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Our Activities: 2017-18

History of ADR and the beginning of Election Watch Process

In August 1999, a group of professors from the Indian Institute of Management came together to set up an organization called Association for Democratic Reforms(ADR) to address the alarming issues of increasing muscle and money power in Indian politics. They filed a Public Interest Litigation in Delhi High Court in 1999 seeking a provision for the disclosure of criminal, financial and educational details of candidates contesting elections. To their achievement, the Supreme Court in 2002 and subsequently in 2003 made it mandatory for candidates contesting for the Parliamentary and State Assembly elections to disclose details pertaining to their criminal, financial and educational background in their affidavits to be submitted to the Election Commission of India.

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 states and parliament. ADR and National Election Watch (NEW) reach to the voters has been increased through the presence of State Election Watch chapters all over India.

Besides the NEW activities, ADR has also strengthened its efforts towards increasing transparency and accountability in the functioning of political parties. After a Central Information Commission (CIC)'s order in 2008, it initiated analysing and disseminating information pertaining to 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.

Strategic litigation is another vital tool through which ADR has been able to create a momentum for required reform in the political and electoral system. ADR has initiated/intervened in several PILs, some of which have resulted in landmark judgments and has filed PILs itself in some cases. ADR/NEW is supported and strengthened by 1200 state

partners and eminent personalities who continue to collaborate with it for various campaign activities. Along the years, ADR has increased the use of Information Technology to streamline its data analysis and multiplied its communication initiatives to not only disseminate this information, but also to establish a broad base for the outreach on the ground.

The Election Watch is the flagship programme of ADR. In 2003, the Supreme Court made it mandatory for candidates contesting elections to declare their criminal, financial and other background details to the citizens. ADR and NEW started the process of conducting Election Watches by which these background details provided by the candidates to the Election Commission (via their affidavits) were analyzed and released in an effort to help the citizens make an informed choice. Over a period of time, this process has become more streamlined with the use of an online tool (the Election Watch Software) to feed and analyze the details of the contesting candidates. The Election Watch process, which began with the 2002 Gujarat Assembly Elections, now covers every Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and Assembly election. It also covers local body elections in some states.

The process of awareness generation among the voters, begins 6-8 months ahead of polls with the help of NEW network. Meetings/ seminars/campaigns are undertaken and data with respect to outgoing legislators (criminal, financial and other background details, data on performance of MPs/ MLAs and

Assemblies) and political parties is released. Separate meetings are held with the Election Commission (or state Chief Electoral Officers at the state levels) to garner the ECI's collaboration during elections. At the central level, the Election Watch process starts at least 2 weeks before polls when the data entry team starts uploading data from the affidavits of the candidates into an online database and then the comprehensive reports are released via email to journalists and other prominent people who are part of our email database. 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 and outdoor

campaigns to make voters aware of the criminal, financial and other background details of contesting candidates and help citizens make an informed choice.

During the year 2017-18, Election Watch was conducted for the following elections:

- Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Tripura **State Assembly Elections.**
- **Bye elections**
- **Local Body Elections**

Following are the various reports released Election Watch during year 2017-18:

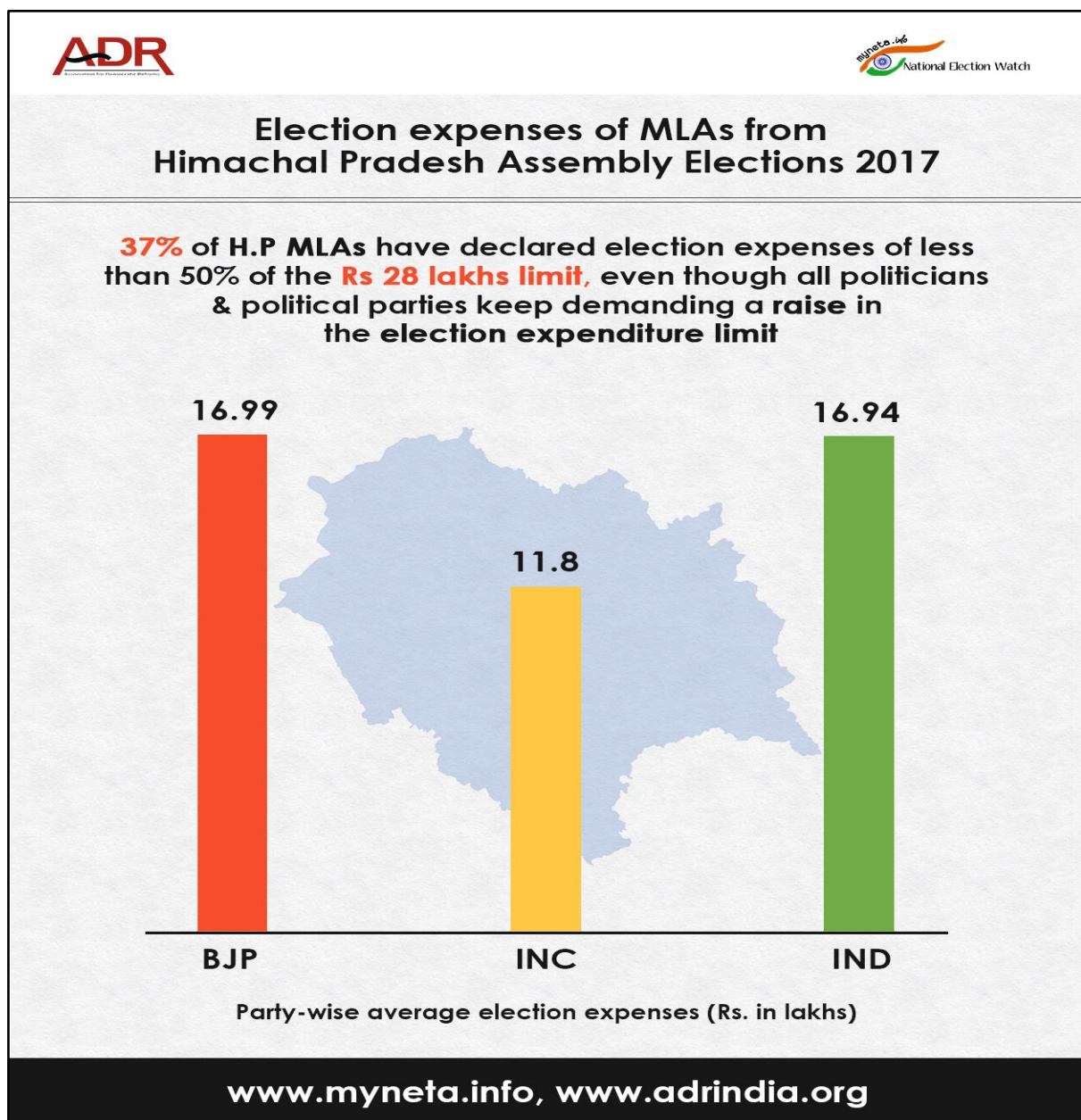


I. Reports analysing the details of candidates and Winners

1. Analysis of Criminal, Financial and Other Background details of Contesting Candidates in April 2017 State Assembly Bye-Elections in Tamil Nadu - 4th April, 2017
2. Analysis of Criminal, Financial and Other Background details of Contesting Candidates in April 2017 State Assembly Bye-Elections in Assam - 8th April, 2017
3. Maharashtra Assembly Bye Election 2015 Analysis of Criminal, Financial & other background details of contesting Candidates - 10th April, 2017
4. Municipal Corporation Election in Latur (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Candidates - 12th April, 2017

5. Municipal Corporation Election in Chandrapur (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Candidates -13th April,2017
6. Municipal Corporation Election in Parbhani (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Candidates -13th April,2017
7. Municipal Corporation of Delhi Elections, 2017 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Winners -3rd May,2018
8. Municipal Corporation Election in Bhiwandi-Nizampur (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Candidates - 18th May,2017
9. Municipal Corporation Election in Malegaon (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial and other background details of Candidates -18th MAY,2017
10. Municipal Corporation Election in Panvel (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Candidates -19th May,2017
11. Municipal Corporation Elections in Panvel, Bhiwandi-Nizampur and Malegaon (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Candidates - 19th May,2017
12. Municipal Corporation Elections in Panvel, Bhiwandi-Nizampur and Malegaon (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of winners -27th May,2017
13. Municipal Corporation Elections in Malegaon (Nashik Division, Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of winners - 29th May,2017
14. Municipal Corporation Elections in Panvel (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of winners -29th May,2017
15. Municipal Corporation Elections in Bhiwandi-Nizampur (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of winners -29th May,2017
16. Municipal Corporation of Patna Elections, 2017 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Candidates -31st May,2017
17. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Ministers in Bihar -1st August,2017
18. Presidential and Vice Presidential Elections of Zilla Parishad, Maharashtra 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial and other background details of Presidents / Vice Presidents -23rd June,2017

19. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and Other Details of Candidates Contesting for Rajya Sabha Elections, 8th August, 2017 - 4th August, 2017
20. Municipal Corporation Elections in Mira Bhayander (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Candidates -12th August, 2017
21. Municipal Corporation Elections in Mira Bhayander (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Winners -22nd August, 2017

