



Annual Report 2014-15



National Election Watch



Annual Report

Association for Democratic Reforms
and
NATIONAL ELECTION WATCH

April 20 14 - March 20 15



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Our Activities: 2014-15

Election Watch

Concerned by the increasing influence of money and muscle power in the Indian politics and sharp erosion in the ideological orientation of political parties, a group of professors from Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the Delhi High Court in 1999. The aim of the petition was to get authentic information about the candidates contesting elections, so that people can make an informed choice. Based on this petition, 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.

Since 2002, when the first Supreme Court decision came, ADR has been engaged in the Election Watch process of analyzing the background details of candidates contesting different elections. This information is released to the public in the form of reports to help them make a better and informed choice. The Election Watch process, which began with 2002 Gujarat Assembly Elections is now the flagship program of ADR and covers every Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and Assembly elections and some local body elections.

The Election Watch process starts 4-6 months before polls with the process of mobilization of citizens with the help of the partners. Once the affidavits declaring background details of candidates are made available, the same are entered in an online database and processed as reports that are released at least 10 days before polls. These press releases are aimed at helping citizens make an informed choice. To disseminate it directly to the general public, ADR uses multiple channels including national and vernacular media, online campaigns, SMSs, bulk voice calls, social media and outdoor campaigns.

ADR's over 1200 State Partners spread across the country engage in various grass-root level campaigning and interactive activities, like meetings, workshop, seminars, padyatras, street plays and outdoor campaigns to make voters aware of the background details of candidates and urge them to vote for honest and clean candidates.

During the year 2014-15, Election Watches were conducted for the following elections:

- **Lok Sabha** (Lower House) elections
- **State Assembly** elections for the following states: Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra, Odisha, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand and Delhi.
- **Rajya Sabha** (Upper House) elections
- **Bye elections**
- **Local Body elections**

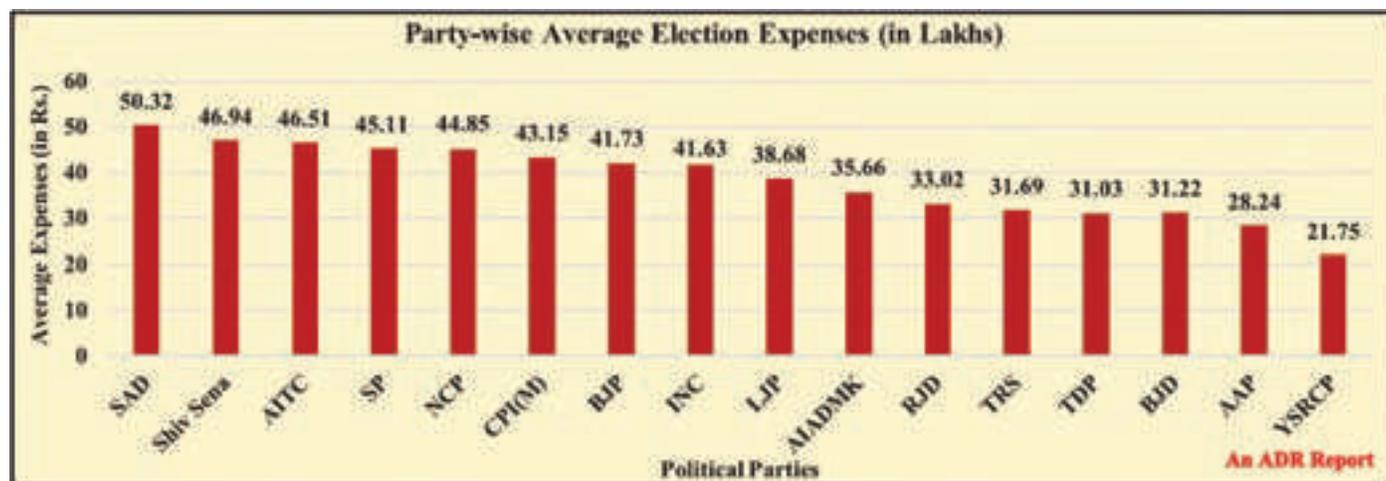


Following analyses on background information of Candidates and the Winners contesting different elections were undertaken during 2014-15:

1. Background details of Union Council of Ministers (Pre and Post Expansion).
2. Analysis of asset declarations of Union Council of ministers.
3. Background details of Candidates and Winners of Assembly elections held in Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana, Delhi and Arunachal Pradesh.
4. Background details of Candidates and Winners of Navi Mumbai and Vasai Virar City municipal corporation elections.
5. Vote share and representativeness for the Assembly elections of Haryana and Maharashtra.
6. Background details of re-contesting MLAs in Delhi, Haryana and Maharashtra Assembly elections.
7. Background details of Ministers of Delhi State Assembly.



8. Election expenditure declared by the MLAs of Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir and Maharashtra.
9. Register of Member's Interest for Rajya Sabha members.
10. Background details of MPs and MLAs from West Bengal.
11. The nexus of crime and money in Bihar Assembly elections (10 years of Bihar Election Watch).
12. A report on MPs who might face disqualification if convicted released on 20th of June 2014 at a press conference.



13. Election expenditure declared by the MPs was also released.
14. Lok Sabha Book: A comprehensive report on Lok Sabha 2014.
15. ADR-Daksh Survey Book: A comprehensive report on the survey conducted by ADR-Daksh ahead of Lok Sabha 2014 polls.
16. An article on increasing influence of Black Money in politics titled "Financial Transparency: Let's start with our Legislators" published in Governance Now magazine.

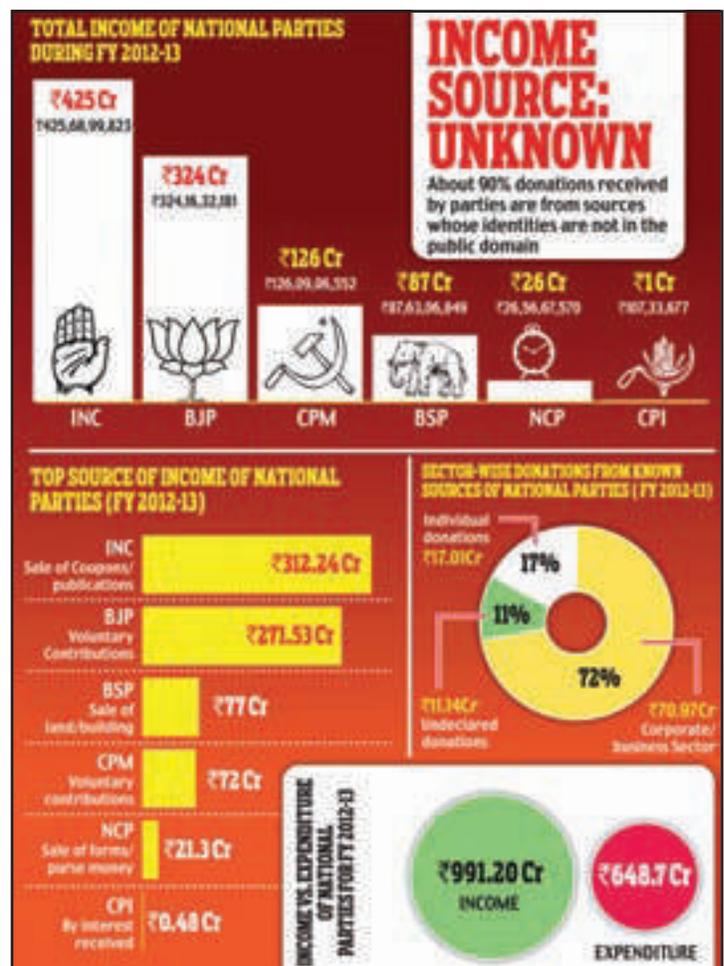
Political Party Watch

ADR strongly believes that political parties are the key link between the people and their representatives and they must uphold democratic norms and transparency in their structure and working. With the above aim, ADR started a new program called Political Party Watch (PPW) in 2008. Under this program, donations above Rs 20,000 that are received by Political Parties (National & Regional), the Income Tax Returns filed by the Political parties and election expenditure declared by them are thoroughly analyzed and reports are released to the public. IT Returns of political parties are obtained via RTI applications to the IT Department while donation reports and election expenditure reports are obtained from the ECI. The scanned copies of these documents are available on myneta.info.

It is a matter of concern that currently only National Parties and very few Regional Parties file their IT Returns on a regular basis every year. Moreover, the system of disclosing their financial details is not consistent among the parties.

Following analyses on Political Parties were undertaken during 2014-15:

1. IT Returns and donations of National Parties during financial year 2012-13 was released in June 2014.
2. Donations above Rs 20,000 to political parties of Delhi for financial year 2012-13 was released in August 2014.
3. A comparison of election expenditure of political parties during Maharashtra and Haryana Assembly Elections, 2009.
4. Donations from Timblo to INC and BJP between financial year 2004-05 and 2011-12.
5. Donations above Rs 20,000 to National and Regional Parties during financial year 2013-14.
6. Donations received by National Parties during financial year 2013-14.



Timble Pvt Ltd donated 9 times to BJP and thrice to INC Between FY 2004-05 and 2011-12

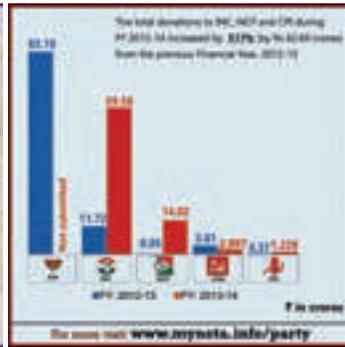
This amounts to a total of Rs 4.18 crores to BJP and Rs 63 lakhs to Indian National Congress

An ADR Analysis

ADR

20 Disqualified Political Parties have not submitted their Donorship Details to the EC

- BJP and 20 Regional Disqualified parties have defaulted on their donorship reporting requirements.
- BJP is the only National Party yet to file its contribution report to the EC.
- BJP had declared the maximum amount of Rs 250 crores from 2000 disqualifiers during the previous financial year (2012-13).
- BJP had declared that no donation above Rs 20,000 was received by the party during FY 2013-14.
- Consequently in the current year, not all National Parties have followed the donorship guidelines by the EC.



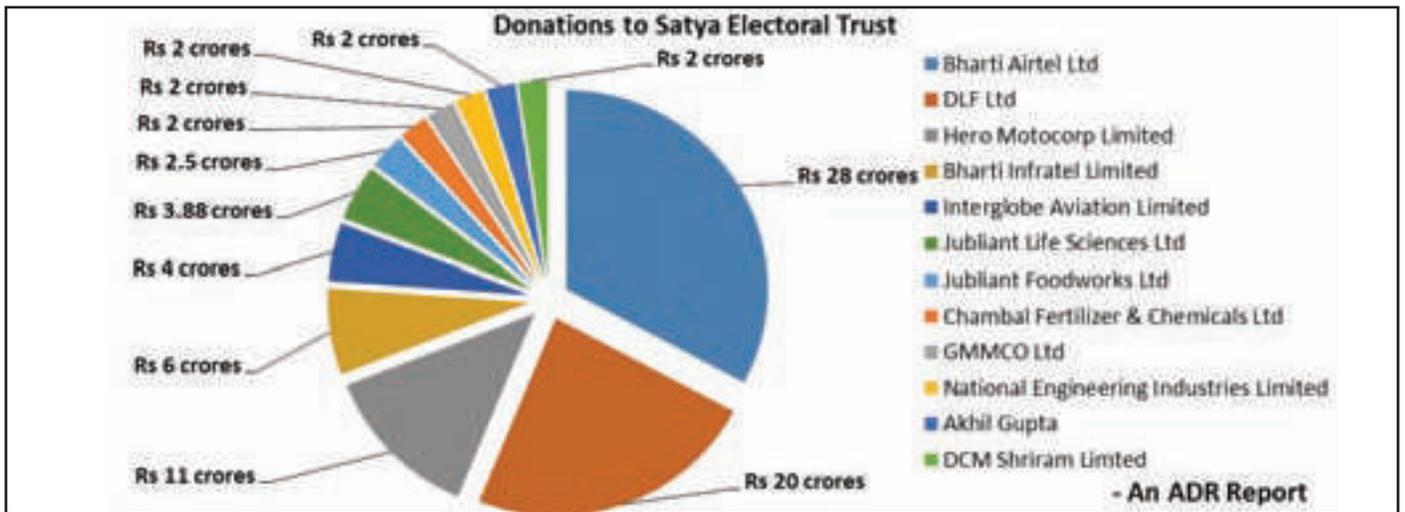
कृपया ३० दिनों में मत दाखल करें, अन्यथा मत खारिज कर दिया जाएगा

