

Association for Democratic Reforms & National Election Watch

# FORUM ON General Elections 2019 Issues and Challenges

**OCT 10, 2019**

Lecture Room-1  
India International Centre  
(Annexe)  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi

**REGISTRATION, MORNING TEA & COFFEE**

**09:30 AM - 09:45 AM**

**WELCOME ADDRESS & INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

**09:45 AM - 09:55 AM**

Maj. Gen. Anil Verma (Retd.) (*Head, ADR & NEW*)

## SESSION 1:

**Crime and Money in Electoral Politics:**

**10:00 AM - 11:45 AM**

**Is it irreversible?**

### **Keynote Speaker:**

Dr. S.Y. Quraishi  
Former Chief Election Commissioner,  
Election Commission of India

### **Chair:**

Prof. Jagdeep Chhokar  
Founder Member, Trustee,  
ADR & NEW

### **Subthemes:**

**1. Why political parties and voters continue to choose candidates with muscle and money power?**

**Speaker:** Ms. Atishi (*Member of Political Affairs Committee (PAC), Aam Aadmi Party*)

**2. The continuing trend of crime and money in electoral politics**

**Speaker:** Dr. D. Dhanuraj (*Chairman, Centre for Public Policy Research, Kochi*)

**3. How can this trend be reversed?**

**Speaker:** Mr. Maneesh Chhibber (*Contributing Editor at The Print*)

**TEA BREAK**

**11:45 AM - 12:00 PM**

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## SESSION 2:

**Social Media, Election Expenditure and  
Voter Influence: Changing face of electoral politics in India?**

**12:00 PM - 01:45 PM**

### Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Nasim Zaidi  
Former Chief Election Commissioner,  
Election Commission of India

### Chair:

Dr. Vipul Mudgal  
Director - Common Cause &  
Trustee - ADR & NEW

### Subthemes:

**1. How candidates and parties are using social media for electoral campaigning?**

**Speaker:** Mr. Shivam Shankar Singh (*Data Analyst & Campaign Consultant*)  
Mr. Ankit Lal (*Social Media & IT Strategist, Aam Aadmi Party*)

**2. Social media & changing nature of election expenditure**

**Speaker:** Mr. Paranjay Guha Thakurta (*Senior Journalist, Author & Political Commentator*)

**3. Regulation of political propaganda/campaigning on social media**

**Speaker:** Mr. Pratik Sinha (*Co-founder, Alt News*)

## LUNCH

**01:45 PM - 03:00 PM**