

ONGOING MURDER OF INDIAN DEMOCRACY – LET US WAKE UP AND STOP IT.

(A handbook for all people who want to save Indian Democracy)

ಕನ್ನಡ ಭಾರತೀಯರು



Kannada Indians

“ಪ್ರತಿ ಮಗು, ಮಹಿಳೆ, ಮತ್ತು ಪುರುಷ,
ಬಡತನದ ಹೊರೆಯಿಲ್ಲದೆ,
ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ದಬ್ಬಾಳಿಕೆ ಇಲ್ಲದೆ,
ಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಅರಳುವ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕವನ್ನೂ, ಭಾರತವನ್ನೂ,
ಕಟ್ಟೋಣ.”



ಡಾ. ರಮೇಶ್ ಬೆಲ್ಲಂಕೊಂಡ

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**ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಭಾರತೀಯರಿಗೂ ನ್ಯಾಯಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕನ್ನಡ ಭಾರತೀಯರು
Kannada Indians for Justice for All Indians**

PREFACE:

SO MUCH IS BEING SAID ABOUT SIR AND ITS PROBLEMS

AS A DOCTOR, I SEE THAT MOST PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS, BUT NOT OF THE ACTUAL DISEASE AND ITS ROOT CAUSE.

BJP APPOINTS ELECTION COMMISSIONERS AND ELECTION COMMISSIONERS DECLARE BJP AS WINNERS IN ELECTIONS.

UNDER PRESENT SIR, AND PRESENT SYSTEM OF CHOOSING ELECTION COMMISSIONERS, INDIAN DEMOCRACY WHICH IS PRESENTLY IN A COMA AND ON A VENTILATOR IN THE ICU, IS RAPIDLY APPROACHING IRREVERSIBLE DEATH.

PRESENT ELECTION COMMISSIONERS SHOULD BE FORCED TO RESIGN.

PEOPLE SHOULD DECLARE AND CARRY OUT AN OPEN FORMAL PEACEFUL NON-VIOLENT NON-COOPERATION REBELLION AGAINST THE PRESENT METHOD OF CHOOSING ELECTION COMMISSIONERS.

WE NEED A NEW METHOD OF CHOOSING IMPARTIAL HONEST ELECTION COMMISSIONERS. NEW HONEST ELECTIONS NEED TO BE HELD TO THE PARLIAMENT AND ALL STATE ASSEMBLIES.

ONLY THIS, CAN THEN BE THE PATH TO RECOVERY FOR THIS PATIENT CALLED INDIAN DEMOCRACY.

GOOD LUCK. WE NEED IT.

21st April 2026**ONGOING MURDER OF INDIAN DEMOCRACY –****LET US WAKE UP AND STOP IT.**

For the last many years, Indian Democracy is being progressively dismantled and has been severely damaged. We are now witnessing a horrific phase in this ongoing murder of democracy, in the form of SIR (Special Intensive Review). In this note, we will look at SIR in particular, along with a few other recent murderous assaults on our democracy.

BJP SELECTS ELECTION COMMISSIONERS, AND THE ELECTION COMMISSIONERS HOLD ELECTIONS WITH BJP AS A MAJOR CONTESTANT – IS IT POSSIBLE TO HOLD FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS THIS WAY?

Selection of Election Commissioners in India: Indian Constitution required that the Parliament should make a law on the process of selection of Election Commissioners in India. Pending such a law, **the first Chief Election Commissioner of India was selected in 1950 by the then Prime Minister.** Unfortunately, the same practice continued for many decades, with the Parliament never making the required law. **In 2015, a PIL was filed in the Supreme Court** against this unfair practice. **In March 2023, Supreme Court passed an order,** that pending passage of a suitable law by the Parliament, selection of the Election Commissioners of India should be by a **three (3) Member Committee consisting of the Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition, and the Chief Justice of India.** In response, in **December 2023,** the then BJP majority Indian Parliament passed a law stating that the **Selection of the Election Commissioners of India will be done by a three (3) Member Committee consisting of the Prime Minister, a Cabinet Minister chosen by the Prime Minister, and the Leader of Opposition.** Further, this 2023 law gave complete lifetime immunity to these Election Commissioners for anything they did in the course of their official work. No court can entertain any proceedings against them.

Since 2014, Election Commissioners have all been selected by BJP Party through Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi. BJP party is a major contestant in all elections in India. **IS THIS NOT A MAJOR AND BLATANT CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN ELECTIONS IN INDIA?**

Imagine there is a case in the High Court between You (Party-A) and your Opponent (Party-B). You are arguing that Party-B has to pay 5 Crore Rupees. Party-B is arguing that You have to pay 5 Crore Rupees. If Party-B appoints the Judge to decide this case, will You accept it? Or, If You appoint the Judge to decide this case, do you think Party-B will accept it?

Elections are contests between different political parties/individuals. Do the winners in elections gain anything?

At the national level, Winners get to control some or all of 147 Crore Indians, to varying degrees. They also get to control some or all of the economic activities of India. India's annual GDP is presently about 400 Lakh Crore Rupees (4 trillion US dollars). It is not a secret that there is generally a very high level of Corruption among most political parties, politicians, and the Governments at all levels in the Country. **Dishonest winners get to control and profit from the fruits of such corruption. There is a lot that dishonest winners can get to loot.** "We the People" of India, will be the real losers when elections are not free and fair.