आज का मत ₹100 करोड़ का है

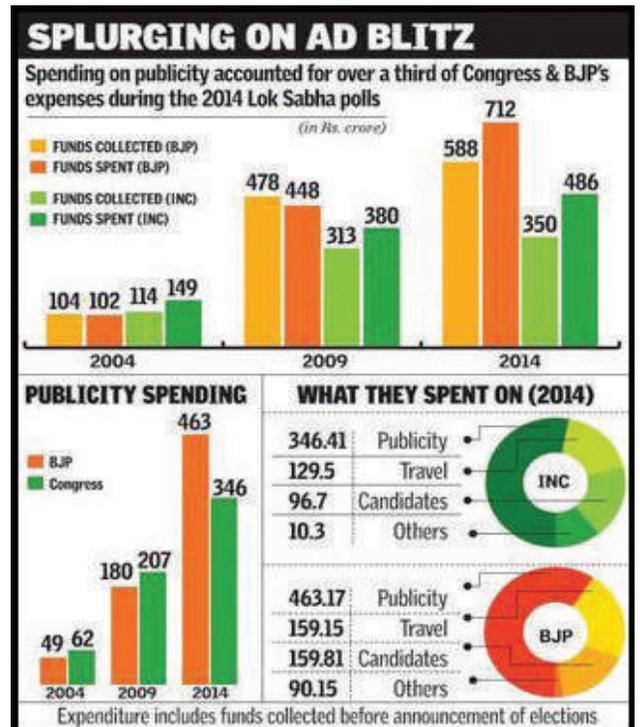
आज का मत ₹2.8 करोड़ का है

www.ayyappa.info/party

- Election expenditure of political parties during Delhi Assembly elections, 2013.
- Contribution report of Electoral Trusts for financial year 2013-14.



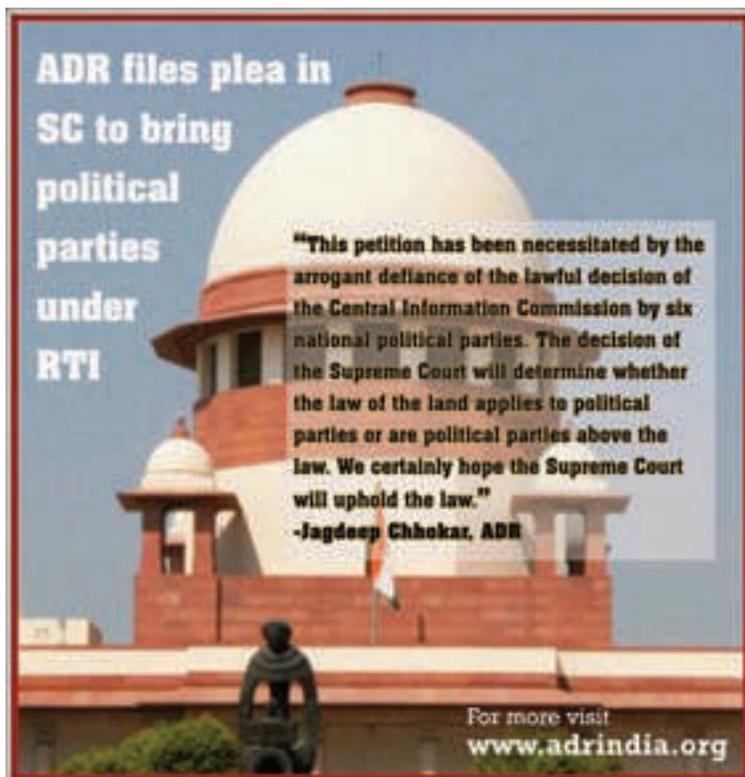
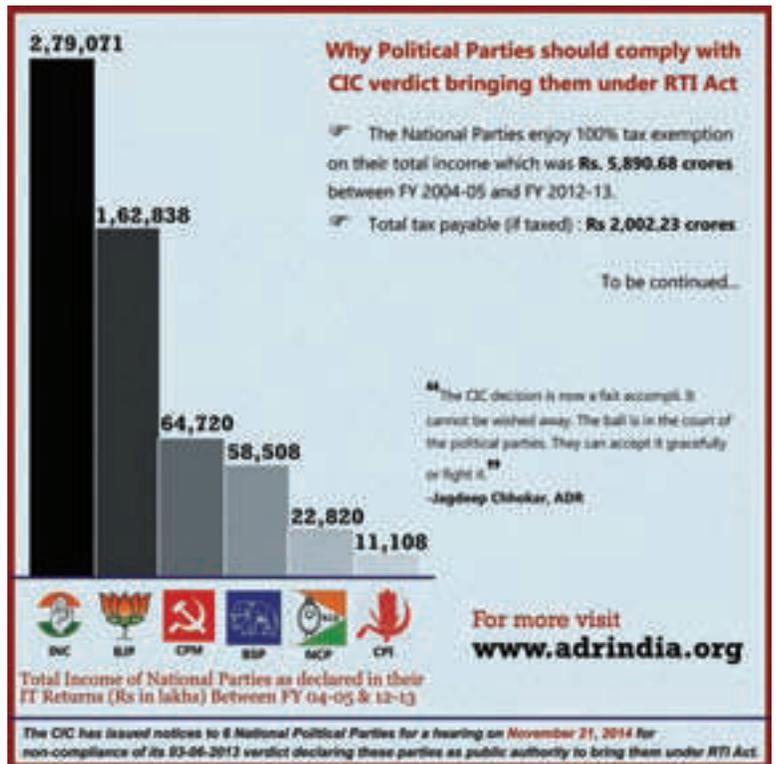
- Donations above Rs 20,000 declared by BJP during financial year 2013-14.
- A comparison of election expenditure of National Parties during Lok Sabha elections 2004, 2009 and 2014.
- A report on the transparency guidelines issued by the Election Commission to the political parties, which came into effect on 1st October 2014.



Strategic Litigation

1. Political parties under RTI

- a. The six national political parties INC, BJP, CPI, CPI(M), BSP & NCP boycotted the hearings convened by the CIC on 21st Nov 2014 and 7th Jan 2015 for the contempt and non-compliance of its 3rd June 2013 order which had declared these parties as “Public Authorities” under the RTI Act. Finally, on 16th March 2015, the CIC while holding its 3rd June 2013 order legally correct and final, observed that the RTI Act does not provide the Commission with ample powers to deal with cases of contempt and non-compliance.



- b. Taking a step forward, ADR filed a petition in the SC on 19th May 2015 for implementation of CIC’s 3rd June 2013 order.

2. Election expenditure of political parties: On 9th May 2014, a writ petition was filed by ADR in Delhi High Court seeking appropriate direction to regulate and monitor the election expenditure incurred by political parties on and during the election. After hearing our arguments, notices were issued by Delhi HC to the Government of India and Election Commission. The next date for hearing is 9th July 2015.

3. Foreign funding of political parties:

Special Leave Petitions have been filed in the Supreme Court by both INC and BJP separately on the issue pertaining to “foreign funding”. These SLPs have been filed against Delhi High Court’s order dated 28th March 2014. The order was announced on a petition filed by ADR. The Delhi HC, in its order, held these two major national political parties guilty of taking foreign funding thereby violating the provisions under FCRA.

4. Paid news case:

Former CM of Maharashtra, Ashok Chavan was found guilty by the ECI for

incorrect filing of expenditure statement incurred during Maharashtra Assembly Elections 2009. Ashok Chavan challenged the order of the ECI in the Supreme Court in which ADR supported ECI’s decision and hence intervened in the matter. Currently, the matter is pending before a double bench of Delhi High Court and the next date of hearing is 14th July 2015.

5. Income Tax Returns of MPs:

ADR’s second appeal in this case is pending with the Central Information Commission. In its appeal, ADR had requested that the information regarding the IT Returns of MPs/MLAs should be made available in the public domain. The last hearing took place on 16th April 2013.

6. Cases against the Parliamentarians:

On 10th March 2014, the Supreme Court had passed an order wherein all the High Courts were asked to conclude the cases against the Parliamentarians within one year. This order came after the recommendations of the 20th Law Commission (244th Law Commission Report). ADR was part of a round table and National Consultation on Electoral Reforms which were organized by the Law Commission for their 244th Report and it had also submitted its recommendations to the Law Commission pertaining to this issue.

March 28, 2014: Landmark Judgement by Delhi High Court

Delhi High Court finds Congress and BJP guilty of accepting foreign funding, on a PIL by ADR (Association for Democratic Reforms)

Asks government to take action within six months



Networking and Advocacy: Events held

In addition to our grass-root level advocacy campaigns, directly organized by the State Coordinators of the National Election Watch, ADR organized/launched many press conferences, panel discussions, outdoor campaigns and Social Media campaigns throughout the year. Many informative articles were also written by in-house researchers in reputed newspapers and magazines.

Some of the activities held by ADR during 2014-15 are mentioned below:

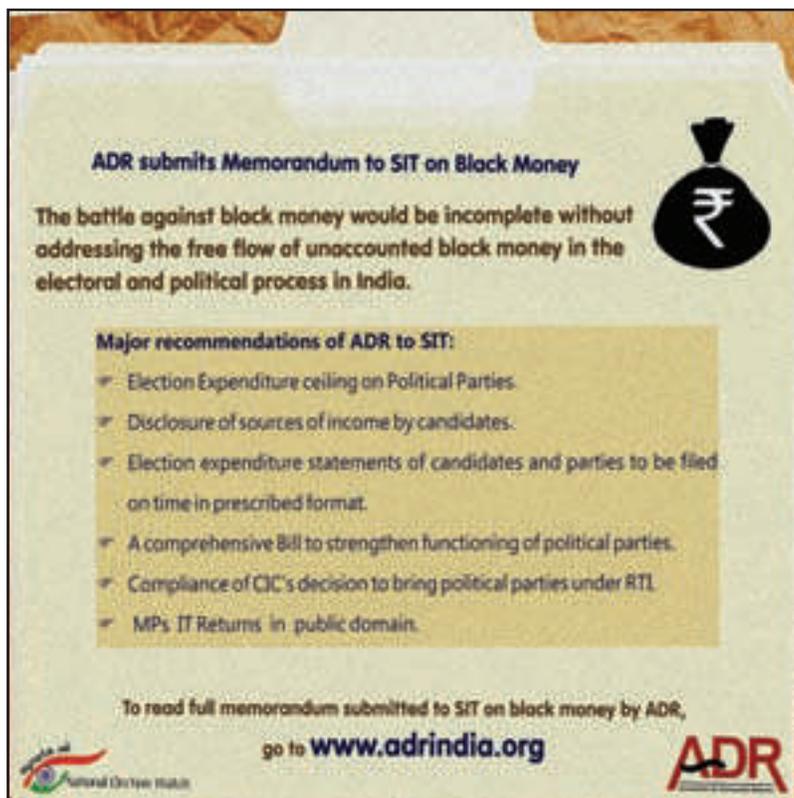
1. On 12th December 2014, ADR made a **submission to the Supreme Court instituted SIT on black money** citing the need for greater transparency in political party financing and electoral campaigning expenditures.

2. ECI sought the **views of ADR/NEW on “Political Finance and the 255th Report of the Law Commission of India.”** Along with other stakeholders ADR/NEW made a submission to ECI on 28th March 2015.

3. After the Central Information Commission (CIC) observed in its order dated 16th March 2015 that the RTI Act does not provide the Commission with the ample powers

to deal with the cases of contempt and non-compliance by political parties, ADR decided to file a petition in the Supreme Court on 19th May 2015 for implementation of the CIC’s 3rd June 2013 order of declaring 6 national parties as ‘public authority’ under the RTI Act.

