



NATIONAL ELECTION WATCH



Annual Report | 2011-2012



ASSOCIATION FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS



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ABOUT Us

Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) was established in August 1999 by a group of Professors from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad. In 1999, we filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) with the Delhi High Court asking for disclosure of criminal, financial and educational background of candidates contesting elections. Based on this, the Supreme Court in 2002 and

subsequently in 2003 made it mandatory for all candidates contesting elections to disclose criminal, financial and educational background prior to the polls by filing an affidavit with the Election Commission.

Post this, ADR has, along with National Election Watch (a conglomeration of more than 1200 organizations across the country), held Election Watches for all Parliamentary and Assembly elections. It also conducts multiple projects aimed at increasing transparency and accountability in the political and electoral system of the country all of which are explained below.

The National Election Watch (NEW) is a nationwide campaign comprising of more than 1200 non-governmental organizations and other citizen led organizations working together with ADR on electoral reforms, improving democracy and governance in India. NEW is active in almost all states of India.





HISTORY OF ADR AND NEW

EARLY 1999:

11 IIM-Ahmedabad professors get together to form Association for Democratic Reforms to work on electoral reforms.

AUGUST 1999:

ADR files PIL in Delhi High Court seeking disclosure of pending criminal cases by candidates contesting elections to parliament and state assemblies.

NOVEMBER 02, 2000:

Delhi High Court upholds above PIL.

DECEMBER 2000:

Government of India appeals to Supreme Court against the judgment of Delhi High Court.

MAY 02, 2002:

Supreme Court rejects the appeal and upholds the High Court judgment.

JUNE 28, 2002:

Election Commission issues orders to implement the Supreme Court judgment.

JULY 08, 2002:

All party meeting decides to amend Representation of People Act to prevent/dilute the Supreme Court's orders.

AUGUST 22, 2002:

Cabinet sends Ordinance for amending the Representation of People Act, to President for signature.

AUGUST 23, 2002:

President returns the Ordinance.

AUGUST 24, 2002:

Cabinet sends the Ordinance to the President a second time, the President signs, in keeping with the convention.

OCTOBER 2002:

PILs filed in Supreme Court, including one by ADR, challenging the constitutional validity of the amendment to the Representation of People Act, done by above Ordinance.

MARCH 13, 2003:

Supreme Court declares above amendment of the Representation of People Act as "illegal, null and void" and restores its May 02, 2002 judgment.

MARCH 27, 2003:

Election Commission issues orders implementing the Supreme Court judgment.

DECEMBER, 2002:

First Election Watch conducted for Gujarat Assembly Election

OUR MISSION

Our goal is to improve governance and strengthen democracy by continuous work in the area of Electoral and Political Reforms. The ambit and scope of work in this field is enormous, hence, ADR has chosen to concentrate its efforts in the following areas pertaining to the political system of the country:

- Corruption and criminalization in the political process;
- Empowerment of the electorate through greater dissemination of information relating to the candidates and the parties, for a better and informed choice;
- Need for greater accountability of Political Parties; and
- Need for inner-party democracy and transparency in party-functioning and in the disclosure of candidates' profiles;





OUR PROGRAMS



ADR, in its quest for improving governance and strengthening democracy, is implementing activities that can be broadly categorized under two programs:

Electoral Process Reform

Since the landmark judgment of the Supreme Court, ADR along with the NEW, has conducted Election Watches for the 2009 Lok Sabha elections, Rajya Sabha elections and almost all State Assembly elections post 2002 in the country. Under the Election Watch of Parliament and State Assembly elections, ADR discloses the background (criminal, financial educational and other) of candidates who are contesting the elections. Along with this disclosure, ADR has also started analyzing the

election expenditure of candidates. Also, in the effort of providing a more holistic analysis of elected representatives, the Election Watch program will now include analysis of the performance of MLAs and MPs based on select parameters.

The information dissemination happens through various media including the toll free helpline, Push and Pull SMS campaigns, press conferences, seminars and public meetings in states and districts etc. The events and awareness campaigns at the state and local levels are spearheaded by the state partners.

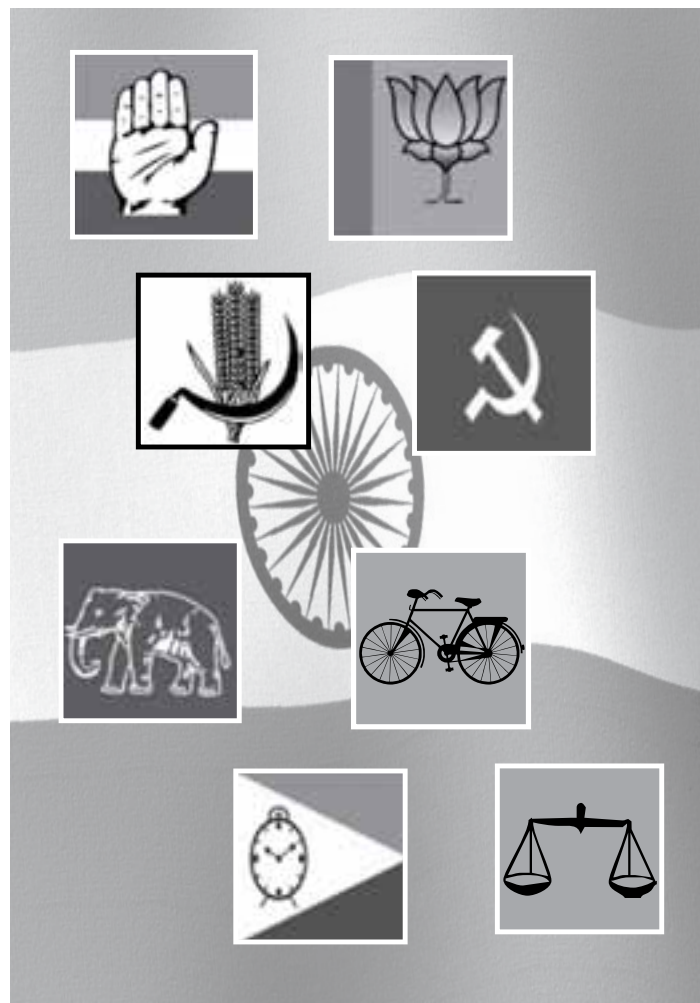
Election Watch has also expanded its focus to local body elections which includes Panchayat and Municipal bodies.

Political Process Reform

Political parties function as the key link between the people and their representatives, and thus, in their structure and working, political parties must adhere to democratic norms and transparency. ADR has been making several efforts to bring greater transparency and accountability in the functioning of political parties. It had sought disclosure of financial information by the political parties, in line with the recommendations of the Indrajit Gupta Committee Report (1998) on state funding of election expenses and the 170th report of the Law Commission. The Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) vide his order dated April 29, 2008, has held that copies of the Income Tax Returns of the political parties filed with the public authorities and the assessment orders passed on them will be available to the citizens. Taking it forward, ADR has been scrutinizing the copies of the IT Returns of political parties collected using RTI.

Additionally, ADR has been collating details on all state sponsored facilities being provided to political parties in an effort to strengthen its case with respect to a pending complaint with the CIC on declaration of political parties as 'public authorities'.

ADR currently has a number of pending RTI applications at various stages with a number



of Government institutions demanding greater transparency on various facets of our political and governance system.

Under the Political Party Watch Program, ADR has also started analysis of election expenses and also contribution reports of political parties.



OUR ACTIVITIES: 2011-2012

Election Watch

In close collaboration with our networking partners, ADR continues to conduct Election Watches during the Parliament and Assembly elections. We have expanded our scope to include election watch to the Rajya Sabha and local body elections. ADR has also successfully mobilized and networked with a large number of civil society organizations all over the country. This in turn has helped in taking the campaign to grass-roots while strengthening our network across the country.

State Assembly Elections

- Analysis of criminal, financial and other information of candidates and elected MLAs was conducted and disseminated in the Assembly elections of West Bengal, Assam, Kerala, Puducherry and Tamil Nadu in 2011.
- State Assembly elections, 2012 were held in 5 states - Manipur (60 seats),

Uttarakhand (70 seats), Punjab (117 seats), Uttar Pradesh (403 seats) and Goa (40 seats). ADR in collaboration with the Election Watch Chapter of each state organized various seminars, workshops and press conferences. Specific action plans and strategies for the upcoming elections were discussed and implemented in each state. Reports on criminal and financial details of the outgoing MLAS were released.



Press conference by Kerala Election Watch in Thiruvananthapuram



Press conference by UP Election Watch in Gorakhpur

Various press conferences organized were attended by the media, people from the civil society, senior bureaucrats and police officials. These conferences were widely covered by the state media.

- Various reports on the criminals, financial and other details of the candidates contesting were prepared and released much before the elections so that voters could make an informed choice.
- After the declaration of election results, reports on the winners were prepared and released.
- Analysis of the performance of outgoing MLAs of the five Assemblies and performance of the Legislative Assemblies themselves was released prior to the polls.
- The Election Watch process also included analysis of election expenses declared by the winners of the Assembly elections and releasing the information to the public.

- The above information was disseminated through various media including Press Conferences, toll free helplines, SMS campaigns, websites (myneta.info and adrindia.org) and outbound calls using Aamir Khan's voice messages.

Rajya Sabha Elections

- ADR and NEW have analyzed the criminal, financial and other information from the affidavits of all MPs of Rajya Sabha who contested in biennial elections in March 2012.

