LIBERTY EQUALITY JUSTICE

CENTRE FOR PROTECTION OF DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS AND SECULARISM
(CPDRS)
ALL INDIA COMMITTEE
Regd. No. S/IL/95056 • Estd. 1983
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A NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANISATION

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Chief Advisor – B N Srikrishna (Former Justice, Supreme Court of India)

President – A K Patnaik (Former Justice, Supreme Court of India)

PRESS RELEASE

To

The Editor

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CPDRS DEMANDS TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Recent reports revealing formal objections recorded by two Election Commissioners regarding internal processes at the Election Commission of India (ECI) represent a serious challenge to public trust in India's electoral machinery.

Reports indicate that Commissioners recorded multiple objections over a 10-month period concerning key decisions, including "unauthorised" changes to voter registration (Form 6), restricted access to local election officers on the ERONet database, and the centralisation of decision-making without multi-member board consensus.

Altering Form 6 without statutory legal amendments bypasses mandatory rules and risks placing arbitrary hurdles on first-time voters.

Restricted access for local Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) and centralised modifications to the digital voter backend raise critical questions regarding process integrity and local administrative authority.

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Bypassing consensus mechanisms violates the constitutional framework governing the multi-member body under Article 324.

CPDRS demands:

1. Public Disclosure: The ECI must immediately publish all relevant internal dissent notes and meeting minutes regarding the Special Intensive Revision (SIR).

2. Independent Audit: A non-partisan technical audit of the ERONet system must be instituted to verify data access and security protocols.

3. Adherence to Due Process: The ECI must strictly enforce collective decision-making, ensuring no policy directive is issued without documented consensus among all three commissioners.

Elections must not only be fair, but clearly seen to be fair. We call upon the ECI to address these internal governance lapses swiftly and restore citizen confidence.

Thanking you,
Yours sincerely



Prof. Kunche Sridhar
General Secretary, All India Committee, CPDRS