4. ADR and NEW wrote letters to the newly-appointed Prime Minister and Chief Ministers from different states with appeals to provide clean, transparent and exemplary governance and received assurance from Delhi and a few other state governments that they will keep ADR’s suggestions in mind.



5. **Press Conference:** A Media Dialogue on Jan 30, 2015 at Press Club of India, Delhi, on Criminal, Financial background and other details of contesting candidates in Delhi Assembly elections 2015 was organized.
6. **Media Panel Discussion:** Ahead of Haryana Assembly elections, ADR and NEW had organized a Media Dialogue on Sept 25, 2014 at Press Club of India, Delhi, to brainstorm on how pressure can be mounted on Political Parties to restrain them from fielding candidates facing criminal charges in the Assembly polls and other related issues.
7. **Press Conference:** A press conference was held on June 20, 2014 at Press Club of India, Delhi on “Fast Tracking of Cases against Sitting Lok Sabha MPs”.

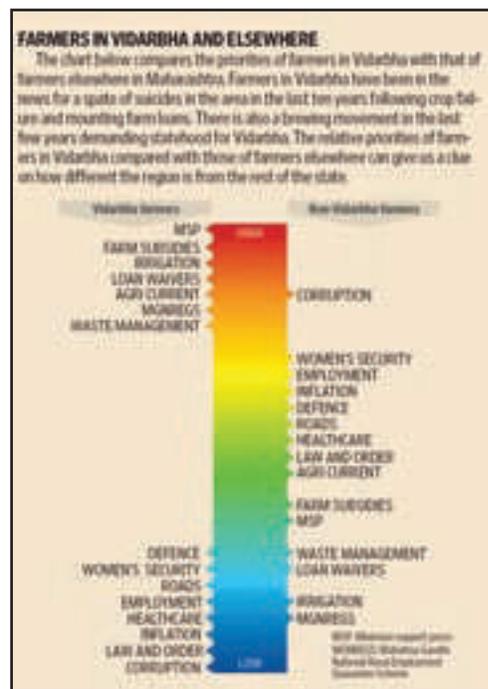
8. **ADR Maharashtra Survey:** ADR and Daksh conducted a voter perception survey of over 20,000 respondents across all the 288 Assembly constituencies in Maharashtra in September 2014 ahead of the State Assembly elections. The larger purpose of this survey was to highlight voter priorities so that

ELECTION METRICS
What Maharashtra wants
 By KARTHIK SRINIVASAR
 ksd@adr.org

The Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), in association with Daksh, a not-for-profit organization, has conducted a survey of over 20,000 respondents across all constituencies of Maharashtra, which elects a new legislative assembly on 15 October.

The survey collects demographic information of respondents, along with their ratings on the relative importance of various issues in the lead-up to the election. Respondents have also rated the performance of their sitting legislators on these issues in the past five years. This is in line with similar surveys done by ADR and Daksh in the lead-up to the Lok Sabha elections earlier this year, and other state elections prior to that.

What excites Election Metrics is that this data can be used to compare and contrast priorities accorded by voters belonging to different classes to different sets of issues. Every day, till the day of the Maharashtra elections, we will pick up two different groups of voters in the state, and understand the relative importance of different factors for them. The data for the following visualisation comes from the ADR-Daksh survey, but has been normalized and scaled so that it is easily comparable. Each column represents the priorities given by the two groups (mentioned below) for different issues. The vertical distance between two issues in a column is representative of the relative preference for the group for one issue over another.



they are reflected in the election agenda and manifestos of political parties. Respondents have also rated the performance of the status of governance on these issues in the past five years, reflecting a sort of “performance rating”.

9. **Voter Awareness Campaigns:** Ahead of Haryana, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Jammu and Kashmir and Delhi Assembly elections, ADR used various media to encourage people to vote for candidates with a clean image.
 - **Street Plays:** Prior to the Delhi Assembly elections in January 2015, ADR collaborated with ‘Steps for Change’ to conduct over 40 street plays in red-alert constituencies of Delhi (where three and more candidates face criminal charges against them.) The aim of the street plays was to spread awareness among the voters and encourage them to see the background of their candidates before voting.

- **Hoardings/Banners:** Hoardings and banners were placed at many busy markets/roads/metro stations of Delhi in January 2015 to exhort voters to select clean candidates ahead of the Delhi Assembly elections.



- **Auto Campaigns:** Posters with messages encouraging people to select the right leaders in 2015 Delhi Assembly elections were displayed on 1200 autos in Delhi in the month of January 2015.
- Lakhs of SMS/Out Bound Calls (OBD) were pushed out to inform people about the background details of the candidates.

10. **Social Media Campaigns:** Throughout the year, and more intensely ahead of elections, ADR posts informative creative/infographics/news items on social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Youtube to disseminate information and build public opinion on the need for electoral and political reform.



Many of our infographics posted on these social media platforms received hundreds of shares and likes. Some example are below:

2-yrns on while the country is still waiting for justice in Nirbhaya rape case, the number of legislators accused of crimes against women is alarming.

दो सालों के लिए नरभया के मामले में न्याय नहीं आया है। हमें न्याय चाहिए और देश में महिलाओं के विरुद्ध अपराधों जैसे अपराधों के जल्दी सजाओं से निवारण की संस्था विकसित है।

Total No. of Legislators (including one MP each from L.S & R.S and 48 MLAs) with 'crimes against women'	50
Total No. of Candidates with 'crimes against women' who contested in the Lok Sabha 2014 Elections	62
Total No. of Candidates with 'crimes against women' who contested for the current assemblies across India	345

ADR Association for Democratic Reforms
Social Services | 50,791 Likes | December 10, 2014

Two years on while the country is still waiting for justice in the Nirbhaya rape case, the number of legislators accused of crimes against women is alarming in the country.

214 Likes · 14 Comments · 155 Shares

A creative made on the 2nd anniversary of Nirbhaya rape case: bit.ly/nirbhayarapecase

After 66 years of being a Republic, India still has...

No. of MPs with declared criminal cases:	185
No. of Ministers with declared criminal cases in the Union Council of Ministers:	20

How many more years do we need to wait for that proud moment when India will have crime-free Parliament and State Assemblies?

Let us take a pledge today that we will always check the credentials of our Candidates before voting.

ADR Association for Democratic Reforms
Social Services | 50,791 Likes | January 29, Edited 01, 14

Let us take a pledge today that we will always check the credentials of our Candidates before voting.

544 Likes · 14 Comments · 523 Shares

A creative made on the Republic Day 2015: on.fb.me/1BwIr0n

चुनाव में जिसका है खर्च ज्यादा, उसका लगता घुरा इरादा

पिछले दिल्ली चुनाव में दलों ने किए खर्च, ₹100 करोड़ कीटिका का दामा

Indiatoday | September 8, 2013
The ₹100 crore election circus: Congress, BJP to spend more during Delhi Assembly election

Party	Expenditure
BJP	₹100 Crore
CONGRESS	₹100 Crore
OTHER	₹100 Crore

लेकिन कांग्रेस सहित 9 दलों द्वारा घोषित खर्च केवल ₹ 2.8 करोड़

मजबूत, सधा, जदरु इत्यादि ने नहीं दिया बीरा

क्या दे पावेंगे ऐसे दल एक पारदर्शी सरकार?

7 लाखों के दिल्ली चुनाव में करोड़ों खर्च करने वाले उम्मीदवारों के घोर का है।

ADR www.myneta.info/party | /adr.new | @adrspk

A creative made on election expenditure of Political parties: on.fb.me/1K6D9f6

7 Essentials to Become a Voter

- AGE: Check if you are 18 years of age or more (ie. S.I. 81(A))
- RESIDENCE: From falling under Entry 4 - The list of states, Union Territories and Chandernagore
- INDIAN CITIZENSHIP: You must be an Indian citizen (ie. S.I. 81(A))
- NOT A MENTALLY UNFIT PERSON: If you are not sane and sound understanding (ie. S.I. 81(A))
- NOT A CONVICT: If you are serving a sentence for an offence (ie. S.I. 81(A))
- NOT A MEMBER OF A HOUSEHOLD: If you are not a member of a household (ie. S.I. 81(A))
- NOT A MEMBER OF A HOUSEHOLD: If you are not a member of a household (ie. S.I. 81(A))

25 Jan, 2015 National Voters Day

ADR Association for Democratic Reforms
Social Services | 50,791 Likes | January 29, Edited 01, 14

Today we are celebrating the National Voters' Day. What will be a better way to celebrate this day than by becoming a voter and strengthening the country? Please we help you to become a part of the Largest Democracy in the World!

Kindly use these links:
Form download: <http://bit.ly/FORMandDocs>
Online Registration: <http://net.votersindia>
A guide for the voters: http://bit.ly/india_VRC

217 Likes · 0 Comments · 191 Shares

A creative made on National Voters' Day 25 Jan, 2015 : bit.ly/votersday

'Mera Vote Mera Desh' Campaign

ADR and NEW launched a nation-wide Campaign titled 'Mera Vote Mera Desh' for the Lok Sabha elections. The objective of the Campaign was to reduce the influence of crime and money in elections. The Campaign rolled out in different parts of the country, urged voters to "vote for clean candidates" and not yield to inducements during elections ("don't sell your vote").

As part of this Campaign, a gamut of activities were initiated in all states including awareness drives with community based organizations, colleges and universities, media campaigns using print/electronic media, social platforms like Facebook and Google, street plays etc. The Campaign was endorsed by a number of celebrities (local and national) whose



messages to voters were relayed using various media. Information on contesting candidates were provided to citizens through Press releases, toll free Helplines, SMS services and out bound bulk calls.

Partners across the states took initiatives to spread awareness regarding the need for a clean, transparent and accountable polity. The Mera Vote Mera Desh Campaign was spearheaded by the National Election Watch coordinators in almost every state in active collaboration with the Election Commission, civil society organizations, educational institutions, NSS, women's groups and various community based organizations.

Activities organized at the State level

Bihar

Bihar Election Watch organized a seminar in Patna on 8th February 2015, ahead of the Assembly elections in Bihar to be held in October-November 2015. The seminar was in two sessions; first with regard to the 'Need for inner party democracy and criteria for selection of candidates for the upcoming Assembly elections' and second regarding the 'Transparency and accountability in the functioning of Political parties'. Shri A. N. Tiwari, Former Chief Information Commissioner, Dr. Shambhu Sharan Srivastava,

Former Member of Legislative Council of Bihar, Shri Prem Kumar Mani, Former Member of Legislative Counsel-Bihar, and many other eminent persons attended the event.

Jharkhand

Jharkhand Election Watch held a meeting of its Core committee on 9th February 2015. This 'State Consultation on Political Reforms for Good Governance' was organized to prepare a work plan for the JEW for the next five years. Political party representatives like Shri Shivshankar Oraon (MLA, BJP) & Dr. Rajaram Mahato (ex-MLA, INC), Dr. J. P. Gupta (CPI), Shri Nadeem Khan (ML) and Shri Manohar Yadav (SP) and Prof. Trilochan Sastry, Founder Trustee of ADR, and many other eminent persons participated in the meeting.

Uttar Pradesh

UP Election Watch organized a conference in Lucknow on 13th February 2015, ahead of the Assembly elections in UP to be held in 2017. The topic of the discussion was 'The Role of Civil Society in Electoral Reforms.' Shri Ramakant Pandey, Deputy CEO, UP, Shri Nishith Rai, Chancellor, Shakuntala Mishra National Rehabilitation University, Maj. Gen. Anil Verma (Retd.), Head, ADR, and some eminent politicians from the National parties attended the event.

Maharashtra

Maharashtra Election Watch had organized a Conference on "Electoral Reforms--Maharashtra Perspective" on 22nd December 2014 at Mumbai for obtaining views on improving the conduct of Local body elections in Maharashtra. Shri J. S. Saharia, State Election Commissioner (SEC), Prof. Ajit Ranade, Founder Trustee, ADR, & Maharashtra Election Watch (MEW), Shri D. M. Sukhtankar, President, AGNI, Maj. Gen. Anil Verma (Retd.), Head, ADR, and many other eminent persons attended the event.

