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OUR ACTIVITIES: 2016-17

History of ADR and the beginning of Election Watch Process

With the rise of criminal elements in Indian politics, a group of professors from IIM Ahmedabad filed a petition in Delhi High Court in 1999 seeking mandatory disclosure of background details of candidates contesting elections. The same petition also led to the birth of Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) with the aim of improving governance and strengthen democracy by continuous work in the area of Electoral and Political Reforms.

Delivering judgement on this petition in 2002, the Delhi High Court made it mandatory for the candidates contesting elections to disclose their criminal, financial and other background details, which was upheld by the Supreme Court in 2003. In 2002 itself, ADR started its Election Watch process with Gujarat Assembly Elections under its flagship programme, National Election Watch (NEW). As part of the Election Watch process, NEW analyzes the background details, including Criminal, Financial and Educational information, of the candidates contesting elections, self-declared by them in an affidavit while filing Nomination Papers to the Election Commission of India (ECI) for contesting elections. Since then, NEW has been conducting Election Watches for all the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and Assembly Elections as well as local body elections in some states. To help voters in making an informed choice, ADR disseminates these candidates' information to the citizens through various mediums like National and Vernacular Media, www.myneta.info website, Android App, SMS & Toll Free Helpline Services, Email and grass-root level awareness activities.

Gradually, the process became more streamlined as ADR started to use an online tool (the Election Watch Software) to feed and analyze the details of the contesting candidates, now ADR has the data of over 1.5 lacs candidates on its www.myneta.info website. The Election Watch Process starts at least 2 weeks before the polls at the Central level when the ECI starts uploading Candidates' information on its website. The NEW Data Entry team take out the data from the ECI's website and starts uploading these into an online database, once the data entry completes, comprehensive reports are released to the public for spreading awareness. Meetings are also held with the Election Commission (or state Chief Electoral Officers at the state levels) to garner the ECI's collaboration during elections.

However, the process of raising grass-root level voter awareness with slogans like, 'do not to vote for candidates with criminal charges', 'do not sell your vote', 'reject candidates who spend lavishly on election campaigns', 'vote only for honest and capable candidates', 'if none of the candidates are suitable, select NOTA' etc., starts 6 to 9 months ahead of any elections. These voter awareness campaigns are run



intensively with the help of our 1200 State Partners across the country. The voter awareness activities, include workshops, meetings, seminars, village chaupals, padyatra, mobile vans, other different outdoor campaigns, quiz competitions, street plays and youth centric activities in schools and colleges, publication of new articles, press conference to release different reports etc.

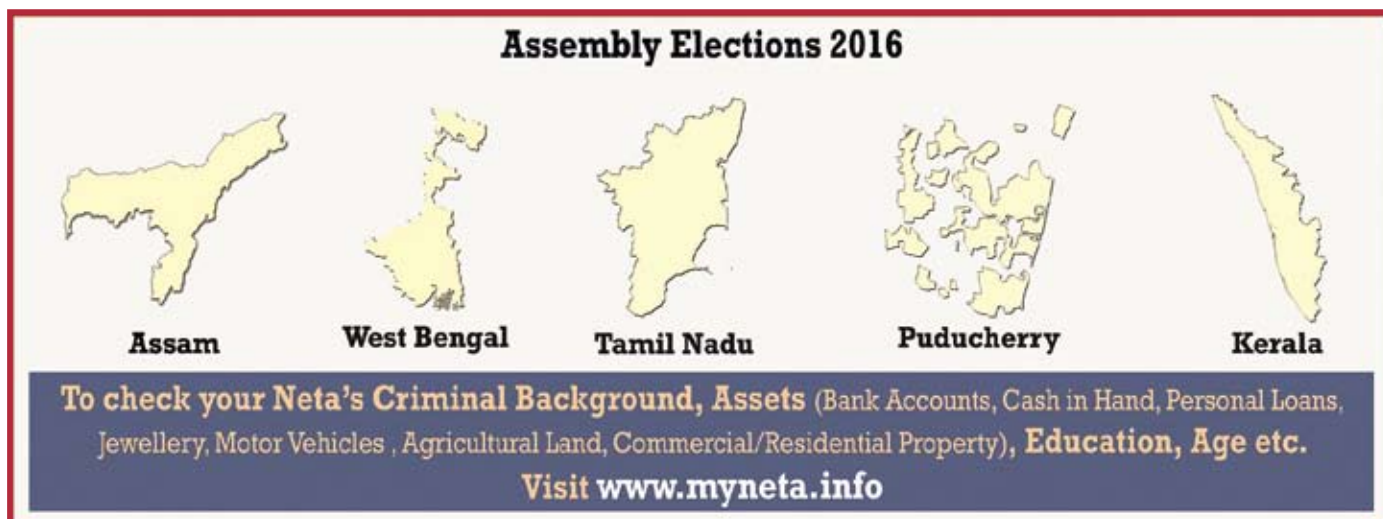
During the year 2016-17, Election Watch was conducted for the following elections:

- State Assembly elections for the following states: Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur.
- Bye elections
- Local Body Elections

Following analysis on background information of Candidates and the Winners contesting different elections were undertaken during 2016-17:

1. Assam Assembly Elections 2016 (Analysis of Criminal, Financial & Other Background Details of candidates).
2. Comparative analysis of Assam 2011 and 2016 assembly elections.
3. Analysis of assets comparison of re-contesting MLAs in Assam 2016 assembly elections.
4. West Bengal Assembly Elections 2016 (Analysis of Criminal, Financial & Other Background Details of candidates).

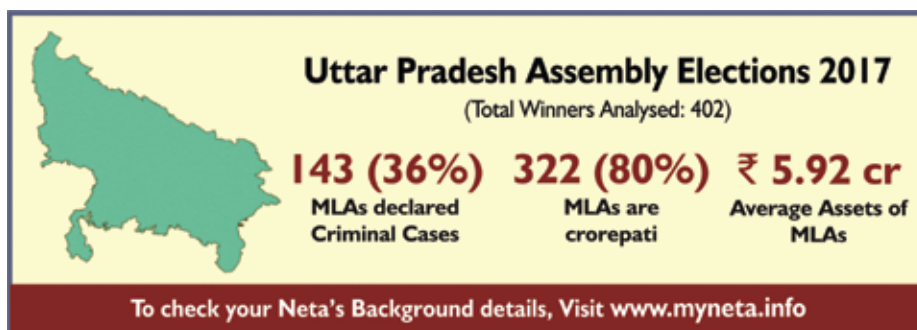
5. ADR's survey in Tamil Nadu on Voter Priorities and Government Performance.
6. Analysis of Chennai Voter Priorities and Government Performance - Tamil Nadu Voter Survey 2016.
7. Analysis of newly-elected MLAs in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Assam, West Bengal and Puducherry.



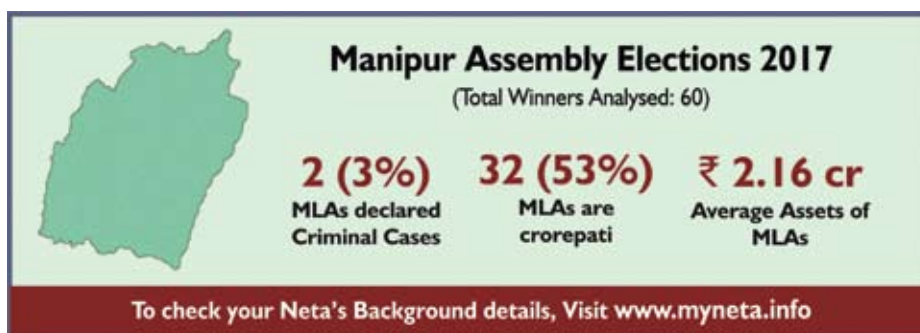
8. Puducherry Assembly Elections 2016 (Analysis of Criminal, Financial and Other Details of Candidates).
9. Tamil Nadu Assembly Election 2016 (Analysis of Criminal, Financial and Other Details of Candidates).
10. Kerala Assembly Elections 2016 (Analysis of Criminal, Financial & Other Background Details of Candidates).
11. Analysis of Re-contesting MLAs in Puducherry.
12. Analysis of Re-contesting MLAs in Tamil Nadu.
13. Analysis of Re-contesting MLAs in Kerala.
14. Analysis of Ministers from Assam 2016 Assembly.
15. Analysis of Ministers from Tamil Nadu 2016 Assembly.
16. Analysis of Ministers in the Kerala 2016 Assembly.
17. Analysis of Ministers from the West Bengal Assembly 2016 with declared criminal cases.