Local body elections – Mumbai, Delhi and Odisha

- Analysis of the criminal, financial, educational, IT and other information for candidates and elected representatives of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) elections in Mumbai and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) elections was analysed and release through press conference and various media.



Press conference held by UP Election Watch in Allahabad

- Election Watch was conducted by Odisha Election Watch (OEW) for Panchayat elections in Odisha. The EW team observed how candidates at different wards were using party symbols in hoarding and pamphlets for publicity, which is not allowed. OEW wrote a letter and met the State Election Commissioner with regard to the above issues. The SEC took immediate action and ordered the removal of symbols from campaign of ward panchayat candidates.

Bye Elections

- Election Watch also conducts an analysis of the background details of all candidates and elected representatives who stand in all bye elections. In 2011-2012, the bye elections for the

following states were covered: Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Lok Sabha.

Analysis of union cabinet disclosure of assets

- In early September, the Union Cabinet declared their financial details. ADR and NEW analysed the increase in assets of the Ministers from the 2009 Lok Sabha data. This information was widely circulated in the media. Since vital information regarding occupation and IT returns etc. was not furnished, ADR proposed to the PMO that disclosure should be made in the format prescribed by the ECI



Coordinators of the states which went for elections in 2012



Press conference held by Goa Election Watch in Panaji

Analysis of legislative councils

- Analysis of criminal, financial and other information of all members of the Legislative Council of UP and Bihar was undertaken and disseminated.

Analysis of State budget

- First ever report on Analysis on State Budget Allocation of Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand was released.

Meeting with the ECI

- Members of ADR and NEW (including State Coordinators of all five states that went for elections in 2011) met with the Chief Election Commissioner, Dr. S.Y. Quraishi and other members of the ECI in August 2011 to discuss experiences of Election Watch processes and putting forth recommendations regarding the electoral process. Most of the

ADR and NEW's series of recommendations for greater transparency and easier access to information during elections were accepted by the CEC.

Register of members interest – Rajya Sabha

- Post winning a Central Information Commission (CIC)'s order after a 2 year RTI struggle, ADR/NEW also helped put information in the Register of Members' Interest of the Rajya Sabha in the public domain. The register contains crucial information regarding remunerative directorship, shareholding of controlling nature, regular remunerative activity, paid consultancy and professional engagement of the Rajya Sabha members. This information was analysed and released widely. We are presently corresponding with the Speaker of the Lok Sabha to institute the same disclosure norms in the Lower House also.

Conference on role of media in elections, Patna

- ADR/NEW also conducted a conference on the 'Role of Media in Electoral Reforms' on the 28th of March 2012 in Patna. In the Conference, documents on the IT returns and contribution reports of major political parties, analysis of performance of the Bihar Assembly, Analysis of the Cabinet's asset declarations, analysis of the state budget and a letter to the CM by the Bihar Election Watch team making specific demands to improve transparency in the political system and to improve governance were released. These reports were widely circulated in local media.

Political Parties Watch

IT returns and assessment orders

- IT returns and assessment orders of all national



Annual National Conference – Discussion on Political party Draft bill



Citizens Convention held in West Bengal

parties and most regional parties of states where elections were conducted in the last two years have been analysed. They include the Indian National Congress, Bharatiya Janata Party, Bahujan Samaj Party, Nationalist Congress Party, Communist Party of India, Communist Party of India (Marxist), AIADMK, Shiromani Akali Dal, Janata Dal (United), Jammu & Kashmir National Conference and the Samajwadi Party.

- We have filed eight individual 2nd appeals with the CIC asking for Income Tax returns of MPs.
- ADR is also looking at the status of income tax filings of political parties. In the process, we have acquired details of political parties of 14 states.

Contributions

- We have also analyzed and released contribution (donation) details of all national and select regional parties. They include the Indian National Congress,

Bharatiya Janata Party, AIADMK, Communist Party of India, Nationalist Congress Party, Rashtriya Janata Dal, Shiv Sena, DMK, Rashtriya Janata Dal and the Rashtriya Lok Dal.

- The above information and corresponding analysis is available on www.adrindia.org website. This section of the website was inaugurated by the Chief Election Commissioner of India, Shri S.Y. Quraishi during the 7th Annual National Conference held in Chennai in February 2011.
- In September, ADR wrote to the CBDT regarding the irregularity in the system of donations received by political parties through donation coupons and highlighting the fact that there should be a thorough investigation and scrutiny of the source and flow of donations.



www.myneta.info

Political parties as public authorities

- We have a complaint pending with the CIC relating to “Political Parties as public Authorities”. Political parties are not under the purview of the RTI Act and the complaint is an effort towards them being declared as ‘public authorities’ under the said Act to enhance transparency in their functioning.

Communication and Information Technology

Information Technology is a very important tool used in the functioning of ADR’s programmes. It makes the processes of data entry, analysis and dissemination more effective and expedient.

- The adrindia.org website was completely re-vamped to increase user accessibility.



www.adrindia.org

- The Election Watch Software (EWS), which is the backbone of all our research work, has gone through a process of change and upgradation. EWS is the online tool used to feed information on antecedents of candidates. The changes were made to suit the new format of affidavits released by the ECI in 2011 and also for the analysis of election expenses. The online tool was also expanded to include information on the performance of MLAs and Assemblies.
- Initiatives undertaken to disseminate information on contesting candidates and elected representatives during all the elections include push and pull SMSs and Helpline campaigns. Initially voters used to acquire information about their MPs or MLAs by sending 'myneta' along with their pincode to 56070. However to make the campaign more user friendly and accessible the voters can now get information also by sending 'myneta' along with constituency name to 56070. Over 3 crore SMSs were sent to subscribers in all states going for elections through the push SMS service.
- Problems were faced because of the new TRAI guidelines and we have adopted other mechanisms to increase subscriber base. Of them was encouraging people to call 020 30590400 to hear Aamir Khan's message urging people to make an informed decision. Once a missed call is registered to this number, the caller is added to our subscriber database. Aamir Khan's voice message was also used to make



about 11 lakh calls to voters in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Manipur, Goa, Mumbai and Delhi urging them to make an informed decision and to give missed calls to the above number to subscribe to the SMS service.

- ADR is also present on **Facebook, Google Groups and Twitter** with approximately 40000 subscribers, to ensure that the information collated by it is disseminated as widely as possible





<https://www.facebook.com/adr.new>



<http://twitter.com/adrspeaks>

Some Lok Sabha 2009 statistics
There are 543 MPs in the present 15th Lok Sabha (2009) out of those ...

- 162 (30%) have declared pending criminal charges against them.
- 76 (14%) have serious criminal cases against them.
- 522 is the total number of criminal cases against them.
- 315 (58%) are crorepatis.
- 5.33 crores is the average assets per MP. Average assets per MP in 2009 Lok Sabha is about 3 times the average assets of the 2004 Lok Sabha which was 1.86 crores.
- 25 crorepati MPs do not have a PAN number
- 58 (11%) is the total number of women MPs

ELECTION 2012

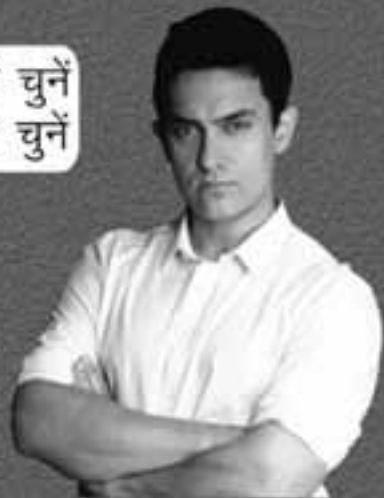
Your Democracy... Your Role...

Citizens are the most significant part of any democracy as they are the ones who choose leaders to represent them in the Parliament and State Assembly. An active electorate which is proactive and constantly demands answers will force the political parties not to field candidates who merely use their muscle and money power to influence voters and are seen as deserving.

1. Vote and encourage others to do the same.
2. Be aware about background information of candidates coming from your constituency and help others to become aware about the same.
3. Make an informed decision about your vote at the time of elections.
4. Support and encourage candidates with a clean track record.
5. Denounce candidates who use their money and clout to influence the decisions of the voters.
6. Use tools such as the Right to Information (RTI) to demand answers from your elected representatives.
7. Actively participate and engage with the civil society and also spread awareness amongst other people who are not aware of the same.

What electoral expenditures are illegal and a criminal offense?

- Paying bribe to the voters in the form of liquor, cash or any other inducement is a criminal offense.
- "Paid news" where any officer of a media organization is paid by the candidate to carry a news story is a criminal offense.
- Expenditure over Rs 10 lak by a candidate for election campaign is illegal.
- Giving advertisement for any candidate by any third party without his consent is a criminal offense and if given with his consent is considered part of the candidate's 16 lak limit.
- Printing election poster, handbills etc without prior notice is illegal.