Information Technology

ADR has been using Information Technology tools widely to ensure effective and efficient data analysis along with greater dissemination of its research. The following were the major activities of the IT team this year:

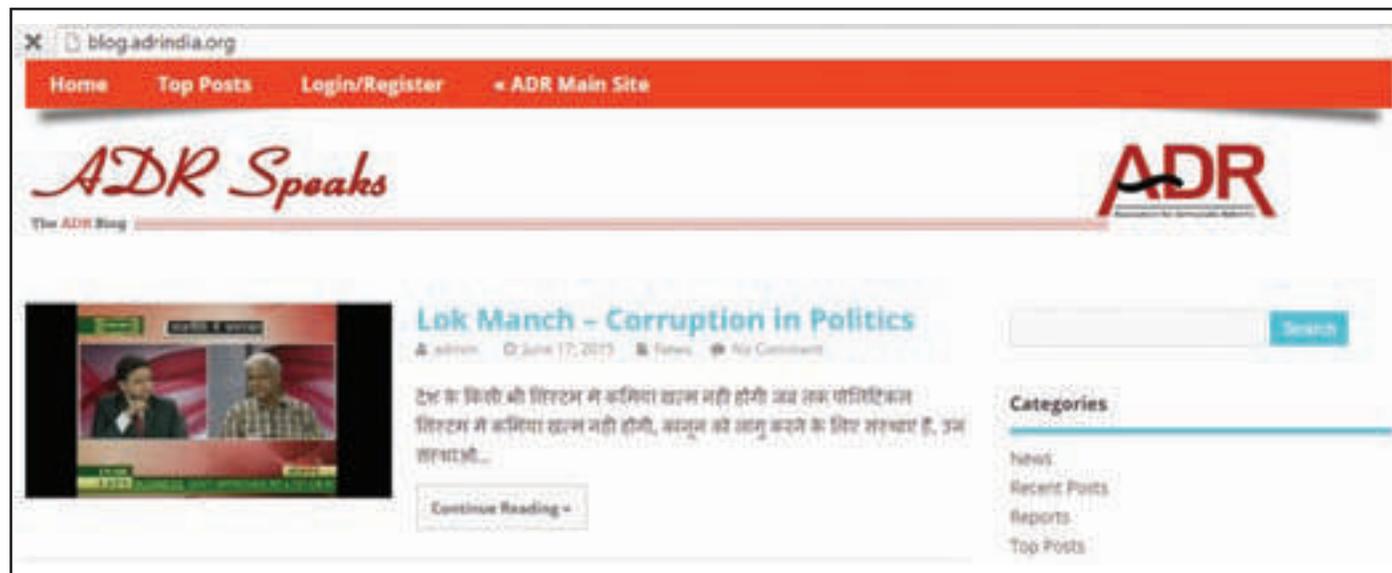
1. **Maintenance of and updating the Election Watch Software:** The online tool was revamped to include more reports for the Election Watch analysis during the Assembly elections of 2014.



2. **Political Party Watch Software:** An online tool has been created for digitizing donation details of political parties in myneta.



3. **Payment Gateway:** Introduced to facilitate direct online payments through gateway at donations.adrindia.org.
4. **ADR Blog:** ADR Speaks was launched as a platform for all the articles written by ADR Trustees, State Coordinators and employees on various subjects related to our work.



5. **Management of the Website (www.adrindia.org)** has been taken over completely by our in-house IT team. It is also being continuously revamped to make it more reader friendly.
6. **Embedded infographic:** Embedded infographics have been made in html for Lok Sabha book which can be embedded in the website as well.

11th Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reform

Under the aegis of ADR and the West Bengal Election Watch team, the 11th Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms was held on the 21st and 22nd of March 2015 at Ramakrishna Mission Institute, Golpark, Kolkata, West Bengal.

Topics of discussion during the Annual Conference ranged from 'Making flow of money in politics transparent: A case for good governance', 'Time to build a functional democracy: Empowering local body institutions' to 'Media neutrality and its significance in democracy'. These discussions were enriched by the participation of



eminent people including the Chief Election Commissioner Shri H. S. Brahma, who was the Chief Guest, representatives of political parties, civil society and the media.

Shri H. S. Brahma inaugurated the Conference. Representatives of the National Election Watch from each State Chapter, members of political parties, government institutions and media were present to deliberate on issues related to electoral and political reform in the country.

Some of the eminent personalities who participated in the various panel discussions besides Shri Brahma were Swami Suparnananda Maharaj, Secretary, RKM, Golpark, Shri Sukhvilas Verma (INC), Shri T. S. Krishnamurthy (Former CEC), Shri Manoj Bhattacharya (RSP), Shri Prabodh Chandra Panda (State Secretary, CPI), Shri Asim Dasgupta (CPI (M)), Shri Amit Choudhary (CPI(ML)(L)) and Shri Ravindra Kumar (M.D. & Editor – in – Chief, The Statesman).

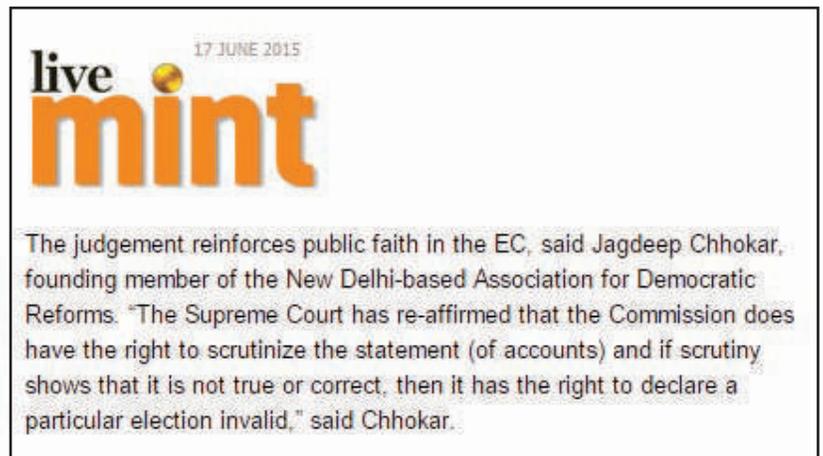
Our Achievements: 2014-15

Impact of our work

1. Based on a **petition filed by ADR to monitor election expenditure of political parties**, the Delhi High Court, on 28th May 2014, issued notices to the Union Government and the Election Commission asking them to file their submissions. The next date for hearing is 9th July, 2015. This case has highlighted the enormous amount of money being spent by political parties during elections and pressed for a need to put a cap on political parties' election expenditure as it exists on candidates' expenditure.



2. On 28th March 2014, the Delhi High Court held the two major National political parties, **BJP and Congress, guilty of taking foreign funding and thereby violating the provisions of FCRA**. The Delhi HC also directed the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and Election Commission of India (ECI) to take action against the two parties within six months. The matter is pending before the Supreme Court and as of now SC has not put a stay on Delhi HC's order.
3. In the Ashok Chavan paid news case, the Supreme Court passed a judgment holding that Election Commission of India (ECI) has power to disqualify a candidate



in relation to filing of false election expenditure statement under Section 10A of RPA. ADR had intervened in the case supporting the stand of the ECI. This is one of the few cases where Paid News has been taken as a valid ground for the conviction of an MP/MLA.

4. Ahead of the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, ADR-Daksh conducted perhaps the largest ever survey in India where over 2.5 lacs people from 525 Lok Sabha constituencies participated and outlined their priorities with regard to governance issues. The survey reports generated tremendous interest in the performance data/ratings of MPs and was widely covered by the Electronic and Print Media.
5. The 11th Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms which was held in March 2015 in Kolkata, West Bengal, saw the participation of over one thousand people, including activists from various districts of West Bengal and officials from different Government institutions like ECI and Law Commission, senior leaders from different political parties, eminent civil society activists, senior media persons as well students and citizens.
6. ADR has been actively involved in spreading awareness among the people and within this year, scores of articles and TV shows can be cited which quoted data presented by ADR on the issue of electoral and political reforms. Some of the press coverage can be viewed on: <http://adrindia.org/media/adr-in-news>
7. On social media platforms like Facebook/Twitter we are being followed by thousands of people. Our ADR Facebook page has over 50,000 followers, while myneta Facebook page has over 55,000 followers. Even newly launched ADR blog has hundreds of followers. Within this year, many of our posts/infographics/creatives have seen a viral effect on the Web with hundreds of Likes and Shares. Our Facebook Link is: <https://www.facebook.com/adr.new?fref=photo&ref=settings>
8. Google Reach Volunteer Program: ADR has been selected for the Google Reach Program where Google will organize private workshop for ADR employees.

Awards & Recognitions

January 2015: National Election Watch and Association for Democratic Reforms won Election Commission of India's prestigious 'National CSO Award – 2014' for "Best Voter Education and Awareness Campaigns for General Election to Lok Sabha 2014" on the occasion of National Voters' Day on 25 January 2015. State Election Watch chapters of Bihar, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have received special mention in the award.



August 2014: Recognition for 'outstanding achievement' in the category of 'International Institutional Engagement Award' by International Centre for Parliamentary Studies, London, UK.



April 2014: Awarded the 'NDTV Indian of the Year-India's Future' in Public Service Category.



Photo Gallery (2014-15)









“Electoral reforms for citizens means to vote responsibly and to vote for good candidates.”

-CEC Shri Brahma, While addressing the Conference on the issue of electoral and political reforms on 21st March, 2015.

11th Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms, Kolkata



“There is a minimal legislation in field of monitoring of donations received by Political Parties, present mechanism of monitoring of party funds is replete with loopholes. When sources of 90% of funds received by Political Parties are not known, it is impossible to monitor these funds.”

-Shri PK Dash (Director General Expenditure, ECI)

11th Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms, Kolkata



“The RTI responses have revealed that the electoral reforms recommended by several government commissions have been pending for decades. Political Parties must be audited by CAG.”

- Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal (RTI Activist)

11th Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms, Kolkata



“While lambasting the election spending disclosures submitted by candidates in Lok Sabha 2014 elections, proposed that if limits on electoral spending by candidates are removed then a few candidates may end up revealing their actual spending in elections. The self-sworn affidavits of at-least winners and runners up candidates should be verified by Income Tax Department.”

- Shri Shalish Gandhi (Former Information Commissioner)

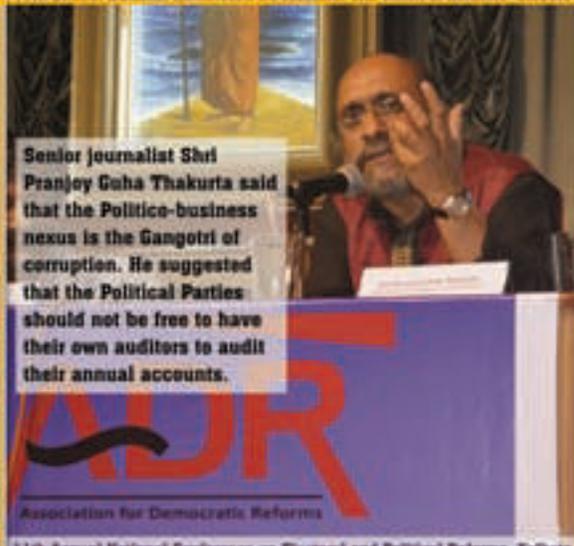
11th Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms, Kolkata



“Political Parties are the weak links in Indian democracy and all the major electoral reforms till date have only been brought by the Supreme Court. State funding of elections with setting up of National Election Fund (NEF) to which corporates and citizens can donate funds and get 100% tax exemption is recommended. There is also the need for a separate law for regulating Political Parties functioning and their finances.”

-Former CEC Shri TS Krishnamurthy

11th Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms, Kolkata



Senior journalist Shri Pranjoy Guha Thakurta said that the Politico-business nexus is the Gangotri of corruption. He suggested that the Political Parties should not be free to have their own auditors to audit their annual accounts.