A LOOK AT THE CONDUCT OF ECI (Election Commission of India)**IN 2024 LOK SABHA ELECTIONS**

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Many people believed that Parliament elections 2024 schedule was designed in a way that favored BJP. Further, during election campaigns, many people believed that ECI was very lenient towards BJP in matters of violations of Code of Conduct, and much harsher towards Opposition parties. The most startling allegations however came when **“Vote for Democracy”** analyzed the ECI announced polling percentages at the end of day of polling versus the final figures announced several days later. There were huge increases in the final figures several days later, compared to initial end of day figures. ECI never bothered to meaningfully explain the reasons.

“VOTE FOR DEMOCRACY” REPORT ON 2024 Lok Sabha ELECTIONS: On 22nd July 2024, a group called “Vote for Democracy” made a Press Release of its 222 page detailed report showing how there was **“vote manipulation”** and **“misconduct during voting and counting”** and **how in a minimum of 79 Lok Sabha seats in 15 States, BJP and NDA benefited from this manipulation** and prima facie this led to a stealing of mandate of the people. ECI had behaved not only in a partisan way favoring BJP and NDA, but in a very mysterious fashion in how it was releasing figures on the total number of votes cast in the elections in different Parliamentary Constituencies.

As per principles of free and fair elections, the figures on the number of people who voted should be released immediately upon conclusion of voting. This would be a very basic requirement. Voting typically closes at 5 pm or 6 pm in the evening. Election rules require that the number of votes cast in each booth should be released by the BLO in writing to the BLAs, signed by the BLO and BLAs (Form 17C). Ethics would require that this information should be made publicly available, soon after that. With current day technology, the total votes cast in each Parliamentary Constituency can be easily compiled and published the same evening. After further verification if necessary, there can be a confirmation of the figures as ‘final’, the same evening or the next morning at the latest. If there is any mismatch between the initial end of day figures and the ‘final’ figures, ethics would require that a proper transparent and detailed explanation should be publicly released. ECI did not follow such a process.

2024 Parliamentary Elections were held in seven (7) Phases. On each day in each phase, at about 7 pm, ECI released the figures for total votes cast on that day, but without details of Constituency wise and booth wise figures. They only released the votes cast in each phase in each state as a percentage of the total voters in the voter rolls. After Phase-1, they released the “final” figures eleven (11) days later. For subsequent phases, they released “final” figures for such voting three to five (3 to 5) days after the initial figures released on the voting day. The final figures were also only as a percentage of the total voters enrolled. And there were HUGE discrepancies between the “initial” figures released on the day of voting, and the “final” figures released after a gap of many days as above. ECI offered no meaningful explanation as to why such discrepancies had to be there. After all, to give the end of day voting figures, there has to be a dependable method for ECI to gather and collate the voting numbers from each booth. If ‘No’, how does ECI come up with end of day voting figures? If ‘Yes’, why should there be discrepancies between ‘end of day’ figures and “final” figures? **Ideally, there should be zero discrepancies.** If discrepancies do occur, they would have to be minor and should have valid explanations. ECI had no meaningful explanations. Using these discrepancies and other publicly available data, the VFD report estimated that a minimum of about 79 Parliamentary seats have perhaps been improperly “won” by BJP and NDA in 2024, thus improperly leading to BJP led NDA to form the present Government of the Union of India.

Between the initial end of day figures and the “final” figures, there were always increases in the number of votes cast. In some states, the increase was as much as 10% or more of the votes polled as per initial end of day figures. **A total of about 5 Crore (seemingly fake) votes were added this way.** Does it not raise serious questions of manipulated election results? In many states, the average increase in votes per parliamentary constituency was between one to two lakh votes. In many cases, the margin of winning was less than the average increase in voting figures between the initial end of day voting figures and “final” voting figures, further indicating that the final results have been very substantially affected by these ‘discrepancies’ between initial and final voting figures. These increases in the final figures have very substantially benefited BJP led NDA.

**INCREDIBLE CONDUCT OF ECI (Election Commission of India) in
ANDHRA PRADESH (AP) ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS CUM PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS IN 2024**

In a recent deep Analysis of voting figures at different times, based entirely on the public announcements of ECI and Andhra Pradesh CEO (“Chief Electoral Officer” who represents ECI at the state level) some unbelievable information has come to light. This incisive analysis was recently done by renowned Indian Economist, Political Commentator, and Author Dr Parakala Prabhakar based in Hyderabad (who also happens to be the husband of Indian Finance Minister Ms. Nirmala Sitaraman), and brought to light all over the country.

In 2024, Parliament Elections and Assembly Elections were held simultaneously in Andhra Pradesh. Each voter in each booth therefore went into the voting booth, showed the voter ID, had the name checked in the electoral roll, signed or gave a thumb impression in the voting register, got an indelible ink marked on the finger, then cast a vote in one EVM for Assembly election and voted in a separate EVM right next to it, for Parliament elections, and then came out of the voting booth. The next voter would go through the same process, and so on, till all voters have voted.

Voting started at 7 am and the gates for the polling booth premises were to be closed at 6 pm. If any voters had entered the premises but were still waiting to vote at 6 pm, they would wait in a line and voting would continue till all of them had voted.

In AP, NDA won in 21 of 25 Lok Sabha seats, and 164 out of 175 AP Assembly seats.

There were a **total of 46,389 booths in AP**, with an **average of 891 voters per booth**.