अच्छे को चुनें
सच्चे को चुनें

For more information on MLAs and Candidates

SMS MYNETA (PINCODE) OR MYNETA (CONSTITUENCY NAME) TO 56070

INTERNET : www.myneta.info
PHONE : 1800-110-440
SMS : 56070 or 9246556070



RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION



Election watch publications

ADR has come out with several reports and pamphlets this year which was shared with the media and citizens. These publications have been widely appreciated and used by elected representatives and media. The publications that were published during this year are:

1. ***'Analysis of Criminal, Financial and Other details of MLAs of Outgoing Assemblies'*** – these reports was prepared for the states of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Manipur, Goa and Punjab. They were released in the respective states prior to the polls.
2. ADR also brought out a report on ***'The performance of Outgoing MLAs and Legislative Assemblies'*** for Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Manipur, Goa and Punjab. This report was released to the national media as well as the local media of the respective states prior to the Legislative Assembly polls.
3. A report was prepared and released on the ***Analysis of criminal and financial details of MPs of Rajya Sabha.*** The affidavits of 230 MPs out of 237 were analyzed by NEW and ADR.
4. ***Analysis of newly elected MLAs including***

Cabinet Ministers of 2012 Assembly Elections – reports were created for the recently held Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Manipur and Goa. These reports were based on the affidavits submitted by the candidates while filing their nominations.

5. **Analysis of Election Expenses of the newly elected MLAs** – A report was made on the election expenses declared by the MLAs of Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Manipur.
6. First time ever a report was released by ADR on the **Analysis of State Budget Allocation**

of Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

7. A report was released on the **Criminal, Financial and Other Details of Candidates Contesting and Newly Elected Councilors of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi 2012 elections.** ADR for the first time had covered the local body elections of any State and released its report to the media.
8. ADR also released a report on the analysis of criminal, financial and other background details of candidates and elected representatives at the **Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation Elections 2012.**



Citizens taking oath UP



THE YEAR IN MEDIA



THE ECONOMIC TIMES

India Inc Puts its Trust in Lawful Funding of Parties

Companies play it safe, contribute to all major parties

NAREN KARUNAKARAN
MUMBAI

The Aditya Birla Group increased its contribution to political parties about fourfold to ₹30.5 crore in 2009-10 while the Bharati Group cut it from ₹17 crore to zero. The two main national parties, Congress and BJP, received ₹84 crore and ₹82 crore, respectively, as contribution from all sources while a regional party like Sharad Pawar's NCP obtained only ₹3 crore.

The 2009-10 numbers of companies making legal donations to political parties, compiled by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), a Delhi-based civil society group, both reveal and conceal. What they reveal is a listing of the 36 corporate entities that donated ₹1 crore and more to political parties. They show a majority of companies don't want to be seen leaning towards one party and the gradual emergence of a more structured way of giving through 'electoral trusts'.

What they conceal is how misrepresentative this listing is. According to the Centre for Media Studies, political parties spent ₹10,000-16,000 crore during the 2009 national elections, implying that legal, transparent contributions by companies account for less than 2% of election spending.

The truth is more obvious: elections in India are fought on torrents of unaccounted money that flow from businesses of all hues to political parties. "Politicians, even those with a national stature, openly demand black money," laments Vishnubhai Haribhakti, chairman of audit firm Haribhakti & Co, and trustee of the General Electoral Trust of the Aditya Birla Group.

Congress and BJP received ₹84 crore and ₹82 crore, respectively, as donations from various sources

Even figures for above-board funding were not easy to come by. In spite of loud proclamations on transparency made by political parties and businesses, ADR had to ferret out the 2009-10 numbers from tax filings of political parties. A series of Right to Information applications moved by ADR were initially rebuffed by the parties. "We had to lodge a complaint with the chief information commissioner to get to these figures," says Anil Hairwal, national co-ordinator, ADR.

According to ADR data, the ₹35-billion Aditya Birla Group, with ₹30.5 crore in contributions, has emerged the largest corporate donor to parties in 2009-10.

Corporates gave to both Congress & BJP → 3

Top 10 Corporate Donors

Total of 36 corporate entities donated ₹1 crore or more to political parties

RANK	DONOR	AMOUNT (₹ CR)
1	General Electoral Trust (Aditya Birla Group)	30.6
2	Asianet TV Holding Pvt Ltd	12.5
3	Torrent Power Ltd	10.6
4	Electoral Trust (Tatas)	9.8
5	Infrastructure Development & Consultant	5.5
6	Hindustan Construction Co Ltd	5.0
7	ITC Limited	5.0
8	Sterlite Industries (India)	5.0
9	KSK Energy Venture Ltd.	4.0
10	Harmony Electoral Trust	3.5

Fig for 2009-10 SOURCE: Association for Democratic Reforms

Corporates Donate to Both Congress & BJP

Top Corporate Donors to Political Parties

The table ranks 36 corporate donors who have given ₹1 crore or more to political parties in 2009-10

RANK	DONOR	AMOUNT (₹ CR)	DONOR PARTY
1	General Electoral Trust (Aditya Birla Group)	30.6	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
2	Asianet TV Holding Pvt Ltd	12.5	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
3	Torrent Power Ltd	10.6	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
4	Electoral Trust (Tatas)	9.8	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
5	Infrastructure Development & Consultant	5.5	INC only
6	Hindustan Construction Co Ltd	5.0	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
7	ITC Limited	5.0	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
8	Sterlite Industries (India)	5.0	INC only
9	KSK Energy Ventures Ltd	4.0	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
10	Harmony Electoral Trust	3.5	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
11	Aditya Birla Group	3.0	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
12	Aditya Birla Group	2.5	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
13	Aditya Birla Group	2.0	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
14	Aditya Birla Group	1.5	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
15	Aditya Birla Group	1.0	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
16	Aditya Birla Group	1.0	Congress, BJP, NCP, INC, NDA, NPP
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INC: Indian National Congress; BJP: Bharatiya Janata Party; NCP: National Congress Party

→ From Page 1

The Aditya Birla Group has used ₹1.5 crore to finance the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and ₹1.5 crore to fund the Congress Party. The Aditya Birla Group has also used ₹1.5 crore to fund the Congress Party. The Aditya Birla Group has also used ₹1.5 crore to fund the Congress Party.

It was revealed that in the financial year 2007-08 and 2008-09, the Aditya Birla Group had used ₹1.5 crore to fund the Congress Party. The Aditya Birla Group has also used ₹1.5 crore to fund the Congress Party.

Following the Aditya Birla Group's decision to fund the Congress Party, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has also decided to fund the Congress Party. The Aditya Birla Group has also used ₹1.5 crore to fund the Congress Party.

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A significant majority of the top corporate donors are in the services sector, with many of them being part of the IT and software industry. The Aditya Birla Group has also used ₹1.5 crore to fund the Congress Party.

For example, ITC, which has used ₹5.0 crore to fund the Congress Party, is a major player in the textile and apparel industry. The Aditya Birla Group has also used ₹1.5 crore to fund the Congress Party.

The group wants to be seen as aligned with any political party for fear, it is not looking the wrong way, of getting the short end of the stick.

ANALYSIS
"The Aditya Birla Group's decision to fund the Congress Party is a clear signal of its support for the party. The Aditya Birla Group has also used ₹1.5 crore to fund the Congress Party."

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30th Anniversary
National C & F
30th Anniversary
National C & F
30th Anniversary
National C & F

NATIONAL C & F
We are a leading bank that has been serving the Indian community for over 100 years. We are a leading bank that has been serving the Indian community for over 100 years. We are a leading bank that has been serving the Indian community for over 100 years.

On taint-erhooks again

battlefield
Uttar
Pradesh

Gaurav Sainal

at gaurav.sainal@hindustantimes.com

LUCKNOW: And you thought it will be lesser evil this time round, given the broohaha over candidates having criminal background. Wishful thinking, one would say.

Analysis of the past affidavits of candidates declared by political parties for the February elections reveals 31%, and it is just the beginning, of them have a criminal track record. Uttar Pradesh presently leads the chart among five states going to polls with 35% of its present MLAs having criminal cases pending against them.

That way, 36 BJP candidates (as of now) have a criminal background. Of these 18 have serious criminal cases registered against them. The Congress too has decided to give ticket to an equal number of tainted candidates.

Samajwadi Party has given



AAMIR KHAN/POPSON

LUCKNOW: Two lakh voters in Uttar Pradesh will get personalised call under a campaign by the National Election Watch (NEW). The phone call will ask the recipient to use their votes judiciously and vote for a clean and efficient candidate. "We are also going to start a helpline for people where they can report any anomaly during the polling. This information will be passed on to the district magistrate

or the appropriate authority for action against the defaulter," said Shruti Nagvanshi. Also, two short films have been made available on the website of the NEW. One of the films has Aamir Khan asking people to vote for the right candidate. The voters can also listen to Aamir Khan's appeal by dialing 020305690400. The film is of 45 second duration and the phone appeal will be of 30 sec. **HTC**

ticket to 24 candidates with criminal background while the Rashtriya Lok Dal has given ticket to one candidate with criminal background.

"We could lay our hand on the past affidavits of only 248 candidates, of which 77 were found having criminal background. More tickets will be given in near future and there can always be a rise in the number of candidates with criminal track record," said IC Divedi, former UP-DGP and a member of National Election-Watch (NEW) that made the study public on Friday.

Charged against these candidates include rioting, attempt to murder and murder, said

Shruti Nagvanshi, also of NEW.

Commenting upon the misuse of public money in the state, the NEW members said assets of MLAs increased and so did the fiscal deficit of the state. Salaries of government officials, pension and interest upon loan taken comprised 60% of the expenditure made by the state.

"Fiscal deficit that was Rs 13,794 crore in 2007-08, according to the CAG report, reached to Rs 18,693 crore in 2009-10. This clearly indicates the state's revenue is less than its expenditure, especially the non plan budget," said Sanjay Singh, another NEW member.

