

कार्यालय मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी, उत्तर प्रदेश।

चतुर्थ तल, विकास भवन, जयप्रिय मार्केट, हजरतगंज, लखनऊ-226001

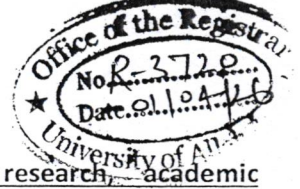
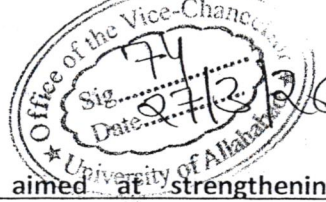
संख्या-160/सीईओओ-1-35/1-2019
सेवा में,

लखनऊ दिनांक 19 मार्च, 2026

All Deans

02/04/26
विषय:-
EGST

कुलपति,
इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय,
प्रयागराज।



Three academic initiatives aimed at strengthening research, academic engagement, and student participation in the field of democracy and election management.

महोदय,

उपर्युक्त विषय पर कृपया भारत निर्वाचन आयोग, नई दिल्ली के अर्द्धशासकीय पत्र संख्या-590/IIIDEM/CIT/IDEA//2026, दिनांक 10.03.2026 (छायाप्रति संलग्न) का सन्दर्भ ग्रहण करने का कष्ट करें।

2- उक्त पत्र के माध्यम से अवगत कराया गया है कि इंडिया इंटरनेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ डेमोक्रेसी एंड इलेक्शन मैनेजमेंट (IIIDEM) द्वारा दिनांक 06.03.2026 को डेमोक्रेसी और इलेक्शन मैनेजमेंट के क्षेत्र में रिसर्च, एकेडमिक एंगेजमेंट और स्टूडेंट पार्टिसिपेशन को मजबूत करने के उद्देश्य से 03 एकेडमिक इनिशियेटिव की शुरुआत की गयी है। उक्त रिपोर्ट को जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि 31.03.2026 है।

3- उक्त इनिशियेटिव की शुरुआत India's Chairship of the Council of Member States of International IDEA for 2026 के संदर्भ में की गई है, जिसका थीम "Democracy for an inclusive, Peaceful, Resilient and Sustainable World" है।

4. उपर्युक्त तीनों इनिशियेटिव में शामिल हैं:-

I- डेमोक्रेसी और इलेक्शन मैनेजमेंट पर इंटरनेशनल एकेडमिक कॉन्फ्रेंस

18-19 जून 2026 को IIIDEM कैंपस, नई दिल्ली में होने वाली इंटरनेशनल एकेडमिक कॉन्फ्रेंस के लिए एब्सट्रैक्ट्स की मांग की गयी है, जो डेमोक्रेटिक गवर्नेंस और इलेक्शन मैनेजमेंट में आजकल के मुद्दों पर सबूतों पर आधारित बातचीत के लिए फैकल्टी मेंबर्स और रिसर्च स्कॉलर्स को एक साथ लाएगा।

II- स्टूडेंट कनेक्ट- डेमोक्रेसी और इलेक्शन मैनेजमेंट पर रिसर्च चैलेंज

अंडरग्रेजुएट और पोस्टग्रेजुएट स्टूडेंट्स के लिए एक रिसर्च कॉम्पिटिशन, जो इलेक्टोरल सिस्टम, लीगल फ्रेमवर्क, इंस्टीट्यूशनल अरेंजमेंट और अलग-अलग देशों में इलेक्शन मैनेजमेंट बॉडीज द्वारा अपनाए गए इनोवेशन पर कम्परेटिव रिसर्च को बढ़ावा देता है।

III- डेमोक्रेसी और इलेक्शन मैनेजमेंट पर IIIDEM एकेडमिक आउटरीच प्रोग्राम

यह प्रोग्राम IIIDEM कैंपस में एक दिन के इमर्सिव एकेडमिक विजिट को आसान बनाने के लिए डिजाइन किया गया है, जिसमें स्टूडेंट्स और फैकल्टी, इलेक्शन प्रैक्टिशनर्स के साथ बातचीत कर सकें और भारत में इलेक्शन मैनेजमेंट के ऑपरेशनल पहलुओं के बारे में जानकारी हासिल कर सकें।

