

**ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF SMART CARD READER IN
CONDUCTING CREDIBLE ELECTION IN NIGER STATE:
A STUDY OF 2019 GENERAL ELECTION IN
BIDA LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

KUDU HARUNA MOHAMMED

Department of Public Administration, Niger State Polytechnic,
Zungeru
haruskudu@gmail.com
+2348061688476

BAKO ALHAJI KUDU

Department of Public Administration, Niger State Polytechnic, Zungeru
bakokudu1964@gmail.com
+2348167808505

&

FATIMA BINT HASSAN

Department of Local Government Administration and Development Studies, Niger State
Polytechnic, Zungeru
+2348033568392

Abstract

The study assessed the impact of Smart Card Reader in conducting credible election in Niger State with a particular reference to 2019 general election in Bida Local Government. Over the years, Nigeria is facing with the problem of election rigging and manipulation from the politicians which resulted to the serious crisis during the post election period in spite of the introduction of smart card reader in 2015 general election in the country. The study adopted system theory as a framework of this study. It adopted survey research design with the population of 157,379 of registered voter's INEC in 2019 general election. To determine the sample size, Krejcie and Morgan 1970 were adopted where researcher arrived at 382. The structure questionnaire was adopted and chi-square was employed to test hypotheses. The finding reveals that the adopted of smart card reader significantly enhance democratic consolidation in Nigeria. It was recommended that government should continue to enlighten and awareness campaign to the electorate and Ad-hoc staff on the use of smart card reader in the Nigeria electoral process

Key Ward: Card readers, Credible Election, INEC

Introduction

One of the greatest challenges facing Nigeria political system today is election rigging, not just kind of rigging but the manipulation of results to favor a particular party. Election is the critical component of any democratic society. For this election to be actualized, an electoral system exists to provide the

electorate with opportunity and the right to choose their representative and maintain contact with them. Therefore, for an electoral system to be democratic, it must provide equal opportunity and freedom for the electorate to make real and meaningful choice devoid of intimidation. This situation has forced electorate to see election in Nigeria as a mirage or a mere selection in the sense that electorate are left out of the entire system, owing to the fact that elections are conducted with or without the full participation of the electorate who suppose to choose those who rule over them.

The system operates in a way that suggests a total disregard and misapplication of democratic ethos. Thus, the outcome has always been manipulated in favor candidates of the powerful few. The manipulation of election began from the voter's accreditation and up to last stage of counting and filling of result sheets. The concerned about the massive electoral fraud witnessed in the past general elections in Nigeria, in spite the introduction of smart card reader in 2015 by Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) which is aimed at ensuring a credible, transparent, free and fair election.

The card reader is a technological devices designed to authenticate and verify permanent voter's card issued by the INEC. Therefore the use of Smart card readers for elections is highly commendable it has help to some extent fraud like multiple registration multiple voting (This Day Live, 2015). In conclusion therefore, it is imperative to assess the impact of Smart Card Readers in conducting credible election in Bida Local Government of Niger State

Statement of the Problem

Over the years, Nigeria is facing with the lingering problem of election rigging and manipulation from the politicians in which the people vote is not counted in spite the introduction of smart card readers in 2015 general election to ensure credible free and fair election which resulted in to the serious crisis.

Since the return of democracy in 1999, efforts have been made by the government on how to solve the problems of election rigging and other forms of election malpractice. Nigerian government were spent billions of naira from 1999 to 2015 on how to improve the electioneering process in Nigeria but this objective has not been achieved (Kabiru, Abdulakadir and Baba, 2017).

Kwaghga and Tarfa, (2015) summated that elections in Nigeria are usually characterized by thuggery and violence. This is as a result of malpractices experienced during election. The search for credible elections has been a major source of concerned to Nigerian. Elections in the past were done through the use of manual accreditation and this creates room for massive manipulation of election results by the ruling party. The resultant effect of this menace is poor governance as contestants who claim to emerge winners feel they bought votes by their money, as such, no meaningful development is recorded. Against the back ground that this study seeks to establish what are the impact of smart card reader in conducting credible election in 2019 general election in Bida local government of Niger State?

Research Questions

1. To what extent does smart card readers enhanced credible election in 2019 general election?
2. What is the reliability of smart card reader during 2019 general election process?
3. What are the constraints affecting the reliability of smart card reader in 2019 general election process?