Comparing UP with other

states going to polls, the NEW members said in Punjab 20 MLAs out of the total 117 had criminal cases against them, while in Uttarakhand there were 17 such MLAs of the total 70 MLAs. Manipur with 60 MLAs only had one with criminal case, while in Goa nine out of the 40 MLAs had criminal cases against them.

On the list of Uttar Pradesh MLAs with criminal cases, the top three positions are held by Dhirendra Pratap Singh (Balrampur) with 29 cases, including attempt to murder, followed by Shushil Kumar (Chandausi) with 14 cases and then Ram Prakash Yadav with 11 cases.

IN NUMBERS

₹87.27 CRORE

the UP CM has the highest assets among the CMs of five poll-bound states

₹9.20 CRORE

the assets of the Punjab CM

₹3.23 CRORE

the assets of the Goa CM

₹1.69 CRORE

the assets of the Uttarakhand CM

₹6,09,472,

the assets of the Manipur CM

143,

MLAs from UP have criminal cases against them

127 out of total

403 MLAs in UP are criminals

6% MLAs in UP are female

FIGURES BY IITM

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Aamir Khan calls Punjabis to vote sensibly

Alkesh Sharma, TNN Jan 29, 2012

CHANDIGARH: A surprise call from Bollywood's "clean" actor Aamir Khan is now urging residents of Punjab to exercise their right to vote and choose the most honest candidate. The call comes from an unknown landline number and the voice on the other side says, "Main Aamir Khan baat kar raha hoon... aap sab vote kijiye aur soch samajh kar sabse imandaar aur saaf record vale candidate ko hi vote dejiye (This is Aamir Khan calling... all of you must think and vote to pick a candidate who is most honest and has a clean record)."

First-time voter Sunny Shergill, 23, was taken aback by the call but said it served the purpose of encouraging him to vote sensibly. "Though it was both shocking and surprising, it was a wake-up-call for me. Initially, I thought somebody was playing a prank but after listening carefully I realized that it was actually Aamir Khan's voice," said Sunny, who is a resident of Zirakpur in Punjab.

Kritika Sehgal, 22, an engineering student and another first-time voter, said she thought Aamir was actually talking to her. "I was at home when I got the call and yelled out to my family members that Aamir was on the line. But then I realized that it was only a recorded message. Anyways, the message from my favourite star has motivated me to vote otherwise I had decided to boycott the polls."

Khan's one-minute recorded message is being played randomly on selected numbers by Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), an NGO. "Aamir Khan is known for his clean, non-aligned image and has emerged as a role model for many youths. One of my colleagues happened to meet him while he was shooting for 'Three Idiots' at IIM-Bangalore. He had expressed his desire to volunteer, without charging any money, so we roped him in," said professor Jagdeep Chhokar, founder member of ADR. Chhokar added that the messages are being flashed in all states going to polls. "Three short films of Aamir have also been uploaded on our website to inspire people for clean voting," he said.

These affidavits defy all logic

CONTESTANT CLAIMS While a fishmonger declares assets worth crores of rupees, the standing committee chairman doesn't own a house or car

Kunal Parshil

www.punjabharyana.com

WINDA: The list of 71-year-old Hira Parshil, a Mahila Sena Nizamuddin Sena candidate from ward no. 224 in Connaught Place, would stump anyone, though it would also make the person turn green with envy. In her affidavit, Parshil has stated that she is a fish-seller, but she's probably the only fish-seller in Mumbai whose assets total to Rs 6.82 crore.

This does not include three trucks she owns or the Toyota Fortuner she also owned. Parshil's residential address is in Connaught Place, and she owns three shops in Vashi. However, she owns only an 800 sq ft plot in Dombivli.

In the case of Shilpa Sena candidate Prasad Sena, it is certainly not a problem of excess. Sena, a businessman, is logged in as a fish-seller. His affidavit is anything to go by, Sena claims to have assets of around Rs 8 lakh, a Mahindra Xylo and 200 grams of gold, but his loans and liabilities are almost eight times that amount at Rs 60 lakh.

Former Sena leader and two-time corporate board member, who is the chairman of the city

standing committee, which controls all big expenditures made by the city body, lists his assets at Rs 1.57 lakh in addition to 300 grams of gold. Neither he nor his wife owns a house or a car.

Another Sena candidate, Ganesh Sankar, has no vehicle, but he owns an automobile. This contestant from ward no. 224 (Indira Park and Mahatma Phule market), however, owns only a shanty near St George hospital, which is worth Rs 4 lakh. The automobile that Sankar, a printing press owner, bought in 2011 costs Rs 7 lakh.

The affidavit filed by contestant Hiran Prasad, who makes her political leanings transparent, is in the space left for her party's name, she has written Indian National Congress, but her second profession is a syndicator, after the police. In the list, the Bharatiya Janata Party's symbol.

Desired a Congress ticket, Sena will fight as an independent from ward no. 225 in Colaba.

A two-time Congress opponent, on condition of anonymity, said: "Filing or evading information in the affidavits may make or break you next five years. No wonder then that you see discrepancies and logic-defying information."

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Here's what some of the candidates who will contest the February 16 civic polls have claimed in their affidavits

HIS VEHICLE COSTS MORE THAN HIS HOUSE

GANESH SANKAR, 32 (Bharatiya Sena) candidate from ward no. 224 (Mahatma Phule market to Indira Park)

Owens a 280 sq ft shanty next to St George hospital, which is worth just Rs 4 lakh, but has bought an automobile in 2011 worth Rs 7.27 lakh.

Has a criminal case against him for criminal intimidation, trespassing and causing grievous injury to a public servant.

SELLS FISH FOR A LIVING, HAS RS 6.82 CRORE

HIRA PARSHIL, 71 (BJP) candidate from ward no. 226 (Classroom Dock to Ganga Nagar)

She owns two trucks and a Toyota Fortuner.

Though she mentions her place of residence as Colaba, she claims to own a house in Dombivli.

She has gold worth Rs 200 lakh.

THIS CONTESTANT HAS BIG DEBTS TO PAY OFF

PRASAD SANKAR, 40 (Bharatiya Sena) candidate from ward no. 74 (Marol)

Sankar's affidavit lists his assets at around Rs 1 lakh. He owns 200 grams of gold and a Mahindra Xylo.

However, against these assets, he lists and liabilities stack up to a whopping Rs 6 lakh, almost eight times his assets.

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN HAS NO HOUSE OR CAR

RAJESH SHEWALE (Bharatiya Sena) candidate from ward no. 134 (Marolli village)

He controls the Subhansarovar Municipal Corporation's money strings, but has little to show for himself in his affidavit.

The two-time standing committee chairman claims to have assets worth only Rs 35,877 lakh. Strangely, neither him nor his family owns a house or a car.

KNOW YOUR CANDIDATE

Hindustan Times publishes information from affidavits filed by prominent poll contestants.



VINOD SHEKHAR (Congress) candidate from ward 227 (Colaba to KC church)
Profession: businessman



Education: B.A. (Hons)

TOTAL ASSETS ₹1.83 crore

Cash: ₹12,000

Vehicles: 1998 Honda CR2-162,000
Toyota Innova: ₹12,00,000

Deposits, Shares and Savings: ₹1,81,20,000

IMMOBILE ASSETS:

Factory: 12,000 sq ft factory in Badlapur (part-ward) ₹15,00,000

Flats: 250 sq ft house in Kurla (West) ₹7,50,000

5% share in 3 houses: ₹10,50,000

Liabilities: Nil



RAJESH PATEL (Bharatiya Sena) candidate from Ward 53 (Sweet Sarnath Nagar, Andheri (N))
Profession: Private tuition teacher



Education: PGD

TOTAL ASSETS ₹13.14 lakh

Cash: ₹2,50,000

Vehicles: Toyota Qualis

Deposits, Shares and Savings: ₹12,64,000

IMMOBILE ASSETS: None

Liabilities: Nil

'Internal democracy among political parties shunned'

Hindustan Times, 29 March 2012

HT Correspondent

htcorrespondent@hindustantimes.com

WINDA: Undemocratic system of operation of political parties and lack of transparency has led to circulation of black money in elections with candidates not flinching to use muscle and money power to get tickets, said Trilokan Sastry, founder, Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR).

Addressing a workshop on 'Electoral reforms and the role of media' jointly organised by ADR, Bihar Election Watch (BEW) and National Election Watch (NEW) here on Wednesday, Sastry said it was impossible to bring in electoral reforms without reforming political parties. "A strong bill needs to be passed, forcing reforms in political parties," he asserted.

Alarming 'money-factor'

In a letter addressed to chief minister Nitish Kumar, BEW pointed out that 140 people's representatives had criminal history. The largest chunk of the state's revenue (nearly 80%) came from the Centre in 2007-08. Of this, 54% was spent on salary, pension and subsidy. An analysis of funds received by four major political parties in 2008-09 and 2009-10 revealed that BJP got the largest share of ₹419 crore in 2008-09. Grants formed

90% of funds received by JD (U) earning ₹8 crore during 2008-09 and 2009-10. Congress received ₹1,029 crore towards party fund. During 2008-09 and 2009-10, Congress' income was the highest at ₹1,022.85 crore with BJP coming second with income of ₹478.02 crore. JD (U) took the third spot with an income of ₹305.55 crore and RJD notched up ₹8.5 crore for fourth place, BEW claimed.