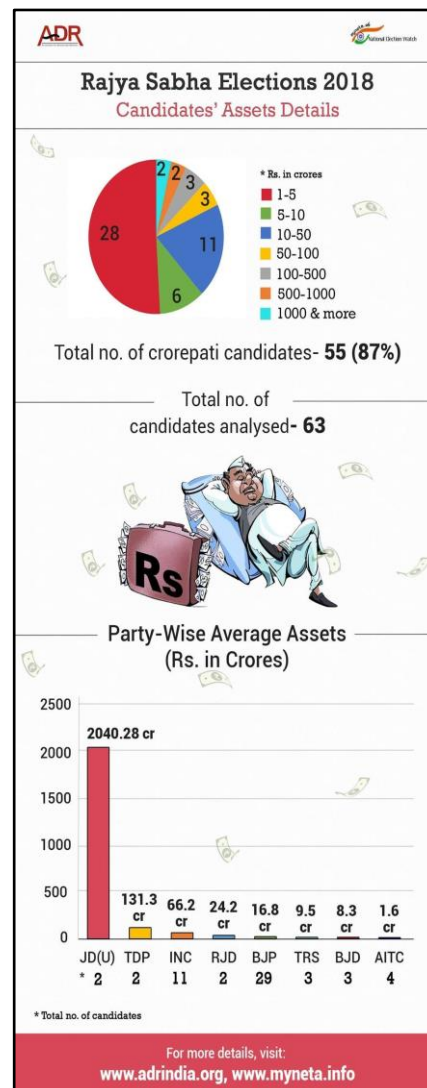
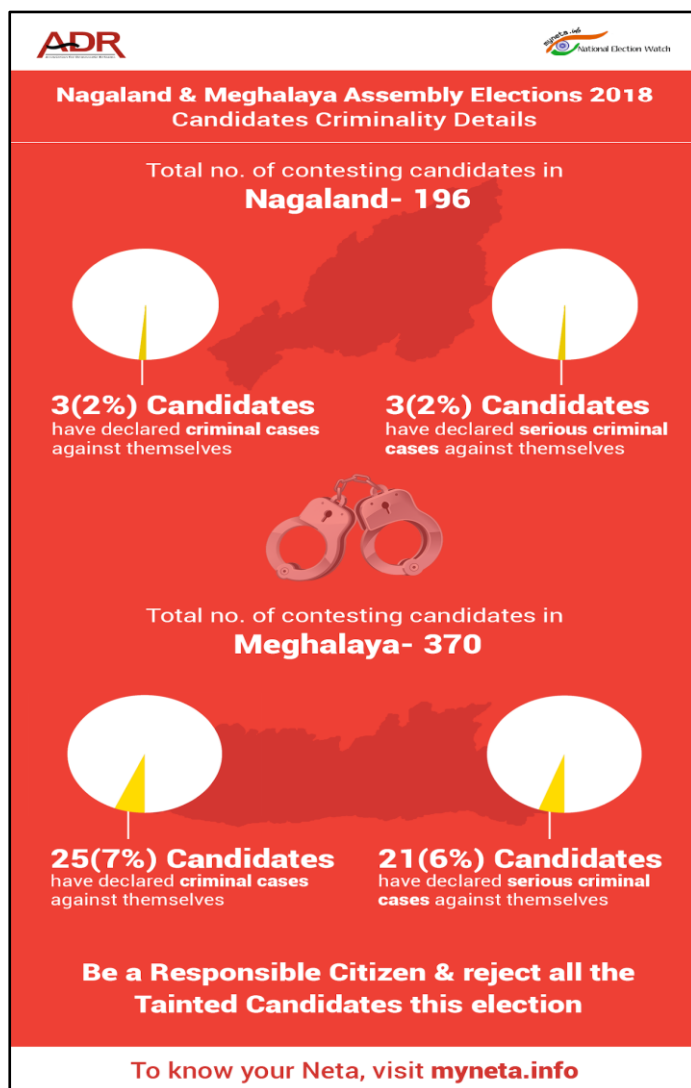


- 22.** Municipal Corporation Elections in Nanded Waghala (Maharashtra), 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Winners -13th Oct,2017
- 23.** Himachal Pradesh Assembly Elections, 2017: Analysis of Asset Comparison of Re-contesting MLAs -1st Nov,2017
- 24.** MLAs and MPs of Bihar with Declared Criminal Cases against themselves - 4th Nov,2017
- 25.** MLAs and MPs of Gujarat with Declared Criminal Cases against themselves - 6th Nov,2017
- 26.** MLAs and MPs of Odisha with Declared Criminal Cases against themselves - 4th Nov,2017
- 27.** Gujarat Assembly Elections 2012 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of MLAs -6th Nov,2017
- 28.** Municipal Corporation Elections in Lucknow, 2017 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates Contesting for the Position of Mayor -15th Nov,2017
- 29.** MLAs and MPs of Tripura with Declared Criminal Cases against themselves -25th Nov,2017
- 30.** Uttar Pradesh Municipal Corporation Elections, 2017 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Mayoral Candidates - 21st Nov,2017
- 31.** Uttar Pradesh Municipal Corporation Elections, 2017 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Mayors -6th Dec,2017
- 32.** Gujarat Assembly Elections 2017, Phase 1: Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates -1st Dec,2017
- 33.** Gujarat Assembly Elections 2017 Phase 2 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates-7th Dec,2017
- 34.** Gujarat Assembly Elections 2017, Consolidated Report: Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates -11th Dec,2017
- 35.** Gujarat Assembly Elections 2017: Analysis of Assets Comparison of Re-Contesting MLAs -11th December,2017

- 36.** Dr. Radhakrishnan Nagar bye election -Tamil Nadu December, 2017 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of candidates - 13th Dec,2017
- 37.** Municipal Council Presidential Elections in Maharashtra, December 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Candidates -12th Dec,2017
- 38.** MLAs and MPs of Odisha with Declared Criminal Cases against themselves - 13th Dec,2017
- 39.** Igatpuri, Trimbak and Jat Municipal Council Elections in Maharashtra, December 2017 (Phase I) Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Winners -14th Dec,2017
- 40.** Pandharkavda, Kinwat, Hupari and Chikhaldara Municipal Council Elections in Maharashtra, December 2017 (Phase II) Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Winners -18th Dec,2017
- 41.** Gujarat Assembly Elections 2017 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of MLAs -19th Dec,2017
- 42.** Himachal Pradesh Assembly Elections 2017 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of MLAs -19th Dec,2017
- 43.** Analysis of details of youngest MLAs of Gujarat assembly, 2017 - 20th Dec,2017
- 44.** MLAs and MPs of Jharkhand with Declared Criminal Cases against themselves -21st Dec,2017
- 45.** Dahanu, Nandurbar and Nawapur Municipal Council Elections in Maharashtra, December 2017 (Phase III) Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Winners -22th Dec,2017
- 46.** Municipal Council Presidential Elections in Maharashtra (Phase I, II & III), December 2017 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Winners -28th Dec,2017
- 47.** Madhya Pradesh Municipal Council Elections, 2018- Presidential Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - 13th Jan,2018
- 48.** Analysis of Criminal, Financial and Other Background details of Contesting Candidates in West Bengal State Assembly Bye-Elections 2018 -18th Jan,2018
- 49.** Analysis of Criminal, Financial and Other Background details of Contesting Candidates in Lok Sabha Bye-Elections in West Bengal 2018 - 18th Jan,2018

50. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Ministers in the Himachal Pradesh Assembly 2017- 27th Dec,2017

51. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Ministers in the Gujarat Assembly 2017 -26th Dec,2017



52. Tripura Assembly Elections 2018 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Candidates -10th Feb,2018

53. Comparative Analysis of Assets of Recontesting MLAs, Tripura Assembly Elections 2018 -16th Feb,2018

54. Nagaland Assembly Elections 2018: Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Candidates -21st Feb,2018

55. Meghalaya Assembly Elections 2018: Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Candidates -22nd Feb,2018
56. Nagaland Assembly Elections 2018 Comparative Analysis of Assets of Recontesting MLAs -23rd Feb,2018
57. Meghalaya Assembly Elections 2018 Comparative Analysis of Assets of Recontesting MLAs -23rd Feb,2018
58. Phulpur and Gorakhpur Parliamentary Constituencies bye-election –Uttar Pradesh March, 2018 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of candidates -1st March,2018
59. Tripura Assembly Elections 2018 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Winners -4th March,2018
60. Meghalaya Assembly Elections 2018 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Winners -4th March,2018
61. Nagaland Assembly Elections 2018 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Winners-4th March,2018
62. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Ministers in the Meghalaya Assembly 2018 -13th March,2018
63. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Ministers in the Nagaland Assembly 2018 - 14th March,2018
64. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Ministers in the Tripura Assembly 2018 -16th March,2018
65. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and Other Details of Candidates Contesting for Rajya Sabha Elections, 23rd March, 2018 -21st March,2018
66. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Sitting Rajya Sabha MPs - 2018 -24th March,2018
67. Municipal Corporation Bye Elections in Maharashtra, April 2018 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Candidates -29th March,2018
68. Karnataka Assembly Elections 2013 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of MLAs -5th April,2018
69. Municipal Council Elections in Jamner & Vaijapur, Maharashtra 2018, Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Candidates -5th April,2018
70. Municipal Corporation Bye Elections in Maharashtra, April 2018 Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Winners -9th April,2018