Total registered voters in AP were 4,13,33,702 (Four Crore Thirteen Lakh Thirty Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Two. (as per Wikipedia)

AP CEO had announced that as of 5 pm that day (13th May 2024), 68.04% had voted, and a large number of people were still waiting to vote. ECI later announced that as of 8 pm (three hours later) same day, that the voter turnout was 68.12% (increase of 0.08% in 3 these hours around closing time, for all booths total). Later, as of 11.45 pm on the same day, as per ECI press note, the voter turnout was 76.5% (increase of 8.38% in these 3 hours 45’, long after closing time, for all booths total). As of 11.45 pm, the AP CEO had declared that polling was still going on in 3,500 booths. The next day, that is on 14th of May 2024, the AP CEO had announced that the last vote was cast in the state at 2 am on 14th May 2024. Final voting percentage in the state as announced by ECI in its press note of 17th May 2024 was 80.66% (an increase of 4.16% of the total AP electorate, in these 2 hours and 15’, very long after closing time, with voting happening in 3,500 booths during this time, in the mid-night of May 13th – 14th). This raises many questions on the facts of what actually happened and how they happened, as below;

- 4.16% of total AP electorate comes to $(4,13,33,702 * 4.16\%) = 17,19,482$ (Seventeen Lakh Nineteen Thousand Four Hundred Eight Two). Did these many voters really cast their vote in the middle of the night between 11.45 pm and 2 am on May 13th – 14th, in 3,500 booths? Were they able to go home safely after that?
- Did the above voters wait in line from 6 pm (when the polling station gates close) till mid-night or lon-

ger, for up to 6 to 8 hours, to vote, in these 3,500 booths? Did they need to sit on chairs, lie down on cots or floor, and to eat their dinner etc during these 6 to 8 hours? Did they manage it all ok?

- 17,19,482 in 3,500 booths comes to an average of 491 votes per booth in these 3,500 booths in 2 hours and 15' (135 minutes) between 11.45 pm and 2 am. This comes to an average of 3.6 votes cast per minute in each of the 3,500 booths in question. This comes to an average of 17 seconds exclusive time per voter, to cast 2 votes – one for the Assembly election, and one for the Parliament election. Further, each time a voter votes, there is a 7 second dead time while the VVPAT slip is showing and the voter has to wait there and check the VVPAT slip. The 2 votes (1 for Assembly and 1 for Parliament) results in a total dead time of (7 +7 =) 14 seconds, of the above 17 seconds. This leaves only 3 seconds of exclusive time inside the booth, for all associated movements and waiting etc, for the voter. Is it physically possible to vote like this?
- While above are average calculations, if some booths had less voters, then some other booths had to have even more than 491 voters per booth, with even less time than 17 seconds exclusive time per voter. Makes it even harder to believe.
- ECI's own rules require that if voting is not completed by poll closing time, the following procedures need to be followed;
 - Gates to the polling station must be closed so that no new person can enter.
 - Those waiting in line must be given tokens with number 1 being given to the last person in the line, and the highest number being given to the person closest to the booth.
 - A video must be made of the voters waiting in line at each booth, showing the faces of the waiting voters clearly.
 - Voters have to give their token to the Presiding Officer when they enter the booth to vote.
 - Presiding Officer has to record the entire process carried out, in his/her diary
 - All of the above (tokens, videos, presiding officer's diary, etc) have to be preserved for later verification.

ECI should transparently make all this evidence available in the interest of credibility of the voting process. SADLY, ECI HAS BEEN SILENT, WITHOUT RESPONDING TO ANY OF THE QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS RAISED BY DR PARAKALA, as of this writing.

From the 68.12% voter turnout reported at 8 pm on 13th May to the 80.66% voter turnout declared by ECI four days later on 17th May 2026, it is **an increase of 51,83,246 (Fifty One Lakh Eighty Three Thousand Two Hundred Forty Six) votes** as reported by ECI. **Why this increase? ECI has been silent.**

Visible result of this conduct of ECI however, is that NDA "won" 21 of 25 Parliamentary seats from AP, and it also won 164 out of 175 Assembly seats.

ECI IS NOW CONDUCTING SIR (SPECIAL INTENSIVE REVIEW)

– AND IT IS MISLEADING, ARBITRARY, AND PRIMA FACIE UNCONSTITUTIONAL

SIR IS NOT A REVISION AT ALL: SIR IS A COMPLETE TERMINATION OF EXISTING VOTER LIST AND CREATION OF A NEW VOTER LIST. Existing voter ID cards automatically becomes invalid. By calling it a "revision", *ECI is misleading ordinary people.*

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In a true revision, if a name has to be deleted, ECI has to give a notice to the person to be deleted. There will be a hearing, there will be an order, and the order can be appealed against. In SIR, there is no such thing.

SIR NOW REQUIRES A NEW ENROLLMENT FORM TO BE SUBMITTED, ALONG WITH NEW DOCUMENTS, TO BE A VOTER IN THE FUTURE:

If you do not apply to get your name in the new voter list, that is, if you do not submit a completed “enumeration form”, within a certain date that they announce, which will be less than 30 days from the day you get the form, your name will automatically be absent in the new list. There will be No Notice, No Hearing, No Order, No Appeal, Nothing. You will no longer be a voter. **IT WILL BE LIKE DELETING WITHOUT DUE PROCESS.** For those who lose their voting rights this way, what will be the remedial options, when can they again become voters, if at all, is not clear as of now.

All this is arbitrary and prima facie unconstitutional.

SIR Has Never Been Done Before: Whenever ECI has said that SIR has been done many times in the past, ***ECI has been lying to the Indian Public.***

Voter list revisions have been happening **yearly and before elections (summary revisions)** routinely, with the exact same stated intentions as above. If the election commission gets information of above changes (absence, shifting out, death, or duplicate, or a new voter over 18 years of age or a person shifting in), as per rules to handle such information, the Election Commission agents update the voter lists, following certain set procedures.

