

FY 2020-21  
**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

Impact of  
media on  
Elections  
&  
Governance

Political  
Accountability

Political  
Transparency  
Curb Election  
Expenditure

Electoral Reforms  
Decriminalize  
Politics  
#ADRSpeaks



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

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# ADR Activities: 2020-21

## History of ADR

The inception of Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) can be traced back to 1999 when a group of Professors from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad, anguished by the alarming rise of criminality in the Indian political system, filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in Delhi High Court requesting for the disclosure of the criminal, financial and educational background of the candidates contesting elections. Based on this, the Supreme Court in 2002, and subsequently in 2003, made it mandatory for all candidates contesting elections to disclose criminal, financial and educational background prior to the polls by filing a self-sworn affidavit with the Election Commission. In March 2003, ADR was formally registered as an NGO.

### Mission

**To improve governance and strengthen democracy by continuous work in the area of Electoral and Political Reforms**

### Focus Areas

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



## Election Watch

**About:** The first Election Watch (the flagship programme of ADR) was conducted 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, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha elections. State Election Watch chapters help National Election Watch (NEW) and ADR to reach to the maximum voters.

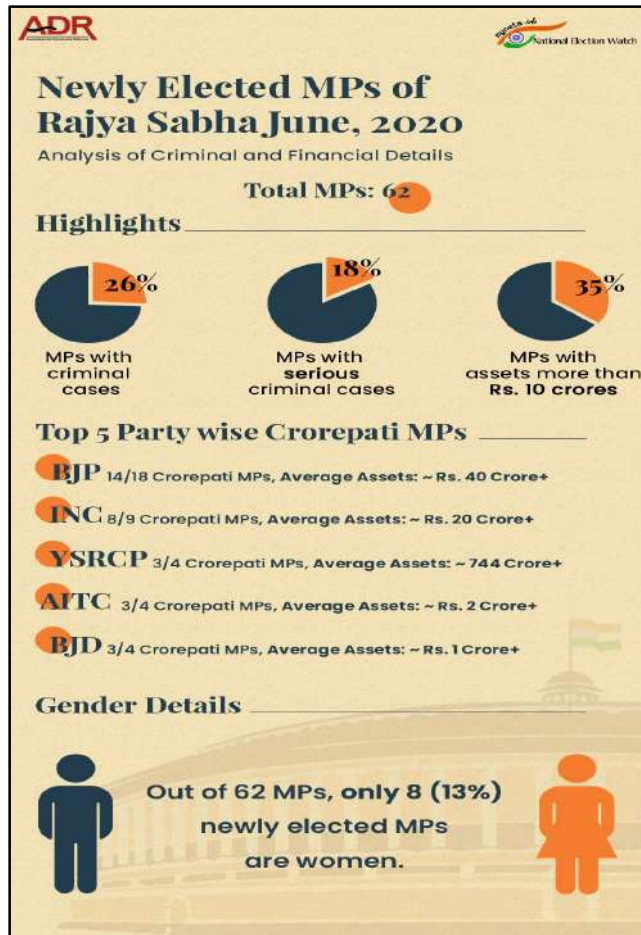
**During the FY 2020-2021, Election Watch was conducted for the following elections:**

- Rajya Sabha Elections 2020
- Assam, Bihar, Puducherry and West Bengal State Assembly Elections
- Bye Elections
- Local Body Elections
- Legislative Council Elections

**Following reports were released by Election Watch during FY 2020-21:**

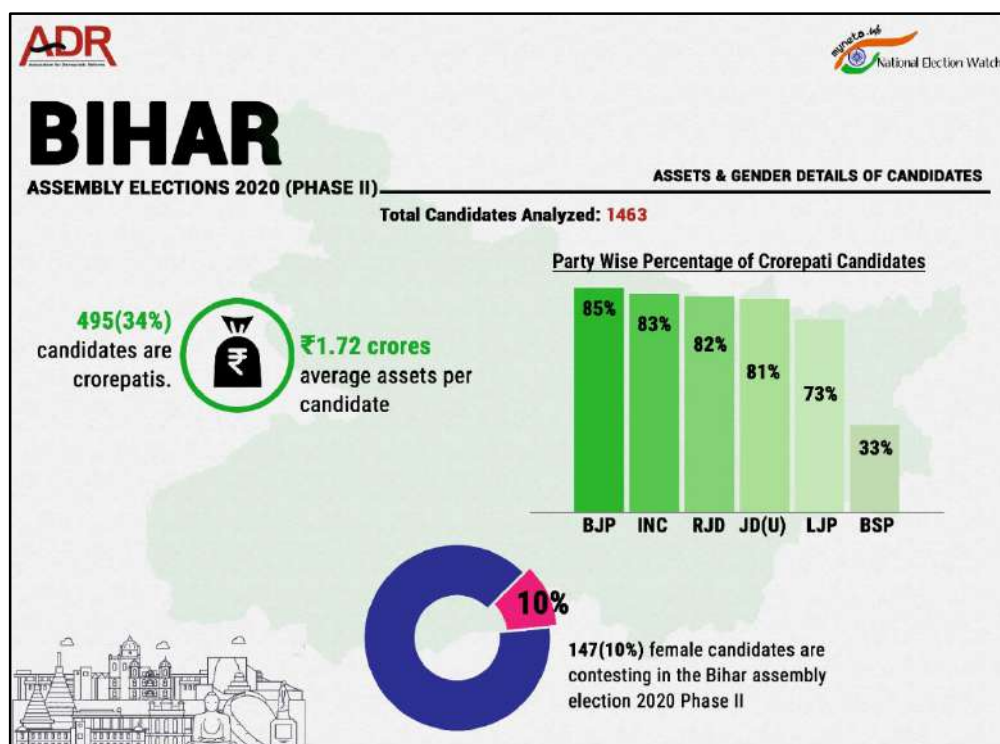
### **I. Reports Analysing the Details of Candidates, Winners and Ministers:**

1. Maharashtra Legislative Council Biennial Elections (Elected by MLAs) Analysis of Criminal, Financial and Other Background Details of Winners - **20<sup>th</sup> May 2020**
2. Analysis of Criminal, Financial and Other Background Details of Rajya Sabha Newly Elected MPs - **23<sup>rd</sup> Jun 2020**



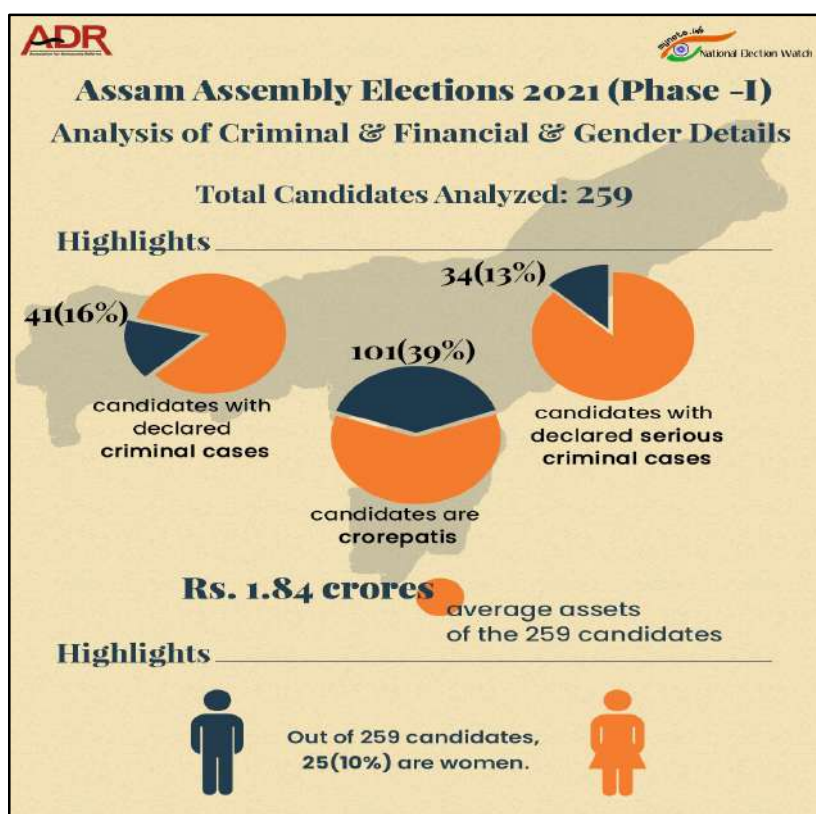
3. Madhya Pradesh Assembly 2018 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Ministers - **2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020**
4. Analysis of Criminal, Financial and Other Background Details sitting Rajya Sabha MPs - **22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020**
6. Analysis of Criminal and Financial Background Details of Candidates and MPs/MLAs since 2005 in Bihar - **9<sup>th</sup> October 2020**
7. Bihar Assembly Elections 2020 Phase I Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - **20<sup>th</sup> October 2020**
8. Madhya Pradesh Assembly Bye Elections 2020 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - **25<sup>th</sup> October 2020**
9. Bihar Assembly Elections 2020 Phase II Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - **27<sup>th</sup> October 2020**





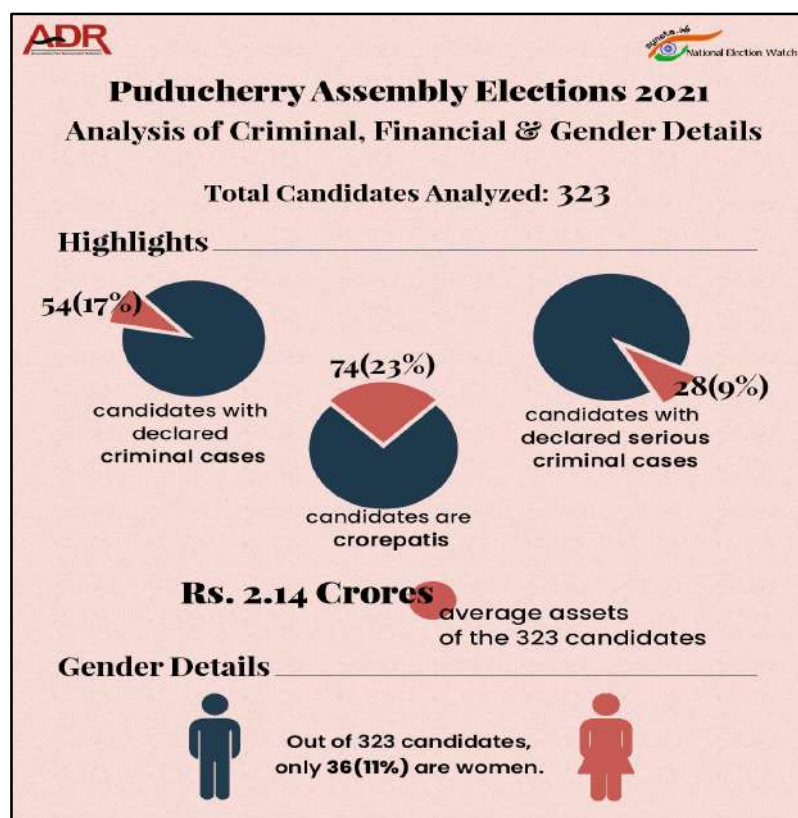
10. Uttar Pradesh Assembly Bye Elections 2020 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - **29<sup>th</sup> October 2020**
11. Gujarat Assembly Bye Elections 2020 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - **30<sup>th</sup> October 2020**
13. Bihar Assembly Elections, 2020 Consolidated Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Candidates - Phase 1 to 3 and Comparative Analysis of Assets of Re-contesting MLAs - **2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020**
14. Bihar Assembly Elections 2020 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of winning candidates - **11<sup>th</sup> November 2020**
15. Bihar Assembly 2020 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Ministers - **18<sup>th</sup> November 2020**
16. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Ministers in the Bihar Assembly 2020 Post Cabinet Expansion on 9th February 2021 - **10<sup>th</sup> February 2021**
17. Surat Municipal Corporation Elections 2021- Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Candidates - **19<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

18. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of West Bengal Sitting MLAs - **3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021**
19. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Kerala Sitting MLAs - **4<sup>th</sup> March 2021**
20. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Puducherry Sitting MLAs - **5<sup>th</sup> March 2021**
21. Analysis of Criminal and Financial Background Details of Candidates and MPs/MLAs since 2004 in West Bengal - **9<sup>th</sup> March 2021**
22. Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other details of Tamil Nadu Sitting MLAs - **10<sup>th</sup> March 2021**
23. Assam Assembly Elections 2021 Phase I Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - **17<sup>th</sup> March 2021**



24. West Bengal Assembly Elections 2021 Phase I Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - **19<sup>th</sup> March 2021**
25. Assam Assembly Elections 2021 Phase II Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - **23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021**