अतः भारत निर्वाचन आयोग, नई दिल्ली से प्राप्त उपर्युक्त अर्द्धशासकीय पत्र दिनांक 10.03.2026 की छायाप्रति इस अनुरोध के साथ प्रेषित है कि कृपया उक्त पत्र में दिये गये निर्देशानुसार विश्वविद्यालय में उपरोक्त का व्यापक प्रचार प्रसार कराने का कष्ट करें, ताकि इच्छुक पार्टिसिपेंट्स को इन मौकों का फायदा मिल सके। उक्त से संबंधित पोस्टर और ब्रोशर के प्रिंटआउट लिंक - <https://bit.ly/40asQIU> पर भी उपलब्ध है।

संलग्नक-उपरोक्तानुसार।

Recd

3/19/26

Prof. Rajesh Kaur / Principal
of all const. colleges

भवदीय,

18/03/2026
(अमित सिंह)

उप मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी।

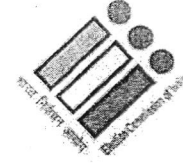
Dean, College Development
University of Allahabad
Prayagraj-211002

राकेश कुमार वर्मा, भा.प्र.से.
महानिदेशक (सचिव स्तर)

RAKESH KUMAR VERMA, IAS
Director General (Secretary-level)



सत्यमेव जयते



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
Election Commission of India

D.O. No. 590/IIIDEM/CIT/IDEA/2026

Date: 10th March, 2026

Sub: Three academic initiatives aimed at strengthening research, academic engagement, and student participation in the field of democracy and election management

Dear Chief Electoral Officers,

The India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM) has launched three academic initiatives aimed at strengthening research, academic engagement, and student participation in the field of democracy and election management on 6th March 2026.

2. These initiatives have been introduced in the context of India's Chairship of the Council of Member States of International IDEA for 2026, guided by the theme "Democracy for an Inclusive, Peaceful, Resilient and Sustainable World."

3. The three initiatives include:

I. International Academic Conference on Democracy and Election Management

A call for abstracts has been announced for the International Academic Conference to be held on 18–19 June 2026 at the IIIDEM Campus, New Delhi, bringing together faculty members and research scholars to engage in evidence-based dialogue on contemporary issues in democratic governance and election management.

II. Student Connect – Research Challenge on Democracy and Election Management

A research competition open to Undergraduate and Postgraduate students, encouraging comparative research on electoral systems, legal frameworks, institutional arrangements, and innovations adopted by Election Management Bodies across countries.

III. IIIDEM Academic Outreach Programme on Democracy and Election Management

A programme designed to facilitate one-day immersive academic visits to the IIIDEM campus, enabling students and faculty to interact with election practitioners and gain insights into the operational aspects of election management in India.

4. I would appreciate your support in disseminating this information among academic institutions in your State/UT so that interested participants may benefit from these opportunities. You may also kindly arrange to share printouts of the attached posters and brochures with academic institutions in your State/UT, available at: <https://bit.ly/4OasQIU>

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Rakesh Kumar Verma)

Chief Electoral Officers of
all States and Union Territories

India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM)

Plot No. 1, Sector-13, Dwarka, New Delhi-110078, Tel. : 011-25303448, 011-28031663, E-mail: dg.iiidem@ecigov.in