71. Nagar Panchayat Elections in Devrukh & Guhagar, Maharashtra, April 2018 Analysis of Criminal, Financial and other background details of Candidates -10th April,2018
72. Municipal Council Elections in Jamner & Vaijapur, Maharashtra 2018, Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Educational and other background details of Winners -15th April,2018
73. Nagar Panchayat Elections in Devrukh & Guhagar, Maharashtra, April 2018 Analysis of Criminal, Financial and other background details of Winners -14th April,2018

II. Reports analysing the vote share and election expenditure of winners

74. Goa Assembly Elections 2017 Analysis of Vote Share and Representativeness of Winners -7th April,2017
75. Punjab Assembly Elections 2017 Analysis of Vote Share and Representativeness of Winners -7th April,2017
76. Analysis of Election Expenditure Statements of MLAs Manipur Assembly Elections, 2017 - 8th May,2017
77. Uttarakhand Assembly Elections 2017 Analysis of Vote Share and Representativeness of Winners -19th May,2017
78. Uttar Pradesh Assembly Elections 2017 Analysis of Vote Share and Representativeness of Winners -19th May,2017
79. Analysis of Election Expenditure Statements of MLAs Uttarakhand Assembly Elections, 2017 - 20th June,2017
80. Analysis of Election Expenditure Statements of MLAs Goa Assembly Elections, 2017- 20th June,2017
81. Analysis of NOTA Performance in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh Assembly Elections, 2017-20th Dec,2017
82. Analysis of Election Expenditure Statements of MLAs Himachal Pradesh Assembly Elections, 2017 -30th Jan,2018
83. Analysis of Election Expenditure Statements of MLAs Gujarat Assembly Elections, 2017 -30th Jan,2018
84. Tripura Assembly Elections 2018 Analysis of Vote Share and Representativeness of Winners -30th April,2018

85. Analysis of Election Expenditure Statements of MLAs Tripura Assembly Elections, 2018 -30th april,2018

III. Reports analysing the performance of sitting MLAs

86. 11th State Assembly of Tripura Analysis of Performance of MLAs and Legislative Assembly of Tripura - 25th Jan,2018
87. Analysis of Donations from Corporates & Business Houses to National Parties - FY 2012-13 to 2015-16 (Known donations above Rs 20,000 only) -18th Aug,2017
88. 14th State Assembly of Karnataka Analysis of Performance of MLAs and Legislative Assembly of Karnataka -6th April,2018

IV. Miscellaneous Reports

89. Report for Register of Members' Interest of Rajya Sabha MPs- 2016 - 13th June,2017
90. An analysis of Sitting MPs & MLAs charged with Cases related to Communal Violence -14th July,2017
91. 2017 ADR Midterm Survey Report for Gujarat -6th Nov,2017
92. Analysis of Chief Ministers from 29 State Assemblies and 2 Union Territories of India -12th Feb, 2018
93. Analysis of NOTA Votes (2013-2017) -9th March,2018
94. Analysis of MPs/MLAs with Declared Cases Related to Crimes against Women -19th April,2018
95. Analysis of MPs/MLAs with Declared Cases Related to Hate Speech -25th April, 2018

Political Party Watch

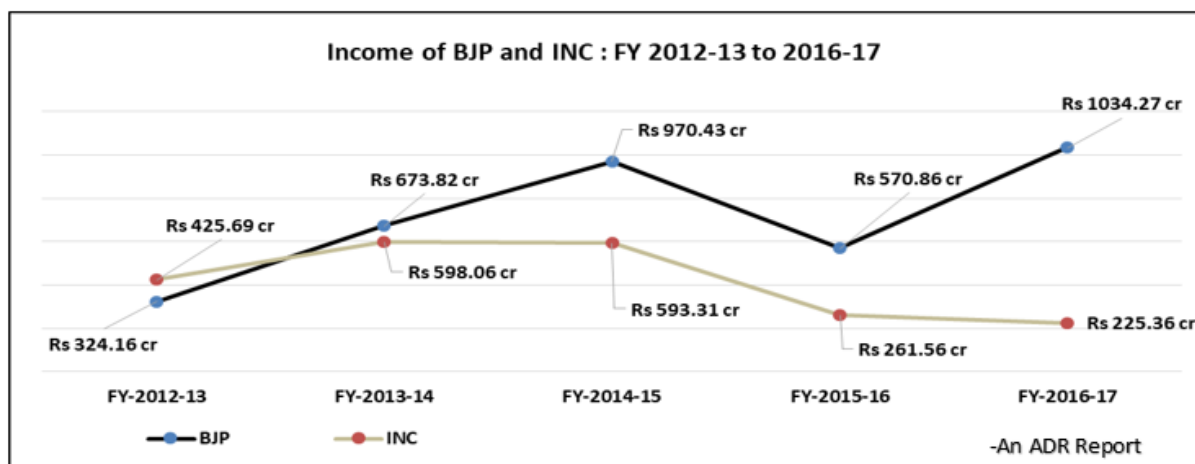
As political parties play a crucial role in a democracy, good governance would remain a distant dream without accountability and transparency in the internal functioning and financials of Political Parties. In 2008, ADR started a new program called Political Party Watch (PPW) to thoroughly analyze the Donations Report, Income Tax Returns and Election Expenditure Reports of Political Parties and disseminate the 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.

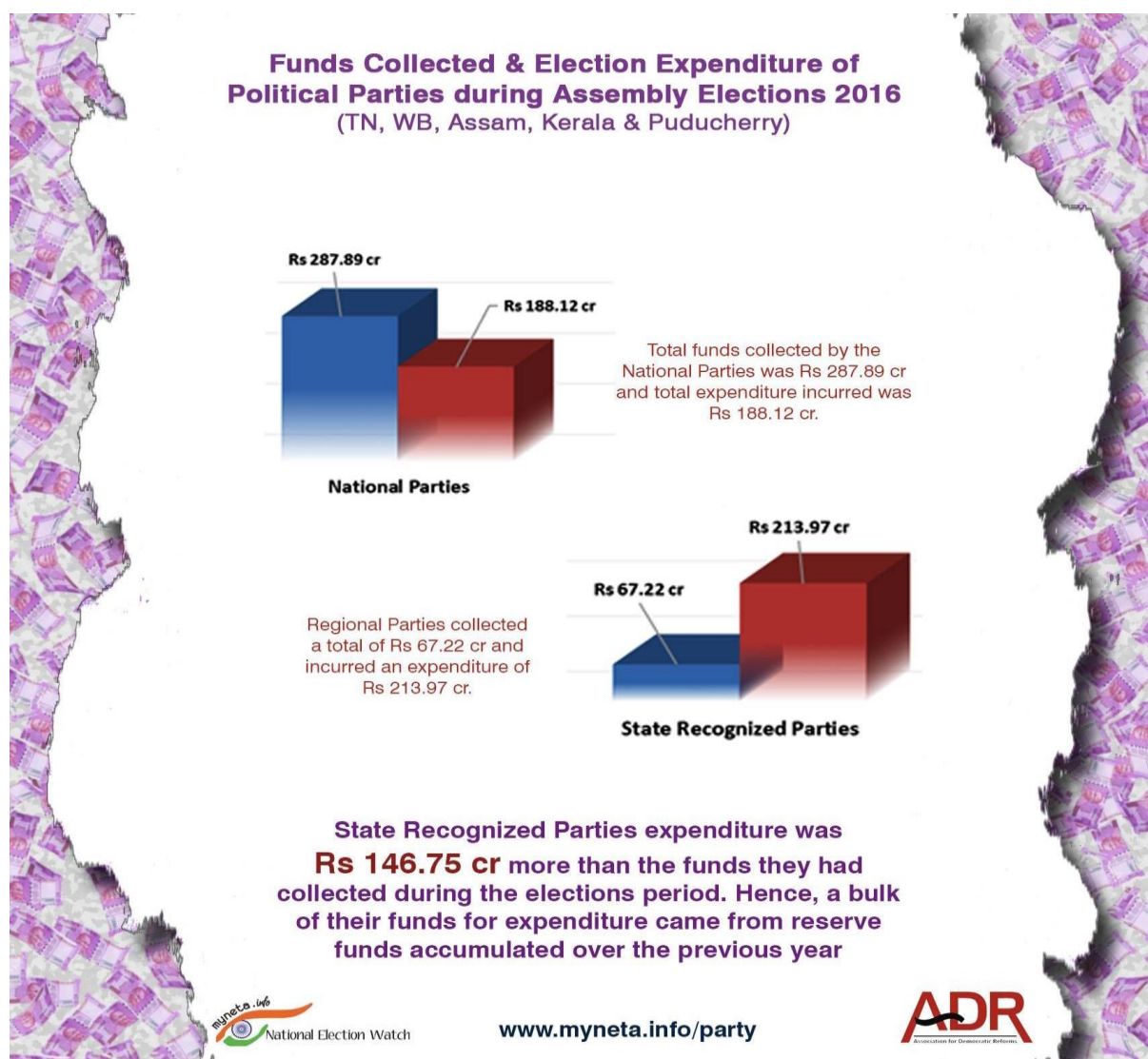
These reports have revealed that currently only National Parties and very few Regional Parties file their IT Returns on a regular basis every year.