About every ten (10) years or so, “**Intensive revisions**” have been done where the **election commission agents go house to house with the existing voter lists, to thoroughly check and update them**, again following certain set procedures to ensure fairness to all.

A key feature of all revisions since 1950 till now, was that if a person has been a voter in a place, and is living in the same place, such person continues to be a voter in the same place without doing anything. **For such a voter, there has never been a need to fill any form whatsoever, to simply continue to be a voter in the same place.**

The following 2 things have NEVER happened in India before;

- An existing voter has never been asked to give an application to continue to be on the voter list
- An existing voter has never been asked to provide proof of Indian Citizenship (India has never given Citizenship Certificates to people before, making it incorrect for ECI to demand proof of citizenship from voters).

TOTALLY UNREALISTICALLY COMPRESSED TIME FRAME FOR SIR: On ground, the SIR is supposed to be carried out by one Booth Level Officer (BLO) in each booth which typically will have about a thousand voters. The BLO is supposed to go door to door and give a form (“Enrollment Form”) to each voter in the first round, then go on a second round to explain how to fill the form, what documents to submit, and to help each voter as needed to properly complete the form. BLO is supposed to go on a third round to collect those forms and documents, and upload that information via

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a BLO app that the ECI would give to BLOs. ALL OF THIS HAS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE BLO WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS.

BLOs are local school teachers or anganwadi workers or anyone that the ECI appoints. Many BLOs find this work very difficult or impossible to do properly and accurately in the given time. Many take shortcuts. Many make mistakes. Some have committed suicide due to the pressures involved.

AS PART OF THE PROCESS OF ENROLLMENT, EACH VOTER IN THE 2025 /2026 VOTER LIST HAS TO SHOW WHERE THE VOTER'S NAME WAS, IN 2002 VOTER LIST, IF HE/SHE WAS A VOTER IN 2002. If a voter's name cannot be detected in the 2002 voter list, then he/she has to prove that he/she is an Indian Citizen (*Note that India has never given any "Certificate of Citizenship" to the people*). Further, depending on the date of birth of the voter whose name cannot be found in 2002 list, the voter may also have to prove that one or both of the voter's parents were Indian Citizens.

Any voter who has not submitted the enrollment form or has failed to submit the required documents in the given time frame, will be automatically "deleted".

After the BLO has uploaded the enrollment forms via the app, ECI will publish a "draft list" of voters. ECI also sends "Notices" to voters asking for additional documents, which again will presumably have to be uploaded by the BLO, and then the ECI will make a decision on what names will appear in the "final" voter list.

As can be readily seen, SIR process is also ***so complicated***, and is being done in ***a highly compressed time line, with highly inadequate arrangements from ECI side***. This is causing a large number of voters to get deleted. This is causing people to be robbed of their voting rights and potentially endangering their Citizenship rights going forward. This conduct is arbitrary on the part of ECI.

As per the constitution, and a Supreme Court ruling in this regard, ECI has to look at proof of adulthood by age and proof of ordinary place of residence only, and assume that such a person is an Indian Citizen unless proven otherwise. ECI by itself, has **no right to demand proof of Indian Citizenship**, and also has **no authority to decide on a person's Citizenship status**. In case of doubts about a person's Citizenship status, ECI has to refer the case to the Home Ministry of India, and Home Ministry has to investigate with all due judicial process.

India has never issued "Citizenship Certificates" to people till date, and as such ECI cannot justly demand proof of Indian Citizenship from a voter.

As can be seen above, SIR being carried out by ECI is arbitrary and unconstitutional.

CRORES OF VOTERS NAMES ARE BEING DELETED:

Over 5 Crore voters names have already been deleted and it is expected that the total number of voters names that will get deleted will be in the ten to fifteen (10 to 15) Crore range.

- In Bihar, 65 Lakh Names were deleted.
- In UP, 2 Crore Ninety Lakh names were deleted.
- In Tamil Nadu, 97 lakh names were deleted.
- In Gujarat, 74 lakh names were deleted.

While many deletions might very well be due to deaths, absent people, people shifting to other places, and due to duplicate entries, a very large number of POOR PEOPLE, MUSLIMS, WOMEN, SCHEDULED CASTES, SCHEDULED TRIBES, are being unfairly excluded due to impractical, faulty, and unlawful processes being used in SIR.

There is presently a case being heard in the Supreme Court in this regard, but it is likely to take many months to many years for a judgement to come. In the meanwhile, the Supreme Court has not stayed implementation of SIR. SIR is going on unchecked. ***As of now, the Supreme Court is failing to protect our democracy in this regard.***

All the noise BJP and ECI made about illegal Bangladeshi voters, is hollow: In Bihar SIR, ECI has failed to release the number of foreigners it found. Civil society investigators, after exhaustive efforts, determined that ECI had found and removed only three (3) confirmed Bangladeshis (“foreigners”) in voter lists, in all of Bihar, out of about 8 Crore voter names.

IN SIR, ECI HAS SAID ONE THING, AND IT IS DOING SOMETHING OPPOSITE.

What ECI says SIR is intended to do: ECI says that the intention is to remove names of dead people, absent people, people who have moved out, or when there are duplicate entries, and also to remove any foreign citizens from the voters’ list. It also says the purpose is to add new voters if they have become 18 years of age, or if voters moved in from somewhere else. **Essentially, to “Purify Voter Lists”.** Stated intentions sound reasonable.