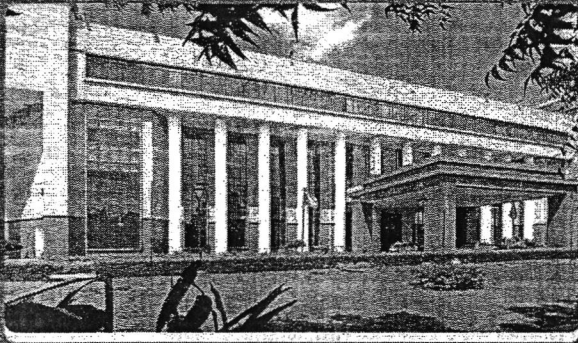
Election Commission of India, Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy - नज़रूत लोकतंत्र सबकी भागीदारी



IIIDEM Academic Outreach Programme on Election Management

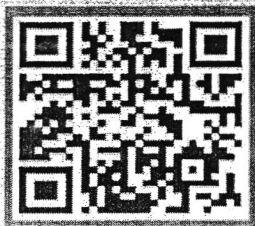
**Experience democracy in action. Learn. Engage. Explore.
Register your institution for an immersive academic
programme at IIIDEM and gain global insights into election
management and democratic governance.**



IIIDEM is the global training and research institute of the Election Commission of India and a leading centre for knowledge and capacity building in democracy and election management.

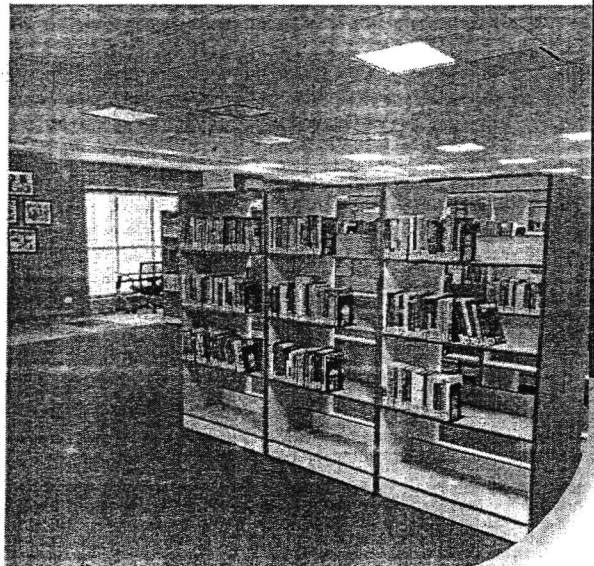
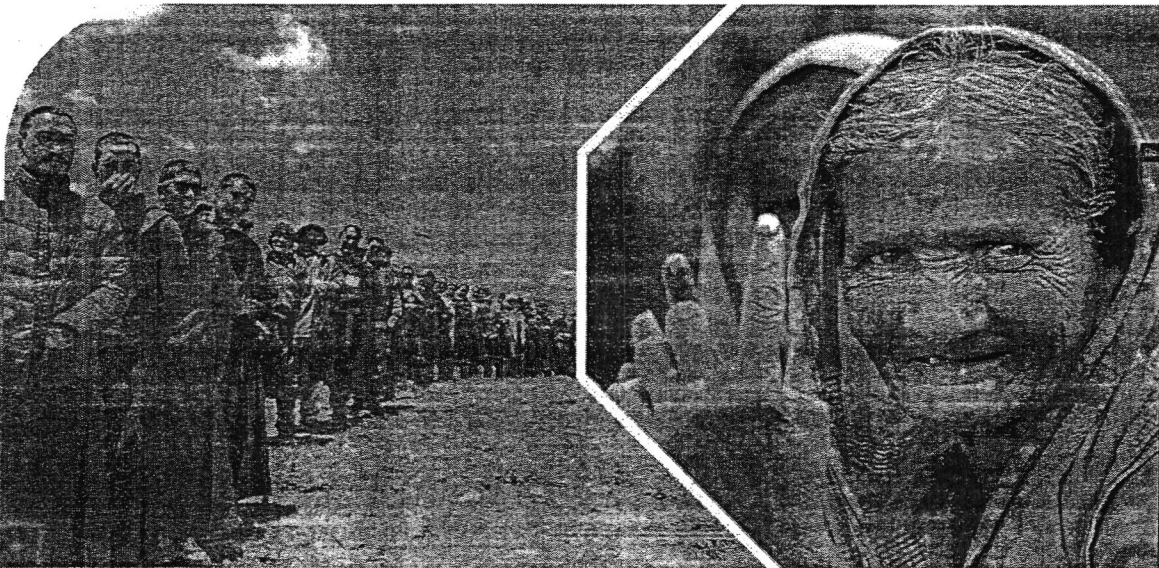
- Exposure to India's Electoral System
- Hands-on Simulations of Electoral Processes
- Interaction with Senior Election Practitioners
- Global Perspectives on Electoral Management

