About ADR and National Election Watch.

Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) was established in August 1999 by a group of Professors from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad. Based on a PIL filed by ADR in 1999, Supreme Court in 2002 made disclosure of criminal, financial and educational background mandatory for candidates contesting elections.

The National Election Watch (NEW) is a nationwide campaign comprising of more than 1200 NGOs and other citizen led organizations working together on electoral reforms, improving democracy and governance in India. It is active in almost all states of India and has done election watch for all states and Lok Sabha elections.

What we do?

ADR, in its quest for improving governance and strengthening democracy, is implementing activities, that can be broadly categorized under two programs -

• Electoral Process Reform
• Political Process Reform

Our major achievements.

• Percentage of candidates with pending criminal cases came down from 20% to 14% in the assembly elections held in 2008 in 5 states of the country.

• Election Watch in November 2005 in Bihar resulted in, for the first time, in formation of a Council of Ministers without any known criminal record.

• A large number of candidates with serious pending cases that contested Lok Sabha 2009 elections like Pappu Yadav, Atiq Ahmed, Mukhtar Ansari, Akhilesh Singh, etc. lost.

• The number of total serious IPC sections against MPs decrease from 296 in Lok Sabha 2004 to 274 in Lok Sabha 2009.

Current focus Area.

We have data of over 50,000 candidates, self-declared by the candidates themselves under Supreme Court order. Our software tool processes this data and churns out reports that tells you how good or how bad is your neta.

Take a look at www.myneta.info to learn more.

We believe that a lot more can be achieved by enhancing the capabilities of the software tool. At the same time, we continue to add and refine our data repository by filing RTI’s and verifying data from various government bodies. Lot more questions can be asked and lot more facts can be presented. We are working hard to realize the same.

What we need?

Sharp young minds to collaborate in our efforts, be it in the form of internship or volunteering.

Period.

Candidates must be able to commit at least two months of their time.

Skills.

Candidates with interest in Web programming (PHP, SQL and the likes) may assist our software team.

Candidates with excellent communication skills (both English and Hindi) may assist our political analysis team.

How to apply?

Send an email to volunteers@adrindia.org with your resume, specifying your core skill and contact details. Do mention Internship or Volunteering in the subject line.

Volunteers/Interns needed..!