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18. Analysis of newly-elected Rajya Sabha MPs with declared criminal cases.
 19. Analysis of Criminal, Financial, and Other background details of Union Council of Ministers Post Cabinet Expansion on 5th July, 2016.
 20. Analysis of Puducherry MLAs who declared election expenditure less than half of the expenditure limit. Analysis of West Bengal MLAs who declared election expenditure less than half of the expenditure limit.
 21. Analysis of Ministers from State Assemblies across India.
 22. Analysis of Assam MLAs' who declared election expenditure.
 23. Analysis of Ministers from Gujarat Assembly.
 24. Analysis of Kerala MLAs' election expenditure.
 25. Maharashtra Local Body Pre-Poll Voter Perception Survey 2016.
 26. Analysis of Municipal Council/Nagar Panchayat Elections in Nasik, Ahmednagar, Ratnagiri, Raigad and Sindhu durg districts, 2016.
 27. Analysis of Maharashtra Local Body Elections 2016.
 28. Analysis of Municipal Council Elections in Pune and Latur Districts of Maharashtra, 2016.
 29. Punjab Assembly election 2017 (Analysis of Criminal, Financial & Other Background Details of Candidates).
 30. Goa Assembly Elections 2017 (Analysis of Criminal, Financial & Other Background Details of Candidates).
 31. Uttar Pradesh Assembly Elections 2017 (Analysis of Criminal, Financial & Other Background Details of Candidates).
 32. Uttarakhand Assembly Elections 2017 (Analysis of Criminal, Financial & Other Background Details of Candidates).
 33. Assets Growth of Re-contesting MLAs of Uttarakhand 2017.
 34. Pune and Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporations Analysis.
 35. Analysis of Maharashtra Local Body Elections 2017 Municipal Corporations.

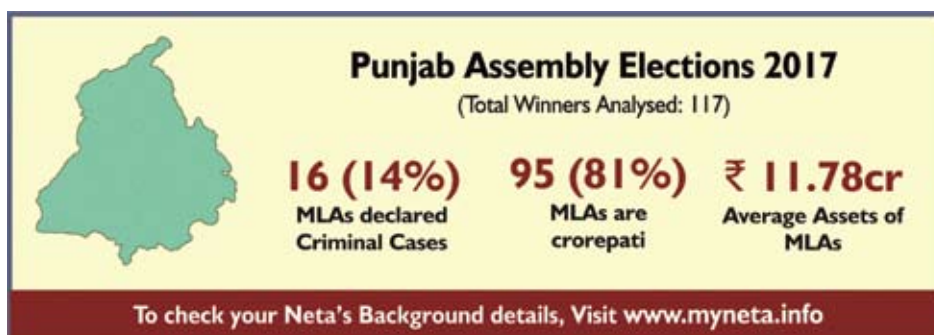
36. Nasik Municipal Corporation 2017: Analysis of Candidates.
37. Maharashtra Zila Parishad and Panchayat Samiti Elections Analysis.
38. Analysis Manipur Assembly Elections 2017
39. Uttar Pradesh Analysis of Candidates Consolidated.
40. Manipur 2017 Re-contesting MLAs' Analysis.
41. Uttar Pradesh 2017 Re-contesting MLAs' Analysis.
42. Uttar Pradesh: Analysis of newly elected MLAs 2017.



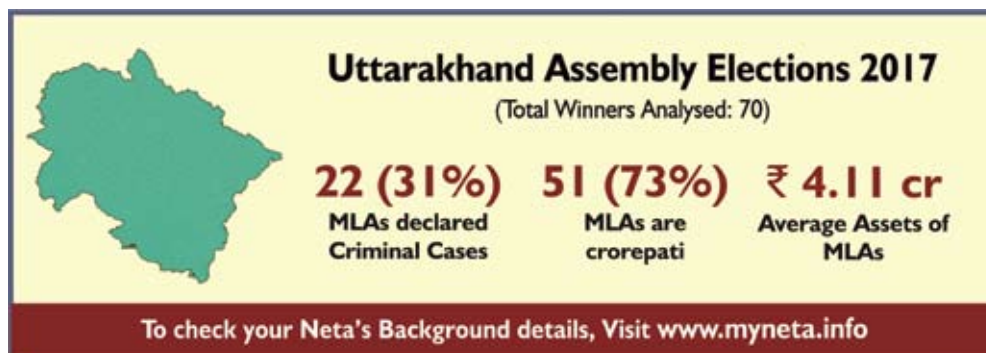
43. Manipur: Analysis of newly elected MLAs 2017.



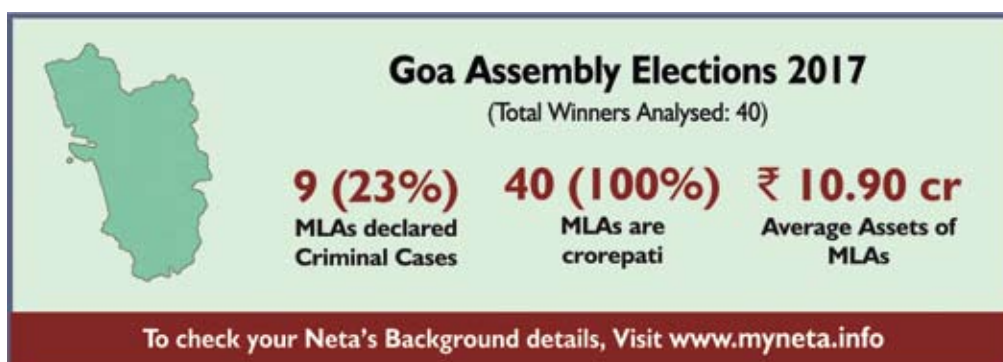
44. Punjab: Analysis of newly elected MLAs 2017.



45. Uttarakhand: Analysis of newly elected MLAs 2017.



46. Goa: Analysis of newly elected MLAs 2017 and Ministers.



47. Combined MLAs report 2017 for UP, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Manipur and Goa.

48. Analysis of Ministers of recently concluded assembly elections 2017.

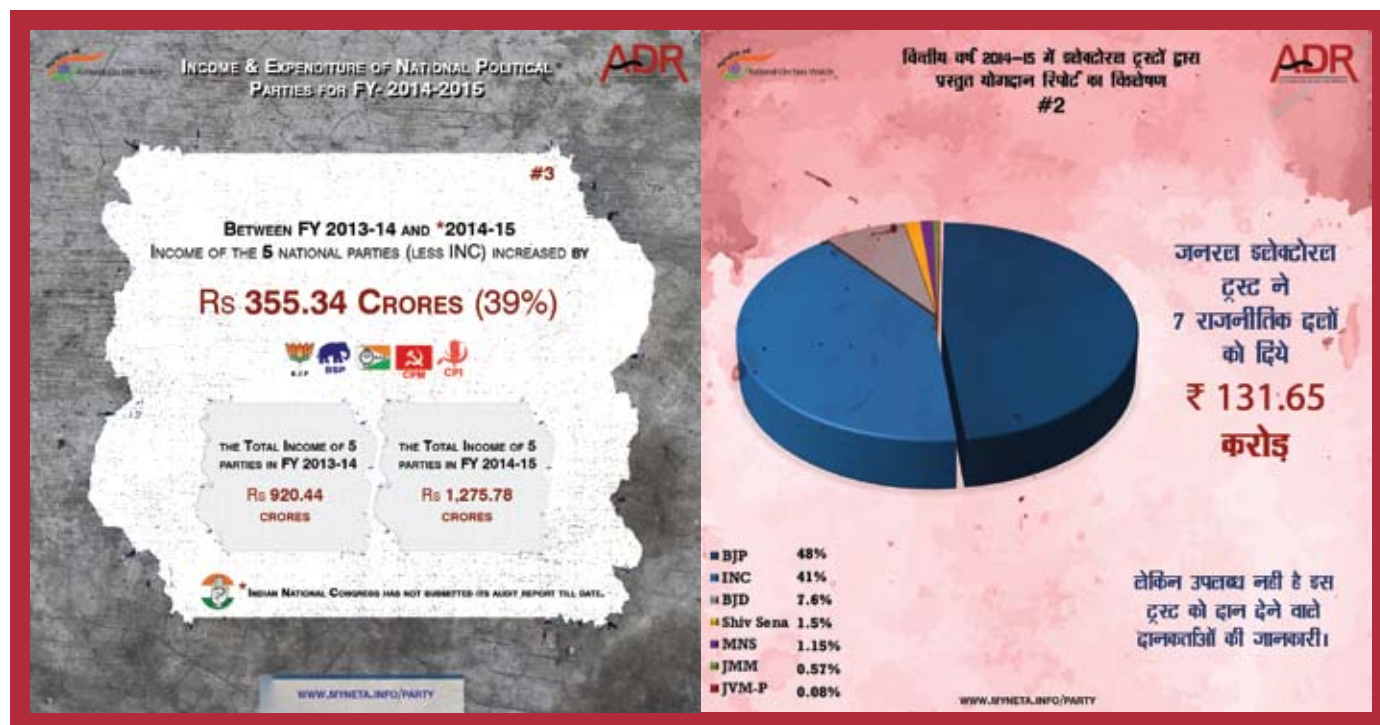
Political Party Watch

As political parties play a crucial role in a Democracy, good governance would remain a distant dream without accountability and transparency in the internal functioning and financials of Political Parties. In 2008, ADR started a new program called Political Party Watch (PPW) to thoroughly analyze the Donations Report, Income Tax Returns and Election Expenditure Reports of Political Parties and disseminate these information to the Public. For the verification of the facts and figures, PPW always supports its reports with scanned copies of Income Tax Returns of various political parties (national, regional and un-recognised parties) and RTI applications.