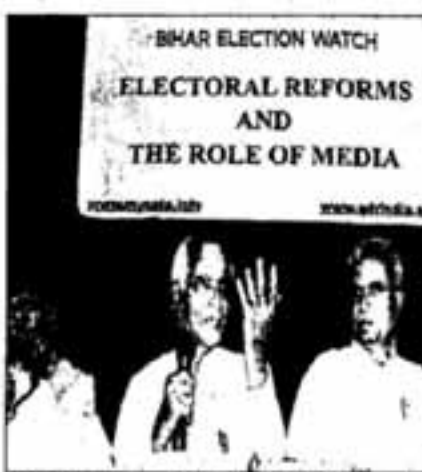
HTC, PATNA

Regretting that political parties still give tickets to persons with criminal antecedents, Sastry wondered how such persons

could be expected to raise their voice against corruption. "The rich are getting richer and the poor are becoming poorer, even

as legislature sittings are declining," he added.

After ban on use of muscle power, money factor has become the most dependable 'winning factor' for political parties, said Anil Bairwal, national coordinator, NEW. He expressed concern over use of black money in the just-concluded assembly elections in five states. Former MLC, PK Sinha said although electoral violence has largely been controlled due to election commission (EC) initiatives, internal democracy in political parties has completely vanished, making it difficult for decent candidates to get tickets. He urged the EC to launch a positive initiative in this regard, especially in parties where party constitutions were being flagrantly violated. Janata Dal (United) (JD-U) leader Ramachan Rai, senior



Experts at a workshop on 'Electoral reforms and the role of media' in Patna on Wednesday. (SANTOSH/PT PHOTO)

journalists Sankar Nagarjan, Anurag Tiwari, Manikant Thakur, Sanjay Pathi and repre-

sentatives of voluntary organisations also addressed the workshop.

MLAs STRIKE RICH IN MANIPUR

The average growth of assets of the re-contesting MLAs is Rs 98,08,956 -- a whopping 414 per cent growth >>>



BY NAVA THAKURIA

Insurgency is synonymous with the socio-political landscape of Manipur. Besides the insurgent leaders of nearly 15 armed outfits and their well-wishers, those benefited with the ongoing separatist movement in the land of classical Manipuri dances, splendid theatres and morning artworks, are the politicians. In the absence of a free and fair atmosphere for the growth of conscious civil society groups, these political party leaders play the role of saviour and that way they earn their dividend with huge amount of monetary growth.

In fact, while the common people are worst hit due to extortion, insecurity and unbelievable high prices of essential commodities, political party candidates for the 60-member Manipur Assembly election, scheduled on January 28, have shown nearly 400 % of growth of their properties in the last few years. Primarily, those MLAs seeking re-election have established their huge property growth. Many of them are also not free from criminal charges.

A recent study shows that at least 33 candidates are *Crorepatis*. But most of them have never filed their income tax returns. Amazingly, over 85 candidates have not given PAN details in their affidavits submitted to the election officers.

"Out of 258 candidates analyzed, the number of re-contesting MLAs is 41 and significantly their average assets (as declared in nomination papers) is Rs 1,21,78,887. But the average assets of these MLAs as declared in 2007 was Rs 23,69,931", said Tasaduk Ariful Hussain, regional coordinator of North East Election Watch, which studied the profile of the candidates.

Mr. Hussain also added that the average growth of assets for the re-contesting MLAs is Rs 98,08,956 and hence the percentage growth of assets is reported as high as 414 percent. The Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and the National Election Watch (NEW) with the help of like minded NGOs and other civil society groups have been working on electoral reforms and improvement of democratic process in India. The analysis is a part of their activities to expose the candidates vying for Legislative or Parliamentary space.

The first three richest candidates in the Manipur polls belong to the Congress, as T.N. Haokip tops the list of crorepatis (with assets of over

Rs 10 crore). Another Congress leader, Alfred Kanngam Arthur, followed him with assets of Rs 7 crore and Biren Singh shows his assets of over Rs 5 crore. Others who follow in the list include Rki Singh (MSCP - 2.68 crore), Kh Govindas (Congress - 2.49 crore), Sehpu Haokip (NFP - 2.45 crore), Haokholet Kipgen (NFP -- 2.38 crore), Thangzalam Haokip (AITC - 2.36 crore), Ginsuanhau (Congress - 2.32 crore) Radhabusod Kojiam (NCP - 2.24 crore) and so on.

The analysis also shows that out of the 258 candidates, at least three candidates (Alhaj Md. Ahmed Ali of Congress, Laishram Kadamjit Singh of MSCP and Kongkhom Maglem Singh of AITC) have pending criminal charges against them. A comparison of candidates with pending criminal cases in the election in 2007 and the upcoming polls shows that the number of candidates with pending criminal cases has increased this time.

The ruling Congress is seeking re-election for the third consecutive term. It has committed itself to 'fight corruption by effectively enforcing the Lokayukta' in the State. The party poll manifesto tries to woo people with the pledge of revoking the controversial Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act 1958 from Manipur, if voted to power again.

यूपी की सोलहवीं विधानसभा के 47 प्रतिशत हिस्से में होंगे विसाजमान

189 विधायक आपराधिक छवि वाले

डी.डी. सानु नई दिल्ली

उत्तर प्रदेश की सोलहवीं विधानसभा के 47 प्रतिशत विधायकों के पास अपराधिक छवि वाले विधायकों का नाम है। इनमें से 129 विधायकों की अपराधिक छवि है, इनमें से 104 विधायकों की अपराधिक छवि है, इनमें से 40 विधायकों की अपराधिक छवि है। इनमें से 104 विधायकों की अपराधिक छवि है, इनमें से 40 विधायकों की अपराधिक छवि है। इनमें से 104 विधायकों की अपराधिक छवि है, इनमें से 40 विधायकों की अपराधिक छवि है। इनमें से 104 विधायकों की अपराधिक छवि है, इनमें से 40 विधायकों की अपराधिक छवि है।



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भर्ती का प्रतिशत बढ़ाने में भी सफल रही आग

नई दिल्ली

उत्तर प्रदेश के सैनिक विभाग का भर्ती में सफल होना से सैनिकों की संख्या में वृद्धि हुई है। भर्ती में 45 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है। 2007 के मुकाबले 372 सैनिकों का भर्ती हुआ है। इनमें से 129 सैनिकों का भर्ती हुआ है। इनमें से 40 सैनिकों का भर्ती हुआ है। इनमें से 104 सैनिकों का भर्ती हुआ है, इनमें से 40 सैनिकों का भर्ती हुआ है। इनमें से 104 सैनिकों का भर्ती हुआ है, इनमें से 40 सैनिकों का भर्ती हुआ है।



नई दिल्ली: उत्तर प्रदेश के सैनिक विभाग का भर्ती में सफल होना से सैनिकों की संख्या में वृद्धि हुई है।

परिवर्तन के लिए खुद पहल करनी होगी : शास्त्री

हल्द्वानी (एसएनबी)। आईआईएम के डीन प्रो. क्लिफ्टन शास्त्री ने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवार को वोट ना दिया जाये। इससे सकारात्मक परिवर्तन आएगा और क्षेत्र का विकास होगा। परिवर्तन के लिए खुद ही पहल करनी होगी और अपने को अंदर से टटोलना पड़ेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवारों से विकास की

मतदाता और नागरिक को लोकतंत्र में व्याप्त चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए स्वयं से प्रयास करने होंगे।

चुनाव आयोग, राजनीतिक पार्टियों,

नहीं मिला बोलने का मौका, नाराजगी जताई

हल्द्वानी। एम्बी कालेज में आयोजित संगोष्ठी में मौजूद अधिकतर लोगों को बोलने का मौका नहीं दिया गया। महज चार प्रश्नोत्तरों के बाद ही मुख्य वक्ता के सम्बोधन पर लोगों ने गहरी नाराजगी जताई। संगोष्ठी में भाग लेने आए राज्य असेंबली-कमिटी व भाजपा सहकारिता प्रकोष्ठ प्रदेश संयोजक हनुम सिंह कुंवर ने कहा कि आयोजकों ने आमतौर पर जारी कर दिये विचार रखने के लिए बुलाया था, लेकिन उन्हें और उनके कई साथियों को बोलने का अवसर ही नहीं दिया गया। श्री कुंवर ने इस पर गहरी नाराजगी जताई है।

सामाजिक संगठनों व अन्य लोगों से सुधार की अपेक्षा छोड़ने होगी। कोई भी उम्मीदवार यदि वोट खरीदने की कोशिश करे तो उसे वोट ना न या फिर उससे विकास की अपेक्षा न करें। इस अवसर पर प्राध्यापक गिरिजा पांडेय ने कहा कि लोकतंत्र की मजबूती के लिए आवश्यक है कि अपने कार्यक्षेत्र, पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को मजबूत किया जाये। इच्छा शक्ति और ऊर्जा को सुदृढ़ किया जाए और संकीर्णताओं को दूर करने में भागीदारी की जाये।