11th Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms, Kolkata



About ADR

The History

A group of Professors from Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad set up Association for Democratic Reforms in August 1999. They filed a Public Interest Litigation in Delhi High Court in 1999 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 background disclosure mandatory for candidates to disclose in their affidavits criminal, financial and educational background to be submitted to the Election Commission of India.

ADR has been conducting Election Watches since 2002. The first election watch was conducted by ADR in 2002 for Gujarat Assembly Elections whereby detailed analysis of the backgrounds of candidates contesting elections was provided to help the electorate make an informed choice during polls. Since then ADR has conducted Election Watches for almost all state and parliament elections in collaboration with the National Election Watch. There is now an Election Watch chapter present in each state in the country working as National Election Watch.

ADR along with the NEW has also increased its efforts towards increasing transparency and accountability in the functioning of political parties. After a Central Information Commission (CIC)'s order in 2008, it started analyzing and disseminating information on the Income Tax Returns and Donation details of political parties. In 2013, based on a complaint filed by ADR and Shri Subhash Agarwal, the CIC declared 6 national parties as 'public authority' under the Right to Information Act.

As part of the same effort, ADR has also increased its engagement with political parties with the objective of soliciting their support in reforming the political system.

Strategic litigation is another tool employed by ADR to push for required reform in the political and electoral system. ADR has intervened in several PILs, some of which have resulted in landmark judgments and has filed PILs itself in some cases.

ADR is supported and strengthened by the National Election Watch and a large number of very eminent personalities who continue to collaborate with ADR/NEW in various efforts. ADR uses Information Technology to streamline its data analysis and has over time, increased its communication initiatives to broad base its outreach on the ground.

Our Trustees

1. Prof. Trilochan Sastry (Professor, IIM Bangalore)
2. Prof. Jagdeep S. Chhokar (Former Professor, Dean, and Director In-Charge, IIM Ahmedabad)
3. Prof. Ajit Ranade (Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group)
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8. Dr. Vipul Mudgal, Director of Common Cause and Head of the Inclusive Media for Change Project of the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS).

Our Founders (1999)

1. Trilochan Sastry (Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad)
2. Jagdeep S. Chhokar (Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad)
3. Sunil Handa (Eklavya Education Foundation, Ahmedabad and visiting Professor, IIM, Ahmedabad)
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10. Prem Pangotra (Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad)
11. Sudarshan Khanna (Professor, National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad)

Financial Status

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2015

FUND & LIABILITIES	Rs.	Rs.	PROPERTY AND ASSETS	Rs.	Rs.
Trust Funds or Corpus :			Immovable properties :		-
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	3,423,000.00		Computer : (At Cost) (Fcra)		
Add : During the year	15,191,000.00	18,614,000.00	Balance as per last Balance Sheet	1,468,516.00	
Contribution from Founder Members			Additions during the year	117,204.00	
Balance as per last Balance Sheet.		6,000.00	Less: during the year	(224,363.00)	1,361,357.00
Other Earmarked Funds :			Furniture & Fixtures :		
(Created under the provisions of the Trust Deed of Scheme or out of the income)	-	-	(At Cost) (Fcra)		
			Balance as per last Balance Sheet	385,138.00	
			Additions during the year	2,200.00	
			Less: during the year	(139,869.00)	247,469.00
Ford Fixed Assets Fund (Fcra) Opening Balance:	1,019,752.00		Office Equipment :		
Less : During the year	(298,709.00)	721,043.00	(At Cost) (Fcra)		
Hivos Fixed Assets Fund: Opening Balance	1,353,540.00		Balance as per last Balance Sheet	702,256.00	
Less : During the year	(164,187.00)	1,189,353.00	Additions during the year - Fcra	46,131.00	
Fixed Assets Fund (Sdtt) : Opening Balance	641,525.00		Less: during the year	(98,664.00)	649,723.00
Less : During the year	(92,721.00)	548,804.00	Computer : (At Cost) (Local)		
Fixed Assets Fund - Local : Opening Balance	270,958.00		Balance as per last Balance Sheet	561,190.00	
Add : During the year	94,047.00	365,005.00	Additions during the year	24,000.00	
Fixed Assets Fund - ADR : Opening Balance	182,618.00		Less: during the year	(5,400.00)	579,790.00
Add : During the year	165,535.00	348,153.00	Furniture & Fixtures :		
Accumulation of funds u/s.11(31.03.2014)		19,500,000.00	(At Cost) (Local)		
			Balance as per last Balance Sheet	134,766.00	
			Less: during the year	(62,704.00)	72,062.00
Depreciation Fund : (Fcra)			Office Equipment :		
Computer	1,209,879.00		(At Cost) (Local)		
Furniture	72,352.00		Balance as per last Balance Sheet	222,427.00	
Office Equipment	284,768.00	1,566,999.00	Additions during the year - Local	68,326.00	
			Less: during the year	(28796.00)	261,957.00

Financial Status

FUND & LIABILITIES	Rs.	Rs.	PROPERTY AND ASSETS	Rs.	Rs.
Depreciation Fund : (Local)					
Computer	536,143.00		Investments : In Fixed Deposit Account with HDFC Bank - local-General Fund	30,994,452.85	
Furniture	29,633.00				
Office Equipment	105,211.00	670,987.00			
Grants :			HDFC Bank - local-Corpus Fund	20,174,457.16	
Ford Foundation- Opening	1,285,723.73		HDFC Bank- Fcra Utilisation A/c	1,702,956.99	52,871,867.00
Less: Utilised during the year	(1,285,723.73)	-			
Omidyar Network- Opening	28,761,073.00		Advances :		
Less: Utilised during the year	(28,761,073.00)	-	To NGO Partners	91,743.00	
Hivos- Opening	339,059.00		To Prepaid Expenses	87,968.00	
Add: Received during the year	3,760,062.00		To TDS Earlier Years	532,116.08	
Less: Utilised during the year	(4,099,121.00)	-	To TDS F.Y 14-15	481,106.52	1,192,933.60
Rohini Nilekani- Opening	2,009,629.00		Security Deposits:-		538,500.00
Less: Utilised during the year	(2,009,629.00)	-	(i) Cash And Bank Balances- In Current/Savings Account with :		
Google Grant received during the year	2,960,000.00		IndusInd Bank , Ahmedabad - Local	26,117.18	
Less: Utilised during the year	(2,960,000.00)	-	IndusInd Bank, Ahmedabad - Fcra	15,105.54	
Liabilities :			HDFC Bank - Local	496,090.85	
Duties & Taxes	48,145.00		HDFC Bank - Fcra Utilisation A/c	(424,927.51)	
Sundry Creditors	176,920.52		State Bank of India-Local	6,683.50	
Provisions	17,245.00	242,310.52	Punjab National Bank - Local	10,739.90	129,809.46
Income and expenditure Account			(ii) Cash in hand - Local	22,520.00	
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	12,175,649.71		Cash in hand - Fcra	7,134.00	29,654.00
Add : Trfd from Fixed Asset Fund	551,000.00				
Add : Surplus/less : (Deficit)					
As per Income & Expenditure A/c	1,435,817.83	14,162,467.54			
Total		57,935,122.06	Total		57,935,122.06

Financial Status

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 2015

EXPENDITURE	Rs.	Rs.	INCOME	Rs.	Rs.
To Expenditure in respect of properties :			By Grants Utilised - Annexure-3		39,115,546.73
Rates, Taxes, Cessess - Muni. Tax					
Repairs and maintenance - Building			By Voluntary Contributions		11,834,302.00
Salaries			By Interest on Bank Deposits Interest on FDRs-IndusInd Bank Interest on FDRs-HDFC Bank Saving Bank Interest		4,976,692.53
Insurance					
Depreciation (by way of provision or adjustments)					
Other expenses					
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 Member Entrance Fees Charity Trust Contribution Refund Interest on Staff Loan	5,000.00 1,000.00 192,857.00 2,392.00	201,249.00
Income Accumulation u/s.11 To Depreciation :					
Depreciation on Computer/ printer	265,663.00				
Depreciation on Furniture & Fixtures	32,277.00				
Depreciation on Office Equipments	96,447.00				
Income Applied to Fixed Assets	257,861.00				
Loss of Assets written off	59,919.00	712,167.00			
To Expenditure on objects of the trust					
(a) Religious	-				
(b) Educational	-				
(c) Medical Relief	-				
(d) Relief of poverty	-				
(e) Other charitable objects :					
Electoral Reforms					
Administrative Activities					
Exp-Annexure-1	8,445,940.64				
Election Watch Activities					
Exp-Annexure-2	45,533,864.79	53,979,805.43			
To Surplus carried over to Balance Sheet		1,435,817.83			
Total		56,127,790.26	Total		56,127,790.26

Our Supporters

The various activities we carry out are made possible through the support of individuals and organizations. We gratefully acknowledge the financial, material, moral and technical support of the following partners:

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4. Caring Friends
44, Vaikunth CHS Ltd.,
Lallubhai Park Andheri (W)
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5. Vikram Sarabhai Foundation,
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6. Some eminent individuals

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Press Clipping (2014-15)

88% of Maharashtra MLAs are crorepatis

Study Finds Assets Of 80 Legislators Exceed Rs 10Cr

Richa Pinto @timesgroup.com

Maharashtra boasts of more crorepatis in its legislative assembly than even Haryana, with 88% of its MLAs in the crore-and-above club, compared to only 83% in the northern state.

In fact, 253 of the 288 MLAs in Maharashtra have declared assets above Rs 1 crore, of which 80 have assets worth more than Rs 10 crore and 16 have assets exceeding Rs 50 crore. Topping the chart with the highest assets is BJP MLA Mangal Prabhat Lodha, elected from Malabar Hill, who has declared assets over Rs 198 crore. A close second is Samajwadi Party candidate Abu Azmi, elected from Mankhurd

A FEW CRORES AND MORE

Source: ADR



Shrihari Nagre, with declared assets of over Rs 150 crore.

The analysis, done by Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), also shows that average assets of MLAs have increased from Rs 4.80 crores in the 2009 assembly

elections to Rs 10.67 crore in the 2014 assembly elections. ADR founder, state coordinator of ADR, said all data is based on affidavits filed by the candidates. "A large majority of people in Maharashtra remain poor, but the people's representa-

tives only seem to be getting richer. We do not mean to say that the people's representation need to be poor, but we observed that the average wealth of candidates has doubled compared to the last assembly elections. Another important pattern

that emerges from the data analysed is that the winner or second runner up is mostly the richest candidate who has filed his/her nomination from the constituency," he said.

A party wise break up indicates that 85% of the BJP's 132 MLAs, 88% of the Shiv Sena's 61 MLAs, 95% of the 41 MLAs from the NCP and 91% of the 41 Congress MLAs analysed declared assets more than Rs 1 crore. "While 95% of NCP MLAs are crorepatis, 85% are from the BJP. There does not seem to be much of a difference between party-wise percentages as most are on the higher end," added Ranade.

A total of 87 MLAs declared liabilities of Rs 1 crore and above. Of these, nine have declared liabilities of Rs 10 crore and above. Legislators with the highest liabilities are the BJP's Mangal Prabhat Lodha (Malabar Hill), Bahujan Vikas Aaghadi's Hirendra Thakur (Vashi) and BJP's Ashish Deshmukh (Kandl).

TIMES NAVI MUMBAI ToI (B7) 28/1/2015

66% of new corporators are crorepatis: Report

Vijay Singh @timesgroup.com

WHAT LIES BENEATH II
RICH AND POWERFUL

69 Poll winners have assets over ₹1 cr

14 'Netaji' assets are over ₹10 cr

31 NCP corporators are crorepatis

25 Shiv Sena candidates are valued over ₹1 cr

6 Congress winners have assets over ₹50 cr

5 BJP men are crorepatis

RICH LIST

₹40.30 cr Net worth declared by **NETRA SHIRKE** | NCP

₹26.03 cr Net worth declared by **RAMCHANDRA GHARAT** | BJP

₹37.92 cr Net worth declared by **KUSHNOR PATIL** | Shiv Sena

₹17.67 cr Net worth declared by **SURESH KULKARNI** | NCP

₹30.47 cr Net worth declared by **NANDED BHAGAT** | Shiv Sena

DUBIOUS PAST?