Submit your expression of interest to visit us, through the form:
<https://forms.gle/JksDrAZbxB3274B8A>





IIIDEM ACADEMIC OUTREACH PROGRAMME ON DEMOCRACY AND ELECTION MANAGEMENT



IIIDEM ACADEMIC OUTREACH PROGRAMME ON DEMOCRACY AND ELECTION MANAGEMENT



India International Institute of
Democracy and Election Management
Sector 13
Dwarka, Delhi-110078
www.iiidem.eci.gov.in
Email: iiidem@eci.gov.in

IIIDEM ACADEMIC OUTREACH PROGRAMME ON DEMOCRACY AND ELECTION MANAGEMENT

The India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM) invites students, research scholars, and faculty members from Indian universities to participate in its IIIDEM Academic Outreach Programme on Democracy and Election Management. The programme is designed as a short-duration, in-person academic immersion that provides participants with direct exposure to the practical dimensions of election administration and democratic governance.

Through practitioner-led sessions, hands-on demonstrations, and interactive discussions, the programme enables participants to engage with the functioning of electoral institutions, understand contemporary challenges in election management, and connect academic learning with real-world practice.

1. About IIIDEM

The Election Commission of India (ECI) established the India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM) in June 2011 as a centre of excellence to strengthen democratic governance and professional election management. Built on India's globally recognised experience of conducting free, fair, and credible elections at an unparalleled scale, IIIDEM serves as a global hub for knowledge, training, research, and dialogue on democracy and elections.

It brings together election practitioners, academics, and institutions from India and across the world to share best practices, innovate, and respond to emerging electoral challenges. Since its inception, IIIDEM has conducted over 140 international programmes, training more than 3,000 participants from 141 countries, alongside hundreds of domestic training programmes annually, and now operates from a dedicated campus in Dwarka, New Delhi.

2. About India's Chairship of International IDEA

India's assumption of the Chairship of the Council of Member States of International IDEA for 2026, under the leadership of the Chief Election Commissioner of India, presents a unique opportunity to deepen academic engagement with electoral management and democratic governance.

As the India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM) functions as a global resource centre in this domain, this provides an opportunity to facilitate structured academic engagement with students, researchers and faculty members from various Indian universities of repute to the practice of election management, India's democratic experience, and its growing role in shaping global democratic norms.

3. About IIIDEM Academic Outreach Programme

The IIIDEM Academic Outreach Programme on Democracy and Election Management is a short-duration, in-person academic engagement designed for students, research scholars, and faculty members from Indian universities. Conducted at the IIIDEM campus in New Delhi, the programme facilitates direct engagement with the institutional, legal, and operational dimensions of election management and democratic governance.

The programme is organised around five interrelated dimensions encompassing institutional orientation, practical exposure, global perspectives, practitioner interaction, and research orientation. Participants gain structured insights into India's electoral system, the constitutional mandate and institutional functioning of the Election Commission of India, and the legal and administrative frameworks that support the conduct of free and fair elections. Core components of the electoral cycle—including planning, coordination, logistics, and risk management—are explored through experiential learning methods such as demonstrations, simulations, and scenario-based exercises, including mock polling and counting processes.

In alignment with India's Chairship of the Council of Member States of International IDEA for 2026, the programme situates national electoral practices within a broader comparative and international context. Participants engage with the mandate of International IDEA, India's Chairship priorities and thematic focus areas, and internationally recognised electoral standards and best practices, enabling comparative reflection on election management across democratic systems.

