

ELECTION REFORMS IN INDIA PART 1- RALLY BANDI.

Mega Rallies and show of strengths, during Indian Elections are not just a waste of money and time but a major conduit for black money, corruption and moral decay in public life lending a big blow to the parliamentary democratic system.

These avenues are used without any responsibility or consequences to make statements about opposition, advertise outlandish claims and promises to garner votes. In the times of elections, riches and those in power pretty much control every possible medium of communication like - Rallies, new social and digital media platforms or older news based mediums. Tremendous amount of money, affiliations and oligarchic practices subjugate the whole process.

It is a threat to healthy democracy.

Through this campaign we propose that the practice of political rallies and election campaigning, covertly or overtly over unregulated digital media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, Google, etc., should be restricted to make way for the culture of "Democracy Mela" or 'Janmela'.

This 'Janmela' should be organized at convenient locations in the constituency prior to elections where all candidates can setup their stalls and provide information about themselves in a standard format including written, audio and visual mediums. Outlining their accomplishments and visions for their elected role with full responsibility and under oath.

These standards can be finalized by election commission or parliamentary discussion.

Examples of such questions or standards - understanding of sustainable environmental practices, familiarity with local and global culture, education, monetary, economic policy expertise, leanings, administrative or societal experiences, etc. Candidates can prepare their answer in line with their personal and party ideologies, and readily make available to the voters.

Here voters are expected to render their full support to this fair and participate in full spirits to get the material information to select the right candidate.

We also propose the election donations, instead of paid to individual parties should go to 'Janmela' funds, for smooth operation of such events and processes.

In this effort, we have few a questions for the thought leaders of our communities that would help us taking this campaign in a right direction. We request you to participate and make it a success, and sincerely give your few valuable minutes to fill this questionnaire.

Note- If you think can help with this campaign, get yourself verified at ballotboxindia.com and get your researcher badge number. To start fill up <https://ballotboxindia.com/partners/> form.

To track this survey, go to ballotboxindia.com and enter code 62092. To know about the researcher, enter their badge number

Questionnaire

Name - _____

Age - _____ District - _____

Occupation - _____

Email id (will not be shared to third party) _____

1. Do you agree with the concept of Jan-Mela.

A. Yes B. No C. Yes, but have comments. D. Can't Say, Need More Information (Comments)

2. Your views on expenses in Indian elections -

A. Very costly B. Expensive but Justified C. Can't say D. Not at all costly

3. If elections are so costly, what is your advice -

A. Cut the Cost B. No changes. C. If someone would bring meaningful change, I would support D. Can't Say

4. Is black money also used in elections? –

A. Yes, on a large scale B. Yes, but little bit C. No D. Can't say

5. Is candidacy in political parties awarded on merit or money power?

A. Only money B. Only merit C. More money less merit D. Less money more merit

6. Are you troubled with regular rallies, traffic jam, loudspeaker, etc -

A. Yes B. No C. i don't get distracted with these D. This should happen in elections

7. Do these rallies, loudspeakers, etc are just chaos or they give you any information too?

A. Chaos B. Informative C. Less information, more noise D. Entertainment

8. Do you get right information in rallies to select your candidate-

A. No information B. Information only about few big candidates C. nominal information about all candidates D. Right Information

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9. How do you get most useful information while choosing a candidate?

A. Family and friends B. Newspaper or mainstream media C. New media or social media D. other sources

10. Do you think proposed 'janmela' would be able to give complete and right information about a candidate?

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A. No information B. Some information C. Right information D. Can't say

11. Should janmela be mandatory for every voter?

A. Yes B. No

12. Would you like to participate as a volunteer in organising 'Janmela'?

A. Yes B. No C. Can't say right now.

13. Would you like to coordinate this campaign from your district?

A. Yes B. No C. Can't say

14. Do you think campaign for janmela would succeed?


A. Yes, definitely B. Yes, but looks difficult

C. No, not possible in Indian context D. Not that big task but politicians won't let it happen

15. Your views over 'Janmela' ,or expensive or extravagant elections in india –

Your personal information wouldn't be shared with any third party, its only to maintain the sanctity of the survey and contact you in a non-intrusive way if needed.

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