However, these reports have revealed that currently only National Parties and very few Regional Parties file their IT Returns on a regular basis every year. Similarly, financial disclosures are also not consistent among all the parties.

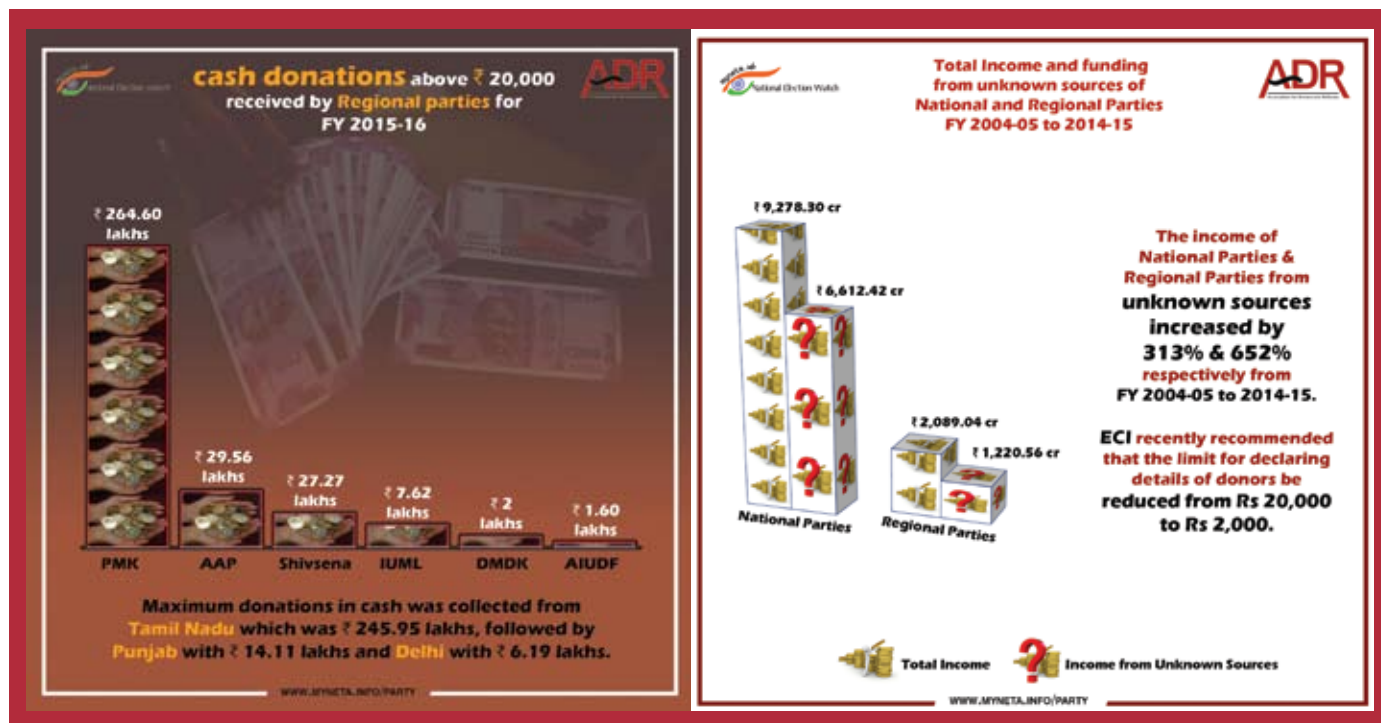
Following analyses on Political Parties were undertaken during 2016-17:

1. Analysis of IT Returns of 5 National Parties (except INC) for FY 2014-15.
2. Analysis of contribution reports of Electoral Trusts, FY 2014-15.



3. Funds collected and expenditure incurred by political parties during elections in 11 years, 2004-15.
4. 5 year analysis of income, expenditure and donations of major parties of various states.
 - a) Bihar (Hindi)
 - b) Odisha (English)
 - c) Uttar Pradesh (Hindi & English)
 - d) Punjab (Hindi & English)
 - e) Gujarat (Hindi & English)
 - f) Uttarakhand (English)
 - g) Tamil Nadu (English)
 - h) Himachal Pradesh (English)

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5. Analysis of sources of funding of political parties of Rajasthan of 11 years.
 6. Analysis of election expenditure of regional parties during Lok Sabha elections - 2004, 2009 and 2014.
 7. Analysis of income tax returns and donations received by National parties and BJD: FY 2012-13 to 2014-15.
 8. Analysis of income tax returns and donations received by National and regional parties of Punjab: FY 2010-11 to 2014-15.
 9. Analysis of income tax returns and donations received by National and regional parties of UP: FY 2010-11 to 2014-15.
 10. Analysis of funds collected and expenditure incurred by major political parties during Bihar Assembly elections held in 2010 and 2015.
 11. Analysis of income tax returns and donations received by National and regional parties of Goa: FY 2010-11 to 2014-15.
 12. A presentation on income tax returns and donations received by National and regional parties of Goa: FY 2010-11 to 2014-15.
 13. Analysis of income, expenditure and donations received by major political parties of Manipur - FY 2010-11 to 2014-15 (5 years).
 14. Analysis of Donations Received above Rs 20,000 by National Political Parties – FY 2015-16.
 15. Analysis of election expenditure of Tamil Nadu & Puducherry parties, Assembly elections 2016.
 16. Analysis of Donations Received above Rs 20,000 by Regional Political Parties – FY 2015-16.
 17. Analysis of sources of funding of National and Regional Parties of India: FY 2004-05 to 2014-15 (11 years).
 18. Analysis of sources of funding of major parties of Bihar: FY 2004-05 to 2014-15 (11 years).



Strategic Litigation

1. **Political parties under RTI:** ADR filed a petition along with Mr. Subhash Chandra Agarwal on Oct 17, 2016. CPI was granted six-week time by SC to file a counter affidavit, since then the case is pending.
2. **Disproportionate assets increase of MPs/MLAs:** On Lok Prahari's petition, which seeks an inquiry into the disproportionate assets increase of the MPs/MLAs, the SC had granted six-week time to Union of India and others to file their counters. On Feb 20, 2017, ADR's application for impleadment was accepted by the court. Union of India submitted its counter affidavit. On April 20, 2017, after that ADR had filed a rejoinder against the counter. During the last hearing on May 2, 2017, Union of India sought more time to reply to ADR's counter. Next date of hearing is July 11, 2017.
3. **Election expenditure of political parties:** During the hearing on Jan 7, 2016, Delhi HC observed that in ECI's guidelines on "Transparency & Accountability in Party Funds & Election Expenditure," ADR's grievance has been substantially redressed. ADR contended that ECI guidelines are only recommendatory and some issues still require court's consideration. In view

of this, ADR filed another counter affidavit pointing out issues that require consideration by the court. May 3, 2017, the court told ECI to report compliance by political parties to their notification/guidelines on transparency issued in August and November. Next date of hearing is Oct 12, 2017.

4. **An independent and impartial FCRA tribunal:** ADR appealed to the Delhi HC to direct Union of India to set-up a body or tribunal or committee independent of political executive to administer enforcement of FCRA, 2010. ADR is going to file a counter affidavit based on the affidavit of MHA. The next date of hearing is on July 11, 2017.
5. **Contempt petition against Govt. of India regarding Delhi HC judgment against INC and BJP on FCRA violation:** On March 21, 2017 Delhi High Court issued show cause notice to the Home Secretary, Govt. of India for not implementing its March 28, 2014 order of taking action against Congress and BJP for violating the provisions of Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 1976. The notice was issued after a Contempt Petition filed by ADR and Mr E.A.S. Sarma was accepted by the Delhi High Court and the HC directed the Govt. of India to file its reply within four weeks. The next date of hearing is July 20, 2017.

Appeal before Central Information Commission (CIC)

- I. **Second Appeal with CIC in MP IT Returns matter:** Disclosure of ITRs, Assessment Orders and other details in larger public interest. Final arguments were heard by a Full Bench on April 16, 2016, but the hearing was adjourned sine die. Next hearing was convened by a Division Bench comprising IC Sridhar Acharyulu and IC Basant Seth on June 14, 2016. ADR could not be present for the hearing as the notice was not served to ADR on its present address. CIC also did not agree on ADR's request for a second hearing. Final order of the Commission was given on August 10, 2016 in which the Bench directed the CPIOs to - 1) Examine each point of RTI request, 2) Issue notices to all third parties under Section 11, 3) Secure responses, 4) Duly consider the larger public interest after giving sufficient opportunity to the appellants, and 5) Decide on information with speaking orders on each point within three months from the date of receipt of the order.
- II. **Intervention application filed in the CIC** for a full bench hearing against 6 National political parties who were declared as public authorities on June 3, 2013 by the Commission. There are 17 petitioners in the case. ADR filed an intervention application on May 31, 2016. On Dec 20, 2016, the Commission gave its decision on intervention applications filed by ADR.