What SIR actually seems to be doing:

1. SIR seems mainly to be an exercise in **deletion of legitimate voters’ names**, targeting voters less likely to vote for BJP. Addition of legitimate names appeared not to be a key purpose.
2. Later reports suggest that **large numbers of fake voters** are perhaps **being added**, to make the ‘net deletions’ less in number.

(A social media video post by MP Mahua Moitra said that thousands of Form-6s were being brought in by BJP workers from outside West Bengal to WB CEO’s office, for addition of new voter names. Piles and piles of thousands of such forms were apparently found in the CEO’s office). This is completely in violation of the applicable rules for addition of new voters. There have been reports of similar addition of apparently fake voters in the past in Maharashtra (40 lakh voters added in 5 months), in Haryana, and in Delhi.

In Bihar, in the first round of SIR, ECI had deleted 65 lakh names, but not even a single name had been added. Later, after persons like Prof Yogendra Yadav raised this issue in the Supreme Court, ECI added 21 lakh names to the Bihar voters list. (to make “Net deletions” 44 lakhs).

In the **“final”** SIR voters’ list in Bihar, Prof Yogendra Yadav showed in the Supreme Court that;

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- There were **5 lakh duplicate voters listed**, and many samples were produced (ECI replied in SC that “they did not have a (de-duplication) software” (to find and remove duplicate names of voters). Prof Yadav submitted in the court that his team used a deduplication software to find and submit the 5 lakh duplicate voter names.
- There were **21 lakh households with more than 10 voters each**. As per Election rules, each such household with more than 10 voters listed, must be visited by the ERO (Electoral Registration Officer) to check and confirm the legitimacy of such voters at such addresses. ECI could not show that this has been checked. Prof Yadav gave a list of 21 lakh such households, each with more than 10 voters in the household.
- **Prof Yadav gave a list of 10 households, each of which had more than 700 voters in it, including one household with 801 votes**. ECI had nothing to say and had no interest in correcting anything.
- Prof Yadav showed that final Bihar voter list had **some voter names printed in Kannada and Tamil**. Prof Yadav showed it in the Supreme Court. ECI had nothing to say.
- Prof Yadav produced **50,000 names in the final list where the name was “e”, “ka”, “xyz”, or some other kind of meaningless thing**, or even a blank with no name at all, no father’s name, etc. ECI had nothing to say.

SADLY, EVEN AFTER PROF YADAV POINTED OUT ALL THE ABOVE IN THE SUPREME COURT, ONE MONTH LATER ECI HELD ELECTIONS IN BIHAR ON EXACTLY THE SAME VOTER LIST.

AS CAN BE SEEN FROM ABOVE, “ECI HAD ZERO INTEREST IN ACTUALLY CLEANING UP THE VOTER LIST”.

Supreme Court is still hearing the SIR case, and it did not order a stay of the Bihar SIR or of the SIR process outside Bihar, in spite of above information being presented to it.

INDIA’S EVM SYSTEMS ARE HIGHLY COMPROMISED

Madhav A. Deshpande is a highly regarded Computer Sciences Scientist and IT systems Specialist with extensive experience in USA and in India. Among many other things, he has served in the past as a Consultant to President Barack Obama’s administration in USA. He has for many years been pointing out to ECI, some glaring deficiencies in how the Indian EVM systems are being used, and how some simple inexpensive measures can make them much more trustworthy. Some simple things he has been asking for, that have not been done by ECI till date are;

- Put in a GPS tracking system in the EVM Control Units, to make them accountable. If the tracker shows that the EVM control unit has been to places where it was not supposed to go, that would then raise a red flag.
- Electronically Pair EVMs and VVPATs (apparently a simple thing to do for experts) at voting time, so that at counting time, it can be cross checked if they are the same EVM and VVPAT as were electronically paired earlier.
- Use “**Checksum**”, an **electronic lock**, to ensure **Data Integrity** as the data moves from ballot unit to control unit, then to VVPAT and back to Control unit, and again as the data is carried between the time of voting, and counting. A checksum derived at the end of polling can be printed and given to each BLA and also published on a website at the end of polling for each EVM, and at the time of counting, the checksum can be cross checked

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to find out if there has been any data manipulation. The “Checksum” system is over 40 years old technology, very well established and widely used in the IT field.

- Storing of the entire voter lists of the entire country (of India) in cloud will apparently cost about Rs5,000/- per year. This can be made public in a searchable form so that anyone can flag duplicate entries, fake entries, and anyone can confirm that their own names are where they should be.
- Storing video recordings of the entire voting process in each booth in the entire country of India will apparently cost about 2.1 Crore per year. It can be easily preserved and published, to earn the trust of the public, in what ECI is doing and saying. ECI will have no cost related justification to deny that

ECI HAS BEEN OPAQUE AND SILENT AND NON-RECEPTIVE TO ANY OF THE ABOVE SUGGESTIONS.

