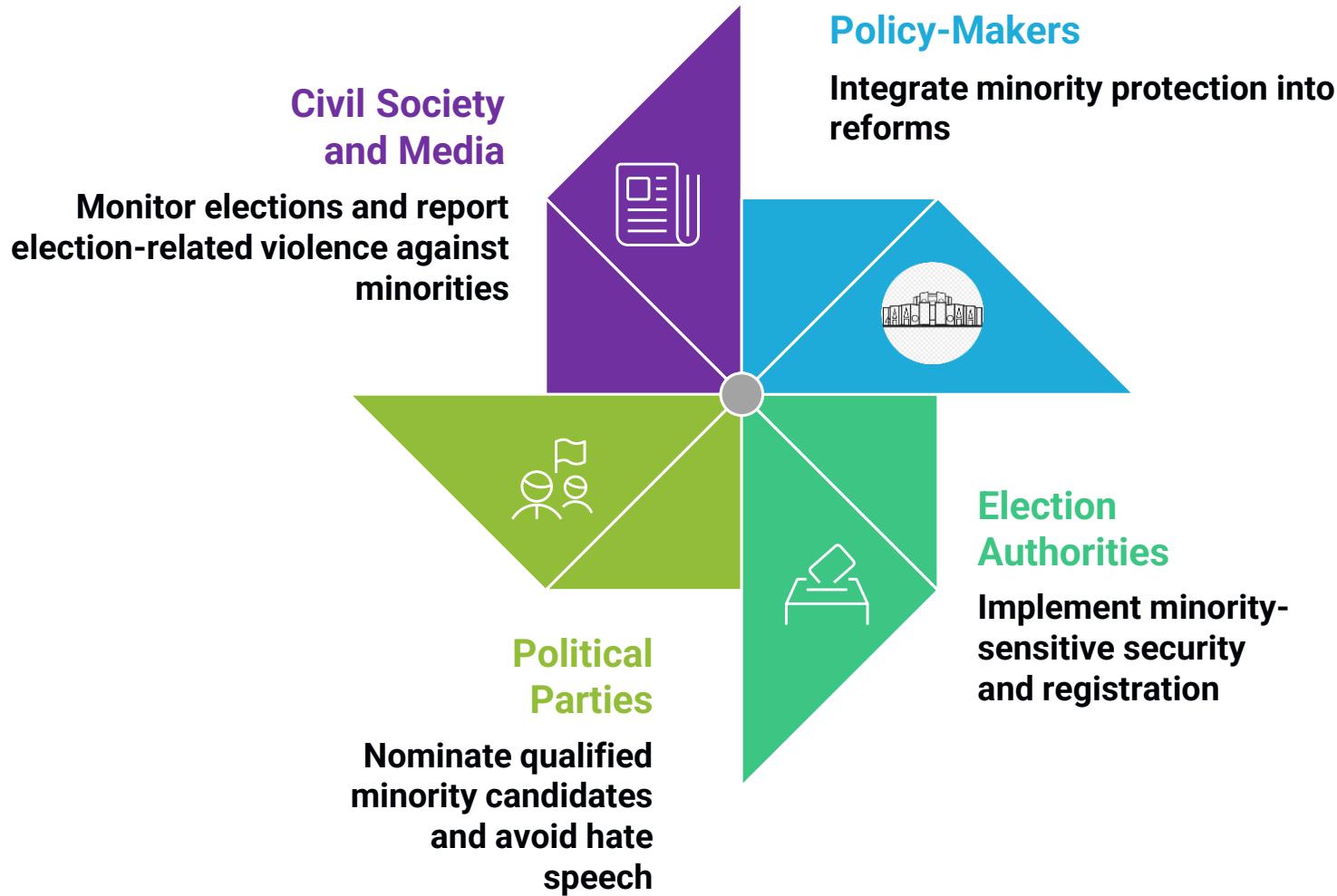
**Democratic reforms** remain **exclusionary**, with minority voices rarely consulted.



## Major Findings from KIIs & Roundtable Discussions



## Recommendation



# Thank You



Web

**www.cgs-bd.com**



Phone

**+8801819890136**



Mail

**info@cgs-bd.com**