Objectives of the Study

1. To examine the extent to which smart card readers enhanced credible election in 2019 general election.
2. To assess the reliability of smart card reader during 2019 general election process.
3. To ascertain the constraints affecting the reliability of smart card readers in 2019 general election process.

Literature Review

The Impact of Card Reader

The smart card reader was a critical component in the 2015 and 2019 general elections. But it was used for the first time in Nigeria's electoral process and it remains one of the greatest innovative technologies in the 2015 general elections.

Past elections in Nigeria had witness the desperate bid for political power by some stakeholders with vested interests in the Nigerian electoral process. Some of these stakeholders engaged in all forms of electoral malpractices including multiple voting, impersonation, manipulation and falsification of results which had led to legal actions, electoral conflicts and violence (Kabiru, Abdulakadir & Baba, 2017). It is on this basis that global attention is now focusing on how to reduce or completely eradicate the above electoral malpractices through the introduction of information and communication technology into the electoral process. Against this background that smart card reader was introduced into the Nigerian electoral process in 2015 to help improve and deepen electoral democracy it was discovered that smart card reader is not automated in such a way that allow voter to vote anywhere they are once they are accredited, the publicity on card reader as ground breaking in Nigerian political development is a farce.

The proponent of the device according to Peters (2015) believed that the card reader procedure has the capacity to prevent or minimize rigging in the sense that there would not be multiple voting while the opponents believed that in the peculiar circumstances of the Nigerian situation, the card reader is designed to assist a certain political party to win the general election.

According to stakeholders, the card reader technology did not only reduce election rigging and snatching of ballot boxes from polling units, but also enhanced speedy and accurate electoral processes during accreditation of voters. Chief Executive Officer of Telecom Group, Dr. Emmanuel Ekuwem, told THISDAY that the use of card reader machines for the 2015 general elections has proved that INEC could conduct credible elections with minimal complaints (This Day Live, 2015 in Kabiru, Abdulakadir & Baba, 2017).

Besides, electoral conflicts and violence was very minimal as the election was seen to be transparent and credible due to the use of the card reader. The excessive and pointless attacking and degrading between the election winners and losers in past electoral contest was significantly reduced. In view of the minimal level of electoral fraud due to the use of the card reader, tensions were reduced among the political gladiators and electoral violence diminished. Moreover, it strengthened the democratic institutions and increased Nigeria democratic capacity and by extension, made Nigerians and its institution to assimilate the knowledge needed to conduct credible, free and fair election so as to deepen our democratic process and protect our image abroad (Okoro, E 2015 in Odo S. T, 2017).

Challenges of the Smart Card Reader in the 2019 Elections

In spite of assurances given by INEC to address the issues raised by the pilot run using card readers in twelve states of the federation, the 2019 general elections witnessed an inability of the device to deliver effectively in a large number of polling units. This happened especially in the presidential and National Assembly elections. Several states experienced difficulties and delays with the use of Smart Card Readers for accreditation and voting. There were reports from Ogun, Imo, Nasarawa, Kebbi, Abia, Lagos and Federal Capital Territory (FCT) etc on difficulties with the use of the devices on Election Day (Newsletter, 2019).

There were instances where INEC officials resorted to manual Accreditation in IMO and Sokoto State. It will be recalled that Smart Card Reader was introduced as an anti-fraud electoral device to enhance the integrity of the process, discourage ghost voter's and prevent multiple voting as only accreditation and verify PVC holders can vote.

Again, some of the ad-hoc staff could not operate the device despite the intensive training they received from INEC. It is disheartening that a graduate from trained on the use of a card readers was unable to use the device which is the critical to the electoral process (Newsletter, 2019).

When the card readers did function, a few of the devices were confronted with the challenge of PVC authentication and biometric data verification of the voters in the polling units. The authentication and verification of card and voters respectively were components of the accreditation process for the election. A number of PVCs issued to voters by INEC could not be authenticated, thereby disenfranchising some eligible voters in the elections. Where voters' cards were authenticated, often their holders' biometric data could not be verified after several ails; and where it was verified, the devices worked slowly (Odiakose 2015).