As per the order, the Commission has rejected ADR and Mr Venkatesh Nayak's application for intervention. However, in the said order, the Commission has allowed ADR's request to render assistance, preferably in writing but did not allow it to be incorporated as a necessary party.

Networking and Advocacy: Events held

ADR organized/launched many press conferences, panel discussions, outdoor campaigns and Social Media campaigns in the past one year to raise citizens' awareness about Informed and Ethical voting.

Some of the activities conducted by ADR during 2016-17 are mentioned below:

1. **Discussion on Simultaneous Elections—Possibilities and Challenges:** The discussion was held on Oct 26th, 2017 at the India International Centre, New Delhi, to discuss the different aspects of the issue of holding both Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections simultaneously.
2. **Discussion on Effects of Demonetisation on Political Financing & Black Money:** The discussion was held on Jan 24, 2017 at India International Centre, New Delhi. The report, "Analysis of Sources of Funding of National and Regional Parties of India: FY 2004-05 to 2014-15" released at the event created ripples in the Media as well as the Political Fraternity. As it highlighted the fact that around 70% of the income of political parties comes from unknown sources.
3. **Voter Awareness Campaigns:** Ahead of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, Assam and Puducherry Assembly elections, ADR used various mediums to encourage people to vote for candidates with clean images.



4. **New Celebrity Videos** were created for the states of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Punjab ahead of 2017 states Assembly Polls.



5. **Collaboration with NDTV** online to disseminate information about candidates in the fray in the five States' Assembly elections.
6. **Collaboration with the Logical Indian** to disseminate information about candidates in the fray.
7. **Collaboration with the Gao Connection** to disseminate information about candidates in the fray in UP elections. Various articles written by ADR staff were also published in the rural paper.
8. **Auto Campaigns:** Posters with voter awareness messages were displayed on 2900 autos in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Punjab.



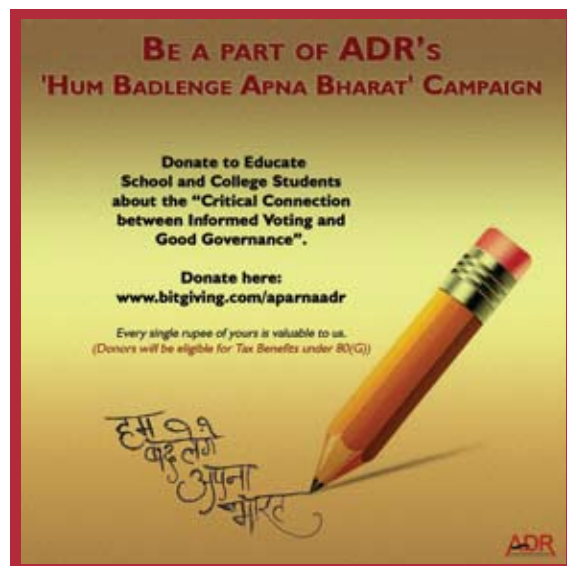
Punjab



Uttarakhand

9. **Cable Campaigns:** New and old voter awareness videos were telecast in the states of UP, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Goa and Manipur on local Cable channels.

10. **FB Boost Post:** Intense social media campaign was launched one month ahead of the five States Polls. Facebook advertisement or boost post facility was used to enhance our reach to citizens.
11. **SMS/Out Bound Calls (OBD):** 85 lacs SMS and 40 lacs OBD were pushed during the 5 States Assembly Polls to disseminate information about the candidates in the fray and to encourage voters to select honest Netas.
12. **Letters to Parties:** Letters were sent to the winning political parties of the 5 states with an appeal to refrain from including newly-elected MLAs, facing serious criminal charges, in the State Cabinet.
13. **Social Media Activities:** ADR created 75 Infographics on various ADR Reports and launched 3 Infographic series on the issues of Crime, Money and Politics Nexus, Black Money and its effect on Elections and the Need for Political Party Reforms with 15, 7 and 8 Infographics, respectively.
14. **Hum Badlenge Apna Bharat Campaign:** ADR has created the outline of a new programme, Hum Badlenge Apna Bharat, to engage youth in strengthening democracy. As part of this Programme, we have plans to hold workshops across the country to educate School and College Students about the “Critical Connection between Informed Voting and Good Governance.”
15. **Online Fund raising Campaign:** To make people aware of the Hum Badlenge Apna Bharat campaign and generate interest among the masses besides collecting the initial funds, we conducted an Online Fund-raising campaign during Feb and March’17. This was the first time ADR tapped the potential of crowd funding.





A creative made for online fund raising for
'Hum Badlengi Apna Bharat' initiative



A creative made on the Women's Day to give an information about the MPs/MLAs facing charges of Crime against Women



A creative made on the 5 State Assembly
Elections 2017



Foreign Funding: ADR writes to MHA and ECI, urges them to implement Delhi High Court's ruling against Congress and BJP on FCRA violation

Activities organized at the State level

In addition the activities of ADR head office, various grass-root level advocacy campaigns were organized by the State Coordinators of the National Election Watch,

Bihar

- **Consultation** on free and fair panchayat elections: Discussions were held on ‘Establishment of free and fair panchayat elections - issues & challenges in Panchayat Elections in Bihar’ at A.N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies in Patna on the Sept 3, 2016.
- **Discussion** on Political Parties and RTI: Held in Patna on Feb 3, 2017.

Odisha

- **State Convention:** The 12th state convention of Odisha Election Watch was organized at IDCOL Auditorium in Bhubaneswar on Sept 4, 2016. Discussions were held on transparency in finances of political parties & conduct of free and fair Panchayat elections, 2017.

Punjab

- **Elections Campaign:** Punjab Election Watch organized various press conferences ahead of the State Assembly Elections in 2017 in Ludhiana and Chandigarh.
- **Consultation** on Electoral and Political Reforms: Held in Chandigarh Sept 17, 2016.

Uttar Pradesh

- **Workshop** for Volunteers: A volunteer training workshop was organized at Srinath Place in Jhansi on Sept 30, 2016. At the workshop, volunteers from different parts of Uttar Pradesh attended the training program.
- **Discussion** on Efforts of ADR for Voter Awareness towards Ethical Voting: Held in Varanasi on Feb 6, 2017.
- **Discussion** on Role of Civil Society in Electoral Reforms: Held in Gorakhpur on Feb 5, 2017.
- **Discussion** on Importance of Affidavits filed by Candidates in Elections: Held in Lucknow on Feb 4, 2017.

Goa

- **Press Conference** to release Candidates’ Report in Goa: Held in Panaji on Jan 31, 2017.

Madhya Pradesh

- **Discussion** on Transparency and Accountability of political parties in electoral funding: Held in Indore on Feb 5, 2017.
- **Discussion** on the need to bring political parties under RTI: held in Jabalpur on Nov 27, 2016.
- **Press Conference** to discuss attendance of MPs and MLAs of Madhya Pradesh: Held in Bhopal on Nov 4, 2016.

Gujarat

- **Seminar** on Transparency and Accountability in political parties: Held in Ahmedabad on Feb 11, 2017.

Jharkhand

- **Conference** on Political Parties and Right to information: Held in Ranchi on Dec 9, 2016.
- **State level workshop** on Simultaneous elections, Possibilities and Challenges: Held in Ranchi on Dec 8, 2016.
- The Jharkhand State Partner, Mr. Sudhir Pal, has authored a book on Local Body Elections in the State, named, '**Gram Sabha**' with the aim of educating both the Voters and the Elected Representatives about their rights and duties.

Information Technology

1. **Collaboration with Maharashtra State Election Commission:** For Local Body elections held in 2016 and 2017 Maharashtra SEC collaborated with ADR to analyse the candidate data of 192 Municipal Corporations, 20 Nagar Panchayats, 25 Zila Parishads and 283 Panchayat Samitis. While ADR IT team provided its inputs to Maharashtra SEC on how to improve their digitization software processes. Maharashtra SEC provided ADR with comprehensive candidate criminal, financial and other background data free of charge. ADR team analysed these data and released comprehensive reports prior to the local body elections.
2. **Map-based infographics:** IT Team created map-based infographics at <http://myneta.info/infographics/index.php> for 5 States Assembly elections held in 2017. This allowed voters to quickly and interactively check their candidate's data on the map of the state by clicking on their constituency.

13th Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms

ADR's 13th Annual National Conference was organized in Chandigarh, on April 29th and 30th at the Panjab University to deliberate on the issue of electoral and political reforms. The conference was inaugurated by the Chief Election Commissioner, Dr. Nasim Zaidi, and attended by eminent personalities, including representatives of the National Election Watch (NEW) from each state chapter, members of political parties, government institutions and media. The National Conference was an opportunity for us to add impetus and synergy to our work by bringing together all stakeholders.



Dr. Zaidi, while addressing the audience, stated that the use of money in the poll process has increased significantly. The ECI seized over Rs350 crores during the recently concluded five state assembly elections which was three times higher than what was seized in the 2012 assembly elections. He expressed grave concern on this issue and mentioned that this is only the tip of the iceberg. The CEC stated that a multi-dimensional approach needs to be taken to curb the misuse of money power in elections. He said that we should formulate a strong anti-bribery law or legal framework, there should be strict enforcement on the ground and lastly, ethical voting practices need to be inculcated by voters.