17 Corporators with criminal cases against them

13 Candidates with serious criminal cases against them

9 Winners have liabilities of over ₹1 cr, not submit their tax returns

42% Corporators who did not submit their tax returns

Experts said that what makes for interesting reading was 17 of the 306 have criminal cases registered against them. Also, 13 (12%) of the winning candidates have serious criminal cases registered against them. "It is interesting to note that while 12% of the winners have serious criminal cases against them, a whopping 66% of the new corporators have financial assets worth over Rs 1 crore. This is a trend that states that new-age politicians are rich and some have a dubious past," said a political observer.

CRIMINAL LAWMAKERS?

This is **34%** of total LS MPs, compared to **30%** in the previous Lok Sabha having criminal cases

185 MPs in the current Lok Sabha have declared **criminal cases** against themselves.

112 MPs or 21% have serious criminal cases, including charges of **murder, kidnapping** and crimes against women etc. This was only 15% in the previous LS

2 MPs have cases related to crimes against women related to kidnapping, abducting or inducing to compel her marriage, etc. (IPC Section-366)

10 MPs have cases related to robbery and dacoity

7 MPs have cases related to kidnapping

Note: Affidavits of 542 winners of LS polls analysed; Source: Association for Democratic Reforms

'Voters don't mind candidates with minor criminal records'

Richa Pinto@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: In what could come as a surprise to many, voters often overlook candidates' criminal records, NGOs from the city said. Despite statistics which NGOs present voters with prior to elections, they say that unless the crime is very grave, voters often vote for the candidate. That is what NGOs have found through surveys conducted over the past few years.

Recently, when the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) analyzed self-sworn affidavits of 2,336 candidates from Maharashtra contesting the assembly elections, they showed how out of 1,318 candidates fielded by five major political parties (BJP, Shiv Sena, MNS, Congress and NCP), 640 (49%) of them have criminal cases against them.

Sharad Kumar, state coordinator at

ADR, said that by presenting these statistics they want the voter to make an informed choice. "But political parties often look through candidates with criminal records if they feel that he or she is a winning candidate. This leaves the voter with little choice. But many times, the educated voters give importance to criminal cases."

SURVEYS BY NGOS

Shyama Kulkarni, a trustee of AGNI (Action for good Governance and Networking in India), said recently when there was a "Meet your candidates" session at St Andrew's Church courtyard in Bandra, she saw how the educational qualifications of candidates mattered to voters. "Voters were keen on the candidate who represented them being smart. In case of criminal records, unless it

was something grave like money laundering or molestation, voters did not consider it as an important factor while voting. A factor which mattered to voters was if the candidate was a builder; then they were unsure about him, as there were chances of him favoring the builders' lobby," said Kulkarni.

The Praja Foundation NGO, which also conducts its own surveys, recently released results of one which showed how 57% from the city perceived their MLAs to be extremely corrupt in 2014. They said that they observed that most voters believed that voting was their 'responsibility'. "Therefore, even if the candidate was a criminal but did social work like held blood donation camps or took people on a yatra to a religious place, there were chances of them voting for him," said Milind Mhaske, project director, Praja Foundation.

The Tribune

CHANDIGARH | THURSDAY | 28 OCTOBER 2014

GOVERNMENT'S BLACK MONEY LIST TO SUPREME COURT

Mining firm under lens funded BJP, Cong

AMITY TANDON

CHANDIGARH

CHANDIGARH: An analysis by Chandigarh-based Amity Tandon, who has been in the news for his role in the black money scandal, has been a frequent choice by both the BJP and the Congress.

The mining company in the past seven years donated Rs 1.18 crore to the BJP and Rs 95 lakh to the Congress. An analysis of donations by individuals and companies to the national parties between Financial Year 2007-08 and 2011-12 submitted to the Election Commission reveals that Tandon, whose MPT Bandra Tandon figure in the black money affidavit the government submitted to the Supreme Court today, donated on three occasions to the BJP between 2004 and 2012 and on three occasions to the Congress.

The donations

- Chandigarh-based Tandon donated Rs 1.18 crore to the BJP and Rs 95 lakh to the Congress in the past seven years.
- An analysis of donations reveals that Tandon, whose MPT Bandra Tandon figure in the black money affidavit the government submitted to the SC, donated to the BJP on nine occasions and to the Congress on three.
- The BJP also received funds from Chandigarh-based Tandon, who figures in the government's 'black money' list.

request for the 2011-12 also lists Chandigarh-based Tandon from Tandon's (another person named in the government affidavit) as having donated Rs 5,000 to the party.

Tandon Private Limited made significant donations to the BJP in a single year (February 2011-2012) when its four members gave the national party Rs 23 lakh each totalling to the 1 crore. These funds were recorded today by the electoral reform group's Association for Democratic Reforms, which considered all available data of the national party's donation reports to reach

the conclusions.

The donations by Tandon group are listed against the names of Tandon MPT Bandra Tandon, Durg Tandon and Panchajanya Tandon Industries.

Again in 2008-09, the Tandon's accounts were included to the BJP in three occasions - Rs 25 lakh on one, Rs 7 lakh on another and Rs 2 lakh on another. Other similar accounts were given in 2004-05.

In 2011-12, Chandigarh-based Tandon, also a government affidavit in black money scandal, donated Rs 51,000 to the BJP by way of an Amity

Bank cheque, as mentioned in the BJP's donation report for the year.

Tandon also donated Rs 55 lakh to the Congress in 2011-12 and again Rs 10 lakh in 2009-2010.

There are in all 12 Electoral Trusts in India only seven of which have been approved by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) because three were formed after the CBET rules governing Electoral Trusts were notified on January 31, 2013.

The remaining six Electoral Trusts are out of CBET and as they were in existence before the CBET rules were notified, they were notified. The seven Electoral Trusts formed after the CBET rules came into effect were required to submit details of their donations to the Election Commission. The remaining six formed before CBET rules were notified for one such requirement. These six Electoral

Trusts have donated more than Rs 105 crore to national parties between 2004-05 and 2011-12. Details of these donations are mentioned in ADR analysis.

The implication is that it to be verified whether the funding of political parties through Electoral Trusts (not covered by CBET rules) was only a means of getting tax exemption or was a means to convert black money stashed in the heavens into white money in India.

ADR said details of donors of Rs 105 crore donated to political parties by the six Electoral Trusts which were formed before the CBET rules came into existence, should also be disclosed. These Trusts are - General Electoral Trust, Electoral Trust, Harman Electoral Trust, Corporate Electoral Trust, Hindu Electoral Trust and Satya Electoral Trust.

hindustantimes

Youths urged to protect democracy

With the election of Narendra Modi as prime minister, the role of youth in protecting democracy is being emphasized. The National Service Scheme (NSS) programme office and vice-principal of the college, Parvati Meher Singh, welcomed the event, while NSS programme officer, Subhash Prasad Singh, presented a copy of the book.

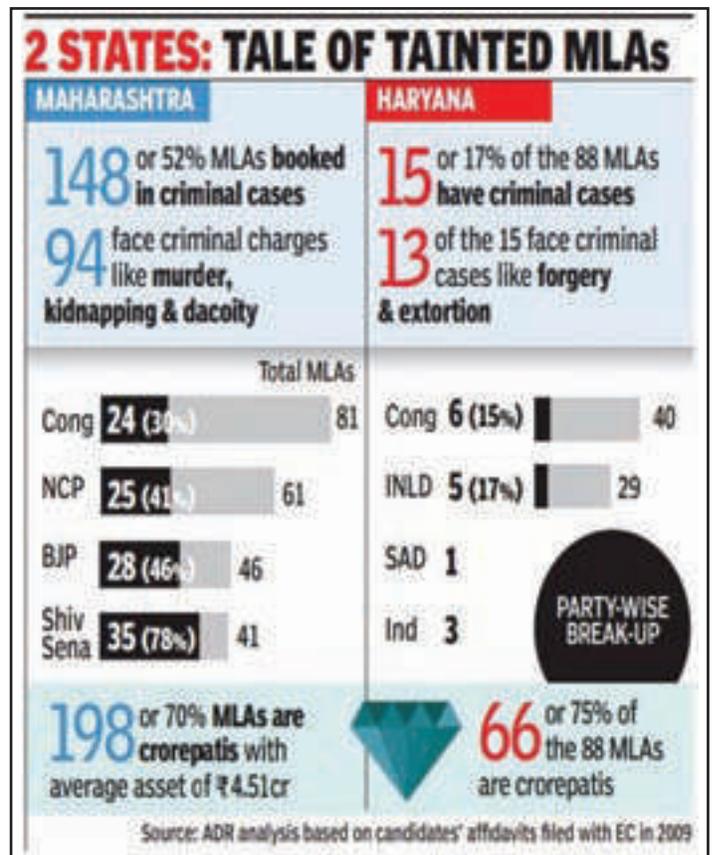
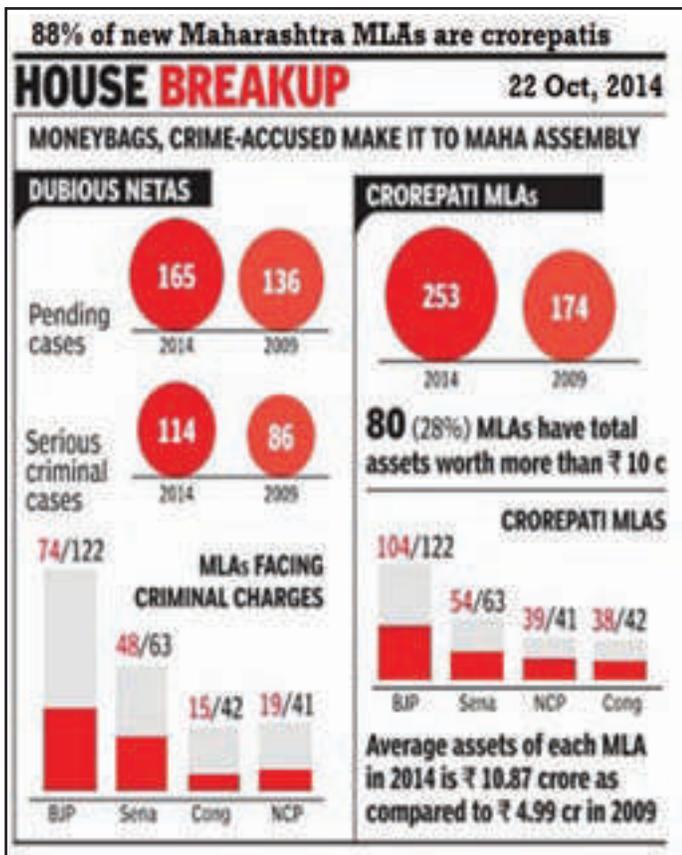
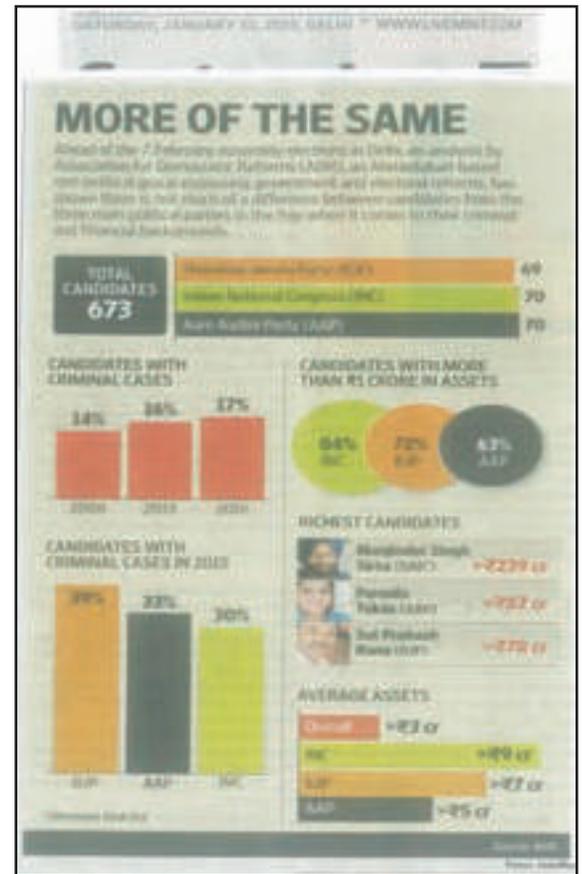
Participating students of the college are urged to give two reports on the event, one on the spot and one on the spot, which will be submitted to the college.