Empirical Studies

Kabiru, Abdulakadir & Baba, (2017) examine the role of card reader in conducting credible election in the 2015 Nigeria's general election. The study adopted documentary method. It reveals that the application of card reader has yielded a positive result in consolidating democracy in Nigeria especially the voter's accreditation process, authentication of the registered voters and control of election malpractices-multiple voting system. The study recommends that there is need for the government to improve in the enlightenment and awareness campaign through voter education and invest in appropriate human capacity on the use of smart card reader.

Similarly Kwaghga Beetseh and Tarfa Akpoo (2015) Studied on the analysis of the use of smart card reader (scr) and credible elections in Nigeria 2015. The study adopted survey research design. It was an indication that smart card reader has credibility on the conduct of the 2015 general elections in Nigeria. The study recommends that all Nigerians should accept the use smart card readers in the conduct of elections at all levels. Both INEC and Adhoc staff should be properly trained on the use of smart card readers to eliminate the challenges experienced in the 2015 general elections.

Another study was carry out by Ogoyi Christopher Simon & Obukeni Clifford Orona (2019) examine on card reader technology and political participation in Nigeria. The study discovered that inability of the INEC to automate the card reader such that allows voters to vote anywhere they are once they are accredited has disenfranchised many a Nigerian from Political Participation. It was recommended that card reader should be automated to allow voter to vote anywhere they are once they are accredited, the publicity on card reader as ground breaking in Nigerian political development is a farce.

Again, ogunfunmilakin, ifedayo bright (2017) examine on the credibility and authenticity of card reader as an antidote to election rigging in Nigeria. It adopted survey research design. The study reveals that smart card reader enabled credibility in election. Also, the smart card reader is reliable during election, smart card reader is effective in voting, and smart card reader is a means to eliminate electoral violence, smart card reader enables quick voting among the electorate, card readers' increase the authenticity of votes cast among electorate. It was recommends that Accreditation should be done simultaneously with voting.

Pius Seleke & Owei, J. (2018) studied on the impacts of smart card readers on election credibility in Nigeria: a study of 2015 presidential election in Ekeremor Local Government area of Bayelsa State, Nigeria. The study adopted a survey method. The findings of the study it was revealed that the chi-square calculated (x-cal) of 2.71 and the chi-square tabulated (x-tab) of 2.69 ($p=2.71>2.69$). This was an indication that the Smart Card Reader has credibility on the conduct of the 2015 general elections in Nigeria. The study concluded the evolution of Smart Card Reader technology marks the significant development of the world. It was recommended that all Nigerians should accept the use of Smart Card Readers in the conduct of elections at all levels. Both INEC and Ad hoc staff should be properly trained on the use of Smart Card Readers to eliminate the challenges experienced in the past general elections.

More so, Aremu Fatai Ayinde and Aluko Opeyemi Idowu(2016) carried out the research on Nigeria's 2015 elections: permanent voter's cards, smart card readers and security challenges. The research methodology adopted is an empirical analysis of data from the Afro barometer Round 6 survey assessing Nigerians' perceptions of their electoral environment and of the level of preparedness of the Independent Electoral Commission (INEC). INEC's officially released presidential election result is also critically interrogated. The relative deprivation theory is used to analyze the causes of security challenges. The conclusion is premised on the grounds that there were general improvements in the 2015 general elections and recommendations were posited to the Election Management Body (EMB), the government and the general masses

Finally, Emmanuel Adeniran Alebiosu (2016) Assess on Smart Card Reader and the 2015 General Elections in Nigeria. The use of the card reader generated debate among election stakeholders before, during and after the 2015 general elections. One such debate was the legality of the use of the device. In this paper, it was examine the debate and the role of the card reader in the elections. I also consider the challenges and impact of the card reader on the election. Considering the massive electoral fraud witnessed in general elections since Nigeria's independence. It recommends that the smart card reader should be used for future elections. General elections in Nigeria should continue to be technologically managed.

However, previous studies were plug with some deficiencies that some of their findings were at far reach with their recommendations and are not statistical sound. Therefore, this study will use sound statistical package (SPSS) to test the hypotheses formulated.

Theoretical Framework

This study anchored David Easton 1965 system theory as the right theory that guides this work. A system may be defined as an organized group of parts, components, or subsystems linked together according to a plan, to achieve specific objectives and that if one part is default, it will affect the other parts. The System Theory was propounded by David Easton in 1965. He was renowned for his application of Systems to the study of Political Science. Easton (1965) proposed all political systems have precise boundaries and fluid (changing) system of steps indecision making.