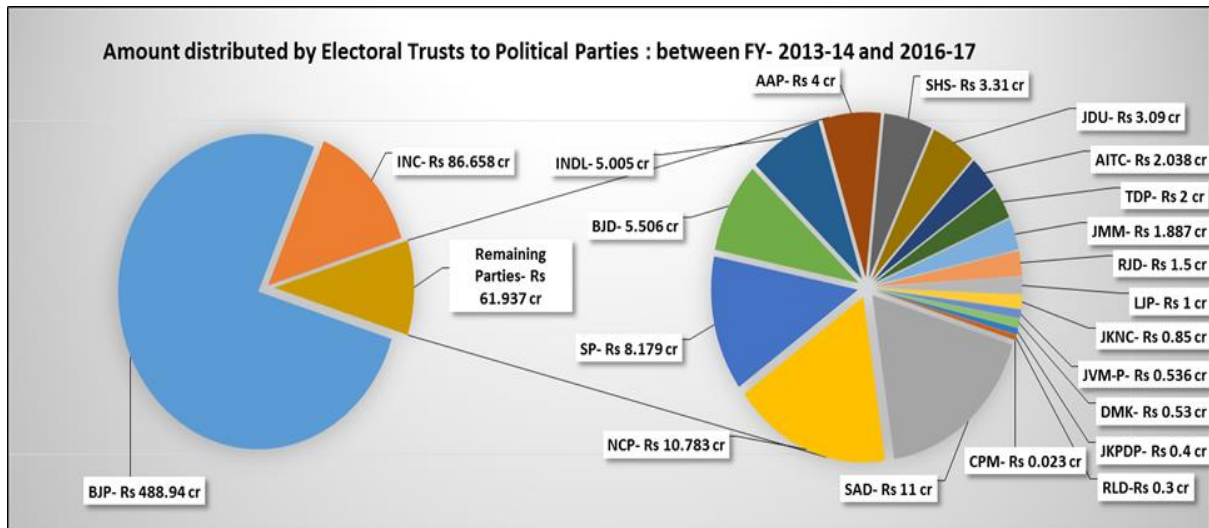
Following analyses on Political Parties were undertaken during 2017-18:

1. Analysis of sources of funding of political parties of Punjab, FY 2004-05 to 2014-15 (28th April, 2017)
2. Analysis of income and expenditure of 5 National Parties (less BJP and INC), FY 2015-16 (9th May, 2017)
3. Analysis of Funds Collected and Expenditure Incurred by Political Parties in the 5 State Assembly Elections, 2016 - 6th July, 2017
4. Analysis of Contribution Report of Electoral Trusts for FY 2015-16 -29th Aug, 2017
5. Analysis of Income & Expenditure of BJP & INC for FY- 2015-2016 - 6th Sept, 2017
6. Analysis of assets & liabilities of national parties – FY 2004-05 to 2015-16 -16th Oct, 2017
7. Analysis of income & expenditure of regional political parties for FY 2015-16 -27th Oct, 2017
8. Assets and Liabilities of BJD (FY 2005-06 to 2015-16) -8th Nov, 2017
9. Analysis of income tax returns and donations received by political parties of Bihar for FY 2015-16 -17th Nov, 2017
10. Analysis of donations received by major political parties of Gujarat between FY 2011-12 & 2015-16 (five years report) -20th Nov, 2017
11. Analysis of income, expenditure and donations of political parties of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry: FY 2015-16 - 19th Dec, 2017



12. Analysis of Contribution Report of Electoral Trusts – FY 2016-17 -29th Jan,2018
13. Analysis of income & expenditure of national political parties for FY- 2016-2017 - 7th Feb,2018
14. Analysis of Funds Collected and Expenditure Incurred by Political Parties in the 5 State Assembly Elections, 2017 -15th Feb,2018
15. Analysis of assets & liabilities of regional parties – FY 2011-12 TO 2015-16 -9th March,2018
16. Analysis of income & expenditure of BJP & INC: FY- 2016-2017 -10th April,2018





Strategic Litigation

1. Electoral Bonds: PIL in the Supreme Court against electoral Bonds and removal of the 7.5% of the company's aggregate limit to donate. This petition challenges the Finance Act, 2017. The Finance Act, 2017, which was enacted as a money bill has introduced a system of electoral bonds to be issued by any scheduled bank for the purpose of electoral funding. The Act has also removed the previous limit of 7.5 percent of the company's average three-year net profit for political donations with the result that a company is no longer required to name the parties to which such contributions are made. These amendments will have a major implication on transparency in political funding.

By allowing electoral bonds on the donor's side and removing the name of the recipient brings in complete opacity in political funding. These amendments will not only heighten the odds of conflict of interest but will also drastically increase black money and corruption. It will also lead to the creation of shell companies and a rise of benami transactions to channelize the undocumented money into the political and electoral process in India.

Status: Admitted on 3rd October, 2017. Notices were issued to the respondents. Next date of hearing yet to be given.

2. FCRA Amendments: PIL in the Supreme Court against amendments in the FCRA, 1976 and 2010. This petition challenges the amendments made in the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 2010 through the Finance Act, 2016 and Finance Act, 2018, which has been passed as a Money Bill with retrospective effect from the year 1976. These amendments now allow foreign companies with subsidiaries in India to fund political parties in India. These

amendments have been made in an attempt to overturn the judgment passed by the Delhi High Court holding the two major political parties the BJP and the Congress guilty of taking foreign funding, against which the SLPs were dismissed by this Hon'ble Court. These amendments in the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 2010 have opened the floodgates to unlimited corporate donations to political parties and anonymous financing by Indian as well as foreign companies which can have serious repercussions on the Indian democracy. These amendments also effectively expose the Indian politics and democracy to international lobbyists who may want to further their agenda.

Status: Filed in April, 2018. Date of hearing is yet to be given.

3. Disproportionate Assets: Landmark judgment by the Supreme Court in the matter related to disproportionate asset increase of the MPs and MLAs. This petition was filed by a Lucknow based organisation named Lok Prahari. ADR had intervened in the matter. In addition, ADR had also supplied all the necessary data related to the assets of MPs and MLAs in the Court, which the court had considered while giving the judgment. Based on the judgment, following relief has been granted by the court:

- a) Sources of income of spouse and dependents to be included in form 26 (affidavits).
- b) Permanent mechanism for scrutiny of affidavits.
- c) Non-disclosure of assets and sources of income would amount to 'undue influence' – a corrupt practice under Section 123(2) of the RP Act of 1951.
- d) Information regarding the contracts, if any with the appropriate government either by the candidate or his/her spouse and dependents.

Date of Judgment: 16th February, 2018

Upcoming PILs

1. Decriminalization of politics: This petition is going to be filed in the Supreme Court to ensure that the persons with the criminal antecedent are not able to even contest any of the elections held for public offices. The main purpose behind the petition is that the involvement of criminals in politics has been progressively increasing over the years with disastrous consequences to the democratic polity of our country. This petition seeks to do the following:

- a) Disqualify any person against whom charges have been framed in serious criminal offenses from contesting any of the elections to the public offices.
- b) Permanently disqualifying convicts of heinous crimes from contesting for or holding public offices.

- c) Ensure trial of cases in which the politicians are accused to be concluded in a time-bound manner.
- d) Directing the Election Commission of India to de-register and de-recognise any political party if it knowingly puts up a candidate with a tainted background.
- e) Directing the Election Commission of India to ask each political party to annually file the information on criminal antecedents of their Office Bearers and make such records available to the public, including NIL records.

2. Withdrawal of Cases: PIL against arbitrary withdrawal of cases by the government under Section 321 of the Cr.P.C. This petition challenges the constitutional validity of Section 321 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 which vests the Central and State Governments with unbridled discretion to withdraw cases. Every Government, past or present, has used this unbridled power under Section 321 Cr.P.C to withdraw cases against powerful politicians, ministers and other rich and powerful people supposedly close to the Govt. of the day for extraneous considerations.

3. CAG Audit: PIL on CAG audit of the political parties finances. This petition seeks to implement the recommendations of the 255th Law Commission Report on Electoral Reforms and prays that the accounts of the political parties are audited by an independent auditor on the Election Commission's approved panel or by the CAG itself. The ECI can then upload these accounts online or keep them on file for public inspection on payment of fee. These accounting and auditing standards would help political parties maintain uniformity in presentation of their financial statements. The CAG audit of parties would also aim to create an 'informed citizenry' and to contain corruption and to hold government and their instrumentalities accountable to the governed.