The Tribune

Tracking poll mood

FEEL THE BUZZ ON 167-YEAR-OLD ROUTE FROM RANCI TO LONARHAGA

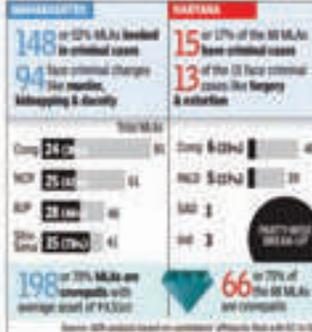
The Tribune



50% of Maha MLAs have criminal background: ADR

17% of Haryana Legislators Are Tainted

2 STATES: TALE OF TAINTED MLAs



New Delhi: Almost half the members of the Maharashtra assembly and 17% in the Haryana have criminal cases pending against them. Not just murder cases but some very grave ones appear to be pending. About 28% or 70% of Maharashtra MLAs are charged with murder 75% of the Haryana MLAs are charged with. In the state go to polls next month.

The results by Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) is based on information provided by candidates in affidavits submitted to the Election Commission in 2008. About 148 (52%) out of the 283 MLAs in Maharashtra have declared criminal cases against themselves. Of these 94 were in

various criminal cases which include murder, attempt to murder, forgery, kidnapping and abduction among others. For instance Gajendra Mahapatra of Shiv Sena, Maharashtra, was charged with murder. While 13 MLAs have attempt to murder cases pending, 12 legislators have cases of forgery and abducting against them and 4 are charged with the kidnapping.

Haryana has a relatively cleaner set of legislators. About 11% out of the 170 MLAs admitted have criminal cases pending against them. Of the 15 MLAs there charged with criminal cases. Three include forgery, abduction among others. The list of those includes former Minister (300) Prakash Chandra and his son Anil Singh Chandra who are currently on bail in a murder case involving a 12-year-old girl.

While Haryana's legislators topped an average asset of Rs 7.21 crore, Maharashtra MLAs averaged by 4.6 crore as assets.

In Haryana, the legislators with the highest assets were Congress' Vinod Kumar and Anand Singh with Rs 27.22 crore. Mahesh Kumar of BJP had Rs 27.22 crore and IAC Shakti Singh of BJP had Rs 27.22 crore.

MAKE AN INFORMED CHOICE THIS ELECTION

Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) has analyzed the affidavits of 2,336 candidates across Maharashtra. Of these, 538 candidates are contesting from the 36 constituencies of Mumbai

798 34% of them have declared criminal cases against themselves

Average assets: 4.6 cr

14 candidates have declared zero assets

Candidates with serious criminal cases (murder and attempt, kidnap, communal disharmony, crimes against women)

No. of candidates fielded by Congress, BJP, MNS, Shiv Sena & NCP: 1,208

Party-wise candidates with serious criminal cases:

- Congress: 36 of 287 (20%)
- Shiv Sena: 114 of 271 (41%)
- NCP: 36 of 277 (29%)
- BJP: 84 of 254 (33%)
- MNS: 81 of 218 (42%)

In 2014: 405 (32%) of the 1,238 candidates have declared criminal cases. In 2009: 211 (20%) of the 998 candidates had declared criminal cases.

Candidates who have declared large assets

Of the top six, three candidates are from Mumbai

Out of 2,336 candidates analyzed, 236 candidates declared assets worth more than ₹100 cr

Name	Constituency	Total assets (cr)
Mohit Kamboj (BJP)	Dindoshi	1251 cr
Nandkumar Tansarkar (BJP)	Phaltan (Sci)	1211 cr
Manga Prakash Lodha (BJP)	Maitoli Hill	1198 cr

Party-wise average assets per candidate

- 258 BJP candidates have average assets worth ₹18.3 cr
- 277 NCP candidates have average assets worth ₹7.25 cr
- 276 Shiv Sena candidates have average assets worth ₹7.8 cr
- 267 Congress candidates have average assets worth ₹7.8 cr
- 218 MNS candidates: ₹2.8 cr

Education

- 11 candidates have declared themselves as illiterate
- 1,276 (55%) candidates are 12th pass or below
- 985 (42%) candidates are graduates or above.

Poll offences: Use smart phones to complain

Sana Sandeepkumar

People can now register any complaint they have on election day through their smart phones. On Monday, the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) launched an online application known as Election Watch Reporter (EWR) that uses GPS location, time stamps and descriptions to register complaints against wrong candidates, Members of Parliament (MP) and Members of Legislative Assembly (MLA) who are present at the session.

Complaints on...

- Media & advertising powers & handling distribution of the use of illegal, distorted or cash, gift and derogatory, abusive, untrue or defamatory, non-deposit of banners, etc.

What's the aim of EWR?

"Through this application we seek to increase people participation in monitoring free and fair elections and to expose election malpractices," said ADR founder of ADR at the launch of the application.

NGO AGNI wants candidates to...

- 1. Strictly implement the Maharashtra Rights to Services Act under which no one should stay pending in an office for more than seven days.
- 2. To gear pending police reforms.
- 3. To amend Lok Sabha Act.
- 4. To scrap Nagar Nigam Bill and reject the Draft Bill as recommended by Centre.
- 5. MLA should meet people just elections and prior to security sessions in order to represent the problems and interests of their constituents better.
- 6. Unnecessary spending of tax payers' money. People should also know where and why money is being spent.

What do NGOs want political parties to do?

They have requested political parties, through a mail, to put up their constituencies in the meeting state assembly constituencies.

Other plans...

In the coming days they also plan to hold awareness programmes for citizens to inform them about the performance of their candidates. They also plan to address college students and urge them to report the importance of free and fair elections and why candidates with clean records should be elected. These NGOs are also working on organising 'Meet your constituencies' sessions.

Through this application we seek to increase people participation in ensuring free and fair elections and expose election malpractices

—Ajit Ranade, ADR



Congress party leader Manoj Kumar Thakur, Maharashtra chief minister Prithvi Chavan, Industries Minister Rajayee Kure and senior party leader Sudhakar Shinde pay homage to martyr of Maharashtra Chavhan before his visit to the Congress election campaign Monday—Santosh Salunkhe

BJP readies report card ahead of Shah's visit

Geta Desai

Maharashtra unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party is gearing up to prepare a report card on the state's ground level situation. Before party's national president Anand Shah comes to the city on September 4, the state unit committee members, apart from addressing party workers, will also visit five Congress constituencies in the state.

On Monday, state leadership met at the party's State office in Central Mumbai and discussed the report cards prepared by the observers who visited the constituencies across the state. "This was the first election committee meeting. Not all but a few report cards were discussed. Rest of these will be looked into in the next few days. These report cards would meet a lot while finalising candidates close to the polls," said Shah.

Shah BJP president Devendra Fadnis said that the party national president will share his views and give suggestions on appropriate directions. "We will present all the facts and details to him which will give a fair idea of the ground level situation in Maharashtra," said Fadnis.

Shah, who will be in the city for only a day, will not meet the state president Gajendra Thakurkar, Fadnis is believed to be planning the Shah's visit to see the ground level situation and to address party workers. "We wanted him to come and be a part of the Maharashtra reform and take direction of Lok Sangaad. Not meeting (Shah) does not mean that we have any differences. Our relationship is not dependent on meeting or not. We will meet at the right time."

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The BJP's state unit meeting of Vice-President Gajendra Thakurkar on Monday

CM blasts Modi govt for playing 'power politics'

Sanjivkumar

Chief Minister Prithvi Chavan kick-started the campaigner assembly elections on Monday by attacking the Narendra Modi-led government. Chavan alleged that the ruling government was deliberately delaying power transmission projects to Maharashtra, which, in turn, would lead to a major power crisis in the state. Addressing a Congress workers' meeting at Aundh

Mumbai, Chavan said if the state faced a power crisis, then the BJP government will be held responsible. "Actually, it is the state's responsibility to supply power to the state. But the centre is playing politics and it is not for the state's development," said the chief minister before addressing the rally. Congress leaders in a 'hats off' gesture of the Honorary Chief Minister's courtesy to pay homage to the martyrs of the Sangli

power crisis to provide relief to people. But they are keen to severely hampering projects which were started and completed by the Congress-led UPA government," stated the CM.

The rally was also addressed by former union home minister Sudhakar Shinde, who is the Maharashtra committee chairman of Maharashtra Congress, campaigner in Maharashtra. Shinde said the BJP government had not been doing well in the state. He said that the BJP government had not been doing well in the state. He said that the BJP government had not been doing well in the state.

Cong coiffers empty in MP as donors turn cold

Times News Service

Whipped Congress that returned to power in Madhya Pradesh for a long time and for last decade in main opposition party have failed to get any donations during 2013-14. In contrast, BJP and Communist Party of India (CPI) are only two political parties from state that have received donations according to a report released by Association of Democratic Workers (ADW) and MP Election Watch (MPEW).

FISCAL STATEMENT OF POLITICAL PARTIES

Party	Income	Expenditure	Surplus/Deficit	Party Assets
Cong	425.69	699	13.72	2.75% N
BJP	524.38	271.23	83.29	26.64% N
NCP	26.56	0.05	0.05	0.19% N
CPI	126.09	32	3.81	3.02% N
CPI (M)	1.07	0.12	0.269	34.89% N
SP	346.09	123.62	2.24	13.8% N
Total	1,044.87	1,116.08	101.36	9.64%

Like Congress, BJP, CPI, SP, BJD, ICM, and JDS also received no donations from MP. ADW report states Union ministers Kamendra Singh Tiwari and Uma Bharti were among donors who donated Rs 1 lakh each to BJP. Tiwari however denied through his PAN card details. Analysis of income, expenditure and donations received by major political parties of MP (FY 2013-14) was done by ADW which claimed that Congress which raised Rs 11.75 crores nationally from 788 donors, failed to take for it in MP.

Individual donations formed bulk of donations received by political parties, 86% (Rs 27.52 lakh) of BJP's donations from MP were from individual donors while 10% of CPI's donations (Rs. 36,000) were from individuals. Nine out of 32 donors (28%) from SP who donated Rs 6.30 lakh to political parties have not revealed their PAN details. Eight of these donors donated Rs 8 lakh to the BJP, while one donor donated Rs 30,000 to CPI.

In 2013-14, the total income of key national parties stood at Rs. 991.20 crores, kept an average of their FY returns similar to the Election Commission (EC) by ADW. Expenditure of these parties in the same year stood at Rs 648.7 crores. These national parties include Congress, BJP, Bahujan Samaj Party, Nationalist Congress Party, Communist Party of India and Communist Party of India (Marxist) as per ADW.

Later's share of declared income belongs to the two top political parties. Congress had highest total income of Rs 425.69 crores, followed by BJP with Rs 524.38 crores. BSP declared an income of Rs. 37.60 crore followed by NCP with Rs 26.56 crore and CPI (M) with Rs 1.07 crore for FY 2013-14. Corporate and business donors top list of contributors with 78% to national parties, followed by individual donations of 17%.