There are many other points made by Sri Madhav Deshpande in the different presentations he has made at different times about the present Indian EVM systems, as below;

- **Symbol Loading Unit (SLU)** is operated as per somebody sitting in one room in the ECI.
- After Bihar SIR, after the “final” electoral roll was published, 5 days before the polling day, they added 3 lakh new voters. They did not publish for the public to find out who were added. It should have been made public in a transparent searchable form. They did not.
- In the entire EVM electronic set up, the VVPAT has the most powerful microprocessor.
- In electronic voting system, a foundational principle is that a vote must be cast as intended, must be recorded as cast, and counted as recorded.
- At each ‘hop’ of data, that is at Ballot Unit, Control Unit, and VVPAT, a microcontroller necessarily exists. At each microcontroller level, the data can be potentially modified.
- The EVM system does not have “Electronic Event Audit Trail” (“audit trail” for short).
- There is no electronic content verification of all the contents in the SLU. SLU is potentially the most damaging thing.
- There is no proof that an EVM did not misbehave ‘during’ the poll, even if it seemed ok during mock poll and during ‘verification’.
- (As per SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) in Electronics) Every electronic chip, such as the ones in the ballot unit, control unit, the VVPAT has a unique ID, and a record of that ID should be maintained and be available for audit as needed from time to time.
- Electronic Pairing (similar to how a Bluetooth speaker gets paired to a device that sends signals) should be made of the three units used on polling day – the ballot unit, the control unit, and the VVPAT. Once they are paired, that pairing should be maintained during their storage and till the counting day.
- Checksum is an alpha numeric character derived by a mathematical formula applied to the data values and data positions. If Checksums are established to the 3 units (ballot, control, VVPAT) and all three are the same,

that says that the data is the same in all three.

- VVPAT is the most dangerous of the 3 units of the EVM system. SLU is an external device that connects to the VVPAT. ECI does not show what the SLU looks like, but it has to be either a USB device or a personal computer. The data to be downloaded into a VVPAT is downloaded from ECI web server which is controlled from one room and the data is specific to each VVPAT. If somebody has access to the data on the ECI web server, they can, sitting in a 10' x 10' room somewhere in one place, can control what gets downloaded into the different VVPATs anywhere in the country, and they can decide who will win in which constituency and even by how much margin.
- ECI says that the SLU has only image files for the candidates' symbols, but nobody has been allowed to examine the contents of the SLU till date.
- ECI says that the control unit has 2 copies of the results, with the 2nd copy meant to be a backup. (It is not a good idea to have the backup in the same machine, as, if the machine gets damaged, the backup can also get destroyed). ECI has refused to answer as to when the 2nd copy gets made, and if the 2 copies are identical. If the 2 copies of results data are not identical, one copy can be shown when verification is to be done, and a different copy can be used for actual counting of votes.

WITH ECI, THERE HAS BEEN NO TRANSPARENCY, AND NO RESPONSIVENESS. THEY DO NOT MEANINGFULLY REPLY TO ANYTHING IMPORTANT AND MAJOR IN TERMS OF TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

One takeaway for persons with limited or no knowledge of computer sciences and information technology (such as myself), is that there is a lot that happens and that can happen with Indian EVM systems that ordinary people can never know and can barely understand, that can make such systems highly vulnerable to fraud by people who have access to these systems and who control these systems, to make the results of elections using them, to be potentially very untrustworthy.

An opaque and unaccountable ECI can make this whole problem so much worse for the country's democracy and for the country, and by extension, for "We the People of India".

SOME ABSURD THINGS IN ECI'S BIHAR SIR DATA, UNCOVERED BY PROF YOGENDRA YADAV

As per election rules if a name is in the voter list and needs to be deleted for any valid reason that someone is aware of, then that other person (from the same booth) can file an 'Objection'. After due investigation and due process, the concerned voter's name can be deleted. A list of voter names deleted this way, can be downloaded. Prof Yadav's team downloaded such a list in Bihar, for deletions that happened after the ECI had prepared the first list of voters as per SIR. The list has the voter's name in question, name of the person who raised the objection, and the grounds for objection. The team found that more than half the objections (majority) were supposedly filed by the voter concerned. This means that a person had given an enumeration form to ECI to have his/her name to appear in the SIR voter list, and after it had appeared, a few weeks later, that same person had filed an objection against his/her own name in the post-SIR voter list, and had requested ECI to remove his/her own name. These were the majority of objections in Bihar. In more than 100 such objections against oneself, the reason given was 'foreigner'. This means, in these cases, a person filed an enrollment form to become a voter in the SIR list, a few weeks later filed an objection against himself / herself saying that he/she was a foreigner, and requesting that his/her own name be removed. Does this not sound absurd to a normal person? ECI had nothing to explain such absurdities.

As per the searches by Prof Yadav's team, in the whole Bihar SIR process, ECI could find only three (3) voters who were actually foreigners.

ECI itself has not officially formally released the figures for foreigners found by SIR, either in Bihar or in any other state.

As per Election Rules, an Objection can be filed against any name in the voter's list, ONLY by a voter in the same booth. Lot of times, a person who is supposed to have filed an 'Objection' is not even aware. He/she has never filed any objections. (Fake) Objections are apparently being generated through computers by people who are behind this malpractice.

SOME SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH ONGOING WEST BENGAL SIR

As on 12th April 2026, in West Bengal, there were a total of about 91 lakh deletions, of which about 58 lakhs were deleted because they did not submit an enrollment form by the given date. Another 8 lakhs were later deleted, and in addition about 60 lakhs were classified as "under adjudication" based on "logical discrepancies" as determined by a software that ECI used, in matching the voter rolls of 2002 and 2025. An illustrative example might be in one place the name might be "ramesh" and in the other roll it might be "ramesha" or "rameshappa" or a spelling mistake like "ramash". Voters submitted required documents and after adjudication, about 27 lakh voters were deleted. Any aggrieved voters were told that they could appeal to tribunals being set up. In the meanwhile, Supreme Court told the 27 lakh voters that they cannot vote in the assembly elections being held, unless a tribunal includes the voters' names at least 2 days before the scheduled election dates (23rd and 27th April 2026), even though they were voters in the 2025 electoral roll. SC further said that it does not mean that the 27 lakh voters have permanently lost their voting rights. They have to wait for the tribunals to give their verdicts. Is this fair to those deleted?