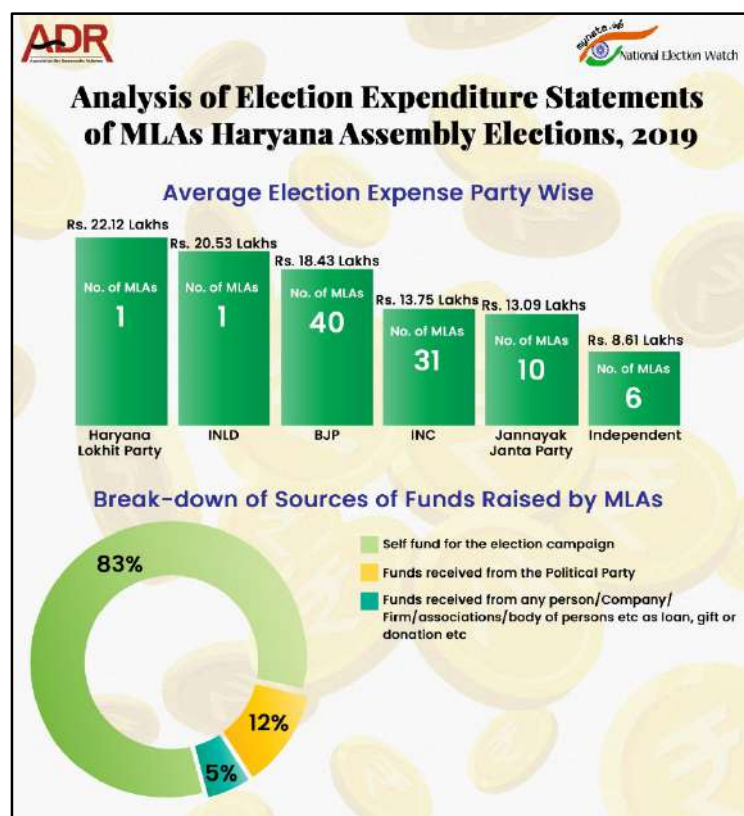
26. West Bengal Assembly Elections 2021 Phase II Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - **24<sup>th</sup> March 2021**
27. Assam Assembly Elections 2021 Phase III Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - **26<sup>th</sup> March 2021**
28. West Bengal Assembly Elections 2021 Phase III Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - **26<sup>th</sup> March 2021**
29. Puducherry Assembly Elections 2021 Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates - **27<sup>th</sup> March 2021**



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

1. Analysis of Election Expenditure statements of MLAs from the Odisha Assembly Elections 2019 - **5<sup>th</sup> June 2020**
3. Analysis of Election Expenditure statements of MLAs from the Haryana Assembly Elections 2019 - **1<sup>st</sup> September 2020**





4. Analysis of Vote Share, Margin of Victory and Representativeness of Winners in Bihar Assembly Elections, 2020 - 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020

### III. New Reports



Elections Covered during FY 2020-2021						
S. No.	Election Name	Election Year	State Name	Number of Seats	Date of Poll	Candidates Contesting
1	Legislative Council	2020	Telangana	1	07-Apr-20	1
2	Rajya Sabha	2020	20 States	62	19-Jun-20	72
3	Legislative Council	2020	Karnataka	7	29-Jun-20	7
4	Legislative Council	2020	Bihar	9	06-Jul-20	9
5	Legislative Council	2020	Andhra Pradesh	1	06-Jul-20	1
6	Rajya Sabha	2020	Uttar Pradesh and Kerala	2	24-Aug-20	2
7	Legislative Council	2020	Andhra Pradesh	1	24-Aug-20	1
8	Rajya Sabha	2020	Uttar Pradesh	1	11-Sep-20	1
9	Legislative Council	2020	Bihar	8	22-Oct-20	8
10	Legislative Council	2020	Karnataka	4	28-Oct-20	4
11	Assembly Elections	2020	Bihar Phase- 1	71	28-Oct-20	1066
12			Bihar Phase- 2	94	03-Nov-20	1463
13			Bihar Phase- 3	78	07-Nov-20	1204
14	Lok Sabha Bye Election	2020	Bihar	1	07-Nov-20	7
15	Assembly Bye Elections	2020	Manipur	5	07-Nov-20	12
16	Assembly Bye Elections	2020	10 States (Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh)	54	03-Nov-20	651
17	Rajya Sabha	2020	Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand	11	09-Nov-20	11
18	Legislative Council	2020	Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra	16	01-Dec-20	16
19	Rajya Sabha	2020	Karnataka	1	01-Dec-20	1
20	Rajya Sabha	2020	Bihar	1	14-Dec-20	1
21	Legislative Council	2021	Andhra Pradesh	1	28-Jan-21	1
22	Legislative Council	2021	Bihar	2	28-Jan-21	2
23	Legislative Council	2021	Uttar Pradesh	12	28-Jan-21	12
24	Rajya Sabha	2021	Gujarat	2	01-Mar-21	2
25	Rajya Sabha	2021	Assam	1	01-Mar-21	1
26	Legislative Council	2021	Andhra Pradesh / Telangana	4	14-Mar-21	4
27	Legislative Council	2021	Andhra Pradesh	6	15-Mar-21	6
28	Assembly Elections	2021	Assam Phase- I	47	27-Mar-21	264
29	Assembly Elections	2021	West Bengal Phase- I	30	27-Mar-21	191
<b>Total</b>				<b>533</b>		<b>5021</b>



## Political Party Watch

**About:** 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.

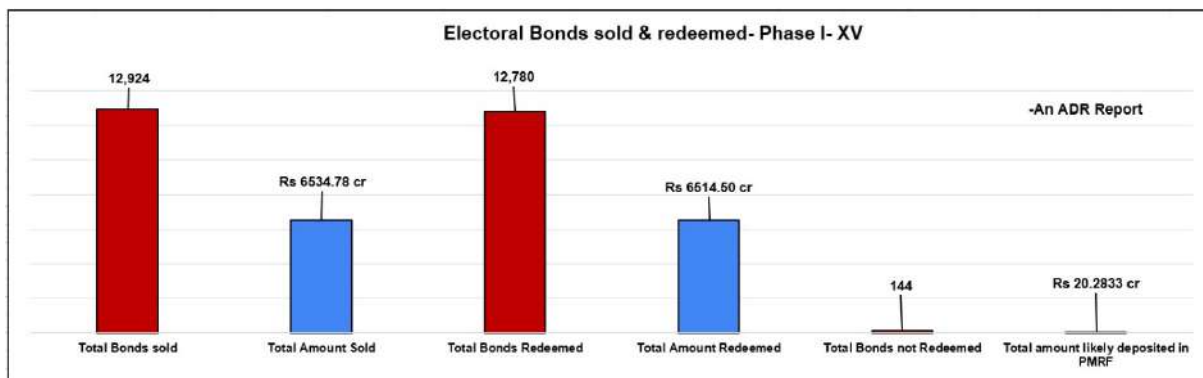
**PPW Data Source:** Income Tax returns and the donations details submitted to the IT Department and the Election Commission respectively by the political parties themselves.

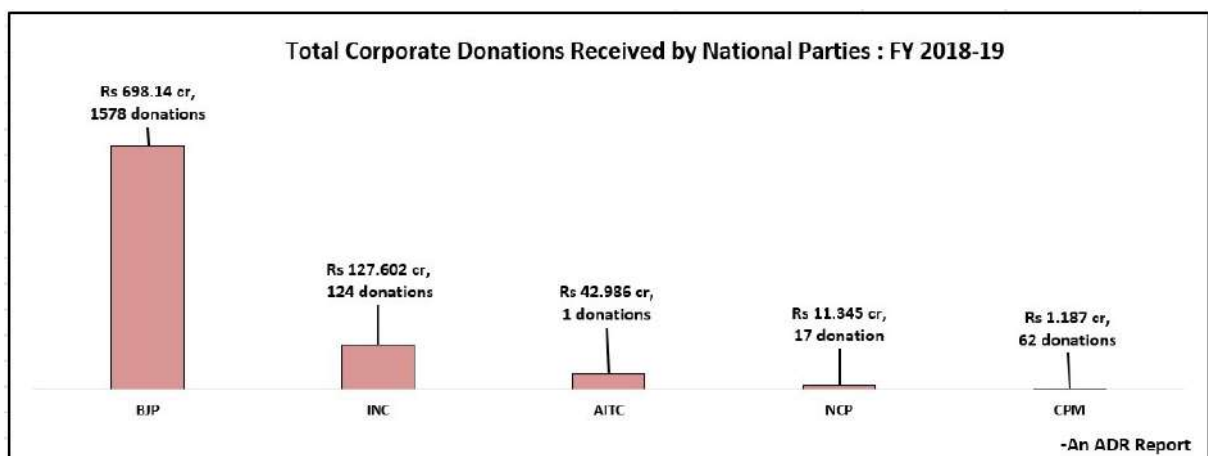
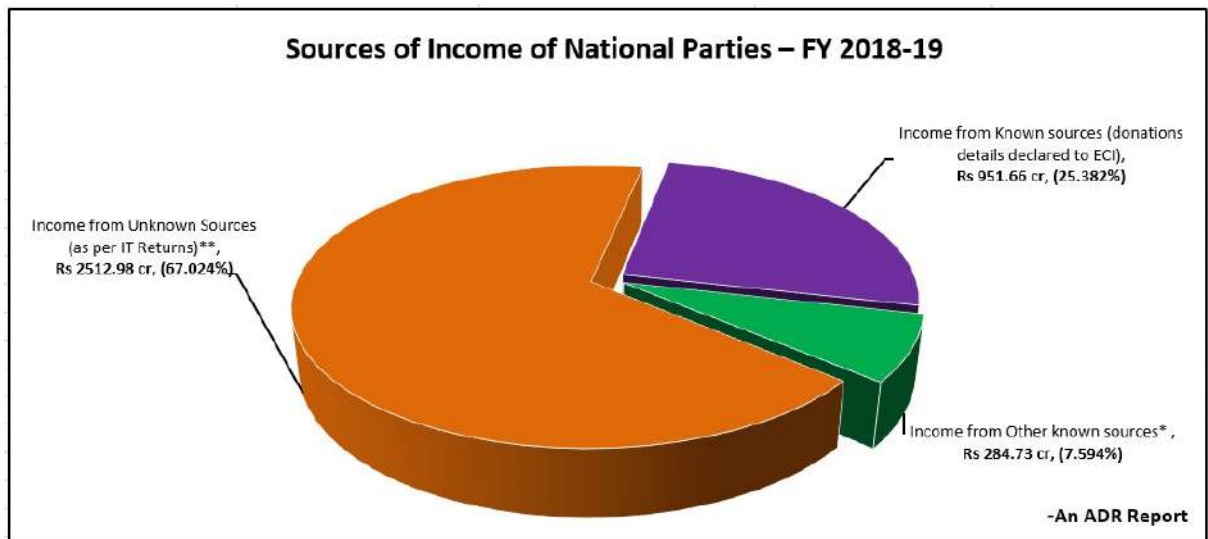
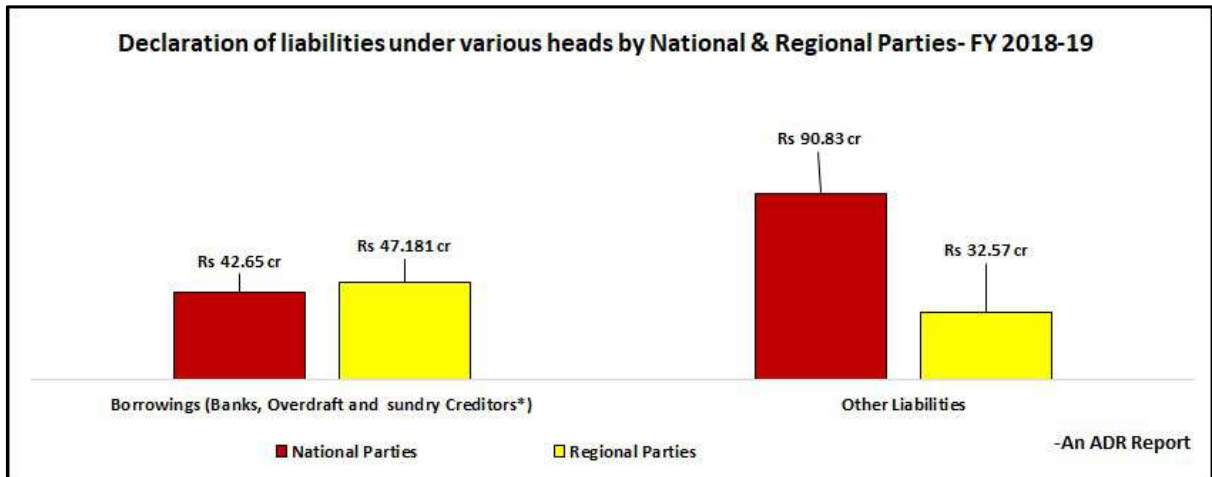
**Following analyses on Political Parties were undertaken during FY 2020-21:**