Networking and Advocacy: Events Held

ADR has organized/launched many press conferences, panel discussions, outdoor campaigns and Social Media campaign. Many informative articles were also written by in-house researchers that were published in reputed newspapers and magazines.

Some of the activities conducted by ADR during 2017-18 are mentioned below:

North Regional Consultation on Electoral and Political Reforms

A North Regional Consultation on Electoral and Political Reforms was organized by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) at India International Centre (Annexe), New Delhi on 17th August, 2017 to review the first-past-the-post electoral system, curb electoral

malpractices and explore new initiatives and to improve transparency and accountability in funding of elections and expenditure of political parties. The conference was inaugurated by Mr. O.P. Rawat, Election Commissioner of India. Expert panelists and speakers from non-profit organizations, government bodies, political parties, media and academic communities participated in the consultation along with students, senior journalists, ex-bureaucrats and national election watch members from various states in northern India.



The panellists delivered value-added discussions at this relevant consultation on electoral and political reforms.

Eastern Regional Consultation on Electoral and Political Reforms

A consultation on Electoral and Political Reforms was organized by the West Bengal Election Watch and ADR on 16th October 2017 at the RKM Institute, Golpark, Kolkata for the Eastern Region. Representatives of the National Election Watch from West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and the North-East state chapters, members of political parties, eminent scholars, civil society organizations and media were present to deliberate on issues related to electoral and political reform in the country.

Book on Maharashtra Municipal Election Watch Reports Released by Governor of Maharashtra

Hon' Governor of Maharashtra, Shri Vidyasagar Rao, on 2nd November 2017 released a book on Election Watch Reports at the two-day national conference celebrating **"25 years of 73rd & 74th constitutional amendments - Progress & future directions"**.



The event was organized by the Mumbai University and Gokhale Institute of Politics & Economics, Pune with the support of the State Election Commission Maharashtra. The book documented the information of all candidates and winners in the local body elections between 2015 and 2017. This book compiled by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and Maharashtra Election Watch (MEW), contains the financial, educational and criminal background information, based on self-sworn affidavits of around 40,000 candidates who stood for local body elections in the last two years. The data covers candidates and winners of elections to Navi Mumbai, Vasai Virar, Kalyan Dombivali, Kolhapur, Pune, Pimpri Chinchwad, Greater Mumbai, Akola, Amravati, Ulhasnagar, Nagpur, Solapur, Thane, Nasik, Malegaon, Bhiwandi Nizampur, Panvel and Mira Bhayander Municipal Corporations. The detailed information for each candidate is available on the website myneta.info as well as on www.adrindia.org.

Other speakers included Smt. Pankaja Gopinath Munde, Hon. Minister for Rural Development, Government of Maharashtra, and the keynote address was given by Shri. T.R.

Raghunandan, former Joint Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India and currently Consultant & Advisor, Decentralized Public Governance. Shri J. S. Saharia, State Election Commissioner gave an overview of some of the landmark initiatives of the Commission. Maharashtra is the first state in the country to have achieved fully electronic submission of affidavits for all its municipal and other local body elections.

Voter Awareness Campaigns

Ahead of **Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Karnataka** Assembly elections, ADR used various mediums to encourage people to vote for candidates with clean images.




**अगर आप किसी भी उम्मीदवार को नहीं चुनना चाहते तो
NOTA बटन दबायें।**

प्र.: NOTA क्या है?
उ: आपके क्षेत्र में विधायक पद के लिए कई उम्मीदवार चुनावी मैदान में होंगे। यदि आपको लगता है कि इनमें से कोई भी उम्मीदवार निर्वाचित होने योग्य नहीं है तो आप ईवीएम (इलेक्ट्रॉनिक वोटिंग मशीन) में **NOTA** बटन (उपरोक्त में कोई नहीं) का प्रयोग करके सभी उम्मीदवारों को रिजेक्ट कर सकते हैं।

प्र.: सुप्रीम कोर्ट के फैसले का महत्व क्या है?
उ: इस फैसले के द्वारा सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने नागरिकों के वोट न देने के अधिकार की गोपनीयता कायम रखते हुए नकारात्मक वोट के अधिकार का सम्मान किया है। इस फैसले की वजह से आशा की जा रही है कि राजनीतिक दलों पर चुनाव में अच्छे उम्मीदवार खड़े करने का दबाव बढ़ेगा।

इस फैसले की वजह से आशा की जा रही है कि राजनीतिक दलों पर चुनाव में अच्छे उम्मीदवार खड़े करने का दबाव बढ़ेगा।

मेरा वोट मेरा हिमाचल प्रदेश

जो चुनाव पर बेहिसाब रुपया खर्च कर रहे हैं, क्या दे पायेंगे वो एक जिम्मेदार सरकार ?

www.myneta.info
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1800-110-440
पर कॉल करें।



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a. Hoardings/Banners: Hoardings and banners were placed at many busy markets, roads etc. to exhort voters to select clean image candidates ahead of the State Assembly elections.

b. Auto Campaigns: Posters with messages encouraging people to select the right leader in Assembly elections were displayed.

c. SMS/ Outbound Calls (OBD) were pushed to inform people about the background details of the candidates. In 2017-18, ADR reached 210 Lakh (approx.) people.

d. Community Radio Campaign: Community radio channels and FM radio such as Radio Mirchi, Radio Dhamal etc. channels were used urge people to vote for the right candidate.

e. Advertisement on TV Channels: ADR's advertisement were telecasted on channels such as VTV & Sandesh News News 18, ETV Himachal etc. to promote people to vote for the right candidate.

ADR Campus Ambassadors Programme



With an aim to engage first-time voters and youth in the process of electoral and political reforms, we launched ADR's Campus Ambassadors Programme this year. **Over 90 students from around 20 colleges across the country** participated in the inaugural session and finally 15 Campus Ambassadors have been selected from 15 colleges after the interview for one year. These Ambassadors will be holding various programmes in their colleges to spread awareness about the issues ADR is fighting for.

Hum Badlenge Apna Bharat School workshops

The 'Hum Badlenge Apna Bharat' School Workshops, which was launched last, have been held in many Delhi schools and institutes, including **Father Agnel School and Deep Public School**, this year. The workshops were aimed at informing future voters about their responsibilities as a Citizen of India, what are the challenges facing the Indian Democracy today and how can they help in the betterment of Democracy.



Social Media Campaigns

Throughout the year, more intensively ahead of elections, ADR kept posting informative creative/ infographics/news items on social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube to disseminate information. Many of our infographics posted on these social media platforms received hundreds of shares and likes.

a. Facebook - In the past one year we have posted over 71 infographics, 33 videos, 31 pictures and over 54 relevant new articles on our Facebook page which received thousands of likes and hundreds of share. In the past one year we have witnessed over 2500 Page Likes at www.facebook.com/adr.new. We have moved to a new FB page.

www.facebook.com/adrintia.org

b. YouTube - Over 33 videos have been shared on YouTube.
www.youtube.com/user/adrspeaks

c. Twitter - Around 167 Tweets have been posted. www.twitter.com/adrspeaks



Dissemination materials/Books:

Various new posters, pamphlets, and brochures were designed to educate the people about the importance of Informed and Ethical Voting, Why Vote-selling is detrimental to the future of our children, detailed information about NOTA etc and disseminated among the people during the events and elections. Books were designed on various reports and activities.

Collaboration with NDTV & The Times of India to display ADR's report analysing the details of candidates on their websites with our logo and name.

Letters to Political Parties: Letters have been sent to the Political Parties & newly sworn-in Chief Ministers of Tripura, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh to provide a clean and exemplary governance to the people by choosing honest and capable Ministers.

Creation of new videos: A story-based video was created on the issue of increasing influence of criminality in politics besides other voter awareness videos.

Activities on the ADR website: On www.adrindia.org website various new banners, pictures, posters, videos, news articles, reports were placed to make it more useful, interesting and user friendly.

Activities organized at the State level

Odisha Election Watch

1. A mini-marathon titled '**Run for Democracy**' was organized by the Odisha Election Watch on 23rd Jan 2018 in Bhubaneswar.



2. Workshop-cum-training for Election Watch volunteers, Odisha Election Watch – 27th & 28th Jan, Bhubaneswar.
3. The 13th State Convention in Odisha was organized by the Odisha Election Watch on 26th Feb in Bhubaneswar.

Jharkhand Election Watch

1. Jharkhand Election Watch organized a 'Free and fair elections – SVEEP Campaign planning' on 25th Nov, 2017 in Ranchi.
2. A State level workshop on 'Electoral Bonds, political parties and their financial transparency' was organized by the Jharkhand Election Watch on 21st Feb 2018 in Ranchi.

Bihar Election Watch



1. 'Role of Youth in Electoral Reforms', Bihar Election Watch – 6th March, 2018, Bhagalpur.
2. 'Role of Youth in Electoral Reforms', Bihar Election Watch- 27th March, 2018, Muzzafarpur.