DANCE of DEMOCRACY

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2014

J&K JAMMOKH

A look at the numbers that define the candidates in the second phase of polls in J&K

175 candidates in 15 constituencies according to J&K's second phase	9 (5%) Candidates with Criminal Cases	6 (3%) Candidates with Serious Criminal Cases	₹1.41 Cr Average Assets of Candidates
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Party	Candidates	Avg Assets (₹ Crores)
Congress	9 (18)	1.8
BJP	8 (18)	1.7
NC	8 (18)	1.5
SP	7 (17)	2.0
BSP	6 (10)	1.5
APC	2 (5)	0.4
J&K P	1 (1)	0.3

High Asset Candidates

Kabir Singh (BJP) 100% ANIMAL REARER ₹14 Cr	Sajad Gani Lone (NCP) 100% ANIMAL REARER ₹13.9 Cr	Rabiz R Mirza (INC) 100% ANIMAL REARER ₹13.8 Cr
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Candidates with criminal cases

Party	Candidates	Criminal Cases	Serious Criminal Cases
BJP (G)	1	1	1
Cong (G)	1	1	1
BJP (L)	1	1	1
J&K P (G)	1	1	1

60 tainted names in J'khand Ph-II

Shikha Singh/PTI/Anandipedia.com

60 tainted names in J'khand Ph-II

How they stack up

Party	Candidates	Criminal Cases	Serious Criminal Cases	Avg Assets (₹ Cr)
BJP	18 (27%)	1	1	1.8
Cong	14 (23%)	1	1	1.7
NC	14 (23%)	1	1	1.5
SP	7 (11%)	1	1	2.0
BSP	6 (10%)	1	1	1.5
APC	2 (3%)	1	1	0.4
J&K P	1 (1%)	1	1	0.3

Party-wise comparison of candidates with criminal cases

Party	Candidates	Criminal Cases	Serious Criminal Cases
BJP	18	1	1
Cong	14	1	1
NC	14	1	1
SP	7	1	1
BSP	6	1	1
APC	2	1	1
J&K P	1	1	1

KNOWING YOUR ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES

MAHARASHTRA

798 (34%) Candidates with criminal cases

537 (23%) Candidates with serious criminal cases

1,095 (47%) Coregular Candidates

₹4.65 crore Average assets of candidates

Party-wise comparison of candidates with criminal cases

Party	Candidates	Criminal Cases	Serious Criminal Cases
Shiv Sena	63%	61%	60%
BJP	53%	37%	34%
NCP	31%	63%	37%
INC	33%	33%	33%

Candidates with highest assets

Mohit Kamble (BJP)	₹553 cr+
Dr. N.K. Tawankar (Shiv Sena)	₹211 cr+
Mangal Pralhad Lothia (BJP)	₹198 cr+
S. Shivachand Jain (Shiv Sena)	₹182 cr+
Aruni Abu Adiv (SP)	₹156 cr+
Prasad Minch (NCP)	₹126 cr+
Jagdish Sukumar Khokh (BJP)	₹104 cr+
Hiteshendra Vishnu Thakur (BVA)	₹100 cr+
Vinay Bhairachand Jain (Shiv Sena)	₹93 cr+
Githan Mahesh Bahirani (Shiv Sena)	₹92 cr+

Party-wise average assets (₹ Crores)

BJP	₹10.33
Shiv Sena	₹7.82
NCP	₹7.25
INC	₹7.10
BJD	₹7.83

Party-wise coregular candidate

NCP	83%
BJP	83%
INC	77%
Shiv Sena	73%
BJD	46%

Which candidate has assets worth several crores, which party has the highest number of nominees with criminal past and more — we bring you the details

HARYANA

94 (7%) Candidates with criminal cases

70 (5%) Candidates with serious criminal cases

563 (42%) Coregular Candidates

₹4.54 crore Average assets of candidates

Party-wise comparison of candidates with criminal cases

Party	Candidates	Criminal Cases	Serious Criminal Cases
BJP	94	7	5
INC	70	5	5
SP	563	42	42

Candidates with highest assets

Ravi Chavhan (GadJ)	₹212 cr+
Anita Chavhan (GadJ)	₹212 cr+
Shakti Rani (BJP)	₹166 cr+
Venud Sharma (BJP)	₹153 cr+
Gopal Kamra (BJP)	₹114 cr+
Savitri Shinde (Congress)	₹113 cr+
Vijay Goyal (BJP)	₹106 cr+
Sukhbir Kataria (GadJ)	₹104 cr+
Kuldeep Chand Bhagat (BJP)	₹100 cr+
Kuldeep Bishnoi (BJP)	₹80 cr+

Party-wise average assets (₹ Crores)

INC	9.0%
BJP	8.8%
BJD	8.2%
INC	7.7%
BJP	7.6%
BJP	7.4%
INC	7.1%
INC	6.9%
INC	6.9%
BJP	6.8%

WEALTH AND POLITICS

An analysis of the electoral fortunes of the 17 candidates who disclosed assets of more than ₹100 crore ahead of the assembly elections to the states of Haryana and Maharashtra

HARYANA



MAHARASHTRA



CLOSE X



The Sunday Statesman

KOLKATA 22 MARCH 2015

'Aadhar-voter card linking not compulsory'

INDIA will soon become the only country in the world to have biometric data with no duplicacy in the voters' list, Chief Election Commissioner T N Brahma said Saturday. He said this will be achieved by linking the unique 12-digit Aadhaar number with the voter's identity card.

"We are hopeful that Aadhaar numbers will be generated for the remaining 25-30 crore people (across India) by August this year. By the end of the year, the Aadhaar numbers will be linked to the voter's photo identity card. And then India will be the only country in the world

The Indian EXPRESS

JOURNALISM OF COURAGE

CEC: Will link with Aadhaar to ensure no duplicate voter ID

ARSHAD ALI KOLKATA (MARCH 21)

where there will be complete biometric of voters. Also, there will be no a single fraud or duplicate voters," Brahma said.

Asked about SC order which had said that Aadhaar is not a prerequisite for availing public services, he said everyday lakhs of voters are seeking their names with Aadhaar card on their own. "Everyday our voters are themselves seeking their names for Aadhaar cards. We do not want to make it compulsory but our voters themselves are seeking it," Chief CEC said. He said the EC was planning to revoke registration of political parties, which have never contested any election in the last 10 years.

--- (Contd. Front pg story)

12 of Modi's ministers, 65 MPs have licensed guns

From 1

The guns were sold below the market price. An analysis shows that of the 65 BJP MPs owning guns, over two dozen have licences for two or more weapons. These include Ram Kripal Yadav, Radha Mohan Singh, Om Prakash Yadav, Dharambir, Anurag Singh Thakur, Laxman Giluwa, Prahlad Singh Patel, Uday Pratap Singh, Nagera Singh, Anoop Mishra, Vincent H Pala, Nihalchand, Santosh Gangwar, Virendra Singh, Jagdambika Pal, Rajvir Singh, Ashok Kumar Doharey, Mukesh Rajput, Vijay Kumar Singh, Kirti Vardhan Singh, Adityanath, Krishna Pratap, Keshav Prasad, Nepal Singh, Sharad Tripathi, Rajesh Kumar Singh and Feroze Varun Gandhi.

While one rifle or revolver is enough for security, one wonders why a politician would need two or more weapons!

Queries to most of the ministers remained unanswered.

However, Minister of State for Human Resource Development Ram Shankar Katheria told dna that the revolver had been with him since 2001 after the brutal murder of his father Sonelal in 1996 and brother Ram Gopal in 2001. He had got it for self-defence and has licence from the Uttar Pradesh government. Katheria got security in 2009 when he was elected MP from Agra.

Jaskirat Singh of ADR put it this way: "In a country like India where the public remain without security and firearms, it is really unfortunate that MPs and ministers who have security feel the need for guns."

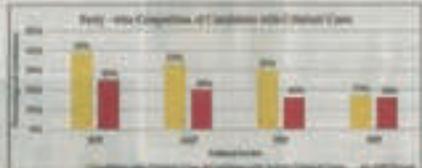
Delhi Elections 2015

17 pc candidates have criminal cases against them, says ADR

114 of 673 nominees involved, slightly up from 2013

BJP yet to submit 2013 poll expenses

Delhi Suburban
 ADR said that nearly 17 per cent of the 673 candidates contesting in the Delhi Assembly elections have declared criminal cases in their affidavits, while 11 per cent of the candidates have declared serious criminal cases.



The candidates had declared a total of 114 cases against 17 candidates. The most cases were against the Congress leader. Shashi Kant Singh, who contested from the Mathura constituency, has been convicted in 11 cases. He was followed by Anu Jaiswal, who contested from the Jaiswal constituency, with 10 cases. Other candidates with 10 cases each were Jai Singh, who contested from the Jai constituency, and Jai Singh, who contested from the Jai constituency. In the 2013 elections, 10 of the 17 candidates had declared criminal cases.

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26 candidates in poll fray this time

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THE ASIAN AGE

KOLKATA SUNDAY 22 MARCH 2015

CEC may de-register 'dormant' parties



CEC Chairman N.S. Brishna (left) and West Bengal Election Watch president A.K. Chakraborty (right) review a report on the Lok Sabha elections 2014. They are at a conference on electoral and political reforms in Kolkata on Saturday.

AGE CORRESPONDENT
 KOLKATA, MARCH 21

Chief Election Commissioner of India N.S. Brishna on Saturday said the Election Commission was contemplating revoking the registration of political parties which did not contest in elections in last 5-10 years. He said this while addressing a conference on "Electoral and Political Reforms" organised by West Bengal Election Watch (WBEW) and Association for Political Reforms

(ADR) at Golpark on Saturday. Mr Brishna also informed that India was set to become the first country in the world to have biometrics data and to display in the voters' list as the Election Commission would link Aadhaar card with voter identity card. "We are very seriously thinking that if a party has not participated in any election within a period of 5 years or 10 years, then they should be suo moto deleted from the registration," Mr Brishna said. The Chief Election

Commissioner informed that there were more than 1,600 registered political parties in the country of which less than 200 participate in the electoral process. He said the reason behind not contesting elections despite being registered was the certain financial benefits, such as exemptions from income tax, the political parties enjoy. "We are not able to enforce it. But if there is a pressure from the people on elected representatives, I think this kind of bogus registration of political parties for doing other

than the real political activity can be curbed. But state funding or no funding is not the issue here," he said. Meanwhile, speaking on EC's initiative to seed Aadhaar card information with the electoral roll, he said, "When we are able to seed the Aadhaar figure (number) on EPIC card that will ensure that there is not a single duplicate number. We will do it definitely by 2015 and then India will be the only country in the world where there will be complete biometric of voters."

मतदाताओं का मिले री-कॉल का अधिकार

जनसंचार एवं निर्वाचन विभाग

सर्वप्रथम इसे संकेतित करने वाला।

राज्य सूची, सभी लोकसभा में मतदाताओं को री-कॉल का अधिकार मिलना चाहिए। जनता की अपेक्षाओं के अनुसार आज भी मतदान करने वालों को री-कॉल का अधिकार नहीं मिलता है। यह एक बड़ा कदम है।

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जनता चाहे रोटी-रोजगार, राजनीति जाति धर्म की क्यों : त्रिलोचन शास्त्री

राष्ट्रीय, इलेक्शन री-कॉल और मतदान की कार्यप्रणाली, राजनीतिक और चुनाव सूझा घर सुझा संघान

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हिन्दुस्तान

राज्य व्यवस्था सुझा ले चुकते हैं युवाओं की बुद्धिमत्ता विधायक पर लेखिकाओं ने गांधीजी की विचारों से ही सुझा दिया

राजनीतिक जागरूकता बढ़ाएं ताकि धर्म-जाति के नाम पर गुमराह न हो युवा पीढ़ी

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सभी चुन सही चुनें

'ईमानदार' आप के 23 उम्मीदवार भी दागदार

सभी चुनें के 673 प्रत्याशियों के शपथ पत्रों के विश्लेषण के बाद जेपी एडिटर की रिपोर्ट में हुआ खुलासा

संसदीय क्षेत्र	उम्मीदवारों की संख्या	दागदार उम्मीदवारों की संख्या	प्रतिशत
बनारस	27	17	63%
अजमेर	33	18	55%
अजमेर-सिंदूर	31	11	35%

सभी चुनें के 673 प्रत्याशियों के शपथ पत्रों के विश्लेषण के बाद जेपी एडिटर की रिपोर्ट में हुआ खुलासा

सबका फेवरिट रहा 'पैसा और पावर'

सभी पार्टियों में सब टिकट बांटे अमीर और अपराधिक केंद्रों वाले उम्मीदवारों को

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"No office in the land is more important than that of being a citizen"

Felix Frankfurter



Association for Democratic Reforms

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