The CEC observed that there has been steep rise in the assets of the candidates seeking re-election and that the electors have every right to know the causes behind this sharp increase in assets. An important development which has taken place is that the ECI has recommended the amendment of Form 26, where

they would be required to add a column for declaring the details of sources of income of candidates and their spouses.

Topics of discussion during the 13th National Conference ranged from a discussion on *Increasing opacity in political financing*, *State/ public funding of political parties*, *Innovative ideas towards greater voter awareness at the grass-root level* to *Criminalization of politics* and *Impact of media on elections and governance*. At the end of the Conference, the house unanimously came up with recommendations addressing issues related to prevalence of black money in politics, political parties under RTI, criminalization of politics, etc.

Other eminent personalities who participated in the various panel discussions besides Dr. Zaidi, were Prof. Trilochan Sastry (Founder member and Trustee of ADR), Mr. Jaskirat Singh (Trustee of ADR & Coordinator, P&H EW), Dr. Arun Kumar Grover (Vice Chancellor, Panjab University), Prof. Ashutosh Kumar (Professor, Dept. of Political Science, Panjab University), Dr. Ajit Ranade (Founder member and Trustee of ADR), Mr. J.S. Saharia (Maharashtra State Election Commissioner), Mr. Manish Tewari (Former Union Minister and Advocate – Supreme Court of India), Mr. Sukhpal Singh Khaira (Member – Punjab Legislative Assembly), Prof. Jagdeep Chhokar (Founder member and Trustee of ADR), Prof. Sanjay Kumar (Director – Centre for the Study of Developing Societies -CSDS), Prof. Arun Kumar (Former Sukhamoy Chakravarty Chair Professor, JNU), Dr. M.R. Madhavan (President – PRS Legislative Research), Dr. Eshwar Anand (Professor, Symbiosis Institute of Media and Communication), Mr V.K. Singh (Chief Electoral Officer, Punjab), Dr. Vipul Mudgal (Trustee of ADR), Mr. Sudhir Pal (Jharkhand EW), Mr. Sanjay Singh (UP EW), Mr. Ranjan Mohanty (Odisha EW), Mr Sharad Kumar (Trustee-Action for Good Governance & Networking in India (AGNI)), Mr. Ashwani Kumar (Chief Electoral Officer, Maharashtra), Mr. S.N. Shukla (General Secretary, Lok Prahari), Adv. H.C. Arora (Advocate-Punjab & Haryana High Court), Prof. Manjit Singh (Member – Swaraj Abhiyan), Mr. Uttam Sengupta (Executive Editor, National Herald), Mr. Mukesh Bhardwaj (Executive Editor, Jansatta), Mr. Vishal Monga (Chief of Bureau, Times Now) and Mr. Sarabjit Pander (Former Special correspondent, The Hindu, Chandigarh).

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS: 2016-17

Impact of our work

1. **Mid-term Survey:** As the ruling BJP government completes three years in the Centre, ADR conducted a mid-term survey to assess whether the MPs are in connect with the masses and meeting their expectation. The ADR survey recorded voter priority of important issues and the performance of the elected representatives on them in 527 Parliamentary Constituencies, covering 2.7 lakh respondents.
2. **The 13th Annual National Conference** on Electoral and Political Reforms which was held on April 29, 30, 2017 in Chandigarh, saw the participation of over 500 people, including 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.
3. **ADR and NEW wrote letters** to the newly-appointed Chief Ministers from different states with appeals to provide clean, transparent and exemplary governance.
4. 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>
5. On social media platforms like Facebook/Twitter we are being followed by thousands of people. Our ADR Facebook page has over 60,000 followers, while myneta Facebook page has over 55,000 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](https://www.facebook.com/adr.new?fref=photo&ref=settings)
6. The ADR and Maharashtra Election Watch (MEW) partnered with the Maharashtra SEC and Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune to disseminate the findings of a pre-election voter perception survey for the local body elections and to help the voters make an informed choice. The voter perception survey analyzed responses from 5100 respondents during the month of October 2016. The respondents were mostly from semi-urban areas.
7. **ADR was invited by the European Commission** to speak at the 'Second Forum of Citizen Observers, held on 15-16 September 2016 at Brussels, Belgium. ADR's Head Maj Gen Anil Verma

(retd.) participated as a speaker in the workshop titled *Engaging with political parties in promoting democratic reform*'.

8. **ADR participated in the 3rd Asian Electoral Stakeholder Forum (AESF III)** which was held in Bali, Indonesia from the 22nd to the 26th of August 2016. It was organized by the General Elections Commission (KPU) of the Republic of Indonesia with the cooperation of the Asian Network for Free Elections (ANFREL). ADR was represented by Prof Trilochan Sastry, Founder Member of ADR.
9. ADR and the state Election Watch chapters of Assam, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal and Puducherry launched campaign against criminalization and money power in the state. Celebrities like architect Mr. Gopalan Shankar, former CEC Mr. N. Gopalaswami, radio jockey Mr. Balaji Patturaj, Bharatnatyam dancer Dr. Padma Subrahmanyam, actress Swarnamalya, singer K.S. Chithra, magician Gopinath Muthukad, footballer I.M. Vijayan, agricultural scientist M.S. Swaminathan, actor and director Nassar etc. volunteered to be a part of videos for voters' awareness where they appealed with voters to elect clean candidates, to vote ethically and make an informed choice. The campaign also involved the use of other offline and online media to reach out to citizens with the same message.
10. ADR and the **State Election Watch chapters of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Goa and Manipur** launched voter awareness campaigns in the states against the increasing influence of criminalization and money power in elections ahead of the 2017 State Assembly Elections. Celebrities like actor Kumud Mishra, actor Nivedita Tiwari, cartoonist and activist Aseem Trivedi, journalist and author Mrinal Pande, comedian & lyricist Varun Grover, journalist and activist Alok Dixit, Sufi singers and musicians Wadali Brothers, theatre artist Neelam Mansingh, journalist Hartosh Bal, singer Harpreet and cricketer Harbhajan Singh and theatre director and filmmaker Mr. G.S. Chani etc. volunteered to be a part of the videos created for voters' awareness. In the videos, they appealed to the voters to elect honest and clean candidates, to vote ethically and make an informed choice. The campaign also involved the use of other offline and online media to reach out to citizens with the same message.
11. ADR Representative, Ms. Aparna Lall bagged first prize at SP Jain Institute of Management and Research's online fund raising competition held in February'17.
12. ADR has published two books, '**ADR's Mid-Term Survey Report - All India (Jan '17 – Apr '17)**' and combined report '**Analysis of Criminal, Financial, and Other background details of the Candidates and Winners of 2017 State Assembly Elections of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Goa and Manipur**'.

Photo Gallery



Flagging off RTI vehicle of Gujarat Election Watch by Dr. Nasim Zaidi, CEC



Voters Awareness by Odisha Election Watch



Punjab Election Watch



Jammu & Kashmir Election Watch



Punjab Election Watch



Madhya Pradesh Election Watch

बृहन्मुंबई महानगरपालिका सार्वत्रिक निवडणूक 2017 एफ/उत्तर विभाग
निवडणूक लढविणा-या उमेदवारांनी शपथपत्रात दिलेल्या माहितीचा गोषवारा
प्रभाग क्रमांक- 178

क्र.	उमेदवाराचे नाव	राज्यीय उमेदवार	सामान्य उमेदवार	उमेदवाराचे पालिका	उमेदवाराचे पालिका	उमेदवाराचे पालिका	उमेदवाराचे पालिका
1	डॉ. राजेश चंद्रकांत शिंदे	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना
2	डॉ. राजेश चंद्रकांत शिंदे	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना
3	डॉ. राजेश चंद्रकांत शिंदे	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना
4	डॉ. राजेश चंद्रकांत शिंदे	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना
5	डॉ. राजेश चंद्रकांत शिंदे	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना
6	डॉ. राजेश चंद्रकांत शिंदे	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना
7	डॉ. राजेश चंद्रकांत शिंदे	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना
8	डॉ. राजेश चंद्रकांत शिंदे	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना
9	डॉ. राजेश चंद्रकांत शिंदे	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना
10	डॉ. राजेश चंद्रकांत शिंदे	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना
11	डॉ. राजेश चंद्रकांत शिंदे	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना
12	डॉ. राजेश चंद्रकांत शिंदे	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना	ना

1. उमेदवाराचे नाव, पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका

2. उमेदवाराचे नाव, पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका

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4. उमेदवाराचे नाव, पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका, उमेदवाराचे पालिका

Maharashtra becomes the first state in India to display summary of background details of candidates contesting BMC polls at all the polling booths on 21st Feb 2017



Bihar Election Watch





Voters Awareness by Mrs. Saral, District President of TNWC



RTI on wheels - Gujarat



Inauguration of Cultural Yatra at Kotagiri by Tehsildar



Maharashtra Election Watch



Jharkhand Election Watch

ABOUT ADR

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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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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-
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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:

1. **Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives**
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61991, Broadway St., Suite 200,
Redwood City, CA 94063, USA
6. **The Ford Foundation**
320 East 43rd Street,
New York, NY 10017
7. **Some eminent individuals**

Financial status

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2017					
FUND & LIABILITIES	Rs.	Rs.	PROPERTY AND ASSETS	Rs.	Rs.
Trust Funds or Corpus : Balance as per last Balance Sheet. Add : During the year	23,814,000.00 5,110,000.00	28,924,000.00	Immovable properties :		
Contribution from Founder Members Balance as per last Balance Sheet.		6,000.00	Computer : (At Cost) (Fcra) Balance as per last Balance Sheet Additions during the year	1,361,357.00 16,610.00	1,377,967.00
Other Earmarked Funds : (Created under the provisions of the Trust Deed of Scheme or out of the income)			Furniture & Fixtures : (At Cost) (Fcra) Balance as per last Balance Sheet	246,569.00	246,569.00
Ford Fixed Assets Fund (Fcra)Op. Balance:	703,563.00	703,563.00	Office Equipment : (At Cost) (Fcra) Balance as per last Balance Sheet Additions during the year	602,520.00 12,600.00	615,120.00
Hivos Fixed Assets Fund(fcra): Op. Balance	1,158,730.00	1,158,730.00	Computer : (At Cost) (Local) Balance as per last Balance Sheet Additions during the year	676,214.00 117,483.30	793,697.30
Sdtt Fixed Assets Fund (Local) : Op. Balance	623,762.00	623,762.00	Furniture & Fixtures : (At Cost) (Local) Balance as per last Balance Sheet	72,062.00	72,062.00
Fixed Assets Fund - Local : Op. Balance Add : During the year	460,839.00 120,497.30	581,336.30	Office Equipment : (At Cost) (Local) Balance as per last Balance Sheet Additions during the year - Local	336,325.00 3,014.00	339,339.00
ADR Fixed Assets Fund - (Fcra) : Op. Balance Add : During the year	348,153.00 29,210.00	377,363.00	Investments :		
Accumulation of funds u/s.11(2) [(31.03.14)-Op. Add: Addition during the year(upto 31.03.22)	15,000,000.00 3,000,000.00	18,000,000.00	In Fixed Deposit Account with HDFC Bank - General Fund HDFC Bank - Corpus Fund	73,833,770.06 33,327,908.14	107,161,678.20
Depreciation Fund : (Fcra) Computer	1,343,799.00		Advances :		
Furniture	105,203.00	1,804,777.00	To Project Advances	356,273.00	
Office Equipment	355,775.00		To Other Advances	22,195.00	
Depreciation Fund : (Local)			To Staff Advances	34,500.00	
Computer	700,511.00	903,974.00	To Prepaid Expenses	36,442.48	
Furniture	37,695.00		To TDS Earlier Years	535,612.58	
Office Equipment	165,768.00		To TDS FY 16-17	593,004.91	1,578,027.97
Grants :- Ford Grant -received during the year Less: Utilised during the year	7,014,972.40 (1,142,043.40)	5,872,929.00	Security Deposits:- Additions during the year .	528,000.00 450,000.00	978,000.00
Omidyar Grant(Opening Balance) Add: Grant received during the year Less: Utilised during the year	15,425,910.78 21,347,475.60 (14,625,416.61)	22,147,969.77	(i) Cash And Bank Balances- In Current/Savings Account with :		
Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives(Opening) Add: Grant received during the year Less: Utilised during the year	4,649,258.50 13,390,000.00 (8,277,407.30)	9,761,851.20	IndusInd Bank -FC- 200001239243 HDFC Bank -(APPI) 50100131483489 HDFC S/B-16651450000035 HDFC S/B Utilisation -16651450000028 PNB S/B A/c -3093000117477093	113,371.79 (741,198.94) 855,276.05 3,966,018.84 5,438,667.09	9,632,134.83
Sir Dorabji Tata Trust(Opening) Add: Grant received during the year Less: Utilised during the year	1,347,441.02 17,484,000.00 (13796239.93)	5,035,201.09	(ii) Cash in hand - Local Cash in hand - Fcra	8,367.00 4,350.00	12,717.00
Liabilities : Duties & Taxes Membership Fee(Advance) Sundry Creditors Provisions for Expenses	226,640.00 1,000.00 1,171,144.93 925,042.42	2,323,827.35			
Income and expenditure Account : Balance as per last Balance Sheet Add : Surplus as per Income & Exp A/c	17,054,098.98 7,527,929.61	24,582,028.59			
Total		122807312.30	Total		122,807,312.30

Balance sheet as of 31st March 2017

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 2017					
EXPENDITURE	Rs.	Rs.	INCOME	Rs.	Rs.
To Expenditure in respect of properties :			By Grants Utilised - Annexure-3		37841107.24
Rates, Taxes, Cessess - Muni. Tax			By Voluntary Contributions		8,083,943.00
Repairs and maintenance - Building			By Interest on Bank Deposits		
Salaries			Interest on FDRs-HDFC Bank	5,929,787.91	
Insurance			Saving Bank Interest	532,428.00	6,462,215.91
Depreciation (by way of provision or adjustments)					
Other expenses		-	By Other Income		
To Remuneration (in the case of a math to the head of the math, including his house-hold expenditure, any)		-	Member's Entrance Fee	1,000.00	
			Annual Membership Fees	4,500.00	
			Interest on Income Tax Refund	104,811.60	
Income Accumulation u/s.11(2)		3,000,000.00	Misc. Income	1,800.00	
			Interest on Staff Loan	3,059.00	115,170.60
To Depreciation : -					
Depreciation on Computer/printer	156,606.00				
Depreciation on Furniture & Fixtures	19,527.00				
Depreciation on Office Equipments	75,286.00				
Income Applied to Fixed Assets	149,707.30	401,126.30			
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	7,889,510.28				
Election Watch Activities Exp- Annexure-2	33,683,870.56	41573380.24			
To Surplus carried over to Balance Sheet		7,527,929.61			
Total		52,502,436.75	Total		52,502,436.75

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9% candidates figure in serious criminal cases

Records analysed by NGO shows 30 per cent candidates have assets worth more than Rs 1 crore

ARITA SARKAR
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 16

AN ANALYSIS of records of candidates contesting in the civic elections indicated that at least 154 candidates have serious criminal cases against them.

The figures were part of a partial analysis of the criminal backgrounds, assets and other details of 1641 candidates conducted by the NGO, Association for Democratic Reforms. Following the submission of nominations earlier this month, the state election

commission finalised a list of 2275 candidates for the civic elections.

The criteria for serious criminal cases include offences that are non-bailable, attract a punishment of five years or more. Committing electoral offences as well as crimes against women also count as serious criminal cases. Among the major political parties, analysis of 1641 candidates indicated that the highest number of candidates who declared serious criminal offences were from Shiv Sena comprising 16 per cent of the candidates analysed, followed by 14 per cent for the MNS.

The report also stated that at least 216

candidates analyzed have declared criminal cases against themselves. Among the major parties, the highest number of such candidates were from MNS comprising 25 per cent of the candidates' affidavits analysed followed by 24 per cent for the Shiv Sena and 23 per cent for the BJP. The report also analysed the financial status of candidates which indicated 30 per cent of the candidates analysed have declared assets worth more than Rs 1 crore while 10 candidates declared the value of their assets to be zero.

Another 102 candidates declared the value of their assets to be below Rs 1 lakh.

The average of the assets per candidate analyzed for this election is Rs. 1.93 Crores. Among the top 10 candidates with the highest declared assets include three candidates from BJP including Parag Shah with assets worth Rs 689 crores, four from Shiv Sena, two from Congress and one from NCP.

An age analysis of the candidates indicated that at least 71 candidates have declared their ages to be between 21 to 24 years. Of the total candidates analysed, 74% are between 25-50 years while 22% are between 51-80 years. Four candidates fall within the 71-80 years age group.

9% candidates are facing police cases



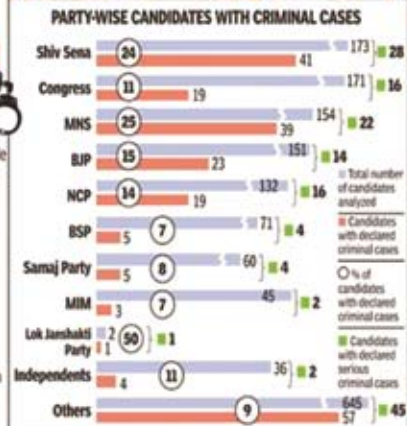
Sena, MNS field maximum number of history-sheeters

As many as 216 candidates with criminal cases against them are contesting in the BMC polls. Of these 154 have serious offences registered against them. The Association for Democratic Reforms and Maharashtra Election Watch have analyzed the affidavits of 1,641 out of 2,275 candidates who are in the fray. While many corrupts are vying for a seat in the civic body, 10 aspirants have declared zero assets.