We understand that about 35 lakh people have filed appeals in West Bengal against wrongful deletions. No one knows when they will all be properly addressed.

Throughout India, lakhs or may be even Crores of people do not even know that their names have been deleted. ECI does not have a system of informing each of them of such "deletions" individually. There is therefore no way for them to file an appeal either.

Question becomes, if ECI has not allocated enough time to fully investigate and ensure justice is done to every voter, to produce a valid and fair final voter list, should it even be holding elections at such a time? Alternately, if an election has to be held at a certain time, should ECI start a process like SIR if there is not plenty of time to actually and truly complete the process, and ensure justice to all the voters?

THE MYSTERY CALLED "ADJUDICATION" IN SIR

Anybody who has had to fight a court case in India, will know how long it usually takes a court to hear a case properly and give a final judgement. Even the simplest of disputes typically takes years. So many disputes take many decades also.

In SIR, what is being decided is whether or not a person should be allowed to be a voter going forward. In a democracy, right to vote is intimately tied to the very existence of their social, economic and political rights. What is to be gained or lost based on the final result of adjudication in SIR is TRULY ENORMOUS compared to whatever gain or loss that a person in a typical ordinary court case, faces.

In W. Bengal SIR, there were about 60 lakh cases for adjudication by between 250 to 900 (250 to start with, going to 900 later) judicial officers (judges) in a few weeks. The average case load comes to between 6,000 to 10,000 or so cases of adjudication per judicial officer (judge) in a few weeks time.

How is it humanly possible to do justice to these cases, particularly keeping in mind the profound implications of this judgement to the social, economic, and political life of the persons in question?

WHAT IS SIR ALL ABOUT?

Prof. Yogendra Yadav puts it this way – SIR IS NOT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING;

- IT IS NOT A REVISION OF VOTERS LIST
- IT IS NOT A REPETITION OF ANY EXERCISE THAT HAS EVER BEEN DONE BEFORE
- IT IS NOT ABOUT CLEANING OF VOTERS LIST
- IT IS NOT ABOUT EXCLUDING “FOREIGNERS” FROM THE VOTERS LIST

IT IS ALL ABOUT CREATING A DISHONEST VOTERS LIST DESIGNED TO PRODUCE ELECTION RESULTS IN FAVOR OF THOSE WHO ARE BEHIND THIS SIR EXERCISE.

A FUNDAMENTAL POINT TO KEEP IN MIND IN ALL OF THIS SIR BUSINESS:

If a person over 18 years of age, ordinarily living in India, who claims to be an Indian, either he has already been a voter or has newly become eligible to vote as per usual voting rules, and has not been proven to be a foreign national, is denied the right to vote under SIR, what exactly will be the status of such a person in our country, and status as a human being? I believe that no one will disagree that such a person is still a human being, still like a brother/sister to us all, just as all human beings should be. Should he/she be considered an Indian until and unless proven to be a foreigner? If Yes, would it not be a serious violation of his/her human rights and a serious violation of basic principles of democracy, to deny him/her the right to vote?

Should such a person be considered a “Stateless Person” with all the cruelty that comes with such a status, for no fault of his/her?

I believe all such persons should be considered Indian until and unless proven otherwise, and their voting rights should not be interfered with. That is ethically and morally the right thing to do. I understand that is what the law of our Country says also. This present BJP controlled ECI is violating all ethics, morals and our own law, and causing limitless grief and suffering for crores of people in our country now. This grief and suffering is set to increase further and to continue for an indefinite period of time.

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PERIODIC REPORTS OF VOTER LIST RELATED MALPRACTICES

Before SIR also there have been periodic reports of fake voters being added to voter lists and genuine voters being deleted from voter lists, in violation of ECI's own procedures to ensure accuracy and accountability.

There have been reports from time to time, that during the SIR process, thousands of fake voters are being added by some people through the ECI, with violations of ECI's own procedures that were designed to ensure accuracy and accountability.

Likewise, there have been periodic reports of fraudulent deletions of names from the final SIR lists using Form -7, with violation of ECI's own procedures that were designed to ensure accuracy and accountability.

Further, when serious questions on the conduct of ECI are raised by different people from time to time, ECI has a track record of typically responding with silence and/or with evasive answers that bypass the main questions raised.

SOME WAYS IN WHICH OUR JUDICIARY (THE SUPREME COURT)

COULD HAVE PROTECTED OUR DEMOCRACY,

BUT FAILED TO PROTECT, IN THE PRESENT CONTEXT

1. A PIL was filed in 2015 against the practice of the Union Government in power selecting the Election Commissioners, with a deep concern that it gave rise to obvious major conflict of interest. SC took eight (8) years to decide on that case in March 2023, when it ordered that pending passage of a suitable law by the Parliament, a three (3) member panel consisting of the Prime Minister, the Leader of Opposition, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall make the selections. Given the critical importance of this issue to the integrity of our Democracy, and the very straight forward readily visible major conflict of interest that any person can see right away, could the Supreme Court have decided on this case sooner? – May be in about six months or less? It did not.
2. In response to the above judgement in March 2023, the Modi – BJP dominated Parliament passed an act in December 2023 to change the composition of the three (3) member panel to consist of the Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition, and a Cabinet Minister named by the Prime Minister. Thus, the Prime Minister had the final say. Soon thereafter, PILs were filed challenging this law. To any ordinary person, this would be a blatantly unjust law. In 2026, the Supreme Court is still hearing the case, and as of the last newspaper reports I remember, it is still trying to decide the composition of the Bench that should hear this case. Pending final disposal of this case, no stay has been ordered on the law in question either. Effectively, BJP continues to appoint CEC and the ECs. A very major conflict of interest continues. SC could have stayed the law in question. It can still order a stay on it, but it has not.
3. When ECI announced SIR, PILs were filed against it as this was seemingly contrary to some very basic and critically central concepts of democracy. While the Bihar SIR was in progress, the litigants (Sri Yogendra Yadav etc) filed evidence of how seriously faulty the final post SIR voters' list was. ECI had no answers. SC allowed that faulty list to be used for conducting Bihar elections, while continuing to hear the case against SIR. SC did not order a stay on the SIR process in the meanwhile. The SIR case is still being heard by the Supreme Court, and