अभियान संयोजक प्रो प्रभात उप्रेती ने कहा कि सुशासन के लिए सभी को जागना होगा। अनंद उप्रेती, ताराचंद्र त्रिपाठी, ओपी पांडे ने भी अपने विचार संगोष्ठी में रखे। इस मौके पर सुभाष कांडपाल, सुभाष कांडपाल, कमल नेगी, तरुण जोशी, हनुम सिंह कुंवर, तन्वी शर्मा, नवीन पनेरू, गुरुविन्दर चहू, एनसी मिश्रा, राजू नेगी, महेश बावड़ी, एआर पंत, मनोज जोशी, जनार्दन पंत, डा. बसंती पाठक, प्रो. उमा भट्ट सहित तमाम लोग मौजूद थे।

- ▶ लोकतंत्र : चुनौतियाँ और संभावनाओं पर संगोष्ठी आयोजित
- ▶ वोट खरीदने वालों से विकास की उम्मीद बेमानी

उम्मीद नहीं की जा सकती।

श्री शास्त्री रविवार को एम्बी कालेज में आइये अपने से शुरू करें अभियान, एसोसिएशन फार डेमोक्रेटिक रिफार्म और नेशनल इलेक्शन वॉच के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में आयोजित संगोष्ठी को बाह्य मुख्य वक्ता सम्बोधित कर रहे थे। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रत्येक

हिन्दुस्तान

राजस्थान में राष्ट्रीय लोक जनता पार्टी

गलत लोगों को खारिज करे जनता

राजस्थान • इन्दौर • 10 अक्टूबर

राजस्थान लोक जनता पार्टी के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष प्रो. क्लिफ्टन शास्त्री ने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवार को वोट ना दिया जाये। इससे सकारात्मक परिवर्तन आएगा और क्षेत्र का विकास होगा। परिवर्तन के लिए खुद ही पहल करनी होगी और अपने को अंदर से टटोलना पड़ेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवारों से विकास की



इन्दौर में राष्ट्रीय लोक जनता पार्टी के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष प्रो. क्लिफ्टन शास्त्री ने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवार को वोट ना दिया जाये।

राज्य के विकास के लिए खुद को तैयार करना पड़ेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवारों से विकास की उम्मीद बेमानी है। उन्होंने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवारों से विकास की उम्मीद बेमानी है। उन्होंने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवारों से विकास की उम्मीद बेमानी है।

उन्होंने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवारों से विकास की उम्मीद बेमानी है। उन्होंने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवारों से विकास की उम्मीद बेमानी है। उन्होंने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवारों से विकास की उम्मीद बेमानी है।

उत्तर उजाला

मतदाताओं का जागरूक होना आवश्यक

बसंत मोहंता या साधुपूरुव जय : राजा

राजस्थान में राष्ट्रीय लोक जनता पार्टी के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष प्रो. क्लिफ्टन शास्त्री ने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवार को वोट ना दिया जाये। इससे सकारात्मक परिवर्तन आएगा और क्षेत्र का विकास होगा। परिवर्तन के लिए खुद ही पहल करनी होगी और अपने को अंदर से टटोलना पड़ेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि वोट खरीदने वाले उम्मीदवारों से विकास की



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गोमन्तक निवडणूकनामा

विधानसभा निवडणूक २०१२

GOMANTAK - MARATHI DAILY

पन्ना १ | बुधवार, २ मार्च २०१२ | ११

राज्यात ८० टक्के मतदान शक्य!



'इलेक्शन वॉच'चा अंदाज; 'माय नेता' संकितस्थळावर पाहू उमेदवारांची माहिती

विधानसभा कायदात सध १५ दिवस; ८४ वेंटा ठरवू

सध १५ दिवस; ८४ वेंटा ठरवू. 'इलेक्शन वॉच'चा अंदाज; 'माय नेता' संकितस्थळावर पाहू उमेदवारांची माहिती. राज्यात ८० टक्के मतदान शक्य! विधानसभा कायदात सध १५ दिवस; ८४ वेंटा ठरवू.

विधानसभा कायदात सध १५ दिवस; ८४ वेंटा ठरवू. 'इलेक्शन वॉच'चा अंदाज; 'माय नेता' संकितस्थळावर पाहू उमेदवारांची माहिती. राज्यात ८० टक्के मतदान शक्य!

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200% increase in assets of MLAs since 2007: ADR report

Mining linked MLA Shyam Satardekar has highest wealth increase from Rs 4.89 crore to Rs 30.20 crore

Average worth of Cong MLA up to Rs 10.74 crore from Rs 3.90 crore

TEAM HERALD 21 Feb 2012
www.thesherald.com
PANJIM: The assets of the sitting MLAs who are re-contesting the elections have grown by an average of 200% with the highest growth worth being that of Shyam Satardekar whose value has shot up from Rs 4.89 crore in 2007 to Rs 30.20 crore in 2012.
 Statistics revealed by the Association of Democratic Reformers' Goa Election Watch also revealed that candidates who are not rich are not usually favoured by major political parties.
 According to the statistics, which are based solely on the affidavits filed by the

- "Sab ban gaya crorepati"**
- Joaquim Alornao from Cuncolim whose assets increased from Rs 9.12 crore to Rs 31.26 crore
 - Pratapsingh Rane also showed an increase of assets of Rs 17.04 crore from Rs 8.82 crore to Rs 25.87 crore.

candidates submitted both now and last elections, the 35 candidates that are re-contesting have an average growth in assets to the tune of Rs 5.39 crore.
 At the top of the list lies Shyam Satardekar from Curchorem whose assets grew from Rs 4.89 crore to Rs 30.20 crore. He is followed by Joaquim Alornao from Cuncolim whose as-

sets increased from Rs 9.12 crore to Rs 31.26 crore an increase of Rs 22.13 crore. Pratapsingh Rane also showed an increase of assets of Rs 17.04 crore from Rs 8.82 crore to Rs 25.87 crore.
 It is interesting to note that both Satardekar and Joaquim are involved in the mining business and the resulting increase in assets is

only a reflection of the mining boom that they profited from in the last five years.
 Percentage wise Aleixo Reginaldo's assets grew by a whopping 1559% from Rs 7 lakh in 2007 to Rs 1.16 crore in 2012. Pratap Ganis' assets grew by 1526% from Rs 5.58 lakh to Rs 90.81 lakh while Nilkanth Halarnkar's assets grew by 968% from Rs 30 lakh to Rs 3.21 crore in 2012.
 It is also interesting to note that all the MLAs who have made it big are from the ruling party and none from the opposition.
 However, this is not to say opposition MLAs did
Continued on pg 16

'Bishnoi with Rs. 48 crore tops Hissar assets'

NEW DELHI, October 12, 2011

Congress candidate in Hissar Jai Parkash has an asset of about Rs. 3 crore, while his main rivals, Kuldeep Bishnoi of the Haryana Janhit Congress [Bhajan Lal] and Ajay Singh Chautala of the Indian National Lok Dal, have assets of about Rs. 48 crore and Rs. 40 crore, according to an analysis by National Election Watch, a coalition of NGOs.

It has analysed the affidavits of 15 of the 40 candidates in the fray in the Lok Sabha by-election in Haryana.

Mr. Bishnoi is found to have the biggest assets, followed by Mr. Chautala. Also, his assets have increased by about Rs.31 crore, while that of Mr. Chautala have risen by Rs. 10 crore since 2009. The assets of Mr. Jai Parkash have gone up by about Rs. 2.5 crore.

Criminal cases are pending against Mr. Chauthala (two) and Mr. Bishnoi (one), but there is none against Mr. Jai Prakash.

However, Team Anna is campaigning against Mr. Jai Prakash on the ground that the Congress leadership is dragging its feet on the Jan Lokpal Bill.

A comparison of the assets and other details of the candidates have been uploaded on the website of National Election Watch.

It is a nationwide campaign, comprising more than 1,200 non-governmental organisations and other citizen-led bodies working for electoral reforms, improving democracy and governance in the country.

Bellary Rural bye-poll: Former BJP minister has eight criminal cases

By Newzfirst 11/23/11

BELLARY - Two out of eight candidates contesting in forthcoming Bellary-Rural bye-poll have criminal cases pending against them; B Sriramulu, an independent candidate and former minister, has 8 criminal cases pending against him while B Anjinappa, another independent candidate has 3 criminal cases pending against him, reveals Association for Democratic Reforms.

Also, B Sriramulu, close aid of Janaradhan Reddy presently lodged in Jail in connection with illegal mining cases, is the richest candidate with the assets of Rs. 40 crore followed by P Gadilingappa from BJP who has the assets worth Rs. 28 crore.

Hissar bypoll: Bishnoi richest, Jai Prakash has no cases

New Delhi, Wed Oct 12 2011

Amid the clamour of Team Anna for voting any candidate except the Congress nominee in the October 13 by-election to the Hissar Lok Sabha constituency, interesting statistics have surfaced regarding the candidates' assets and criminal cases pending against them.

According to the data compiled by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) from the affidavits filed by the candidates, Kuldeep Bishnoi of the Haryana Janhit Congress (BJ) is the richest candidate in the fray with a net worth of over Rs 48.85 crore. He also has a criminal case pending against him.

Ajay Singh Chautala of the Indian National Lok Dal, which is the main opposition party in Haryana Vidhan Sabha, has two criminal cases pending against him and is worth over Rs 40 crore.

The Congress nominee Jai Prakash is, however, worth Rs 3.16 crore and has no criminal case pending against him.

Since the 2009 Lok Sabha election, Bishnoi's assets have grown from over Rs 17.30 crore to Rs 48.85 crore, a whopping increase of Rs 31.55 crore or 182 per cent. He was booked in March last year by the Chandigarh Police for, among other things, rioting.