SERIOUS CRIMINAL CASES INCLUDE

- Offence for which maximum punishment is of 5 years or more
- If an offence is non-bailable
- If it is an electoral offence (for eg. IPC 171E or bribery)
- Offence related to loss to exchequer
- Offences like assault, murder, kidnapping, rape
- Offences that are mentioned under the Representation of People Act (Section 8)
- Offences under Prevention of Corruption Act
- Crimes against women



101 प्रत्याशी

आपराधिक पृष्ठभूमि वाले

कमिशन के 14 'अप' के 12, किंग के 10, अपराध वृत्त के 7, अपराध के 2 व 20 अपराध व अपराधिक मामले हैं



वे हैं रैड अलर्ट चुनाव क्षेत्र

इनके पास कुछ भी नहीं है खल या अवल संपत्ति के नाम पर



इसके पास कुछ भी नहीं है खल या अवल संपत्ति के नाम पर

60 प्रतिशत उम्मीदवार 12वीं या इससे कम पढ़े

ASPIRANTS WITH ZERO ASSETS

- Sonali Vasant Gaiwad
- Sudhir Dattatray Dhamaskar
- Shamim Fakhrudin Qadri
- Sonanda Chandrashekar Kanade
- Jaywant Manuti Waghmare
- Rukhsana Mohsidique Memon
- Lawrence Leo Castello
- Anita Jijaba Bodhwant
- Bharti Prabhakar Sangale
- Poonam Arun Durgavale

WEALTH OF 10 RICHEST HOPEFULS

Parag Kishor Shah	BJP	₹689cr
Vinayak Nana Patil	NCP	₹56cr
Jayashree Anil Mistry	Sena	₹44cr
Deepa Ganesh Patil	Sena	₹43cr
Tulip Brian Miranda	Congress	₹42cr
Rajesh Nandkumar Kadam	Sena	₹41cr
Rajendra Chintaman Salvi	Congress	₹35cr
Vidyaarathi Balister Singh	BJP	₹35cr
Harish Ravji Chheda	BJP	₹32cr
Swati Sunil Shitlap	Sena	₹28cr

एक दशक के चुनावों में दोगुने हो गए थे दागी उम्मीदवार

एडीआर की 5 राज्यों की रिपोर्ट से हुआ खुलासा

विधानसभा चुनाव- वर्ष 2007 में 777 और वर्ष 2012 में खड़े थे 1557 दागी उम्मीदवार

प्रदेश वार सीटों की स्थिति

403	70	117
उत्तर प्रदेश	उत्तराखंड	पंजाब
60	40	
हिमाचल प्रदेश	मध्य प्रदेश	

अधिकांश चुनाव निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में हुए।

एडीआर की रिपोर्ट में विधानसभा चुनाव के बारे में बताया गया है। इस बार देशभर में हुए चुनावों में दागी उम्मीदवारों की संख्या में एक दशक के चुनावों में दोगुने हो गए थे। एडीआर की रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि 2007 में 777 दागी उम्मीदवार थे जबकि 2012 में यह संख्या 1557 हो गई।

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एक दशक में राजनीतिक दलों ने 63% चंदा नकद लिया

एडीआर की रिपोर्ट, दलों ने इस दौरान 2107 करोड़ नकद चंदा लिया विधानसभा चुनावों में, डिजिटल लेनदेन से परहेज

अधिकांश चुनाव निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में हुए।

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Note ban won't affect poll expenses: ADR survey



What will be the impact in terms of number of payments post demonetization? No effect 60%, Very little effect 30%, Can't say 10%.

November 2016

प्रशासनिक निगरान वार्षिक आकृत्यावा आकृत्य व वचननक आकृत्य

‘नो नोट, नो गॉ’ अखिद्यन आरक्ष



एडीआर की रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि 2007 में 777 दागी उम्मीदवार थे जबकि 2012 में यह संख्या 1557 हो गई। एडीआर की रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि 2007 में 777 दागी उम्मीदवार थे जबकि 2012 में यह संख्या 1557 हो गई।

In UP MLC polls, voters got e-gifts

अधिकांश चुनाव निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में हुए। एडीआर की रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि 2007 में 777 दागी उम्मीदवार थे जबकि 2012 में यह संख्या 1557 हो गई। एडीआर की रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि 2007 में 777 दागी उम्मीदवार थे जबकि 2012 में यह संख्या 1557 हो गई।

विद्यया यः (1044D)

[illegible]

की बात बाहर आये ये सरकार का हस्तक्षेप बढ़ जायगा। सीबीआईयूम के शिबिर कुदरीया ये कहा कि विविध लेख-लेखिका जन्ता को बचाना चाहिए, जन्ता अंदरूनी मसले जन्ता के सामने आए तो पार्टी का लोकतांत्रिक आधा पक्षर हो सकता है।

अन्य आर्थी पार्टी के विद्यार्थी सीएम ये राजनीतिक दलों पर सूचना के अधिकार लागू होने की यकांतत को (बहुजन समाज पार्टी के अध्यक्ष कुदरीया ये कहा कि इससे पार्टी के भीतर भाईदारा विवाद जायगा। अजयकहा कर रहे जयंत वर्मा ये कहा कि दलों की कचनी और पार्टी में फर्क जाये तो खल्लिए। राज्य सदन के सीबीआईयूम सीबी शिबिर ये कहा कि किसी सूचना के गति जाने पर यदि दल को सरला है कि सूचना की निजता पर अगर हो खल है तो ये अधिकारम की धारा 8 के द्वारा हमसे होकर समझेंगे।

They further stated that the work of the Income Tax Department has already been eased by the ADE by uploading the analysed data of assets comparison of all the re-contesting MLAs, (based on the candidates' affidavits obtained from the ECI website www.eci.nic.in), on their website www.adrindia.org, www.myneta.info.

They also disclosed in the press conference that they will also meet the Income Tax Commissioner of J and K to submit the analysed data of assets comparison of all the re-contesting MLAs by ADR.

पत्रिका

DANCE of

Cong got 83% of funds from unknown donors, BJP 65%

AAP, Left Failed Probity Standard, BSP Declared No Contributor

Times News Network

New Delhi: In the eleven years between 2004-05 and 2014-15, political parties of all colours — including ones which swore by transparency — got contributions worth more than ₹1 billion (₹8,600 crore) from unknown sources, a study by an independent think tank says.

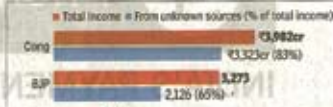
The historic financial 'performance' of these parties which ranked in more than ₹11,000 crore in total income (this includes the ₹8,600 crore) during this period will add to the gathering momentum for a consensus among parties to clean up political funding.

The Congress, ruling party at the Centre most of these years, made around ₹4,000 crore, 85% of this from unknown donors. Details of these patrons weren't provided to either the Election Commission or the Income-tax department.

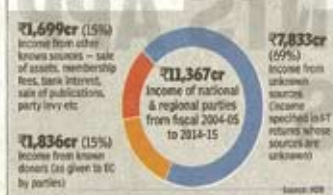
The BJP that formed government at the Centre in May 2014 followed close. Its income was ₹3,273 crore during this period — 65% of it from unknown sources.

Surprisingly, the Aam Aadmi Party, formed in 2012 on the plank of eliminating corruption from elections and ensuring transparency in political funding, together with the CPM and the CPI did not say away from receiving funds from 'unknown' donors. While 87% of AAP's ₹110 crore collected in the three years (2013-2015) was

69% OF PARTIES' INCOMES FROM UNKNOWN SOURCES



All figures in ₹ crore



from unknown sources, the CPM's 55% of total income of ₹80 crore in 11 years was from contributors who are unknown.

The BSP, which collected ₹764 crore, did not declare a single donor. It used a

close in the Representation of the People Act that makes it mandatory for parties to disclose donors only if individual contributions exceed ₹30,000. The party maintained each of its donations was below this mark.

According to the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), an NGO working for probity in elections, the Congress and the BJP account for over 65% of the total income of ₹11,367 crore of all national and regional parties.

The ADR study is based on the audited accounts and contribution statements submitted by parties to the EC and the IT department. A closer scrutiny of the flow of funds showed that in the period covered, party coffers remained unaffected even by the dip in the country's economic fortunes.

Jagdeep Chhokar, ADR founder member and a former IIM Ahmedabad professor, said 65% of the total income of all parties is from unknown sources, which is around ₹9,668 crore in 11 years. "Donor details should be made available for public scrutiny under RTI," Chhokar demanded, and observed that this is important for strengthening of parties, elections and the democracy.

There's some hope that the NDA government may initiate electoral reforms and make parties accountable with PM Narendra Modi last month backing EC recommendations to bring an end to anonymous donations.

The PM supported the EC's demand saying his government was committed to implement whatever decision is taken in the interest of people.