Reports by Political Party Watch during FY 2020-21				
S. No.	Report Type	Report Name	Date of release	Number of Parties Analysed
1	Audit Report	Analysis Of Income & Expenditure Of Regional Political Parties For FY 2018-19	07-Apr-20	37
2	Contribution Report	Analysis Of Donations Received By Regional Political Parties – FY 2018-19	06-May-20	26
3	Audit Report	Analysis Of Sources Of Funding Of Regional Parties: FY 2018-19	18-May-20	26
4	Electoral Bonds Report	Analysis of Eligibility of Registered Unrecognised Political Parties to Receive Funding Through Electoral Bonds	04-Jun-20	69
5	Contribution Report	Analysis Of Discrepancies In Pan Details In Contribution Reports Of Regional Parties, FY 2014-15 To FY 2018-19	24-Jun-20	40
6	Audit Report	Updated-Analysis Of Income & Expenditure Of National Political Parties For FY 2018-19	25-Jun-20	7
7	Election Expenditure Report	Analysis Of Funds Collected And Expenditure Incurred By Political Parties That Contested In Uttar Pradesh During The Lok Sabha Elections 2019 (A state-wise report)	30-Jul-20	10

8	Election Expenditure Report	Analysis of Funds Collected and Expenditure Incurred by Political Parties during Bihar Assembly Election, 2015	05-Aug-20	16
9	Audit Report	Analysis of status of submission of annual audit reports of Registered Unrecognised Political Parties during FY 2017-18 & FY 2018-19	31-Aug-20	168
10	Contribution Report	Analysis of status of submission of Contribution Reports & incomplete disclosure in reports by Political Parties that contest elections in Bihar (FY 2014-15 to FY 2018-19)	06-Oct-20	11
11	Election Expenditure Report	Analysis of Funds Collected and Expenditure Incurred by Political Parties during Maharashtra & Haryana Assembly Elections, 2019	13-Nov-20	17
12	Contribution Report	Analysis Of Donations Received By National Political Parties – FY 2018-19	19-Nov-20	7
13	Contribution Report	Analysis of donations from Corporates & Business Houses to National Political Parties for FY 2018-19 (Known donations above Rs 20,000 only)	20-Nov-20	6
14	Election Expenditure Report	Analysis of Funds Collected and Expenditure Incurred by Political Parties during Jharkhand Assembly Elections, 2019	30-Nov-20	10
15	Electoral Bonds Report	Analysis of Electoral Bonds sold and redeemed during the Fourteen phases (March 2018 – October 2020)	08-Dec-20	-
16	Contribution Report	Analysis of Donations received by Registered Unrecognised Political Parties during FY 2017-18 & FY 2018-19	05-Feb-21	138
17	Audit Report	Analysis of Assets & Liabilities of National & Regional Political Parties- FY 2018-19	18-Mar-21	48
<b>Total</b>				<b>636</b>

## Important Findings by PPW









## Strategic Litigation

**About:** 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.

### **PILs filed by ADR during FY 2020-21:**

#### **I. ADR's petition challenging Finance Act, 2017; Electoral Bonds and Removal of company's limit to donate: W.P (C) 880/2017**

This petition challenges the Finance Act, 2017 which was enacted as a money bill which introduced the electoral bond scheme for the purpose of electoral funding. The Act has also removed the previous limit of 7.5% of the company's average three-year net profit for political donations. A company is no longer required to name the political parties to which such contributions are made. The donors' name is also not revealed to the public. These amendments will result in opaqueness, heighten the odds of conflict of interest and also drastically increase black money and corruption. It will also lead to the creation of shell companies and rise of benami transactions to channelize the undocumented money into the political and electoral process in India.

#### **Current status of the petition:**

- **On 5th March, 2019** ADR and Common Cause filed the first application for stay against the sale/purchase of electoral bonds for Lok Sabha 2019 elections. In the stay application ADR had contended that enormous amounts of corporate funding would be received by political parties during the general elections and this would play a critical role in the elections. In response to ADR's application, the Supreme Court in its interim order dated 12th April, 2019 directed all political parties to submit details of donations received via Electoral Bonds to the Election Commission of India in a sealed cover on or before 30th May 2019.

- **On 29th November 2019**, ADR and Common Cause filed a second application for stay against the sale/purchase of Electoral bonds to bring on record certain vital documents which have surfaced recently and have a strong bearing on the instant case.
- **On 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2020** ADR and Common Cause filed a third application for an urgent listing of the petition before the Supreme Court of India. The application for an urgent hearing was filed because;
  - I. ADR's petition was last heard by the Supreme Court on 20-01-2020 and hasn't been listed since then, i.e., for the last 9 months, even though very significant questions concerning democratic functioning of the country are raised in the instant matter which requires urgent adjudication.
  - II. Right before the Bihar Legislative Assembly Elections, the State Bank of India, in the XIV Phase of sale, issued Electoral Bonds through its 29 Authorized branches w.e.f. 19.10.2020 to 28.10.2020.
  - III. Whereas the Electoral Bond Scheme dated 02-01-2018 clearly stipulates sale of electoral bonds in January, April, July and October months of each year; however, the window was not opened in April and July, but was opened in October'20, right before the Bihar Legislative Elections, 2020.
- **On 9th March, 2021**, ADR and Common Cause filed a fourth application for stay on any further purchase of Electoral Bonds before the then-upcoming state elections in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Puducherry and Assam as it would further increase the illegal, illicit and anonymous political funding.

## **II. W.P (C) No. 1382/2019: Petition on voter discrepancies and mechanism of declaration of election result:**

**On 4th November, 2019**, Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and Common Cause filed a petition in the Supreme Court of India to seek directions from the Supreme Court to order the Election Commission of India to completely stop the practice of announcing election results based on provisional and estimated data, prior to an actual and accurate reconciliation of data. Even for Lok Sabha 2019 Elections, the Election Commission had announced election results in all constituencies on 23rd May 2019, based on estimated data. This is verified by Election Commission's Press Note dated 01

June 2019 that stated “...***the final data on votes counted has been made available within a few days of declaration of results.....***”

In addition, ADR also seeks a direction from Supreme Court to the ECI to evolve an efficient, transparent, rational and robust procedure/mechanism by creating a separate department/grievance cell for investigation of discrepancies in election data and for responding to the elector’s queries on the same. Through this petition, ADR is not challenging or questioning the final result of 2019 General Elections or the election process in the country. However, the issues and irregularities that arose in the conduct of the election/result of 2019 General Elections have been cited as arguments for effectuating free and fair elections, the survival of democracy and enforcement of fundamental rights. Based on our petition, on **13th December, 2019**, the Supreme Court of India had issued notices to the Election Commission of India and Union of India.

#### **Current status of the petition:**

**On 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2020** an application was filed against the ‘mysterious rush and urgency’ shown by the Election Commission of India by destroying the VVPAT slips used in 2019 Lok Sabha elections in just four months after the results were declared. This was in contravention of the rules prescribed under the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961. Rule 94 (b) of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961 states that, “the used or printed slips in any election shall be retained for one year from the date of declaration of the results of the election and shall thereafter be destroyed. Therefore, an application in the Supreme Court was filed on 27th February, 2020 to direct the Election Commission of India to;

- Not to destroy or dispose of VVPAT paper slips generated in any election in the last one year and to retain the same at least for a period of one year in consonance with the rules of Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961;
- To retain all other documents pertaining to the 17th Lok Sabha elections held in April, 2019.

ADR’s petition has been pending in the Supreme Court since November, 2019.

**Next date of hearing: As per the Supreme Court’s website, there is no further/next date of hearing given by the court.**

### III. H.C.P 90/2020, Jamuna Vs. Secretary to Government of India and Others:

On 30th September, 2020, Madras High Court suo motu impleaded Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) in a Habeas Corpus petition in the matter of Jamuna vs. The Secretary to Government of India and Others; H.C.P No. 90/2020. In the said matter, the Madras High Court in its order dated 30/08/2020 had taken a serious note of the close and an alarming nexus between criminals, police and political parties. The court had further made the following observations:

*"1) The Central Government has to come out with a comprehensive legislation to prohibit persons with criminal background from contesting elections to Parliament, State Legislatures and local bodies.*

*2) Why not the Central Government enact a law to prohibit candidates with criminal background contesting the elections to the Parliament as well as State legislatures as suggested by the Constitution Bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 25.09.2018."*

#### **Current status of the petition:**

On 1st October, 2020, ADR also filed its written submission before the Madras High Court. In its submission ADR had contented the following:

- Disqualification of persons from contesting any of the elections to the public offices against whom charges have been framed for having committed serious criminal offences punishable by imprisonment of at least 5 years, and the case is filed at least 6 months prior to the election in question;
- Permanent disqualification of persons convicted of heinous crimes.
- Trial of cases in which the politicians are accused to be concluded in a time bound manner; and/or
- De-register and de-recognise any political party if it knowingly put up a candidate with a tainted background;
- 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.

On 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 the Habeas Corpus petition was disposed of by Madras High Court stating *"Since the period of detention itself is over, nothing survives for adjudication in this habeas corpus petition and accordingly, the same is closed."*

#### **IV. Suo Motu PIL in Karnataka High Court to monitor the progress of criminal cases against MPs and MLAs of Karnataka:**

The Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka in a suo motu PIL (WP 10240/2020) is monitoring the progress of trials before Special Courts dealing with criminal cases against Members of Parliament, Members of State Legislative Assembly and Members of State Legislative Council. With a view to assist the Hon'ble High Court, Association for Democratic Reforms had submitted data pertaining to criminal cases against MPs and MLAs before the Amicus Curiae appointed by the High Court.

In addition, based on the data collated and analysed by ADR on criminal cases against MPs and MLAs of Karnataka, Daksh had analysed and submitted before the Amicus Curiae the progress of 8 criminal cases pending against MPs and 131 criminal cases that were filed against MLAs of Karnataka.

#### **V. Petition challenging the constitutional validity of the current practice of appointment of Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners by Executive:**

On 17th May, 2021 ADR filed a petition in the Supreme Court challenging the Constitutional validity of the current practice adopted by the government in appointment of Members of the Election Commission. In addition, the petition also seeks a direction from the court for constituting a neutral and independent collegium/ selection committee for appointment of Members of Election Commission on the lines of the recommendations given by the Law Commission in its 255th Report of March 2015; Second Administrative Reform Commission in its fourth Report of January 2007; Dr. Dinesh Goswami Committee in its Report of May 1990; and Justice Tarkunde Committee in its Report of 1975. In its petition, ADR has also contended that any practice of appointment of Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners solely by Executive is violative of Article 14 and Article 324(2) of the Constitution.

In its petition, ADR has also contended that presently the current practice of appointment of Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners is done solely by the executive which is violative of Article 14 and Article 324(2) of the Constitution of India. The impugned practice is manifestly arbitrary and incompatible with Article 14 and Article 324(2) because these articles mandate Parliament to make a just, fair, and reasonable law for the appointment of Chief Election Commissioners and Election Commissioners.



At present, appointment of members of the Election Commission is on the whims and fancies of the executive making the Commission an extended branch of the executive and therefore, violates the very foundation on which it was created. The Election Commission of India is not only responsible for conducting free and fair elections but it also renders a quasi-judicial function between the various political parties including the ruling government and other parties. In such circumstances the executive cannot be the sole participant in the appointment of members of the Election Commission as it gives unfettered discretion to the ruling party to choose someone whose loyalty to it is ensured and thereby renders the selection process vulnerable to manipulation.

**Current status of the petition:**

There are no court orders given in this petition. The petition has not been listed/come up before the court since the time it has been filed. There are no notices issued to the parties (respondents) in this petition by the court.

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>.



## Activities on Advocacy, Networking & Voter Awareness

ADR organized many press conferences and panel discussions along with outdoor and social media campaigns. Many informative articles were also written by in-house researchers that were published in reputed newspapers and magazines. Over 20 years, ADR has associated with 1200 state partners and 41 eminent personalities who continue to collaborate with ADR for various campaign 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.

**In FY 2020-21, ADR started two new projects:**

**Project 1:** Action taken against political parties that default on or delay the submissions of their contribution reports or file incomplete information with the ECI

**Project 2:** Seizure of cash, liquor, etc. by the ECI during elections, and action taken against defaulting political parties

In collaboration with National Election Watch, ADR organised events to highlight the above two projects.