Therefore, to conduct credible election in Nigerian political system, INEC is charged with this responsibility. However, to enhance sustainable democracy through use of Smart Card Reader's, the INEC which is the unit of the government is charge with this responsibility, if it fails in its mandate of providing credible election, there will be increase in electoral violence which will cause inefficiency to the entire political system.

Methodology

The study adopted survey research design through the use of structured The target population of this study was all registered voters in 2019 in Bida Local Government which is 157,379 to determine the sample size, Krijcie and Morgan 1970 sample size determination was adopted where the researcher arrived at 382. The stratified sampling technique was adopted to give each of respondents an equal representation based on their population. Again, the researcher adopted this technique to draw the number of respondents from the two constituencies that make up Bida Local Government. The researcher selected three Wards from each zone as follows; Bida North constituency: Masaba A Ward=64, Masaba B ward = 63, Wadata Ward = 63, Bida South constituency: Umaru Majigi A Ward = 64, Landzu Ward = 63 and Dokodza Ward = 63. Primary source of data collection were adopted were the researcher used five likert scale. The data collected for this study were analyzed using a combination of inferential and descriptive statistic techniques. Finally, qualitative data was analyzed using statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) software and chi-square as an inferential statistical tool to statistically test the hypotheses postulated. However, the Chi-Squire was used test the hypothesis earlier stated in the chapter one. The formula is:

$$X^2 = \sum \frac{(o_i - e_i)^2}{e_i}$$

Where:

X² = Chi - square

∑ = Summation

o_i = observed Frequency

e_i = expected frequency.

Also after that, one should know the degree of freedom is at 0.05% level of significance by using the following formula.

$$df = (c - 1) (r - 1)$$

Data Presentation and Analysis.

Based on the sample size 382 questionnaires were administered to the respective respondents, out of which, 283 were duly filled and returned for analysis while, the remaining 99 were not duly filled. Therefore, analysis was based on the returned 283 questionnaire for the purpose of data presentation and analysis.

Table 1: Research Question One: To what extent does smart card readers enhanced credible election in 2019 general election?

smartcard reader * general election Cross tabulation			general election					Total
			Agreed	Disagreed	Strongly agree	Strongly Disagreed	Undecided	
smartcard reader	Electoral malpractice	Count	65	45	40	29	0	179
		Expected Count	63.3	43.0	38.0	33.5	1.3	179.0
		% within general election	65.0%	66.2%	66.7%	54.7%	0.0%	63.3%
		% of Total	23.0%	15.9%	14.1%	10.2%	0.0%	63.3%
	Nigeria confidence	Count	35	23	20	24	2	104
		Expected Count	36.7	25.0	22.0	19.5	.7	104.0
		% within general election	35.0%	33.8%	33.3%	45.3%	100.0%	36.7%
		% of Total	12.4%	8.1%	7.1%	8.5%	0.7%	36.7%
Total		Count	100	68	60	53	2	283
		Expected Count	100.0	68.0	60.0	53.0	2.0	283.0
		% within general election	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
		% of Total	35.3%	24.0%	21.2%	18.7%	0.7%	100.0%

Source: Fieldwork, 2019

The table above shows that 40 respondents (38.0%) strongly agreed that card reader curb electoral malpractices, 60 respondents (63.3%) agreed that card reader curb electoral malpractices, 29 respondents (33.5%) strongly disagreed that card reader curb electoral malpractices, 45 respondents (43.0%) disagreed that card reader curb electoral malpractices, while no body responded in undecided.

Again, 23 respondents (25.0%) strongly agreed that card reader boosts Nigerians confidence in the electoral process, 35 respondents (63.7%) agreed that that card reader boosts Nigerians confidence in the electoral process, 24 respondents (19.5%) strongly disagreed that that card reader boosts Nigerians confidence in the electoral process, 20 respondents (22.0%) disagreed that that card reader boosts Nigerians confidence in the electoral process, while only 2 respondents (7%) undecided that that card reader boosts Nigerians confidence in the electoral process.