As for Chautala, since the 2009 elections, his assets have grown from Rs 29.97 crore to Rs 40.16 crore, an increase of 10.19 crore or 34 per cent. Among other things, Chautala is in the dock after a case was filed against him and other members of his family by the CBI for corruption and possessing assets disproportionate to known sources of income. Sometime ago, a Delhi court framed charges against him for allegedly possessing wealth exceeding his known sources of income.

He is also an accused in another corruption case by the CBI pertaining to selection of JBT teachers by a previous Haryana government headed by his father and INLD chief Om Prakash Chautala. The CBI chargesheet drew inspiration from a chargesheet submitted to the Haryana Governor by the Congress in 2004, which was prepared by a team comprising present Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, former finance minister Birender Singh, Palwal MLA Karan Singh Dalal and senior advocate Mohan Jain, who is now an additional solicitor general.

The assets of Congress candidate Jai Prakash have grown the most since the last Lok Sabha elections. While he was worth Rs 65.58 lakhs in 2009, his current worth is over Rs 3.16 crore, a jump of Rs 2.5 crore or 383 per cent.

Chautala is the most literate among the three main candidates, having a doctorate. While Bishnoi is a graduate, Jai Prakash has cleared Plus Two only.

Says Anil Bairwal, national coordinator, ADR: "It doesn't matter which party you vote for. All candidates are the same. Basically, unless the larger issue of parties fielding only clean candidates is dealt with, the voter will continue to have limited choices."



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS: 2011-2012

- Election Watch processes were conducted for all the 10 Assembly elections (in the states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, Puducherry and Assam in 2011 and Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur in 2012) with laudable participation from state and regional partners. Information on the criminal, financial, Income Tax Returns, education, age and gender details of candidates and elected representatives was released to the voters through press releases, SMS and mobile campaigns, websites and toll free helplines operating from partners' offices. The Press Releases received wide coverage in national and regional media. The members of the ADR team in Delhi and the respective state coordinators also participated in several discussions in national and local channels.
- Information on the election expenses of all newly elected MLAs in 2011 was also released to the media and citizens.
- Apart from Assembly elections, the Election Watch program also covered the following:
 - Rajya Sabha (Upper House) elections



- Select Vidhan Parishad (Legislative Councils) elections
- Bye elections and
- Select Panchayat and Municipal body elections



CEO Mr. Umesh Sinha with Uttar Pradesh Election Watch

- ADR and NEW also analyzed information on the performance of select MLAs and Legislative Assemblies based on select parameters.
- The Election Commission of India entrusted the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) with the task of developing accounting format for political parties. In March 2012, it gave its approval to the format designed which when notified, will be a significant step towards enhancing transparency and accountability in the finances of political parties.
- After a two year long RTI battle, crucial information on the 'Registers of Members' Interest' was finally mandated by the Central Information Commission (the highest nodal body under the Right to Information Act) to be available in the public domain on 3rd

June, 2011. This information was analyzed and released to the media. It received wide coverage.

- IT returns and assessment orders of all national parties and regional parties of states that went to elections in the last two years were



Election Commissioner Mr. H.S. Brahma releasing Election Watch reports

analyzed and released in an effort to bring more transparency.

- We have also analyzed and released contribution (donation) details of all national and select regional parties.
- The meeting of the ADR members and select state coordinators with the Chief Election Commissioner, Sh. Quraishi and his team in August 2011 to discuss certain recommendations increase transparency and ensuring of free and fair elections was successful. The CEC accepted almost all recommendations put forth by the ADR/NEW members.
- The adrindia.org website was completely revamped for the process of increasing user accessibility.
- Under the Out Bound Call service using Aamir Khan's voice message, about 11 lakh calls were made to voters.
- Under the Push and Pull SMS services, SMSs were sent to about 3 crore subscribers urging voters to participate in free and fair elections.
- ADR participated in TEDxIIMB on 4th January, 2012. TEDx is an event where journalists, spiritualists, sports personalities, marketers, behaviour architects among many others share their experiences and ideas themed around 'Unconventional Paradigms'.



Campaign by youth



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS TILL DATE

- ADR has representation in the task force set up by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) to evolve a National Strategy to Combat Corruption. ADR has been asked formally to be part of this committee.
- ADR has also been invited to be on the Working Group on Governance in the National Advisory Council (NAC) which is chaired by the UPA Chairperson.
- In December 2011 ADR won the NASSCOM award for ICT led Innovation by Multi-stakeholder Partnerships. This award was for the Election Watch software of ADR and Webrosoft
- The frequency of voluntary disclosure of assets has increased. State cabinets of Bihar (2010) and Uttarakhand (2011) have declared their assets voluntarily and the PMO declared the assets of the Union Cabinet in 2011 in a move towards greater transparency.
- In July 2010 Secretary General of Lok Sabha P D T Achary said “Criminals being elected to the Assembly is a serious issue that needs to be addressed”.
- In May 2010 the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Ms. Mayawati had announced the expulsion of about 500 party leaders with criminal past.
- In February 2010 Prime Minister Manmohan Singh asked his Cabinet colleagues to disclose details of their assets and liabilities and refrain from dealing with the government on immovable property.
- In January 2010 Both the Congress Chief Ms Sonia Gandhi and leader of opposition in Lok Sabha Ms Sushma Swaraj of BJP made public statements calling for a consensus on barring candidates with criminal backgrounds from contesting elections.
- In Lok Sabha 2009 a large number of candidates with serious pending cases that contested elections like Pappu Yadav, Atiq Ahmed, Mukhtar Ansari, Akhilesh Singh etc., lost.
- In Lok Sabha 2009 the number of total serious IPC sections against MPs decrease from 296 in Lok Sabha 2004 to 274 in Lok Sabha 2009.
- In the Lok Sabha 2004 Elections, 19 States and 5 Union Territories carried out Election

Watches. In the Lok Sabha 2009 elections, Election Watches were held in all states and union territories in the country.

- In April 2008 ADR obtained a landmark ruling from the Central Information Commission (CIC) saying that Income Tax Returns of Political Parties would now be available in the public domain along with the assessment orders.
- Because of an RTI application that ADR has been following up with the CIC for nearly the past 2 years, the contribution reports of major political parties have been made public.
- In 2008 Karnataka Assembly Elections, there was a reduction in the number of candidates with serious offenses put up by parties. There were 93 such cases against candidates in the 2008 elections, down from 217 in the 2004 assembly elections.
- In 2008 elections in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, NCT of Delhi and Mizoram overall, the percentage of candidates with declared criminal cases came down from 20% to 14% in the assembly elections.
- In October 2008, Mr. L.K. Advani, Leader of the BJP gave a press statement that the BJP would not field candidates with criminal records. Mr. Rahul Gandhi, General Secretary of the Indian National Congress (INC), made similar announcement.
- In 2007, UP Election watch and 2008, Karnataka Election Watch, National political leaders contacted ADR and wanted the list of candidates for his party with criminal details.
- In 2005 October, November, Bihar Election

Watch resulted in intense pressure on the Chief Minister Designate due to the extensive media coverage of candidate background. As a result, for the first time, Bihar had a Council of Ministers without any known criminal record.

- In September 2003, a Bill on Electoral Expenses was passed. The EC has taken it one-step forward and asked candidates to file a statement of expenses in every three days during the campaign. The EC has also made this information (in addition to the affidavits filed by candidates disclosing financial, criminal and educational background) available to citizens on request to Returning Officers, District Election Officers and the CEOs.
- The Election Commission completed a massive exercise based on the Gujarat Election Watch report to verify information filed by candidates in the nomination papers and affidavits, and has started proceedings in 2002 against candidates with false declarations. They are now currently doing that for the subsequent elections as well.
- After the Supreme Court's order in 2003, Members of Parliament (MPs) lined up to clear their outstanding dues to the Government for rent, electricity, phone bills and so on to avoid embarrassing disclosures while filing nomination papers.
- In May 2002 and March 2003, ADR won two milestone judgments on disclosure of candidate's criminal and financial records from the Supreme Court. Since then, 1200 NGOs from all over the country are supporting ADR and ADR in partnership with its partners has organized Citizen Election Watch for all major elections.



