

## Theme

**‘15<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms’** will be inaugurated by the Chief Election Commissioner of India, Shri Sunil Arora, on 02<sup>nd</sup> March, 2019 at 10 AM at Deendayal Upadhyaya State Institute of Rural Development, Lucknow. The event will see discussions on major issues related to electoral and political reforms such as role of Judiciary, Media, Information Technology and Youth in Governance along with presentations by State Coordinators of ADR on successful election campaigns.

## Brief Introduction of the Event

The **‘15<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms’** of **Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR)** is being jointly organized with **Uttar Pradesh Election Watch (UPEW)** on 02<sup>nd</sup> and 03<sup>rd</sup> March, 2019 at Deendayal Upadhyaya State Institute of Rural Development, Lucknow.

ADR, a citizen led, non-political and non-governmental organization, has been working for around two decades with the objective of bringing electoral and political reforms, so as to improve democracy and governance in India. **UPEW** is the Uttar Pradesh chapter of the National Election Watch (NEW), a congregation of over 1200 Civil Society Groups across the country. ADR conducts this event in a different state capital every year. The National Conference is an opportunity for us to add impetus and synergy to our work by bringing together all stakeholders.

The Chief Election Commissioner of India, Shri Sunil Arora, has consented to be the Chief Guest and give the keynote address on 02<sup>nd</sup> March, 2019. Representatives of the National Election Watch from each State Chapter, members of political parties, government institutions and media will be present to deliberate on issues related to electoral and political reform in the country.

Some of the major topics of discussion will be- “Electoral and Political Reforms: A lack of political will?, Electoral and Political Reforms and the Role of Judiciary, Electoral Bonds and Financial Opacity: Way towards transparency, Local and Urban governance (Inputs from UP Partner), Information and Communication Technology for Better Governance, and Role of Youth & Voter Awareness: In preparation for Lok Sabha 2019.”