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	5.786 ^a	4	.216
Likelihood Ratio	6.313	4	.177
N of Valid Cases	283		

Source: Author's Computation, 2019

The chi-square result on the credibility of elections. The Chi-square calculated value was 5.786 and the chi-square tabulated value was .216 ($p=5.786>.216$) with a degree of freedom 4.

Table 3: Research Question Three: What is the reliability of smart card reader during 2019 general election process?

Reliability of card * general election Cross tabulation								
		general election					Total	
		Agreed	Disagreed	Strongly agree	Strongly Disagreed	Undecided		
Reliability of card	Integrity	Count	46	7	19	20	2	94
		Expected Count	45.5	8.0	19.3	19.3	2.0	94.0
		% within general election	33.6%	29.2%	32.8%	34.5%	33.3%	33.2%
		% of Total	16.3%	2.5%	6.7%	7.1%	0.7%	33.2%
	Registration	Count	45	10	20	20	0	95
		Expected Count	46.0	8.1	19.5	19.5	2.0	95.0
		% within general election	32.8%	41.7%	34.5%	34.5%	0.0%	33.6%
		% of Total	15.9%	3.5%	7.1%	7.1%	0.0%	33.6%
	Transparency	Count	46	7	19	18	4	94
		Expected Count	45.5	8.0	19.3	19.3	2.0	94.0
		% within general election	33.6%	29.2%	32.8%	31.0%	66.7%	33.2%
		% of Total	16.3%	2.5%	6.7%	6.4%	1.4%	33.2%
Total	Count	137	24	58	58	6	283	
	Expected Count	137.0	24.0	58.0	58.0	6.0	283.0	
	% within general election	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
	% of Total	48.4%	8.5%	20.5%	20.5%	2.1%	100.0%	

The table above shows that 19 respondents (19.3%) strongly agreed that enhance the integrity of the voting process, 46 respondents (45.5%) agreed that enhance the integrity of the voting process, 20 respondents (19.3%) strongly that enhance the integrity of the voting, 20 respondents (19.3%) strongly disagreed that enhance the integrity of the voting pro, 7 respondents (8.0%) disagreed that enhance the integrity of the voting, 2 respondents (2.0%) undecided that enhance the integrity of the voting process is the reliability of smart card reader during 2019 general election process.

Again, 20 respondents (19.5%) strongly agreed that device was part of the registration and authentication of duly registered voters, 45 respondents (46.0) agreed that device was part of the registration and authentication of duly registered voters, 20 respondents (19.5%) strongly disagreed that device was part of the registration and authentication of duly registered voters, 10 respondents (8.1%)

disagreed that device was part of the registration and authentication of duly registered voters, and nobody respond on device was part of the registration and authentication of duly registered voters.

Finally, 19 respondents (19.3%) strongly agreed that infused some level of transparency and credibility into Nigeria's electoral process, 45 respondents (46.0) agreed infused some level of transparency and credibility into Nigeria's electoral process, 18 respondents (19.3%) strongly disagreed that infused some level of transparency and credibility into Nigeria's electoral process, 7 respondents (8.0%) disagreed that infused some level of transparency and credibility into Nigeria's electoral process, and only 4 respondents (2.0%) undecided that infused some level of transparency and credibility into Nigeria's electoral process.

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	Df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	4.920 ^a	8	.766
Likelihood Ratio	6.451	8	.597
N of Valid Cases	283		

Source: Author's Computation, 2019

The chi-square result on the credibility of elections. The Chi-square calculated value was 5.786 and the chi-square tabulated value was .216 (p=5.786>.216) with a degree of freedom 4.

Table 3: Research Question Three: What are the constraints affecting the reliability of smart card readers in 2019 general election process?