Uttar Pradesh Election Watch



A regional consultation on Electoral and Political Reforms was organized the UP-Election Watch in Lucknow on 11th Jan 2018.

Gujarat Election Watch



1. In the run up to the 2017 Gujarat Assembly Elections, Gujarat Election Watch organized a 'Matadar Jagruti Jan-Samvaad' on 11th November, 2017 at Palanpur.
2. A Press conference on 6th December, 2017 was organized in Ahmedabad to release background information of candidates.

Madhya Pradesh Election Watch

1. Various events around the theme of 'Role of Youth in electoral Reforms', were organized in Madhya Pradesh on 6th, 12th and 21st December, 2017.

Information Technology

Danamojo Payment Gateway: The IT team has Integrated Danamojo payment gateway on the adrindia.org donations page in order to facilitate online donations.

(<https://adrindia.org/donate#online-donatio>)

Dissemination of ADR's Reports through Whatsapp: A Whatsapp for business account has been created which will enable citizens to directly subscribe to ADR's Whatsapp account, and updates such as Press Releases and Reports can be messaged directly to subscribers.

Availability of Push Notification on ADR website: Online push notifications have been implemented on myneta.info to notify subscribers of release of new data/instances on myneta.info.



Exclusive web page for Maharashtra Election Watch: A separate web page has been created exclusively for Maharashtra local body elections (<https://adrindia.org/content/maharashtra-local-body-reports>).

Upgrade of Election Watch software tool: Key developments have been made in Election Watch Software code, including making reports sortable column-wise with a single click, income sources for self and spouse added, provision for adding built up area in commercial buildings and displaying bye-election data on myneta.info.

Improved Security of the database: Security changes have been implemented on myneta.info and adrindia.org, with the addition of a Google recaptcha to prevent spam, Cloudflare protection to prevent DDoS attacks, debugging of code to prevent cross-site-scripting attacks, and installation of SSL certificates for website traffic encryption.

14th Annual National Conference on Electoral & Political Reforms



The Annual National Conference was held in Bangalore on 10th & 11th March 2018 with the primary focus on Electoral and Political reforms. The Conference was held with the aim of bringing together and synergizing efforts towards strengthening democracy in our country. The National Conference was an opportunity for us to add impetus and synergy to our work by bringing together all stakeholders. Their participation and inputs were instrumental in making the conference a success.

The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC), **Shri Om Prakash Rawat**, inaugurated the conference. The Representatives of the National Election Watch (NEW) from each state chapter, members of political parties, government institutions and media were present to deliberate on issues related to electoral and political reforms in the country.

The CEC stated that the Commission has made several important proposals related to areas ranging from decriminalization of politics to reforms relating to political parties, election expenditure regulation and election management issues. The CEC said that persons with serious offences should be debarred from contesting elections if charges have been framed by a competent court provided the offence is punishable by imprisonment of at least 5 years and the case is at least 6 months prior to the election in question. The CEC also proposed to

make bribery a cognizable offence and countermand elections on grounds of bribery. Pertaining to reforms in political parties, the CEC stated that the ECI should be authorized to issue necessary orders regulating registration and de-registration of political parties as many political parties register, but never contest any elections perhaps to only avail the income tax exemptions afforded to the parties.



Furthermore, the Commission proposed that income tax exemption should be available only to political parties that contest elections. The CEC also said that parties should be statutorily required to submit their audited accounts to the ECI. Furthermore, a panel of accountants to be maintained by the Comptroller and Auditor General should audit these accounts and make them available in the public domain for further scrutiny.

The CEC added that the Commission has proposed that there should be a ceiling on the election expenditure of political parties in order to maintain a level playing field and control the use of money power in elections. Regarding Electoral Bonds, the CEC told the audience that the Commission has written to the Government of India (GoI), drawing their attention to the impact of the amendment in the Finance Act, 2017 that excludes electoral bonds from the requirement of reporting. The CEC said that this would affect the transparency of political finance. The Commission also recommended reconsidering the amendments introduced in the Companies Act omitting the limit of 7.5% of companies' average net profits in the

preceding three financial years. The Commission suggested that a provision should be made in the Companies Act to declare party-wise contributions made by companies in the profit and loss account, in order to bring transparency in the fundraising of political parties.

Topics of discussion during the National Conference ranged from *'Muscle and Money Power: Impact on Elections,' 'Legal Advocacy: A Tool for Electoral Reforms,' 'Political Reforms and the Fourth Estate,' to 'Money Power and Elections – Success Stories from the Exceptions,' and 'Information & Communication Technology for Better Governance' and 'Role of Youth & Voter Awareness: Advocacy by State Coordinators'.*

Other eminent personalities who participated in the various panel discussions besides **Shri Om Prakash Rawat**, were Prof Trilochan Sastry (Founder member and Trustee of ADR), Shri Harish Narasappa (Founder, DAKSH and Coordinator, KEW), Dr Ajit Ranade (Founder member and Trustee of ADR), Prof Jagdeep Chhokar (Founder member and Trustee of ADR), Dr Vipul Mudgal (Trustee – ADR), Shri Brijesh Kalappa (Spokesperson, INC), Shri G N Nagaraj (State Secretary, CPI(M)), Shri Mahima J Patel (State President, JD(U)), Shri Yashwant Deshmukh (Founder, C-Voter), Shri Tanveer Ahmed (National Spokesperson, JDS), Shri S N Shukla (General Secretary, Lok Prahari), Prof G Raghuram (Director, IIM-Bangalore), Ms C G Manjula (Views Editor – Prajavani), Shri Ramakrishna Upadhyaya (Senior Journalist & Author), Shri Manoj Mitta (Sr. Independent Journalist & Author), Shri Abhay Kumar (Social Activist), Ms Ambamma (Sarpanch, Davaragudi Gram Panchayat, Karnataka), Ms Mallamma (Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Raichur District, Karnataka), Ms Agatha Bhengra (Mukhiya, Torpa, Jharkhand), Ms Anita Gurumurthy (Executive Director – IT for Change), Ms Manasa Venkataraman (Research Associate, Takshashila Institution), Shri Vinay K Sreenivasa (Alternative Law Forum), Dr. O P Bhuraita (HP EW), Ms Pankti Jog (Gujarat EW), Shri Sanjay Singh (UP EW), Shri Ranjan Mohanty (Odisha EW).

Our Achievements: 2017-18

Impact of our work

Recommendations on Electoral and Political Reforms to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel Public Grievances, Law and Justice: ADR was invited to submit recommendations on electoral and political reforms to the parliamentary standing committee on May 26th 2017. These recommendations ranged from decriminalizing politics to improving transparency and accountability of political financing. To know more about ADR's commitment to improve democracy please refer to our complete list of recommendations here: <https://adrindia.org/legal-advocacy/recommendations-submissions>

ADR and the State Election Chapters of Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Karnataka launched voter awareness campaigns against the increasing influence of criminalization and money power in elections ahead of 2017-18 assembly elections.

Re-affirming of ADR's mission for disclosure of criminal, financial and other background details of candidates contesting elections: On February 16th 2018, the Supreme Court of India in ***Lok Prahari v. Union of India*** gave a landmark judgement which marks an important addition to electoral reform jurisprudence in India. The Court issued directions for the institution of a permanent mechanism for the periodical monitoring of increase in assets of MPs/MLAs that is disproportionate to their known sources of income. This is only a successor to a line of judgements relating to financial accountability among legislators – primarily, ***Union of India v. Association for Democratic Reforms*** [‘ADR’]. For more information, please go to <https://adrindia.org/legal-advocacy/judgements-and-orders>

ADR-Daksh 2018 Karnataka Survey: Ahead of the 2018 Karnataka Assembly Elections, ADR and Daksh conducted a Voter Priority and Performance of elected representatives on those issues. The survey conduct interviews across 225 assembly constituencies in Karnataka with 13244 respondents. Improving water supply and quality was the key concern in Karnataka followed by Better Electricity Supply and Better Schools for Education. The worst performance of the elected representatives was on the issues of Public Facilities, Corruption Eradication and Job Trainings. The survey report was released by the Chief

Election Officer of the Election Commission of India, Shri O.P. Rawat at the 14th National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms held at IIM Bangalore on 10th March 2018. Read the full report at <https://adrindia.org/content/karnataka-voter-survey-2018>

14th Annual National Conference: The 14th Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms was held at IIM Bangalore on 10th and 11th March 2018. The conference saw participants from eminent panellists, civil society activists from various parts of Karnataka, official from various government institutions like the ECI, Law Commission, senior leaders from political parties, senior journalists, media personalities, students and citizens. The complete details of the conference are available here:

<https://adrindia.org/content/14th-annual-national-conference-electoral-and-political-reform>

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. ADR's data has been covered in **over 1200 articles in regional and national newspapers**. ADR members have remained an active part of debates around the issues of electoral reforms. Last year, they were a part of **over 30 debates telecasted** on various national and regional news channels. Some of the press coverage can be viewed on: <http://adrindia.org/media/adr-in-news>

On social media platforms, like Facebook /Twitter/Youtube, we are being followed by thousands of people. Within this year, many of our posts/infographics/creatives have seen a viral effect on the Web with hundreds of Likes and Shares. **FB Followers: Over 75000, Twitter Followers: Over 13000, Youtube Subscribers: 1400. In FY 2017-18 - New FB Followers: Over 6000, Total FB Page Likes: Over 2500, Total Posts: 189, Total Tweets: 167, Total Youtube Video Posts: 33.**

Our Facebook Link is: <https://www.facebook.com/adr.new?fref=photo&ref=settings>

Hum Badlenge Apna Bharat and ADR Campus Ambassadors Programme: These two programmes of ADR are aimed at raising awareness among the youth about ethical and informed voting. We have been able to reach out to over 500 youth under these two youth outreach programmes.

