

# Press Release

## **Punjab and Haryana Election Watch to Host ADR's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms**

**Chandigarh, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017:** Punjab & Haryana Election Watch (P&H EW) today announced the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference on Electoral and Political Reforms of Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and National Election Watch (NEW) at a Press Conference held at Press Club, Chandigarh. This two-day event will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Golden Jubilee Hall, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

Mr. Jaskirat Singh, trustee ADR and Mr. Parvinder Singh Kittna, state coordinator Punjab Election Watch (PEW) gave an overview of the two reports which were being presented at the press conference. At the Press Conference, two reports (attached) were released on 'Analysis of Election Expenditure Statements of MLAs Punjab Assembly Elections, 2017' and 'Analysis of Sources of Funding of Major Political Parties of Punjab FY 2004-05 to 2014-15 (11 years)'.

Discussing the report, Prof Trilochan Sastry, Founder Trustee, ADR & NEW, said “voters should not vote for candidates who try to bribe them for votes as they will only be focusing on getting that money back and more, once they are elected. Prof. Sastry informed the press that there needs to be a systematic change in the way political parties function today. They have to be 100 percent transparent and accountable and the right step in moving towards that direction would be for the political parties to adhere to the CIC ruling and come under the ambit of the RTI.

The Chief Election Commissioner, Dr. Nasim Zaidi, will be inaugurating the National Conference and will give the key note address as the Chief Guest on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. Representatives of the National Election Watch from each state chapter, members of political parties, government institutions and academicians will be present to deliberate on issues related to electoral and political reform in the country.

### **Contacts**

Mr. Jaskirat Singh Trustee, Association for Democratic Reforms and State Coordinator, Punjab & Haryana Election Watch +91-93160-84953; <a href="mailto:jaskirats@gmail.com">jaskirats@gmail.com</a>	Maj Gen Anil Verma (Retd.), Head, Association for Democratic Reforms and National Election Watch  +91 8826479910 <a href="mailto:anilverma@adrindia.org">anilverma@adrindia.org</a>	Prof Jagdeep Chhokar IIM Ahmedabad (Retd), Founder Member, Association for Democratic Reforms, +919999620944 <a href="mailto:jchh...@gmail.com">jchh...@gmail.com</a>	Prof Trilochan Sastry IIM Bangalore Founder Member, Association for Democratic Reforms, +919448353285, <a href="mailto:trilo...@iimb.ernet.in">trilo...@iimb.ernet.in</a>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------