**Some of the activities conducted by ADR during FY 2020-21 are mentioned below:**

### 1. Letter/Submission to Election Commission of India

On **11<sup>th</sup> November 2020**, ahead of Bihar Assembly Elections 2020, Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) made a submission before the Election Commission of India (ECI) on ***issues regarding the candidate affidavits uploaded by ECI and the suggestions for the same***. The same was also shared with the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Bihar.

Later, ahead of the Assembly Elections of Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and West Bengal, a similar letter was sent to the ECI and CEO of the listed States and Union Territory.

## 2. Webinars Organised by ADR

ADR organised webinars on pertinent issues. Expert panellists and speakers from non-profit organizations, political parties, media, academic communities, ECI officials and former bureaucrats participated in the forum. The panellists delivered value-added discussions at this opportune event and answered multiple questions from the audience.

Date	Webinar Topic	Moderator	Speakers	Link
21-Jan-21	Voting Facilities for the Migrant Workers	Prof. Jagdeep Chhokar, Founder Member & Trustee of ADR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr S.Y. Quraishi, Former CEC, Election Commission of India (ECI)</li> <li>• Dr Nasim Zaidi, Former CEC, ECI</li> <li>• Shri O.P. Rawat, Former CEC, ECI</li> <li>• Prof Ashwani Kumar, Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences</li> <li>• Shri Rajiv Khandelwal, Executive Director, Aajeevika Bureau</li> <li>• Ms Teesta Setalvad, Secretary, Citizens for Justice &amp; Peace</li> </ul>	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/adrs-webinar-voting-facilities-migrant-workers">https://adrindia.org/content/adrs-webinar-voting-facilities-migrant-workers</a>
24-Feb-21	Electoral Bonds: A case of collective institutional complicity?	Maj Gen Anil Verma (Retd.), Head of ADR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof Jagdeep Chhokar, Founder Member &amp; Trustee of ADR</li> <li>• Mr Gautam Bhatia, Lawyer, Author &amp; Constitutional Expert</li> <li>• Mr Vihar Durve, RTI Activist</li> <li>• Mr Nitin Sethi, Journalist, Member of The Reporters' Collective, Media Lead at The National Foundation for India &amp; Partner at Land Conflict Watch</li> </ul>	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/adrs-webinar-electoral-bonds">https://adrindia.org/content/adrs-webinar-electoral-bonds</a>
8-Mar-21	Women Representation in Electoral Politics: A lack of political will?	Ms Kamini Jaiswal, Trustee of ADR & Sr. Advocate, Supreme Court of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Malini Bhattacharya, Former MP from CPI(M)</li> <li>• Ms Karuna Nundy, Advocate, Supreme Court of India</li> <li>• Ms Anushka Shah, Founder, Civic Studios</li> <li>• Ms Pooja Ganesh Thaokar, Sarpanch of Bela, Maharashtra</li> </ul>	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/adrs-webinar-womens-day">https://adrindia.org/content/adrs-webinar-womens-day</a>

## 3. Invited Speaker(s) from ADR

Various organisations invited ADR to share its work/research/findings/opinions related to electoral and political reforms. The table contains the details on the same:

Event	Date	Webinar Topic	Invited Speaker(s) from ADR	Link
Webinar by Citizens' Forum India	10-May-20	NOTA: An investment in our Democracy	Prof Jagdeep Chhokar, Founder Member & Trustee of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/citizens-forum-india-cfi-webinar">https://adrindia.org/content/citizens-forum-india-cfi-webinar</a>
Webinar by Citizens' Forum India	16-Jun-20	Are Electoral Bonds only for ruling party?	Prof Jagdeep Chhokar, Founder Member & Trustee of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/citizens-forum-india-cfi-webinar-0">https://adrindia.org/content/citizens-forum-india-cfi-webinar-0</a>
RVC20 : Remote Voting Webinar 2020 - Technology Aspects of Remote Voting: Exploring Blockchain by Election Commission of India & Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency	10-Aug-20	Data privacy and regulatory concerns of blockchain enabled remote voting	Prof Trilochan Sastry, Chairman, Founder & Trustee of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/rvc20-remote-voting-webinar-2020-technology-aspects-remote-voting-exploring-blockchain">https://adrindia.org/content/rvc20-remote-voting-webinar-2020-technology-aspects-remote-voting-exploring-blockchain</a>
Webinar by India International Centre	09-Sep-20	How Robust is India's Democracy?	Prof Jagdeep Chhokar, Founder Member & Trustee of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-india-international-centre">https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-india-international-centre</a>
Webinar by Citizen's Forum India	26-Sep-20	The Criminalisation of Politics	Prof Jagdeep Chhokar, Founder Member & Trustee of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-citizens-forum-india">https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-citizens-forum-india</a>
Webinar on Electoral Bonds by Forum for Fast Justice, Mumbai & National Federation of Societies for Fast Justice	01-Nov-20	Electoral Bonds - Boon or Bane for Democracy!	Dr. Vipul Mudgal, Director of Common Cause & Trustee of ADR and Maj Gen Anil Verma (Retd), Head of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-electoral-bonds">https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-electoral-bonds</a>
National Webinar Series by International Society for Human Awakening & Development (ISHAD)	24-Jan-21	Inadequate Devolution of 3Fs - Functions, Functionaries and Funds to Local Self Governments (LSGs)	Dr Ajit Ranade, Founder Member & Trustee of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/national-webinar-series-ishad">https://adrindia.org/content/national-webinar-series-ishad</a>
Facebook Live on National Voters' Day Event by Sabrang	25-Jan-21	EVM Conundrum	Prof Jagdeep Chhokar, Founder Member & Trustee of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/national-voters-day-event-sabrang">https://adrindia.org/content/national-voters-day-event-sabrang</a>
Online Western Regional Consultation by National Campaign for People	04-Feb-21	Right to Information	Ms Pankti Jog, Gujarat State Coordinator, National Election Watch	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/online-western-region-consultation-right-information">https://adrindia.org/content/online-western-region-consultation-right-information</a>
Webinar by Defend Democracy	06-Mar-21	Are India's Elections Free & Fair?	Prof Jagdeep Chhokar, Founder Member & Trustee of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/defend-democracy">https://adrindia.org/content/defend-democracy</a>
Online Press Conference by Citizens' Commission on Elections	15-Mar-21	Are Elections in India Free & fair?	Prof Jagdeep Chhokar, Founder Member & Trustee of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/online-press-conference">https://adrindia.org/content/online-press-conference</a>

#### 4. Hum Badlenge Apna Bharat, an ADR Youth Outreach Programme

To motivate, inform and involve youth in the political & electoral reforms processes, ADR initiated a Youth Outreach programme called **Hum Badlenge Apna Bharat (HBAB)** in FY 2016-17. The programme aims to educate Indian youths of the challenges faced by Indian Democracy today. With the support of our State Coordinators, we are committed to taking this programme to the maximum number of youths across the country.

##### i. Organize workshops/talks/lectures

ADR organizes a 1.5-hour workshop in schools and colleges where important points like **Criminalization of Politics, Expenditure on Election Campaigns, Functioning of Political Parties** and Role of Youth in Strengthening Democracy are highlighted. On request of colleges and schools, ADR also organises a topic-centric workshop. The workshop trainers use videos, audios, quiz papers and other interactive materials to engage with the youth.

The following table shows details of events conducted under this programme in FY 2020-21:

Event	Date	Platform	Topic	Invited Speaker from ADR	Link
Webinar by Law Essentials	05-Aug-20	YouTube	Transparency in Democracy & Political Funding	Maj Gen Anil Verma (Retd), Head of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-transparency-democracy-political-funding">https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-transparency-democracy-political-funding</a>
Webinar by Vidhi Mitra	05-Oct-20	YouTube	Social Media & Its Impact on Democracy	Maj Gen Anil Verma (Retd), Head of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-social-media-its-impact-democracy">https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-social-media-its-impact-democracy</a>
RTI Summit by OutLawed	16-Jan-21	Zoom Webinar	Public Authorities Under RTI	Ms. Shivani Kapoor, Program Officer (Legal) at ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/rti-summit-outlawed">https://adrindia.org/content/rti-summit-outlawed</a>
Talk in collaboration with St. Stephen's Model United Nations 2021	18-Feb-21	Zoom	Electoral Reforms in India	Ms Shelly Mahajan, Sr. Program Associate (Political Party Watch) at ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/talk-electoral-reforms-india">https://adrindia.org/content/talk-electoral-reforms-india</a>
Interactive Session by MIT School of Government	01-Mar-21	Zoom	Impending Electoral Reforms: Who will bell the cat?	Maj Gen Anil Verma (Retd), Head of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/interactive-session-mit-school-government">https://adrindia.org/content/interactive-session-mit-school-government</a>



## ii. Campus Ambassador Programme

Campus Ambassador Programme, an ADR Youth Outreach Programme, aims to engage with college youth on issues related to Indian democracy and involve them proactively in organizing events. The selected Campus Ambassadors are apprised about the issues ADR is working on and their roles and responsibilities as ADR campus representative. These Ambassadors later hold various programmes in their colleges to spread awareness about the issues ADR is fighting for. All the activities are approved, sponsored, assisted & supervised by the ADR Team.

**In FY 2020-21, ADR Campus Ambassadors organised online events due to COVID-19.**

The table below shows the details of the events of those events:

Event	Date	Platform	Topic	Campus Ambassador	Speaker/Moderator from ADR	Link
Online Essay Competition	03-May-20	Submission via email	Credibility of "NOTA" in Contemporary India	Ankit Chaubey & Anish Kumar Verma from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	Not Required	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/online-essay-competition-bhu-adr-campus-ambassadors">https://adrindia.org/content/online-essay-competition-bhu-adr-campus-ambassadors</a>
Online Essay Competition	03-May-20	Submission via email	Electoral Bonds and Its Impact on Indian Politics	Saumya Somesh from Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College, New Delhi	Not Required	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/online-essay-competition-atma-ram-sanatan-dharma-college-adr-campus-ambassador">https://adrindia.org/content/online-essay-competition-atma-ram-sanatan-dharma-college-adr-campus-ambassador</a>
Webinar on Voter Awareness	08-June-20	Zoom	Transparency in Political Funding	Ritik Kumar from Aligarh Muslim University, Kerala	Speaker: Maj Gen Anil Verma (Retd), Head of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/adrs-webinar-transparency-political-funding">https://adrindia.org/content/adrs-webinar-transparency-political-funding</a>
Webinar on RTI	18-July-20	Zoom	RTI as a Tool for Electoral Transparency and Accountability	Md Ali Imra from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi	Speaker: Maj Gen Anil Verma (Retd), Head of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/adrs-webinar-rti-tool-electoral-transparency-and-accountability">https://adrindia.org/content/adrs-webinar-rti-tool-electoral-transparency-and-accountability</a>
Webinar on Voter Awareness	08-Aug-20	Zoom	Ensuring Accessibility: Role of CSOs in making citizens aware of their voting rights	Yashvi Barot from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai	Speaker: Maj Gen Anil Verma (Retd), Head of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/adrs-webinar-ensuring-accessibility-role-csos-making-citizens-aware-their-voting-rights">https://adrindia.org/content/adrs-webinar-ensuring-accessibility-role-csos-making-citizens-aware-their-voting-rights</a>

Webinar on Electoral Reforms	12-Sep-20	YouTube	Transparency in Democracy & Political Funding	Yaqoob Alam from Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University, Lucknow	Speaker: Maj Gen Anil Verma (Retd), Head of ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-electoral-reforms">https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-electoral-reforms</a>
e-Charcha	13-Sep-20	Zoom	Emerging Trends in Electoral Behaviour	Ritik Kumar from Aligarh Muslim University, Kerala	Speaker: Ms Shelly Mahajan, Sr. Program Associate (Political Party Watch) at ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/e-charcha-emerging-trends-electoral-behaviour">https://adrindia.org/content/e-charcha-emerging-trends-electoral-behaviour</a>
Online Quiz Competition	20-Sep-20	Dare2Compete & Zoom	Indian Democracy Quiz	Nisha Sheoran from Kamala Nehru College, New Delhi	Not Required	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/online-quiz-competition">https://adrindia.org/content/online-quiz-competition</a>
Deliberation, Discussion & Debate	28-Sep-20	Google Meet	What is the price of NOTA?	Yashvi Barot from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai	Moderator: Ms Shivani Kapoor, Program Officer (Legal) at ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/deliberation-discussion-debate">https://adrindia.org/content/deliberation-discussion-debate</a>
e-Poster Making Competition	26-Oct-20	Submission via email	Ethical and Informed Voting	Nisha Sheoran from Kamala Nehru College, New Delhi	Not Required	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/e-poster-making-competition">https://adrindia.org/content/e-poster-making-competition</a>
Vigilance Awareness Week	01-Nov-20	Zoom Webinar	Lack of Transparency in Political Funding: A cause of corruption?	Nisha Sheoran from Kamala Nehru College, New Delhi	Speaker: Dr Ujjaini Halim, West Bengal Coordinator, National Election Watch & Executive Director IMSE	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/vigilance-awareness-week">https://adrindia.org/content/vigilance-awareness-week</a>
Webinar on RTI	05-Feb-21	Google Meet	RTI as a Tool for Electoral Transparency & Accountability	Saumya Somesh from Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College, New Delhi	Speaker: Ms Shivani Kapoor, Program Officer (Legal) at ADR	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-rti-tool-electoral-transparency-accountability">https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-rti-tool-electoral-transparency-accountability</a>
Poetry Writing Competition	22-Feb-21	Submission via email	Value of NOTA	Nisha Sheoran from Kamala Nehru College, New Delhi	Not Required	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/poetry-writing-competition">https://adrindia.org/content/poetry-writing-competition</a>