Photo Gallery





HP Election Watch



Northern Region consultation

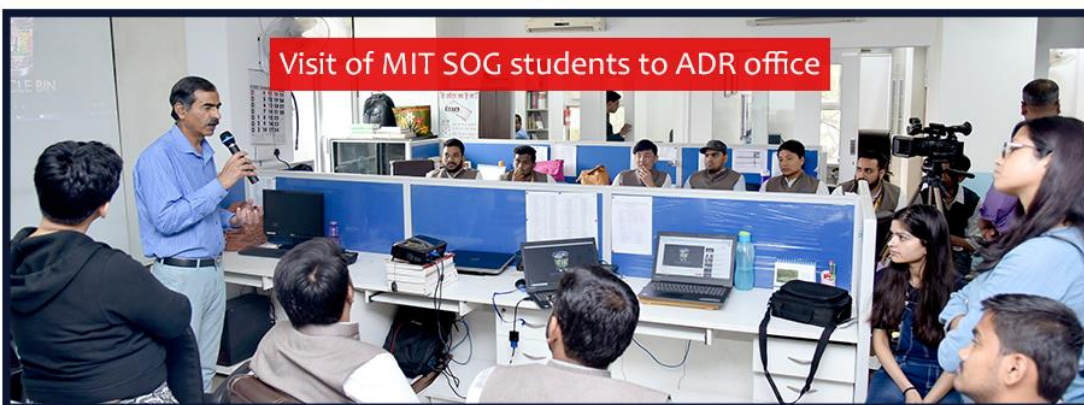




ADR's Campus Ambassadors Programme



ADR's School Workshops



ABOUT ADR

BOARD OF 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)
4. Dr. Sudarsan Padmanabhan (Associate Prof IIT Chennai)
5. Dr. Kiran B. Chhokar (Programme Director, Higher Education, Centre for Environment Education (CEE))
6. Ms. Kamini Jaiswal (Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, Secretary, Center for Public Interest Litigation)
7. Mr. Jaskirat Singh, Founder & CEO, Webrosoft Solutions INC.
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)
4. Ajit Ranade (Professor, ICRIER, New Delhi)
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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:

Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives

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Ford Foundation

320, East 43rd Street,
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Some eminent individuals

Financial Status

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 2018					
EXPENDITURE	Rs.	Rs.	INCOME	Rs.	Rs.
To Expenditure in respect of properties :			By Grants Utilised - Annexure-3		3,74,96,289.00
Rates, Taxes, Cessess - Muni. Tax					
Repairs and maintenance - Building			By Voluntary Contributions		
Salaries			Donation in Cash	68720	
Insurance			Donation in Kind	105252	173972
Depreciation (by way of provision or adjustments)			By Interest on Bank Deposits		
Other expenses		-	Interest on FDRs	75,55,903.89	
			Saving Bank Interest	2,51,911.00	78,07,814.89
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	4,000.00	
			Interest on Income Tax Refund	36,019.42	
		-	Misc. Income	1,380.00	
			Interest on Staff Loan	1,609.00	43,008.42
To Depreciation : -					
Depreciation on Computer/printer	3,40,079.00		Income Accumulation u/s.11(2)-Trf from		
Depreciation on Furniture & Fixtures	65,155.00		Balance Sheet on utilisatoin during the year		40,00,000.00
Depreciation on Office Equipments	1,20,960.00				
Depreciation on Electrical Fittings	29,250.00				
Income Applied to Fixed Assets	16,56,770.00	22,12,214.00			
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	97,06,246.90				
Election Watch Activities Exp- Annexure-2	3,24,53,959.49	4,21,60,206.39			
To Surplus carried over to Balance Sheet		51,48,663.92			
Total		4,95,21,084.31	Total		4,95,21,084.31

Financial Status

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PRESS COVERAGE

MIRROR SPECIAL
Poll dance
GUJARAT ELECTION 2017
Tuesday, December 12, 2017

The BJP's campaign in Gujarat in the last few days, especially on Sunday, has gone beyond bizarre. Should a political party go to any length to win an election?
P Chidambaram, Congress leader

Avg assets of 'repeat MLAs' up by 39%

The average assets of 81 re-contesting BJP MLAs and 37 Congress MLAs rose by 57% and 14% respectively in five years

Abhishek Mirra Bureau
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TWEETS @abhishekamirra

I pays well to be in politics if the assets declared by candidates and repeat MLAs are anything to go by. An analysis of affidavits of 121 re-contesting MLAs, including independent MLAs, reveals that their average assets rose from Rs 7.56 crore in 2012 to Rs 10.54 crore in 2017. The average percentage increase in assets for the re-contesting MLAs is 39% as per the analysis by NGO Gujarat Election Watch and Association for Democratic Reforms.

The highest growth in assets has been of BJP candidates like Saurabh Patel (Bharuch constituency), Pabubhai Masek (Dwarka) and Dinesh Patel (Patala constituency). Saurabh Patel's assets grew by 119% in 5 yrs - from Rs 56 crore in 2012 to Rs 123 crore in 2017. Masek's assets soared from Rs 31 crore to Rs 88 crore while Dinesh Patel's assets grew from Rs 39 crore to Rs 61 crore.

The average assets of 81 re-contesting BJP MLAs rose by 57% while 37 Congress MLAs registered a 14% increase. The assets of NCP leaders grew by a mere 3% while Bhartiya Tribal Party saw a 17% dip in average assets.

Among few of the re-contesting MLAs who have registered an increase in declared assets are BJP's Manu candidate Anil Chaudhary whose assets grew by 38% to Rs 22 crore, Congress' Gendabhai Damor from Santrapur whose assets increased by 306% to Rs 3 crore, BJP's Jethabhai Cheladhai from Shetra whose assets grew by 207% to reach Rs 6 crore and BJP's Ganpatibai Vasava from Mangrol (ST) whose assets grew by 417% to reach Rs 3 crore.

Similarly assets of Congress leader Gyaasuddin Shaikh from Dargapur constituency grew by 229% to touch Rs 1 crore and that of BJP's Manisha Raju Vakil from Vadodra City (SC) grew by a whopping 1348%, touching a crore this year. The assets of BJP's Dr Nimaben Acharya (Bharu) saw 0 increase from Rs 34 crore in 2012.

HIGHLIGHTS: PHASE 1 AND 2 POLLS

BJP has highest number of 'CORRUPT' CANDIDATES' at 8% followed by Congress (7%)

TOP 5 CANDIDATES WITH HIGHEST ASSETS
Saurabh Patel (BJP), Indrani Rajguru (INC), Dharmendrasinh Vaghela (Independent), Anantlal Baurbhui Jaramdas (INC), Shantikant Patel (INC) & Gopalbhai Pragnabhai Kasturji (BJP)

TOP 5 CANDIDATES WITH HIGH LIABILITIES Indrani Rajguru (INC), Dharmendrasinh Vaghela (Independent), Anantlal Baurbhui Jaramdas (INC), Shantikant Patel (INC) & Gopalbhai Pragnabhai Kasturji (BJP)

CANDIDATES WITH THE LOWEST ASSETS Independent candidates Rajesh Mehta, Dharmendrasinh Vaghela and Shantikant Patel (INC) & Gopalbhai Pragnabhai Kasturji (BJP)

51% of the 181 candidates analysed have not filed their I-T returns

Wadhvani's BJP candidate Dhanubhai Patel has declared HIGHEST INCOME in I-T returns of self & spouse at Rs 15 crore

247 candidates have not declared PAN card details

देली न्यूज
लखनऊ, बुधवार, 18 जनवरी 2017

इलेक्शन वॉच ने शुरू किया मेरा वोट मेरा प्रदेश प्रचार अभियान

लखनऊ। चुनाव सुधारों के लिए कानूनी कदम का यह संस्था एनडीए के लिए 'मेरा वोट मेरा प्रदेश' अभियान शुरू करेगी। एनडीए के वोट वॉच ने कहा है कि यह अभियान लोगों को चुनाव के लिए जागरूक करेगा और उन्हें अपने वोट का उपयोग करने में मदद करेगा।

प्रमुख हरितया करेगी एड फिल्म के जरिए वोटों को जागरूक

लखनऊ। चुनाव सुधारों के लिए कानूनी कदम का यह संस्था एनडीए के लिए 'मेरा वोट मेरा प्रदेश' अभियान शुरू करेगी। एनडीए के वोट वॉच ने कहा है कि यह अभियान लोगों को चुनाव के लिए जागरूक करेगा और उन्हें अपने वोट का उपयोग करने में मदद करेगा।

SUNDAY HINDUSTAN TIMES, NEW DELHI
OCTOBER 29, 2017

DMK RICHEST REGIONAL PARTY

An analysis of incomes, by Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), during 2015-16 shows AIADMK is second-richest party with ₹54.93 crore in earnings

BIG EARNERS
Figures in ₹ crore

DMK	AIADMK	TDP
77.63	54.93	15.97

TOP SPENDERS
Figures in ₹ crore

JDU(U)	TDP	AAP
23.46	13.10	11.09

PARTIES WITH HIGHEST INCOME FROM UNKNOWN SOURCES
Figures in ₹ crore

TRS	TDP	SAD
7.24	6.88	6.59

DMK working president MK Stalin at a protest on the Cauvery water issue in 2016.