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it could take many more months and years before a final judgement. In the meanwhile, the rampage of SIR continues to murder Indian democracy. Again, the Supreme Court has failed to protect our Democracy.

4. In West Bengal, somewhere between 27 lakhs to 35 lakh existing voters have been deleted after “adjudication” etc, against which they have filed appeals. Pending disposal of their appeals, they have been deprived of their right to vote in the immediately scheduled assembly elections. The assembly elections are being held as scheduled, in spite of such a major injustice not merely to those who are not allowed to vote, but to the entire process of Indian democracy. Again, the Supreme Court has failed to protect our democracy.

WHERE DO WE STAND NOW WITH REGARD TO A FUNCTIONING DEMOCRACY IN INDIA?

CAN THE PRESENT ECI SET UP BE TRUSTED TO HONESTLY TRANSPARENTLY

IMPARTIALLY CONDUCT ELECTIONS IN INDIA,

AND TO PROTECT INDIAN DEMOCRACY?

For the last many years, our democracy (Indian Democracy) is being subjected to murderous assaults. This has been happening in a serious way roughly from 2014 when BJP came to power in the Union Government of India. In this series, SIR is a monstrous deadly blow that is presently being inflicted on Indian Democracy. **OUR DEMOCRACY IS LITERALLY BEING MURDERED. ECI HAS LOST ALL CREDIBILITY.**

Who are the actors in this ongoing murder of our democracy? BJP ruled Union Government of India and BJP appointed ECI are the primary actors causing this ongoing murder of our democracy.

Who should be protecting our Democracy? Executive Branch of our Union Government should have been at the forefront of protecting our democracy, and ECI’s primary responsibility is to protect and strengthen our democracy continuously. Sadly, they are both doing the exact opposite. Our Judiciary, the Supreme Court should have been the next line of defense, but unfortunately, they have thus far largely failed to protect our democracy particularly in the last about twelve (12) years. **“We the People of India” are now the last line of defense.**

Choices before us are the following – either accept slavery under fascist rulers, or defend and save from death, what is still left of our democracy, resurrect, and not only restore, but make it far more perfect than it has ever been, in post-British India. Failure to succeed will certainly mean slavery to fascist rulers, that now appears imminent.

Can “We the People of India” really save our democracy in spite of how far we have descended already? As you can see, we don’t have a choice. We have to try, and try, and keep trying till either we succeed or we are no more. We have to do this for ourselves, our children, and our grand children, and for future generations to come. One day, we will succeed. Sooner the better. The only methods we can use, have to be peaceful and non-violent.

The first critical step is to raise awareness of the serious situation we are in, among all people along the length and breadth of our Country, starting from wherever we are, anywhere in this country. This is a task for every Indian. We must know and recognize that none of us can really be free until all of us are free. Let us do what we can do, and what we must do, towards this end, starting now.

WHAT SHOULD BE OUR IMMEDIATE GOALS?**We must push for;**

- **ABOLISHING SIR** (Special Intensive Revision) IMMEDIATELY throughout India, INCLUDING WHERE IT HAS ALREADY BEEN CONCLUDED, because of how evil it is.
- **RESIGNATION OF the present Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners**, with them temporarily serving in a transitional capacity pending appointment of new persons to those positions with a proper impartial process of selecting such Commissioners.
- **RESIGNATION OF ALL PRESENT GOVERNMENTS** (EXECUTIVE WINGS OF GOVERNMENTS) **AT UNION AND STATE LEVELS** with them serving for now in a caretaker transitional capacity till proper honest elections can be held by impartially chosen Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners of India. Such elections need to be held for the Parliament and for the various State Legislatures, which can then elect proper lawful and legitimate Executive Wings of the Government as appropriate.
- **REFORMS TO THE FUNCTIONING OF OUR JUDICIARY WHERE THEY WILL NOT AGAIN FAIL THE WAY THEY HAVE PRESENTLY FAILED** to protect our democracy.

Who am I to Say All This? I am one ordinary Indian Citizen among 147 Crore Indians. Individually, I am so extremely weak that there is no way that I can do any of the above by myself. As more and more people join the effort, we become stronger, and one day we can hope to bring all of the above changes, for the benefit of all of us, “We the People of India”, and for our future generations to come.

Let us recognize and remember that All Constitutional Bodies and their functionaries exist for one and only one purpose and that is to serve all of “We the People of India”. It is **“We the People” who have given ourselves our Constitution. All Constitutional bodies arise from this Constitution. All Constitutional Functionaries have their seats in the constitutional bodies to serve “We the People of India”.**

“We the People” are the last line of defense against fascism. They (the fascists) will disrupt us again and again. They can be very ruthless and cruel. We have to regroup, and regroup, and regroup, till we achieve our goals as above. This is the best gift we can give to ourselves and to our future generations, at this point in time.



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