WhatsApp Quiz	13-Mar-21	WhatsApp	Elections in India	Siddhima Sirohi from Lady Shri Ram College, New Delhi	Not Required	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/whatsapp-quiz">https://adrindia.org/content/whatsapp-quiz</a>
Online Poetry Slam Competition	27-Mar-21	Zoom	The Idea of Democracy	Saumya Somesh from Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College, New Delhi	Not Required	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/online-poetry-slam-competition">https://adrindia.org/content/online-poetry-slam-competition</a>

### Other Student Collaborations

- ADR was one of the Academic Partners of **Model United Nations 2021** organized by students of **St. Stephen's College, Delhi** from 26th, 27th & 28th February 2021. ADR provided research papers to raise the academic standards of the conference. This is the third time in row that ADR collaborated with **St. Stephen's College, Delhi**.
- ADR partnered with colleges to organise case study competitions. The table contains the details on the same:

Event	Date	Platform	Topic	Link
Pursuance- Case Study Competition by Human Resource Development Cell, Shri Ram College of Commerce	26-Sep-20	Submission via email	Seizure of cash, liquor, etc. by the ECI during elections and action taken against defaulting political parties OR Political parties that default on or delay the submissions of their Contribution Reports or file incomplete information	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/pursuance">https://adrindia.org/content/pursuance</a>
National Law School Policy Hackathon by E-Cell, National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru	16.01.2021	Online Presentation	Electoral Reforms	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/national-law-school-policy-hackathon">https://adrindia.org/content/national-law-school-policy-hackathon</a>
Policy (K)night by Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) Business Conclave 2021	25-Mar-21	Submission via email	Political parties that default on or delay the submissions of their Contribution Reports or file incomplete information	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/policy-knight-srcc-business-conclave-2021">https://adrindia.org/content/policy-knight-srcc-business-conclave-2021</a>



## 5. ADR's Online Crowdfunding Campaign

On 03rd March 2021, ADR launched an online Crowdfunding Campaign. This campaign is to seek donations/funds from the general public for continuation of ADR's operations in the future. The campaign is not about any dedicated project but the overall work of ADR. The idea is to convey to the public the importance of ADR's work, past achievements, impact created and future plans. At the same time, to subtly highlight that institutional donations have shrunk over the years given the challenges of the field in which ADR works – Transparency, Governance and Political Accountability.

<https://adrindia.org/content/adr-donation-campaign>

## 6. Voter Awareness Campaigns

Ahead of **Assam, Bihar, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal Assembly Elections**, ADR used various mediums to encourage people to vote for candidates with clean images. Various creative and engaging videos, posters, pamphlets, and brochures were designed to educate the people about the importance of Informed and Ethical Voting, Issue of Criminality etc., were disseminated via various mediums during the elections.

- **Celebrity Videos:** Videos created in Hindi and vernacular languages featuring regional celebrities with the aim of reaching out to maximum voters were used.
- **Media Collaborations:** : For Assam, Bihar, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal Elections ADR collaborated with **Network 18, Amar Ujala, ABP Network, India Spend, TV9 Bharatvarsh, Cambay Post and Global Shapers Community, Chennai Hub** to display ADR's reports and details of candidates contesting elections on their website with our logo and name.
- **Community Radio Collaboration:** For Bihar Assembly Elections 2020, ADR also collaborated with Gram Vaani to play audios wherein Aamir Khan encourages listeners to be an informed voter by analysing the background information on the candidates contesting in their respective constituency.
- **Letters to Political Parties:** Letters were sent to the Presidents of Political Parties, newly sworn-in Chief Ministers of **Assam, Bihar, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal** to provide a clean and exemplary governance to the people by choosing honest and capable Ministers.



- **Letter to Public:** During the Bihar Assembly Elections 2020, ADR wrote an open letter to draw attention of the voters on two important matters- a.) ADR's petition challenging the Finance Act, 2017: Electoral Bonds and Removal of company's limit to donate, b.) Reasons for fielding candidates with criminal background. Link to the letter: <https://twitter.com/adrspeaks/status/1322916987345936384/photo/1>
- **Participation in #DemocracyAdda:** Ms Nandini Raj, Program Associate (Communications) at ADR, participated in #DemocracyAdda Twitter Chat organised by Youth Ki Awaaz and Twitter India to reflect on the issue of how internet penetration in the State could impact the outcome of the Bihar Elections and how will voters be able to satisfactorily interact with their potential leaders on a range of issues.
- **Collaboration with The Logical India for articles:** ADR collaborated with The Logical Indian to publish articles on electoral and political reforms. Here are the articles: [Emerging Trends in Electoral Behaviour: Why Money, Muscle Power Reign Supreme](#), [Bihar Elections: Can Bihar Overturn Dismal History Of Women Representation?](#), [Decriminalization Of Politics: Are Supreme Court's Directions Sufficient To Counter Increasing Criminality In Indian Politics?](#)
- **Print and TV Presence:** ADR remained an active part of debates around the issues of electoral reforms. ADR garnered around 1,320+ coverage in FY 2020-21. Some of the press coverage can be viewed here- <http://adrindia.org/media/adr-in-news>.
- **Digital Presence:** Throughout the year, more intensively ahead of elections, ADR kept posting informative creative/ infographics/news items on social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter to disseminate information. Many of the infographics posted on these social media platforms received hundreds of shares and likes. The reports were first released in ADR's Google Groups which have researchers, scholars, journalists, politics-enthusiasts, lawyers and people from different arenas. Post that, infographics based on the reports were published on social media platforms.  
ADR also has a **WhatsApp Business Account** which was used to disseminate press releases, reports and infographics directly to around 163 subscribers.  
On [www.adrindia.org](http://www.adrindia.org) website, engaging creatives like banners, pictures, posters, videos, relevant news articles were posted, other than ADR's reports. The content on the website aims to be resourceful, interesting and user friendly.



01st Apr'20 to 31st Mar'21	
Total Impressions	1205.2K
Total Tweets	881
Total Mentions	1,655
Total Retweets	1,952
Profile Visits	37,224
Total Tweet Likes	3,084
New Followers	726
Total Replies on Tweets	644
Total Clicks on Links	2,994

**Followers as in Mar'21 : 18.6K+**



01st Apr'20 to 31st Mar'21	
Total Videos	17
Total Live Streams	10
Total Posts	92
Total Views	33.0K
New Subscribers	735
Total Impressions	443.0K
Impressions Click-through rate	3.9%
Watch Time (Hours)	1.0K
Average View Duration	1:50 min

**Followers: 3,000+**



<b><u>National Election Watch</u></b> <b><u>(General Public) till 31st Mar'21</u></b> Group Members: 12,530+
<b><u>National Election Watch News</u></b> <b><u>(Only for Journalists) till 31st Mar'21</u></b> Group Members: 6,440+



Google Analytics

Websites	ADR India		MyNeta	
Parameters	Users	Page Views	Users	Page Views
FY 2019-20	168,045	562,028	7,939,273	30,604,553
FY 2020-21	116,697	347,998	9,144,182	31,239,148



Page Name	Followers: As on 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar'21	Likes: As on 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar'21	Daily Page Engaged Users	Daily Total Reach	Daily Total Impressions	Total Posts	Lifetime Post Total Reach	Lifetime Post Total Impressions
Association for Democratic Reforms & National Election Watch	68,663	67,920	15,550	4,23,593	6,19,265	401	5,08,870	5,45,155
MyNeta	75,472	74,764	9,791	3,32,398	4,94,515	398	4,46,019	4,73,923

#### Definition of some of the social media metrics:

**Daily Total Reach:** The number of people who had any content from your Page or about your Page enter their screen. This includes posts, check-ins, ads, social information from people who interact with your Page and more. (Unique Users)

**Daily Total Impressions:** The number of times any content from your Page or about your Page entered a person's screen. This includes posts, stories, check-ins, ads, social information from people who interact with your Page and more. (Total Count)

**Lifetime Post Total Reach:** The number of people who had your Page's post enter their screen. Posts include statuses, photos, links, videos and more. (Unique Users)

**Lifetime Post Total Impressions:** The number of times your Page's post entered a person's screen. Posts include statuses, photos, links, videos and more. (Total Count)

## Activities Organized by ADR's State-Chapters

**ADR and the State Election Chapters** launched voter awareness campaigns against the increasing influence of criminalization and money power in elections.

- **RTI Workshops Organized by ADR in collaboration with National Election Watch (or ADR's State-Chapters)**

RTI Workshops on RTI Organised by ADR and National Election Watch				
Date	Platform	Topic	Link	Collaborator
07-Oct-20	YouTube & Facebook Live	Use of RTI in Democracy in Political Parties & Transparency in Party Funding	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshop">https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshop</a>	Bihar Election Watch
28-Oct-20	YouTube & Facebook Live	Use of RTI in Democracy in Political Parties & Transparency in Party Funding	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshop-0">https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshop-0</a>	Gujarat Election Watch
29-Oct-20	YouTube & Facebook Live	Role of RTI in Good Governance	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshop-1">https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshop-1</a>	West Bengal Election Watch
18- Nov-20	YouTube & Facebook Live	Right to Information and Role of Political Parties	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/workshop-right-information">https://adrindia.org/content/workshop-right-information</a>	West Bengal Election Watch

- **Bihar Election Watch**

Ahead of Bihar Assembly Elections 2020, Bihar Election Watch (BEW) collaborated with several social workers and Civil Society Organisations in Bihar to encourage voters to be informed and ethical voters via engaging events.

❖ **Voter Awareness Van:**

Under Mera Vote Mera Bihar (My Vote My Bihar) campaign, to motivate voters to vote morally, a voter awareness van was driven around Patna, Vaishali, Hajipur, Nalanda, Jehanabad, Nawada, Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Fatuha, Punpun, Sampatchak, Danapur, Patna Sadar, Phulwarisharif, Vaishali, In villages of Hajipur, Rajapakar, Daniyawa, Hilsa, Bind, Harnaut, Biharsharif, Parvalpur, Rajgir, Dhanrua, Makhdumpur, Jehanabad, Govindpur, Rajauli, Musahari, Rahua, Turki, Ranheua, Bela, Samastipur, Rosda, Kalyanpur etc.

❖ **Grassroots Awareness Campaigns:**

From 17<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020, BEW organised voter awareness campaigns in Lakhisarai District's naxal-affected Suryagadha's Urain Panchayat, Manikpur, Budhauli Bunkar, Amarpur and dozens of villages. The voters were informed about the importance of fair elections, and encouraged not to sell their votes and be informed and ethical voters.