NEW DELHI | FRIDAY, 7 JULY 2017 **Business Standard**

'Electoral bonds should be scrapped'

JAGDISH CHOKAR, founder-member of the Association for Democratic Reforms and former professor at Indian Institute of Management, says there should be a law to regulate the functioning of political parties. In an interview to Sahil Makkar, he says the government must scrap the idea of floating electoral bonds as it reduces transparency in political funding. Edited excerpts:

On his last day in office, former chief election commissioner (CEC) Nasim Zaidi expressed reservations about political funding. What are your views?

The Budget speech and post-Budget briefings suggested that electoral bonds would reduce transparency and increase opacity in political funding. The scheme is formulated to hide the identity of the donor. The idea of issuing bonds should be scrapped and all political parties should be brought under the purview of the Right to Information (RTI) Act according to the direction of Central Information Commission. They must disclose all sources of donations and provide expenditure details. The series of steps undertaken by the government don't indicate the intention of increasing transparency.

Why is the government moving in this direction despite reservation by the EC and others?

It is not just the government. All political parties work on black money and political funding is the fountainhead of corruption. They want to keep it opaque. In the RTI case, not a single party was ready to disclose its source of funding.

The Supreme Court observed that the CEC be appointed by a collegium. Is it in the right spirit as no CEC has ever faced charges of bias?

It is progressive of the SC to ask for it. The CEC must be appointed by a collegium comprising the Prime Minister, leader of the Opposition and the Chief Justice of India. The CEC is the key to democracy and his appointment should not be left to the whims and fancies of the ruling party. In the past, some CECs have gone to fight elections. Former CEC T N Seshan fought the presidential election and former CEC M S Gill became member of Parliament and minister. The CEC must be perceived neutral and there should be a level-playing field.

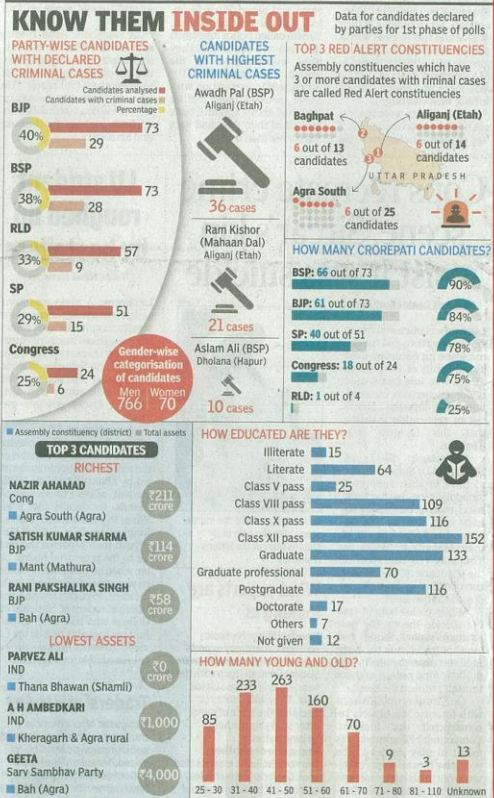
Should EC have the power to prosecute political parties and leaders?

It is the frustration of the EC with political parties which is showing up. Political parties cannot be allowed to make baseless allegations and tarnish the image of a constitutional body. They believe they are above the law. It is not the job of the EC to keep defending itself from allegations. There must be a law to regulate political parties as suggested by the Law Commission in its reports of 1999 and 2015.

How do you read Finance Minister Arun Jaitley's statement about the government's next big move on bringing transparency in political funding?

Jaitley said electoral bonds will keep the identity of the buyer anonymous. Now they are speaking of transparency. This government says one thing and does another. Its action is completely against transparency.

The Latest ADR Survey Shows BSP Leads The Money Bags' Club With Max Crorepatis Fewer criminals in fray than last assembly polls



Lucknow: There is a fall of nearly 12% in number of candidates for the assembly elections this time compared to the 2012 polls, according to figures released by the ADR (Association for Democratic Reforms) on Saturday. The data also reveals that BSP has highest number of 'crorepati' candidates in the first phase, while BJP has maximum can-

for heinous crimes are from BSP, while Samajwadi Party is number 4 in fielding candidates who have declared criminal or serious criminal cases filed against them.

UP Election Watch co-ordinator Sanjay Singh said, "Thanks to pressure mounted by media and other sections of society, the first phase of 2017 UP assembly elections will see only 168 out of 836 candidates who have declared in their

ber. In 2012, 32% candidates declared there were criminal cases against them."

Singh added that 839 candidates are in the fray from 73 assembly constituencies in 15 districts of the state. Affidavits of three candidates Parmesh Vashishtha (Rashtriya Kisan Mazdoor Party candidate from Anoopshahr in Bundelkhand), Jit Singh (Shiv Sena from Meerut Cantonment) and Chahan Singh

करोड़पतियों को टिकट देने में भाजपा अव्वल

छटे घंटे में ली छीसदी महिला उम्मीदवार

लखनऊ: भाजपा की महिला उम्मीदवारों की संख्या 32 घंटे में 350 हो गई है। पार्टी के प्रचारिणी सभा के अध्यक्ष जे.पी. शर्मा ने कहा कि पार्टी ने 350 महिला उम्मीदवारों को टिकट दे दी है।

कल्याण और भाजपा के सबसे ज्यादा प्रचारिणी सभा आयोजित

लखनऊ: भाजपा के कल्याण और भाजपा के सबसे ज्यादा प्रचारिणी सभा आयोजित की गई है।

लखनऊ: भाजपा के कल्याण और भाजपा के सबसे ज्यादा प्रचारिणी सभा आयोजित की गई है।

₹.32 कांग्रेस अर्थीगण विरुद्ध क्रिमिनल प्रकरण

₹.32 कांग्रेस अर्थीगण विरुद्ध क्रिमिनल प्रकरण

लखनऊ: कांग्रेस के अर्थीगण विरुद्ध क्रिमिनल प्रकरण चल रहा है।

₹.32 कांग्रेस अर्थीगण विरुद्ध क्रिमिनल प्रकरण

लखनऊ: कांग्रेस के अर्थीगण विरुद्ध क्रिमिनल प्रकरण चल रहा है।

घटनादुरुस्तीने महिलांना राजकारणात सक्रम केले

महापौर नंदा जिचकार यांचे प्रतिपादन

लखनऊ: महापौर नंदा जिचकार यांचे प्रतिपादन...

घटनादुरुस्तीच्या रजत जयंतीनिमित्त विभागीय परिषद

लखनऊ: घटनादुरुस्तीच्या रजत जयंतीनिमित्त विभागीय परिषद...

'प्रगती आणि वाटचाल' वर विचारमंथन

लखनऊ: 'प्रगती आणि वाटचाल' वर विचारमंथन...

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 2018

EXPENDITURE	Rs.	Rs.	INCOME	Rs.	Rs.
To Expenditure in respect of properties : Rates, Taxes, Cessess - Muni. Tax Repairs and maintenance - Building Salaries Insurance Depreciation (by way of provision or adjustments) Other expenses			By Grants Utilised - Annexure-3		37,496,289.00
			By Voluntary Contributions Donation in Cash Donation in Kind	68720 105252	173972
			By Interest on Bank Deposits Interest on FDRs Saving Bank Interest	7,555,903.89 251,911.00	7,807,814.89
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 Interest on Income Tax Refund Misc. Income Interest on Staff Loan	4,000.00 36,019.42 1,380.00 1,609.00	43,008.42
To Depreciation : - Depreciation on Computer/printer Depreciation on Furniture & Fixtures Depreciation on Office Equipments Depreciation on Electrical Fittings Income Applied to Fixed Assets	340,079.00 65,155.00 120,960.00 29,250.00 1,656,770.00	2,212,214.00	Income Accumulation u/s.11(2)-Trf from Balance Sheet on utilisatoin during the year		4,000,000.00
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 Election Watch Activities Exp- Annexure-2	- - - - 9,706,246.90 32,453,959.49	42,160,206.39			
To Surplus carried over to Balance Sheet		5,148,663.92			
Total		49,521,084.31	Total		49,521,084.31