FINANCIAL STATUS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2012

FUND & LIABILITIES	Rs.	Rs.	PROPERTY AND ASSETS	Rs.	Rs.
Trust Funds or Corpus :			Immovable properties :		-
Balance as per last Balance Sheet.	-				
Add : During the year	1,700,000.00	1,700,000.00	Computer : (At Cost) (Fcra)		
(give details)			Balance as per last Balance Sheet	572,554.00	
Contribution from Founder Members			Additions during the year - Fcra	523,269.00	1,095,823.00
Balance as per last Balance Sheet.	-	6,000.00			
			Furniture & Fixtures : (At Cost) (Fcra)		
Other Earmarked Funds :			Balance as per last Balance Sheet	110,117.00	
(Created under the provisions of the Trust			Additions during the year - Fcra	168,971.00	279,088.00
Deed of Scheme or out of the income)					
			Office Equipment : (At Cost) (Fcra)		
Ford Fixed Assets Fund (Fcra) Opening Balance:	698,621.00		Balance as per last Balance Sheet	189,123.00	
Add : During the year	287,970.00	986,591.00	Additions during the year - Fcra	230,557.00	419,680.00
Hivos Fixed Assets Fund: Opening Balance	173,173.00				
Add : During the year	634,827.00	808,000.00	Computer : (At Cost) (Local)		
Fixed Assets Fund (Sdtt) : Opening Balance	536,966.00		Balance as per last Balance Sheet	315,670.00	
Add : During the year	104,559.00	641,525.00	Additions during the year	64,959.00	380,629.00
Fixed Assets Fund - Local : Opening Balance	50,750.00				
Add : During the year	5,241.00	55,991.00	Office Equipment : (At Cost) (Local)		
			Balance as per last Balance Sheet	148,421.00	
Income Accumulation Reserve :			Additions during the year - Local	39,600.00	188,021.00
Opening Balance	6,726,670.90				

FUND & LIABILITIES	Rs.	Rs.	PROPERTY AND ASSETS	Rs.	Rs.
Less: Income Accumulation utilised(Sdtt)	1,222,086.00		Furniture & Fixtures : (At Cost) (Local)		
Less: Income Accumulation utilised(Ford)	1,068,500.00		Balance as per last Balance Sheet	129,525.00	
Less: Income Accumulation utilised(Hivos)	850,000.00		Additions during the year - Local	5,241.00	134,766.00
Less: Income Accumulation utilised(Local)	730,000.00				
Less: Income Accumulation utilised(Interest)	263,170.90		Investments :		-
	4,133,756.90	2,592,914.00			
			Advances :		
Depreciation Fund : (Fcra)			To Employees	-	
Computer	691,578.00		To NGO Partners	13,541.00	
Furniture	53,039.00		To Others	49,439.00	
Printer	19,395.00		To TDS Earlier Years	42,501.00	
Office Equipment	112,055.00	876,067.00	To TDS F.Y 11-12	60,503.20	165,984.20
Depreciation Fund : (Local)			Security Deposits:-		
Computer	298,948.00		For Office-Local	70,000.00	
Furniture	25,511.00		For Office-Fcra	30,000.00	100,000.00
Office Equipment	47,151.00	371,610.00			
Grants :-			Income outstanding :		
Ford Foundation- Received during the year	4,830,000.00				
Less: Utilised during the year	2,795,366.00	2,034,634.00	(i) Cash And Bank Balances-		
			In Current Account with :		
Omidyar Network- Received during the year	12,012,500.00		IndusInd Bank ,Ahmedabad - Local	41,580.18	
Less: Utilised during the year	2,206,133.02	9,806,366.98	IndusInd Bank,Ahmedabad - Fcra	475,299.18	
			HDFC Bank - Local	291,695.95	
Hivos- Received during the year	1,284,200.00		HDFC Bank - Fcra-T.O.D.	(16,726.56)	
Less: Utilised during the year	1,284,200.00	-	State Bank of India-Local	488,469.00	1,280,317.75
Liabilities :			In Fixed Deposit Account with		
Duties & Taxes	35,010.00		HDFC Bank - local	3,904,303.54	
Sundry Creditors	264,240.00		HDFC Bank- Fcra	3,721,297.16	
Provisions	62,765.44		State Bank of India - Local	2,141,827.00	
For rent and other deposits	-		IndusInd Bank,Ahmedabad - Local	-	
For Sundry credit balance - Fcra	-	362,015.44	IndusInd Bank,Ahmedabad - Fcra	9,104,856.15	18,872,283.85
Income and expenditure Account :			(ii) Cash on hand - Local	6,112.00	
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	2,961,696.17		Cash on hand - Fcra	5,866.00	11,978.00
Less : Appropriation, if any	-		Income and expenditure Account :		
Add : Surplus/less : Deficit			Balance as per Balance Sheet	-	
As per Income & Expenditure A/c.	(274,839.79)	2,686,856.38	Add : Deficit as per Income & Exp A/c	-	-
Total		22,928,570.80	Total		22,928,570.80

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 2012

EXPENDITURE	Rs.	Rs.	INCOME	Rs.	Rs.
To Expenditure in respect of properties :		-	By Grants Utilised - Annexure-3		11,032,655.92
Rates, Taxes, Cessess - Muni. Tax					
Repairs and maintenance - Building			By Voluntary Contributions		1,766,250.00
Salaries					
Insurance			By Interest on Bank Deposits		
Depreciation (by way of provision or adjustments)			Interest on FDRs-IndusInd Bank	176,702.41	
Other expenses			Interest on FDRs - SBI	233,187.00	
			Interest on FDRs-HDFC Bank	195,111.90	
			Saving Bank Interest	77,427.98	682,429.29
To Remuneration (in the case of a math to the head of the math, including his house-hold expenditure, any)			By Other Income		
			Annual Membership Fees	370.00	
			Contribution for Election Publications	5,500.00	
To Administrative Expenses-Annexure-1		1,877,278.85	Interest on I T Refund	503.00	6,373.00
To Amount written off			By Deficit carried over to Balance Sheet		274,839.79
(a) bad Debts					
(b) Loan scholarships					
(c) Irrecoverable rents					
(d) Other items - Loss on Computer	5,688.00	5,688.00			
To Depreciation : -					
Depreciation on Printer-Ahmedabad	532.00				
Depreciation on Computer/printer	359,034.00				
Depreciation on Furniture & Fixtures	30,421.00				
Depreciation on Office Equipments	73,832.00				
Income Applied to Fixed Assets	1,032,597.00	1,496,416.00			
To Expenditure on objects of the trust					
(a) Religious	-				
(b) Educational	-				
(c) Medical Relief	-				
(d) Relief of poverty	-				
(e) Other charitable objects:-					
Election Watch Exp- Annexure-2	10,383,165.15	10,383,165.15			
Total		13,762,548.00	Total		13,762,548.00



SOME EMINENT PERSONS WHO ARE OR HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH THIS INITIATIVE

Justice Diwan, an eminent member of Gujarat Election Watch, passed away this year. He had always supported and contributed a great deal to the work of the National Election Watch (NEW) and Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR). We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family.

1. Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah, Former Chief Justice of India
2. Justice Jeevan Reddy, Former Supreme Court Judge and Chairman of the Law Commission
3. (Late) Justice B.J. Divan, Former Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court
4. (Late) Justice P.D. Desai, Former Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court
5. Justice T.U. Mehta, Former Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court
6. Mr. V. T. Shah, Former DG Police, Gujarat
7. Mr. Julio Rebeiro, Former DG Police, Maharashtra
8. Admiral Ram Tahiliani, Former Head of the Indian Navy, and President of Transparency International
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10. Mr. T.S. Krishnamurthy, Former Chief Election Commissioner of India
11. Mr. C G Somiah, Former Comptroller and Auditor General of India
12. Justice Shiva Shankar Bhatt, Former Justice of the Karnataka High Court
13. (Late) Mr. L.C. Jain, Former Member Planning Commission; Former High Commissioner to South Africa
14. Mr. T R Satish Chandran, Former Chief Secretary; Karnataka, Former Governor Goa
15. Dr. Samuel Paul, Former Director of IIM Ahmedabad

16. Dr. Narayan Sheth, Former Director of IIM Ahmedabad
17. Mr. Ramachandra Guha, Eminent Historian and columnist
18. Mr. P.S. Appu, IAS, Former Secretary to the Government of India
19. Mr. P.V. Shenoi, IAS, Former Secretary to the Government of India
20. Mr. K C Sivaramakrishnan, , Former Secretary to the Government of India
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We are always looking for bright people with a passion to strengthen Indian Democracy specifically in the field of electoral and political reforms. You can involve yourself at Delhi and/or at other places in several ways:

Volunteer for Election Watches: We need people for various activities during election watches, like: data entry, interacting with election officers, etc.

Answer the Helpline: Answer the questions coming from states going to polls on candidates based on the affidavits filed by them.

Design Work: Create pamphlets, banners to support the Election Watch teams in states. The pamphlets are based on current events and findings.

Public Dissemination: There are a lot of election watch public dissemination activities going in all states. You can participate in these activities.

Media Watch: We have a media watch program going on in which you can participate.

Translation Activities: A lot of our press releases newsletter etc., need to be translated into local languages. You can help in these translations.

If you are interested in engaging with us, please write to us at adr@adrindia.org

जितना ध्यान और समय हम सब्जी चुनने में लगाते हैं, उसका आधा भी क्या हम देश का नेता चुनने में लगाते हैं?

ताज़ी है कि नहीं है, कीड़े तो नहीं हैं, सड़ी-गली तो नहीं, हम तरह-तरह से टटोल कर ही सब्जी खरीदते हैं, पूरी तसल्ली के बाद. पर जब सवाल देश के नेता चुनने का आता है, हम लापरवाह क्यों हो जाते हैं? कहाँ चली जाती है हमारी पारखी नज़र? आइये, इस बार एक बात तय करें कि पूरी जानकारी, पूरी तसल्ली करने के बाद ही हम अपना कीमती वोट किसी को देंगे, हमारे चुनाव क्षेत्र में कौन-कौन उम्मीदवार खड़े हैं, वे कितने पढ़े लिखे हैं, उनकी संपत्ति कितनी है या उनके खिलाफ कोई क्रिमिनल केस तो नहीं. आइये तय करें कि इस बार यह सब जानने के बाद ही हम अपना कीमती वोट किसी को देंगे.

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*"No office in the land is more
important than that of being a citizen"
- Felix Frankfurter*



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