Voter Awareness Campaigns Organised by Bihar Election Watch				
Event	Date	Location	Topic	Link
Election/chunav chaupal	12-Oct-20	Mahadev High School, Khushrupur, Patna	Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/chunav-chaupal-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/chunav-chaupal-bihar-election-watch</a>
Seminar & Voter Awareness Rally	12-Oct-20	Middle School of Shaharbahapur of Fatuha Block	Grassroots Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-bihar-election-watch-0">https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-bihar-election-watch-0</a>
Voter Awareness Programme	18-Oct-20	Eden Welfare Trust, Balbhadrapur, Samastipur	Grassroots Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-voter-awareness-rally-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-voter-awareness-rally-bihar-election-watch</a>
Seminar	21-Oct-20	Bind Block Headquarter Premise, Nalanda	Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-nalanda-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-nalanda-bihar-election-watch</a>
Seminar	21-Oct-20 (Evening)	Bind Block Headquarter Premise, , Nalanda	Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-nalanda-bihar-election-watch-0">https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-nalanda-bihar-election-watch-0</a>

Seminar	22-Oct-20	Rajapakar, Vaishali	Grassroots Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-bihar-election-watch</a>
Seminar & Padayatra	23-Oct-20	GS Hall of Barachatti, Gaya	Grassroots Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-padayatra-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-padayatra-bihar-election-watch</a>
Padayatra	24-Oct-20	Pirpanti, Bhagalpur	Grassroots Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/padayatra-bihar-election-watch-0">https://adrindia.org/content/padayatra-bihar-election-watch-0</a>
Voter Awareness Campaign	25-Oct-20	Rai Harishankar Sharma Auditorium in Jasauli Patti (Kotwa Block of East Champaran)	Grassroots Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/voter-awareness-campaign-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/voter-awareness-campaign-bihar-election-watch</a>
Seminar and Signature Campaign	26-Oct-20	Katahariya, East Champaran	Grassroots Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-and-signature-campaign-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-and-signature-campaign-bihar-election-watch</a>
Seminar & Padayatra	28-Oct-20	Kanhaul, Muzaffarpur	Grassroots Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-padayatra-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-padayatra-bihar-election-watch</a>
Seminar & Voter Awareness Rally	29-Oct-20	Simra, Phulwarisharif Block, Patna	Grassroots Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-voter-awareness-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-voter-awareness-bihar-election-watch</a>
Voter Awareness Camp & Padayatra	30-Oct-20	Jani Tola, Dilya Rahimpur, Saran	Grassroots Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/voter-awareness-camp-padayatra-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/voter-awareness-camp-padayatra-bihar-election-watch</a>
Padayatra	31-Oct-20	Rahimpur	Grassroots Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/padayatra-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/padayatra-bihar-election-watch</a>
Seminar and Signature Campaign	5-Nov-20	Motihari	Voter Awareness	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-and-signature-campaign-bihar-election-watch-0">https://adrindia.org/content/seminar-and-signature-campaign-bihar-election-watch-0</a>

Other Events Organised by Bihar Election Watch				
Event	Date	Location/Platform	Topic	Link
Webinar on Use of Crime and Money Power in Elections	22-Jul-20	Webinar	Use of Crime and Money power in Elections	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-use-crime-and-money-power-elections">https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-use-crime-and-money-power-elections</a>
Press Conference by Bihar Election Watch	11-Nov-20	Anugrah Narayan Singh Samaj Adhyayan Institute, Patna	Bihar Assembly Elections 2020	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/press-conference-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/press-conference-bihar-election-watch</a>



Events Organised by Bihar Election Watch & ADR				
Event	Date	Location/Platform	Topic	Link
Online Press Conference	20-Oct-20	YouTube & Facebook Live	Bihar Assembly Elections 2020 Phase I: Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/online-press-conference-adr-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/online-press-conference-adr-bihar-election-watch</a>
Online Press Conference	02-Nov-20	YouTube & Facebook Live	Bihar Assembly Elections 2020	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/online-press-conference-adr-bihar-election-watch-0">https://adrindia.org/content/online-press-conference-adr-bihar-election-watch-0</a>
Webinar	01-Dec-20	YouTube & Facebook Live	Issue of record seizure of cash, liquor etc. during Bihar Assembly Elections 2020	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-adr-bihar-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-adr-bihar-election-watch</a>

**Bihar Election Watch**

**ONLINE PRESS CONFERENCE**

BY ASSOCIATION FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS & BIHAR ELECTION WATCH

Release of Report: Bihar Assembly Elections 2020 Phase I: Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates

**Speakers:**

- Prof. Jagdeep Chhokar, Founder Member & Trustee of ADR & National Election Watch (NEW)
- Maj. Gen. Anil Verma (Retd.), Head of ADR & NEW
- Mr. Rajiv Kumar, Bihar State Coordinator, NEW

Date: 20th October 2020, Time: 12:00 PM

RSVP: ADR India (adr@adrindia.org)

**ONLINE PRESS CONFERENCE**

BY ASSOCIATION FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS & BIHAR ELECTION WATCH

Release of Reports:

1. Bihar Assembly Elections 2020 Phase I: Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates
2. Bihar Assembly Elections 2020 Phase I to II Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates and Comparative Analysis of Assets of Re-contesting MLAs

**Speakers:**

- Prof. Jagdeep Chhokar, Founder Member & Trustee of ADR & National Election Watch (NEW)
- Maj. Gen. Anil Verma (Retd.), Head of ADR & NEW
- Mr. Rajiv Kumar, Bihar State Coordinator, NEW

Date: 02nd November 2020, Time: 12:00 PM

RSVP: ADR India (adr@adrindia.org)

**WEBINAR**

by ADR and Bihar Election Watch

**TOPIC: The issue of record seizure of cash, liquor etc. during Bihar Assembly Elections 2020**

**DATE & TIME:**

1st December, 2020 - 02:00 PM onwards

**RTI WORKSHOP**

Topic: Use of RTI in Democracy in Political Parties and Transparency in party funding

**Speakers:**

- Shri Rajiv Kumar, Bihar State Coordinator, National Election Watch
- Maj. Gen. Anil Verma (Retd.), Head ADR & National Election Watch
- Shri Prasenjit Kumar Verma, President, Bihar State Coordinator, NEW
- Shri Anand Kumar, Senior Journalist

**AGENDA:**

0:00 - 0:30 PM - Introduction to the topic

Speaker: Maj. Gen. Anil Verma (Retd.) - Head ADR & National Election Watch

0:30 - 1:00 PM - Issues democracy and Transparency in Political Funding

Speaker: Shri Prasenjit Kumar Verma - President, Bihar State Coordinator, NEW

1:00 - 1:30 PM - Role of media in RTI and Political Reform

Speaker: Shri Anand Kumar - Senior Journalist

27th November 2020

FROM 02:00 PM TO 02:30 PM

अपने क्षेत्र के उम्मीदवारों की आपराधिक, वित्तीय एवं शिक्षा संबंधित जानकारी के लिए डाउनलोड करें

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बिहार उद्योगपालिका



- Jharkhand Election Watch**

Events Organised by Jharkhand Election Watch				
Event	Date	Location/Platform	Topic	Link
RTI Workshop	05-Nov-20	Prajapati Auditorium	Political Funding & Compliances of Law	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshops-jharkhand-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshops-jharkhand-election-watch</a>
RTI Workshop	06-Nov-20	Prajapati Auditorium	Political Funding & Compliances of Law	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshops-jharkhand-election-watch-1">https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshops-jharkhand-election-watch-1</a>
RTI Workshop	19-Nov-20	Dombari Buru, Ranchi	Political Funding & Compliances of Law	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshops-jharkhand-election-watch-0">https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshops-jharkhand-election-watch-0</a>
RTI Workshop	20-Nov-20	Dombari Buru, Ranchi	Political Funding & Compliances of Law	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshops-jharkhand-election-watch-2">https://adrindia.org/content/rti-workshops-jharkhand-election-watch-2</a>
Workshop	28-Jan-21	Saleshwari Seva Bhawan, Khunti	Seizure of cash, liquor, etc. by the ECI during elections and action taken against defaulting political parties.	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/workshop-jharkhand-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/workshop-jharkhand-election-watch</a>
Workshop	29-Jan-21	Saleshwari Seva Bhawan, Khunti	Seizure of cash, liquor, etc. by the ECI during elections and action taken against defaulting political parties.	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/workshop-jharkhand-election-watch-0">https://adrindia.org/content/workshop-jharkhand-election-watch-0</a>



- **Puducherry Election Watch**

Events Organised by Puducherry Election Watch				
Event	Date	Location	Topic	Link
Elocution Contest	20-Mar-21	Pondicherry University, Puducherry	Free & Fair Election Campaigns	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/elocution-contest-1">https://adrindia.org/content/elocution-contest-1</a>
Press Meet	27-Mar-21	Puducherry	Analysis of Criminal, Asset, Liabilities and Educational Details of the Candidates	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/press-meet">https://adrindia.org/content/press-meet</a>

- **Rajasthan Election Watch**

Voters Jan Jagran Abhiyan was conducted by Rajasthan Election Watch and Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan in more than 20 Gram Panchayats and more than 60 villages in 4 Districts of Rajasthan.

A team of 10 to 12 members organised the voter awareness campaign along with a short play and song. A voter awareness van was driven for 10 days to create awareness about informed voting and to encourage voters to choose untainted candidates. During the campaign, voters were urged to get a manifesto signed by their candidates which said that the candidates after their victory will work for the development honestly. Via the campaign, they reached out to about 5000 voters.

The Panchayats the jeep covered were Bhima, Kala Deh, Samelia, Shivpur, Thana Nareli, Togi, Bali, Asan, Bara Khand, Kukkheda, Kushalpur, Todgarh, Hamla ki Ver, Taragarh, Rawat Mal Surajpur, Devata, Bad Kochra, Berar, Banjari, Jawaja, Lotania, Bhujpur, Bagana, Bajra, Mandawar, Kachbali, Bagad, Sangawas, Peepli Nagar, Lakha Guda, Diver, Chhapli, Khima Kheda and Vijaypur.

- Tamil Nadu Election Watch**

Events Organised by Tamil Nadu Election Watch				
Event	Date	Location	Topic	Link
Elocution Contest	09-Mar-21	Madras School of Social Work	Free & Fair Election Campaigns	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/elocution-contest">https://adrindia.org/content/elocution-contest</a>
Elocution Contest	12-Mar-21	Stella Maris College, Chennai	Free & Fair Election Campaigns	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/elocution-contest-0">https://adrindia.org/content/elocution-contest-0</a>
Elocution Contest	20-Mar-21	SDNB Vaishnav College for Women, Chennai	Free & Fair Election Campaigns	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/elocution-contest-2">https://adrindia.org/content/elocution-contest-2</a>
Elocution Contest	30-Mar-21	Doak College, Madurai	Free & Fair Election Campaigns	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/elocution-contest-3">https://adrindia.org/content/elocution-contest-3</a>



- West Bengal Election Watch**

West Bengal Election Watch (WBEW) has been working towards strengthening electoral democracy for more than a decade now. Due to COVID19 pandemic and the lockdown situation WBEW had to perform a number of activities virtually.

WBEW organised various activities which aimed to Generate Mass Awareness, Sensitize Youths and Develop Capacity of Multi-stakeholders of Civil Society Actors for promotion of functional democracy in West Bengal. WBEW volunteers organised awareness campaigns, workshops, consultations, prepared interactive Information, Education & Communication (IEC) materials, translated ADR's reports in local languages etc., to encourage citizens to become a responsible and an informed citizen. WBEW's slogan for the voter awareness campaigns is "*Nijer Vote Nije Din. Jake Khushi take Din!*" which means "*Cast your vote by yourself. At your free will!*"

### ❖ Grassroots Awareness Camps

WBEW successfully organized Grassroots Awareness Camps in villages which included Panchayati Raj Institutions' representatives, ahead of West Bengal Elections 2021, in March 2021. The camps aimed to generate mass awareness about the voting rights and motivate the rural voters to become an informed citizen and voter. They were sensitized about the importance of every vote and its possible effects on their future. These camps were organised following all safety protocols.

Location	Date	No. of Participants	Link
Labpur, Birbhum	12-Mar-21	26	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch</a>
Ballavpur, Birbhum	20-Mar-21	20	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-1">https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-1</a>
Bethuadahari, Nadia	23-Mar-21	45	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-5">https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-5</a>
Beldanga, Murshidabad	24-Mar-21	42	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-6">https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-6</a>
Agradwip, Burdwan	25-Mar-21	43	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-2">https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-2</a>
Salar, Murshidabad	26-Mar-21	46	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-3">https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-3</a>
Patharpratima, South 24 Parganas	26-Mar-21	49	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-0">https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-0</a>
Durbar Mahila Samannay Samiti, Kolkata	31-Mar-21	38	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-4">https://adrindia.org/content/grassroot-awareness-campaign-west-bengal-election-watch-4</a>

### ❖ Youth Workshops:

WBEW hosted community workshops for youths to gauge their understanding about their fundamental rights in their day to day life and how safe are the online platforms to understand their fundamental rights. Issues related to civic rights and responsibilities, and general awareness on electoral processes were addressed. The youths were introduced to ADR's MyNeta App of ADR and briefed about its working. Through MyNeta App, we aim to encourage youth and the first-time voters to become an informed and responsible voter.