दैनिक भास्कर

राजनीतिक दलों ने 10 साल में कमाए 11 हजार करोड़ रुपये, 69% अज्ञात स्रोतों से

राष्ट्रीय दलों की आय 313% तो क्षेत्रीय दलों की 652% बढ़ी

• रापा की आय 94%, भाजपा की 65%, तो बसपा की 2057% बढ़ी

भाजपा ने 11 हजार करोड़ रुपये की आय

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NEWS

THE HINDU • WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2017

'69% of political funds from unknown sources'

Association for Democratic Reforms says the income of national parties from unknown sources increased by 313%

Devesh K. Prasad

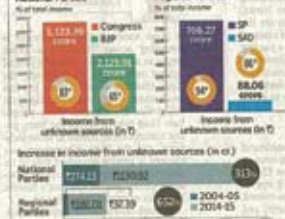
NEWS: The total income of national and regional political parties between 2004-05 and 2014-15 stood at ₹11,367 crore, with the highest of ₹9,668 crore being the Congress's share. However, 69% of the income of six national parties was from unknown sources, according to an analysis done by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR).

The income of national parties from unknown sources increased by 313% during the decade for the regional parties, it went up by 652%. The BSP is the only party which has got 100% of its income through donations from unknown sources. Its total income increased by 2,057%, from ₹329 crore during 2004-05 to ₹6,866 crore during 2014-15.

The ADR report, released on Tuesday, says the details of donors pertaining only to

SHOW ME THE MONEY

The ADR recommended that full details of all donors be made available for public scrutiny under the RTI.



the highest of ₹96 crore voluntary contributions in the category. "The donations declared by the BJP are more than twice the donations declared by the Congress during the same period," the report said.

has not submitted its disclosures report to the EC between 2004-05 and 2009-10. The Congress has declared donations of ₹800.32 crore.

IT returns According to the ADR, the income-tax returns of 42 of the 51 regional parties analysed were unavailable for at least one financial year. The total declared income of regional parties during the period stood at ₹2,689 crore, the highest being that of the Samajwadi Party at ₹999 crore, followed by the DMK with ₹263 crore and the AIADMK with ₹205 crore.

Based on the findings, the ADR has recommended that full details of all donors be made available for public scrutiny under the RTI.

none of these countries it is possible for almost 79% of the source of funds to be unknown, but at present it is so in India," said the report, adding any organisation that receives foreign funding should not be allowed to support or campaign for any candidate or political party.

Tax exemption Recently the report mentioned that the Election Commission had recommended that tax exemption be awarded only to those political parties which contest and win seats in the Lok Sabha or Assembly elections. The EC suggested that details of all those who donated above ₹2,000 be made public. Scrutiny of the political party's financial documents should be conducted annually by a body approved by the EC and the Comptroller and Auditor General for greater transparency, the report said.

POLLSTAT

राजनीतिक दलों ने 10 साल में कमाए 11 हजार करोड़ रुपये, 69% अज्ञात स्रोतों से

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The Sentinel

of this land, for its people

Law City Edition

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PHASE II POLLS

125 crorepatis in fray

BY OUR STAFF REPORTER
GUWAHATI, April 6: It's raining crorepatis this assembly elections. Out of the 523 candidates in fray in the second phase, as many as 125 (24%) are crorepatis.

The assets per candidate contesting in the second phase are worth an average Rs 1.26 crore.

AJUDF president Badruddin Ajmal, contesting from South Salmara, is the richest candidate with assets worth Rs 54 crore. Independent candidate from Bongaigaon Hesh Boroeloi has property worth Rs 50 crore, while BJP's Narayan Deka (Barkhetry) has assets worth Rs 17 crore.

Twenty-nine candidates have assets of over Rs 5 crore.

Independent candidate Rajib Ahmed (Baghor) has declared a total annual income of Rs 2.95 crore. Sitting Mangaldai MLA Basanta Das earns Rs 2.4 crore annually. While Ajmal has an annual income of Rs 1.9 crore, according to the Association of Democratic Reforms which analyzed the affidavits of the candidates.

Among major parties, the average worth of assets per candidate

ASSETS

SOUTH SALMAR

Badruddin Ajmal, AIUDF

- Rs 54 crore

BONGAIGAON

Hesh Boroeloi, Independent

- Rs 50 crore

BARKHETRY

Narayan Deka, BJP

- Rs 17 crore

ANNUAL INCOME

BAGHOR

Rajib Ahmed, Independent

- Rs 2.95 crore

MANGALDAI

Basanta Das, INC

- Rs 2.4 crore

SOUTH SALMAR

Badruddin Ajmal, AIUDF

- Rs 1.9 crore

for 57 Congress candidates is Rs 2.64 crore. 35 BJP candidates have

average assets of Rs 2.46 crore, 47

AIUDF candidates have average assets

worth Rs 2.44 crore, 19 Asom

Gana Parishad candidates have average

assets worth Rs 1.37 crore, while 11

SUCI(C) candidates have average assets

worth Rs 26.43 lakh.

A total of 27 (5%) candidates

have not declared their PAN details,

while 192 (37%) out of 523 candidates

have not declared income tax details.

Ten candidates have declared to

total annual income of more than Rs

50 lakh.

Twelve candidates with assets

worth more than Rs 50 lakh have

not declared income tax details.

The party-wise number of crore-

pati candidates in the second phase

of elections are: 30 (53%) out of 57

fielded by INC, 19 (54%) out of 35

candidates from BJP, 9 (47%) out of

19 candidates from Asom Gana

Parishad, 12 (26%) out of 47

candidates fielded by AIUDF, 6 (60%)

out of 10 candidates of Bodoland

Peoples Front (BPF) as well as 39

(19%) out of 216 Independent candi-

dates.

Crorepatis entrants rise

WISHEK SENGUPTA

Guwahati, March 31: The number of crorepatis contesting the Assam Assembly elections has gone up compared to last time, a study has found.

In the 2011 Assembly polls, 102 crorepati candidates were in the fray. Five years later, that number has shot up to 112 in the first phase itself, a report by the Association of Democratic Reform (ADR) has revealed.

Altogether 65 of the 126 constituencies in the state are going to polls in the first phase elections on April 4. A total of 539 candidates have filed nominations to contest in the first phase.

ADR, an umbrella body representing 1,200 NGOs throughout the nation, in its report revealed that 21 per cent of the candidates contesting the first phase are crorepatis, compared to 15 per cent in the 2011 polls.

A total of 728 candidates—331 in the first phase and 395 in the second—contested the last Assembly elections five years ago and 47 crorepatis (around 37 per cent of the total seats) were elected as lawmakers.

The Assembly elections in 2006 had only 16 crorepati MLAs. A partywise analysis of the report, compiled from the self-sworn affidavits of the candidates, revealed that there had been a sharp rise of crorepati candidates contesting for the BJP and Congress.

Around 27 per cent of Congress candidates were crorepatis in the last Assembly elections as compared to 55 per cent (36 out of 65 contenders) in the first phase this year. For BJP, the numbers last year was a meagre 12 per cent, which rose to 64 per cent (seven of 11 candidates).

Two out of nine AGP candidates, two out of three BPF candidates and 25 out of 280 Independents have declared assets worth more than Rs 1 crore in this election.

A comparative study of the 2011 and 2016 polls has also revealed a surge in Independent



Tasaduk Ariful Hussain, Assam coordinator of ADR, addresses the news conference in Guwahati on Thursday. Picture by UB Photos

candidates. While only 88 Independent candidates contested last time, it has increased to 280 this year. In fact, the candidate with the most assets is an Independent.

Jyoti Subba, who is contesting from Sootea constituency in Tezpur tops the chart with assets worth more than Rs 288 crore. The AGP's Naren Sonowal, contesting in Upper Assam's Naharkatia constituency and Congress's Rahul Roy, a candidate in Barak Valley's Algaipur constituency, follow with assets worth Rs 33 crore and 25 crore respectively.

The CPI (M-L) (Liberation) candidate for Teok constituency, Jiten Tanti and Independent candidate for Mariani, Diganta Phukan, have said they have zero assets.

However, 47 per cent (255 candidates) have not declared their income tax details. "We have retrieved the details of those candidates on the basis of their immovable assets and their income is still unknown," said Tasaduk Ariful Hussain, co-ordinator of ADR.

North Cachar Hills' three candidates top the crorepati chart among those who have not declared income tax details. Independent candidate Holiram Tareng for Baithalangso has assets worth Rs 3 crore while Diphu's BJP candidate Sum Ronghang and Lok Janashakti Party's Dipendra Rongpi has assets worth Rs 2 crore and Rs 1 crore respectively.

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पुलिस, सीआरपी, बिहार सरकार के अधिकारी और जनता के बीच का संपर्क

पुलिस और जनता के बीच का संपर्क

विधानसभा चुनाव के उम्मीदवारों की संपत्ति में बेतहाशा बढ़ोतरी, संजय राज सुब्बा सबसे धनी

गुवाहाटी: विधानसभा चुनाव के दूसरे चरण के मतदान के बाद बिहार के विधानसभा चुनाव के उम्मीदवारों की संपत्ति में बेतहाशा बढ़ोतरी हुई है। संजय राज सुब्बा सबसे धनी उम्मीदवार हैं।

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