Constraint reliability * general election Cross tabulation			General election					Total
			Agreed	Disagreed	Strongly agree	Strongly Disagreed	Undecided	
Constraint reliability	Ad-hoc staff	Count	46	7	19	18	4	94
		Expected Count	45.5	8.0	19.3	19.3	2.0	94.0
		% within general election	33.6%	29.2%	32.8%	31.0%	66.7%	33.2%
		% of Total	16.3%	2.5%	6.7%	6.4%	1.4%	33.2%
	Capture Biometric	Count	45	10	20	20	0	95
		Expected Count	46.0	8.1	19.5	19.5	2.0	95.0
		% within general election	32.8%	41.7%	34.5%	34.5%	0.0%	33.6%
		% of Total	15.9%	3.5%	7.1%	7.1%	0.0%	33.6%
	Unidentified PVC	Count	46	7	19	20	2	94
		Expected Count	45.5	8.0	19.3	19.3	2.0	94.0
		% within general election	33.6%	29.2%	32.8%	34.5%	33.3%	33.2%
		% of Total	16.3%	2.5%	6.7%	7.1%	0.7%	33.2%
Total	Count	137	24	58	58	6	283	
	Expected Count	137.0	24.0	58.0	58.0	6.0	283.0	
	% within general election	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
	% of Total	48.4%	8.5%	20.5%	20.5%	2.1%	100.0%	

Source: Fieldwork, 2019

The table above shows that 46 respondents (45.4%) agreed that some ad hoc staff could not know how to operate it, 19 respondents (19.3%) strongly agreed that some ad hoc staff could not know how to operate card reader, 18 respondents (19.3%) strongly disagreed that some ad hoc staff could not know how to operate card reader, 7 respondents (6.0%) disagreed that some ad hoc staff could not know how to operate card reader and only 4 respondents (2.0%) undecided that some ad hoc staff could not know how to operate card reader.

Again, 40 respondents (46.0%) agreed that Inability to capture the biometrics from finger tips, 20 respondents (19.5%) strongly agreed that Inability to capture the biometrics from finger tips are the major the constraints affecting the reliability of smart card readers in 2019 general election process, 20 respondents (19.5%) strongly disagreed that Inability to capture the biometrics from finger tips are the major the constraints affecting the reliability of smart card readers in 2019 general election process, 10 respondents (8.0%) disagreed that Inability to capture the biometrics from finger tips are the major the constraints affecting the reliability of smart card readers in 2019 general election process and nobody respond on whether that Inability to capture the biometrics from finger tips are the major the constraints affecting the reliability of smart card readers in 2019 general election process or not

Finally, 46 respondents (45.4%) agreed that unidentified PVC are the major the constraints affecting the reliability of smart card readers in 2019 general election process, 19 respondents (19.3%) strongly agreed that unidentified PVC are the major the constraints affecting the reliability of smart card readers in 2019 general election process, 20 respondents (19.3%) strongly disagreed that unidentified PVC are the major the constraints affecting the reliability of smart card readers in 2019 general election process, 7 respondents (8.0%) disagreed that unidentified PVC are the major the constraints affecting the reliability of smart card readers in 2019 general election process, 2 respondents (2.0%) undecided that unidentified PVC are the major the constraints affecting the reliability of smart card readers in 2019 general election process,

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	Df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	4.920 ^a	8	.766
Likelihood Ratio	6.451	8	.597
N of Valid Cases	283		

Source: Author’s Computation, 2019

The Chi-square calculated value was 4.970 and the chi -square tabulated value was .766 ($p=4.970 > .766$) with a degree of freedom 8.

Summary of Findings

The study shows that chi-square result on the credibility of elections. The Chi-square calculated value was 5.786 and the chi-square tabulated value was .216 ($p=5.786 > .216$) with a degree of freedom 4. This is an indication that smart card readers enhanced credible election in 2019 general election in Bida Local Government. The null hypothesis which states that Smart Card Reader (SCR) does not enhance credible election in 2019 general election in Bida Local Government is rejected and the alternative hypothesis which states that Smart Card Reader (SCR) enhanced credible election in 2019 general election in Bida Local Government is therefore upheld.

Again, the study reveals that Chi-square calculated value was 4.970 and the chi-square tabulated value was .766 ($p=4.970>.766$) with a degree of freedom 8. This states that null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted.

Finally, the study reveals that Chi-square calculated value was 4.970 and the chi-square tabulated value was .766 ($p=4.970>.766$) with a degree of freedom 8. This states that there is constraints affecting the reliability of smart card readers in 2019 general election process in Bida Local Government.

Recommendation

1. There is need for the government to improve in the enlightenment and awareness campaign through voter education and invest in appropriate human capacity on the use of smart card reader.
2. Both INEC and Ad hoc staff should be properly trained on the use of smart card readers to eliminate the challenges experienced in the 2015 general elections.
3. Smart card reader should be automated to allow voter to vote anywhere they are once they are accredited

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