Location	Date	No. of Participants	Link
Ballavpur, Birbhum (Online)	12-Dec-20	N/A	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/youth-workshop">https://adrindia.org/content/youth-workshop</a>
Ballavpur, Birbhum	26-Jan-21	32	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/youth-workshop-west-bengal-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/youth-workshop-west-bengal-election-watch</a>
Labpur, Birbhum	12-Mar-21	28	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/youth-workshop-west-bengal-election-watch-0">https://adrindia.org/content/youth-workshop-west-bengal-election-watch-0</a>

### ❖ District Level Workshops with Media & Multi-stakeholders:

District Level Workshops with Media & Multi-stakeholders by West Bengal Election Watch					
Event	Date	Location/Platform	Topic	Speaker(s)	Link
Lecture by Dr Ujjaini Halim	19-Aug-20	Webinar	Criminalization of Politics	Dr Ujjaini Halim, State Coordinator WBEW	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/lecture-dr-ujjaini-halim">https://adrindia.org/content/lecture-dr-ujjaini-halim</a>
Webinar by West Bengal Election Watch	28-Feb-21	Facebook Live	Public Awareness on Cyber Security Prior to Election		<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-west-bengal-election-watch">https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-west-bengal-election-watch</a>
Webinar by West Bengal Election Watch	08-Mar-21	Online	Women & Good Governance		<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-west-bengal-election-watch-0">https://adrindia.org/content/webinar-west-bengal-election-watch-0</a>
District Level Workshop with Media	13-Mar-21	Rotary Club, Bolpur	Role of Media During & After Elections and release of ADR's report on Analysis of Recontesting MPs and MLAs who changed Parties Pan India since 2016		<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/district-level-workshop-media">https://adrindia.org/content/district-level-workshop-media</a>

District Level Workshop with Multi-stakeholders	13-Mar-21	Rotary Club, Bolpur	Voter Awareness		<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/district-level-workshop-multi-stakeholders">https://adrindia.org/content/district-level-workshop-multi-stakeholders</a>
Dialogue on Election and Disability Rights	15-Mar-21	Facebook Live	Election and Disability Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Shampa Sengupta, Director, Sruti Disability Rights Centre</li> <li>• Dr Ujjaini Halim, State Coordinator WBEW</li> </ul>	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/dialogue-election-and-disability-rights">https://adrindia.org/content/dialogue-election-and-disability-rights</a>
Dialogue with the Chief Mentor of Durbaar	15-Mar-21	Facebook Live	Challenges faced by Sex Workers during election and in finding their equal space in inclusive governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Kajol Bose, Secretary, Durbaar Mahila Samannay Samiti</li> <li>• Mr Biplab Mukherjee, Programme Officer, Durbaar Mahila Samannay Samiti</li> <li>• Dr Ujjaini Halim, State Coordinator WBEW</li> </ul>	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/dialogue-chief-mentor-durbaar">https://adrindia.org/content/dialogue-chief-mentor-durbaar</a>

#### ❖ Press Conferences:

Date	Location/Platform	Topic	Link
03-Mar-21	Facebook Live	Analysis of Criminal Background, Financial, Education, Gender & other details of Sitting MLAs	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/press-release-facebook-live">https://adrindia.org/content/press-release-facebook-live</a>
09-Mar-21	Facebook Live	Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates & MPs/MLAs since 2004 in West Bengal	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/press-release-facebook-live-0">https://adrindia.org/content/press-release-facebook-live-0</a>
13-Mar-21	Facebook Live	Analysis of Re-contesting MPs & MLAs who Changed Parties Pan-India since 2016	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/press-release-facebook-live-1">https://adrindia.org/content/press-release-facebook-live-1</a>
15-Mar-21	Zoom	Are Elections in India Free & fair?	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/online-press-conference">https://adrindia.org/content/online-press-conference</a>
19-Mar-21	Press Club, Kolkata	Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates for West Bengal Legislative Assembly Elections 2021 Phase - I	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/press-release-west-bengal-elections-phase-i">https://adrindia.org/content/press-release-west-bengal-elections-phase-i</a>
24-Mar-21	Press Club, Kolkata	Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates for West Bengal Legislative Assembly Elections 2021 Phase - II	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/press-release-west-bengal-elections-phase-ii">https://adrindia.org/content/press-release-west-bengal-elections-phase-ii</a>
26-Mar-21	Facebook Live	Analysis of Criminal, Financial, Education, Gender and other Details of Candidates for West Bengal Legislative Assembly Elections 2021 Phase - III	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/press-release-facebook-live-2">https://adrindia.org/content/press-release-facebook-live-2</a>




# West Bengal Election Watch


## WEBINAR

Topic  
Role of RTI in Good Governance


Speakers




**Dr. Ujjaini Halim**  
West Bengal State  
Coordinator, National  
Election Watch




**Amrita Choudhury**  
National Campaign  
for People's Right to  
Information, NCPI




**C Varalakshmi**  
Information & Action for  
People's Rights, IAPR




**Mridul Srivastava**  
Emergent Writer & RTI Activist



**Shivani Kapoor**  
Program Officer, Legal,  
Association for Democratic  
Values, ADV



29TH  
OCTOBER, 2020



04:00 PM  
TO 06:00 PM


## ARE ELECTIONS IN INDIA FREE AND FAIR?

Citizens' Commission  
on Elections answers

Join our  
Online Press Conference

March 15, 2021 at  
03:00 PM IST

Join our Press conference via Zoom-  
<https://zoom.us/j/99025883204?pwd=Im14SkpON0tVRjVleGJwTmxWRWV2Q0T09eetingID:99025883204>
Passcode: 444888


  
**CCE**  
 CITIZENS' COMMISSION  
 ON ELECTIONS

### PUBLIC AWARENESS ON CYBER SECURITY PRIOR TO ELECTION


ORGANIZED BY  
**WEST BENGAL ELECTION WATCH (WBWE)**

Sunday, February 28, 4:00 P.M.

Live stream on Facebook Page  
West Bengal Election Watch



**Suhendu Chakraborty**  
NDA, M.Phil., Computer Science, Ph.D.  
Research Scholar, Jadavpur University, PKC (ATA,  
BUT), CCECC (ATA, BAP), IPRC (ATA, 9535), ATA.



**Dr. Ujjaini Halim**  
State Coordinator, WBEP

## WOMEN & GOOD GOVERNANCE

ORGANIZED BY:  
WEST BENGAL  
ELECTION WATCH  
(WBWE)

02.03.2021  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM






**PROF LAPITA SARKAR**  
FORMER ASSOCIATE  
PROF AT GOKHALE  
MEMORIAL GIRLS  
COLLEGE

**Ms POOJA SHUKLA**  
EMINENT LAWYER

**Ms MEGHNA NANDI**  
CULTURAL ACTIVIST

**Ms TANWI DAS**  
SOCIAL ACTIVIST  
JATRO BANGLA  
SAMMELON

**Ms SABINA YESMIN**  
EMINENT SOCIAL  
WORKER

## WEBINAR

by ADR and West Bengal Election Watch

**TOPIC:** Right to Information  
& Role of Political Parties

**MODERATOR:** Dr Ujjaini  
Halim, West Bengal State  
Coordinator, ADR & NEW

**DATE & TIME:**  
18th November, 2020 - 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM



**Prof. Dr. Prakash Mishra**  
Professor - International Relations,  
Indraprastha University, Delhi



**Shri Ashu Mitta**  
BJP, Indian National Congress (INC)



**Manoj Bhattacharya**  
All India General Secretary, BJP



**Shri Partha Ghosh**  
Chairman, S.P. Jaggi Cell & Adhikari,  
Bachchan High Court



**Mr. Ganesh Kumar (Retd)**  
Retd. ADR & National Election Watch  
(NEW)



**Dr. Subramaniam Muthuswamy**  
Former Minister, Emergent Professor &  
Chairman



# Information Technology

**About:** Along the years, ADR has expanded its Information Technology to streamline its data analysis and multiplied its communication initiatives by incorporating cutting-edge technologies to not only disseminate the information, but also to establish a broad base for the outreach on the ground.

## **Activities of the IT Team:**

- 1. Multiple Webservers for Load Handling:** ADR has been using multiple web servers for hosting [myneta.info](http://myneta.info) website for load balancing. Our aim of load balancing is to optimize the use of resources available, maximize throughput, minimize response time, and avoid overload of any single resource. Instead of using a single web server, load balancing takes advantage of multiple servers, by increasing the architecture availability and reliability.
- 2. Application Program Interfaces (APIs):** Ahead of every State Assembly Elections, ADR generates APIs for media houses/organisations for the dissemination of data related to the candidates' background in secure and reliable manner. These APIs are used for querying candidates' information from a constituency of interest. Apart from their research, media houses display the details of the candidates on their website in engaging ways to draw the attention of the voters, hence, facilitating our aim to encourage voters to be an informed voter.
- 3. Migration of Sites from Jaguar PC to OVH:** ADR migrated its server from Jaguar PC to OVH. The reasons behind this server migration were security concerns, replacement of equipment and many other factors.
- 4. Upgrade of Election Watch Software (EWS) Tool:** Developments were made in the existing EWS tool. Major changes were incorporated in the reporting section of the tool due to Server Migration.

5. **Configuration of 80G-Enabled Payment Pages Receipts via Razorpay:** ADR has introduced an automatic technique to share the receipt of the donation payment with donors via email. An auto-generated reference number is added by Razorpay along with ADR's uniquely identified reference number.

Link: [https://pages.razorpay.com/ADR\\_donation\\_page](https://pages.razorpay.com/ADR_donation_page)

6. **Exclusive Webpages for State Assembly Elections 2020-2021:** For all the State Assembly Elections in FY 2020-21, dedicated webpages were created to list the related reports:

- i. **Bihar Elections 2020:** <https://adrindia.org/content/bihar-assembly-elections-2020>
- ii. **State Assembly Elections 2021:** <https://adrindia.org/content/state-assembly-election-2021>

7. **Revamped Political Party Watch Reports Section: Registered Unrecognised Parties** was introduced on the Political Party Watch (PPW) Report webpage; this section covers reports, brief write-ups and links on the same. The user interface of all the six different types of PPW reports were updated on [adrindia.org](https://adrindia.org). For easy understanding and accessibility, two tabs were added to each report webpage which facilitate the toggling between reports & related infographics.

Report Webpage Name	Link
Political Party Watch	<a href="https://adrindia.org/research-and-report/political-party-watch">https://adrindia.org/research-and-report/political-party-watch</a>
Registered Unrecognised Parties	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/registered-unrecognised-parties-report">https://adrindia.org/content/registered-unrecognised-parties-report</a>
Donation Report	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/donation-report">https://adrindia.org/content/donation-report</a>
Income and Expenditure	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/income-and-expenditure-report">https://adrindia.org/content/income-and-expenditure-report</a>
Electoral Bond	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/electoral-bonds">https://adrindia.org/content/electoral-bonds</a>
Election Expenditure	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/election-expenditure-report">https://adrindia.org/content/election-expenditure-report</a>
Electoral Trust	<a href="https://adrindia.org/content/electoral-trust-report">https://adrindia.org/content/electoral-trust-report</a>

8. **ADR Stats Website:** To make electoral data available in visually appealing and engaging format using cutting-edge visualization tools, ADR created a webpage for the voters, media and researchers. The webpage aims to show trends, patterns and outliers of the data collated and studied over the last several years by ADR. These data are on candidates' background details, election expenditure, political party finance, electoral bonds etc. This platform is an open source which strives to empower Indian voters with election-related information.

9. **MyNeta Android App:** On National Voters' Day (25th January 2021), ADR and National Election Watch launched the upgraded "MyNeta" android application. This app is the mobile version of ADR's website, myneta.info, which is an open access repository platform run by ADR. It aims to empower Indian voters and encourage them to be an informed voter with the following election-related information:

- **Criminal, Financial, Educational, Income & Profession** details of the Candidate/MP/MLA of your constituency
- **Income/Expenditure** of and **Donations** received by National, Regional & other Political Parties of India

The updated app has following new features/improvements:

- Improvement in the user interface
- Addition of new sections such as Political Party Donations, Income/Expenditure analysis and Unrecognized Party
- Introduction of filters and master search features for the Political Party data
- Introduction of data sharing option on social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and WhatsApp; the earlier version only allowed data sharing via email and SMS
- Updation of Privacy Policy, Data Policy and Frequently Asked Questions
- Updation of ADR's contact information

10. **Certificate Generator for Events organised by ADR:** To ensure maximum participation in the youth-related voter awareness webinars/workshops/competitions, ADR provides certificate of participation/appreciation. Generating certificates for each individual is a cumbersome task and to overcome this challenge, ADR opted Certificate Generator which has automated this process.

- 11. ADR Speaks Podcast:** In June 2020, ADR launched its Podcast Channel called ADR Speaks. It is a podcast series on issues related to electoral & political reforms. The episodes focus on the findings of ADR reports analysing background details of candidates, sources of political parties' income, election expenditure, Electoral Bonds etc. In these episodes, ADR breaks down key findings of its reports for simple understanding & accessibility to the general public, enabling them to make an informed choice. In FY 2020-21, 18 topics have been covered via ADR Speaks in English, Hindi and other vernaculars.  
Link: <https://adrindia.org/content/adr-speaks-podcast>
- 12. 20 Years of ADR:** To showcase ADR's efforts in bringing electoral and political reforms since its inception, in February 2021, ADR designed a webpage called "20 Years of ADR". The webpage highlights the initiatives, projects, reports, research, voter awareness activities, legal advocacy, and achievements of ADR.  
Link: <https://adrindia.org/content/bihar-assembly-elections-2020>
- 13. MailChimp:** To upgrade the communication between ADR and its stakeholders, ADR releases monthly newsletters, podcast newsletters, and event announcement via MailChimp, an email marketing platform.  
Link: <https://adrindia.org/content/adr-newsletter>
- 14. StreamYard:** To organise webinars, online press conferences/workshops/talks etc., ADR opted StreamYard. It is a live streaming studio which helps in streaming live events directly and simultaneously on ADR's Facebook and YouTube pages. In FY 2020-21, seven live events were organised by ADR via StreamYard.
- 15. GuideStar Rating for ADR:** In November 2020, ADR was awarded with the **GuideStar India Transparency Key**, which is valid till 31st December 2021. **GuideStar India** is India's largest and most reliable NGO information repository.  
Link: <https://guidestarindia.org.in/Summary.aspx?CCReg=11352>



## Our Achievements

- **Re-affirming ADR's mission on de-criminalization of electoral politics:** With a view to assist the Hon'ble High Court in a suo motu PIL to monitor the progress of criminal cases against MPs and MLAs of Karnataka, ADR had submitted data pertaining to criminal cases against MPs and MLAs before the Amicus Curiae appointed by the High Court.
- **Re-affirming ADR's mission on bringing transparency in electoral practices:** To ensure efficient, transparent, rational and robust mechanism of declaration of election results, ADR and Common Cause filed a petition in the Supreme Court of India to seek directions from the SC to order the Election Commission of India to completely stop the practice of announcing election results based on provisional and estimated data, prior to an actual and accurate reconciliation of data.
- **Re-affirming ADR's mission on bringing transparency in electoral practices:** ADR filed a petition in the Supreme Court challenging the Constitutional validity of the current practice adopted by the government in appointment of Members of the Election Commission.
- **Mera Vote Mera Desh Campaign:** ADR along with National Election Watch managed to run a successful nation-wide Mera Vote Mera Desh campaign in several states covering numerous districts. **More than 100 online and offline events were organized** in FY 2020-21.
- **Election Watch Reports:** Election Watch released 34 reports and analyzed 5021 candidates.
- **Political Party Watch Reports:** Political Party Watch released 17 reports and analyzed 636 political parties.
- **ADR's Social Media Presence:** In FY 2020-21, ADR received around **2.8 million impressions** on Twitter, YouTube and Facebook.
- **ADR's Media Coverage:** In FY 2020-21, ADR's data was cited/quoted in **over 1320 online coverage both in regional and national coverage**. ADR participated in **7+ debates** which were broadcasted on various national and regional news channels.



- **Website Traffic:** The **website traffic** for users increased during FY 2020-21 by 15.18% with a total of over **9.1 million users** for myneta.info. MyNeta website garnered over **9.15 million new users** during FY 2020-21 which is higher than 7.9 million new users MyNeta website acquired in FY 2019-20.
- **Youth Engagement:** Under ADR's Youth Outreach Programme, 'Hum Badlenge Apna Bharat', ADR with the National Election Watch **reached out to thousands (offline & online) youths**.
- **Voters Reached:** During State Assembly Elections 2020 & 2021, ADR & National Election Watch via collaborations, media and other voter awareness activities **reached out to more than one crore voters**.

## Donations by ADR during COVID-19 Lockdown

**D**ue to the lockdown in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic, many lives were disrupted. ADR team pooled in voluntary donations & organisation's fund in supporting NGOs engaged in distributing cooked food packets and rations to marginalised and underserved communities in Bangalore & NCR.



# About ADR

## Our Trustees



Prof. Trilochan Sastry  
Founder Member, Trustee & Chairman of ADR  
Professor, IIM Bangalore



Prof. Jagdeep S. Chhokar  
Founder Member & Trustee of ADR  
Former Professor, Dean & Director In-charge,  
IIM Ahmedabad



Dr. Ajit Ranade  
Founder Member & Trustee of ADR  
Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group



Dr. Kiran B. Chhokar  
Trustee of ADR  
Programme Director, Higher Education,  
Centre for Environment Education (CEE)



Ms. Kamini Jaiswal  
Trustee of ADR  
Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India,  
Secretary, Center for Public Interest  
Litigation



Mr. Jaskirat Singh  
Trustee of ADR  
Founder & CEO, Webrosoft Solutions INC



Dr. Vipul Mudgal  
Trustee of ADR  
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

Our Founders at the time of founding ADR in 1999 were:

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)
5. Devanath Tirupati (Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad)
6. Brij Kothari (Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad)
7. Pankaj Chandra (Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad)
8. Rajesh Agarwal (Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad)
9. P.R. Shukla (Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad)
10. Prem Pangotra (Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad)
11. Sudarshan Khanna - Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad

## Our Supporters

The various activities carried out in FY 2020-21 were made possible through the support of individuals and organizations. We gratefully acknowledge the financial, material, moral and technical support of the following donors:

### **Lal Family Foundation**

Core 4A, 5th floor  
India Habitat Centre Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi - 110003

### **Omidyar Network Fund Inc**

1991, Broadway St.,  
Suite 200, Redwood City,  
CA 94063, USA

### **Thakur Family Foundation Inc**

100, First Ave North,  
Ste 3603, St Petersburg,  
FL 33701, USA

## Financial Status

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2021

FUND & LIABILITIES	Rs.	Rs.	PROPERTY AND ASSETS	Rs.	Rs.
Trust Funds or Corpus : Balance as per last Balance Sheet.		32,174,000.00	Immovable properties :		
Contribution from Founder Members-Opening		6,000.00	Computer : (At Cost) (Fcra)-Op.		1,946,349.00
Other Earmarked Funds : (Created under the provisions of the Trust Deed of Scheme or out of the income)			Furniture & Fixtures : (At Cost) (Fcra)-Op.		401,090.00
Ford Fixed Assets Fund (Fcra)Op. Balance:		1,324,886.00	Office Equipment : (At Cost) (Fcra)-Op.		646,522.00
Hivos Fixed Assets Fund(fcra) : Op. Balance		609,867.00	Electrical Fittings : (At Cost) (Fcra)-Op.		3,285.00
Sdtt Fixed Assets Fund (Local) : Op. Balance		307,787.00	Computer : (At Cost) (Local) Balance as per last Balance Sheet	1,141,601.30	
Fixed Assets Fund - Local : Op. Balance	1,966,982.28		Additions during the year	274,257.43	1,415,858.78
Add: Addition/deletion during the year(Net)	294,605.48	2,261,587.76	Furniture & Fixtures:(At Cost) (Local)-Op.		295,517.00
ADR Fixed Assets Fund - (Fcra) : Op. Balance		1,062,493.00	Office Equipment : (At Cost) (Local) Balance as per last Balance Sheet	548,446.98	
Depreciation Fund : (Fcra)			Additions during the year - Local	20,348.00	568,794.98
Computer	1,771,058.00		Electrical Fittings:(At Cost) (Local)-Op.		289,204.00
Furniture	182,001.00		Investments :		
Office Equipment	390,042.00		In Fixed Deposit Account with HDFC Bank - General Fund	24,281,512.82	
Electrical Fittings	1,052.00	2,344,153.00	HDFC Bank - Corpus Fund	33,555,828.58	57,837,341.40
Depreciation Fund : (Local)			Advances :		
Computer	987,543.00		To Project Advances	30,080.00	
Furniture	116,383.00		To Other Advances	20,050.00	
Office Equipment	264,827.00		To Staff Advances	22,224.00	
Electrical Fittings	99,455.00	1,488,208.00	To Prepaid Expenses	109,239.17	181,593.17
Grants :-			To TDS Earlier Years	1,201,357.10	
Thakur Family Foundation Grant			Add: TDS F.Y 20-21	206,018.61	1,407,375.71
Received during the year	2,187,851.12		Security Deposits:- Opening Balance		450,000.00
Less: Utilised during the year	(1,295,538.00)	892,313.12	(i) Cash And Bank Balances-		
Omidyar Network Grant			In Current/Savings Account with :		
Received during the year	11,360,000.00		HDFC Bank - 50100131483489	6,217,304.84	
Less: Utilised during the year	(1,964,839.62)	9,395,160.38	HDFC S/B-16651450000035	779,731.83	
Liabilities :			HDFC S/B Utilisation -16651450000028	1,762,260.13	
Duties & Taxes	173,878.00		PNB S/B A/c -3093000117477093	10,669.34	8,769,986.14
Sundry Creditors	1,251,433.30		(ii) Cash in hand - Local		1,000.00
Staff Expenses Payable	357,174.00				
Employee Gratuity Payable	2,157,660.00				
Annual Membership Fee (Advance)	1,500.00				
Provisions for Expenses	10,747.30	3,952,392.60			
Income and expenditure Account :					
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	28,387,606.33				
Less : Deficit as per Income & Exp A/c	(9,972,557.01)	18,415,049.32			
Total		74,213,897.18	Total		74,213,897.18



**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 2021**

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-4		3,260,377.62
			By Voluntary Contributions Donation Received		6,728,335.00
			By Interest on Bank Deposits Interest on FDRs Saving Bank Interest	2,758,573.02 49,614.00	2,808,187.02
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 Misc. Income	3,500.00 449.48	3,949.48
To Depreciation : - Depreciation on Computer/printer Depreciation on Furniture & Fixtures Depreciation on Office Equipments Depreciation on Electrical Fittings Income Applied to Fixed Assets	310,986.00 44,245.00 97,106.00 21,332.00 294,605.48	766,274.48	By Excess of Expenditure over Income transferred to Balance Sheet		9,972,557.01
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 Covid-19 Relief Exp.- Annexure-3	- - - - 8,967,872.68 12,537,256.97 500,000.00	22,005,131.65			
Total		22,773,406.13	Total		22,773,406.13

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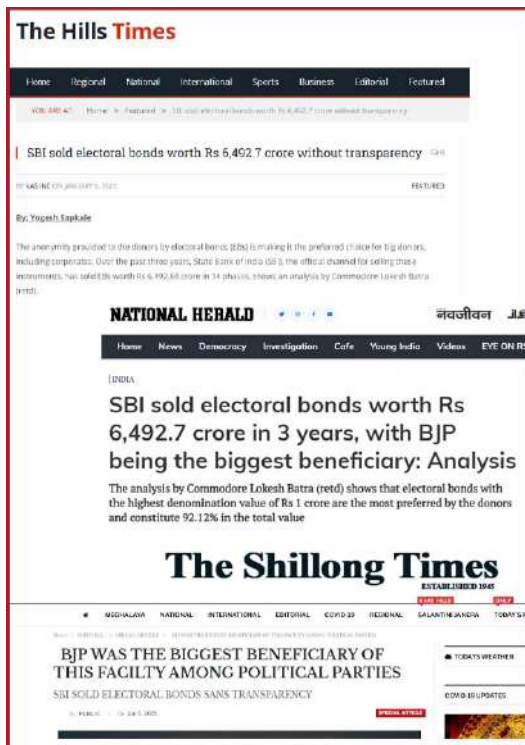
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## Press Coverage







# Association for Democratic Reforms and National Election Watch present

## THE UPGRADED **MYNETA APP**



### Download Today

To be more informed about your Neta and be a part of our  
**#MeraVoteMeraDesh** Campaign



Scan the QR code to download

### Association for Democratic Reforms

Address: T-95, CL House, 2nd Floor, Near Gulmohar Commercial Complex, Gautam Nagar, Landmark: Green Park Metro Station, New Delhi 110 049, Tel: 011-4165 4200 / 01 / 02 / 03 / 04  
Fax: 011-4609 4248, E-mail: [adr@adrindia.org](mailto:adr@adrindia.org)  
Website: [www.adrindia.org](http://www.adrindia.org), [www.myneta.info](http://www.myneta.info)  
Journalist Helpline No.- 8010394248

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|  <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/association-for-democratic-reforms">/company/association-for-democratic-reforms</a> |  |