The programme emphasises sustained interaction between academic participants and election practitioners through interactive sessions led by senior election officials and IIIDEM faculty. These engagements provide practical perspectives on contemporary electoral challenges and highlight the relevance of policy-oriented and applied research in strengthening electoral institutions. The programme also familiarises participants with internship, research opportunities, fellowships, and academic engagement avenues at IIIDEM, supporting continued scholarly interest in electoral studies, public policy, and democratic governance.

Target Participants

- Undergraduate, Postgraduate students, PhD scholars, and early-career faculty members from UGC recognised universities.
- Disciplines including, but not limited to, Management, Political Science, Public Administration, Law, International Relations, Public Policy, Technology, and allied fields
- Participants will attend in institutional cohorts, with faculty members accompanying student groups

Benefits to Participants

- Participation in the IIIDEM Academic Outreach Programme offers the following academic and professional benefits.
- Direct institutional exposure to the Election Commission of India and IIIDEM, enabling participants to understand the constitutional, legal, and operational foundations of election management in India.
- Practice-oriented learning through simulations, demonstrations, and scenario-based exercises covering key stages of the electoral cycle, including polling and counting processes.
- Interaction with senior election practitioners and experts, providing insights into contemporary electoral challenges and administrative decision-making.
- Comparative and global perspectives on democracy and election management through engagement with International IDEA's mandate, international electoral standards, and global best practices.

Programme Duration and Structure

- Duration: One day programme per cohort
- Mode and Venue: In-person, at IIIDEM, Dwarka, New Delhi
- Batch Size: Approximately 25–40 participants per programme

Logistics and Facilities

- Travel to and from the IIIDEM campus, New Delhi, shall be arranged by the participating University/Institution. Any costs incurred towards travel will be borne by the respective institution or cohort.
- IIIDEM will provide working lunch and refreshments to all participants during the programme.
- For cohorts travelling from outside Delhi/NCR, accommodation may be made available at the IIIDEM hostel, subject to availability, on a payment basis. Further details regarding charges and booking procedures will be communicated separately.

Interested institutions may register through the online form available at:

<https://forms.gle/JksDrAZbxB3274B8A>

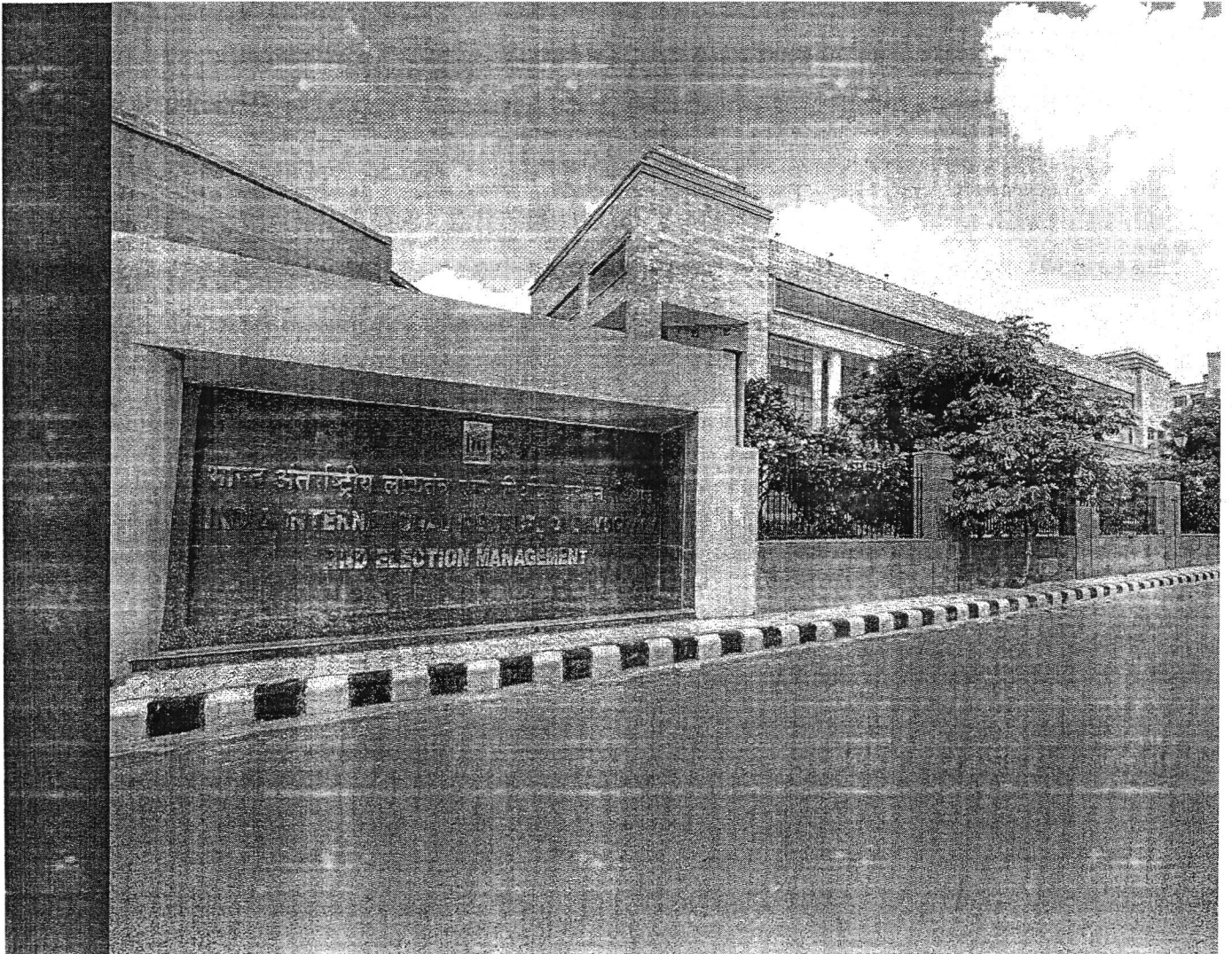
Scan the QR code given below





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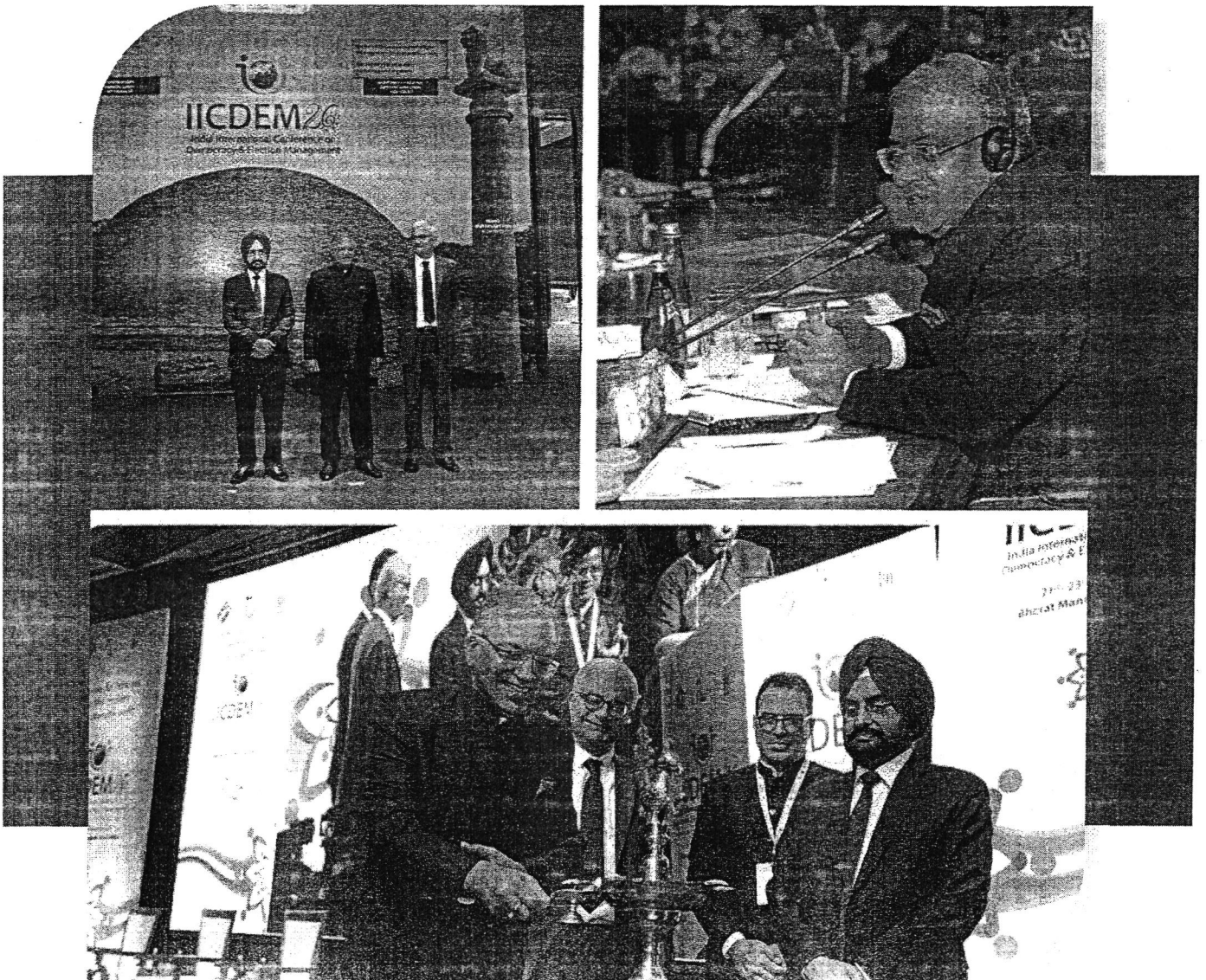




INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC CONFERENCE ON DEMOCRACY AND ELECTION MANAGEMENT

Call for Abstracts

18th - 19th June 2026



INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC CONFERENCE ON DEMOCRACY AND ELECTION MANAGEMENT

Call for Abstracts

18th - 19th June 2026



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CALL FOR ABSTRACTS FOR INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC CONFERENCE ON DEMOCRACY AND ELECTION MANAGEMENT

In the context of India's Chairship of the Council of Member States of International IDEA for 2026, the India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM), Election Commission of India, proposes to convene a International Academic Conference on Democracy and Election Management on 18th-19th June 2026. The Conference is envisaged as a platform bringing together faculty and research scholars to engage in informed and evidence-based dialogue on contemporary issues in democratic governance and election management.

In this regard, IIIDEM invites abstracts on various aspects of democracy and election management, aligned with the thematic priorities of India's Chairship of International IDEA. The Conference seeks to encourage policy-relevant, comparative, and practitioner-oriented research that bridges theory and practice and contributes to knowledge-sharing and capacity-building efforts at national and international levels.

1. About IIIDEM

The Election Commission of India has established the India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM) as a global resource centre in the field of democracy and election management. IIIDEM is also supporting ECI, which has assumed the Chairship of the Council of Member States of International IDEA for 2026.

2. About India's Chairship of International IDEA

India has assumed the Chairship of the Council of Member States of International IDEA for 2026, led by the Chief Election Commissioner of India, bringing a practitioner-led perspective to global democratic governance. Guided by the theme "Democracy for an inclusive, peaceful, resilient and sustainable world," rooted in Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, the Chairship reflects India's commitment to inclusive and sustainable development while sharing lessons from the world's largest democracy.

Supported by IIIDEM in close collaboration with International IDEA, the Chairship is anchored in two pillars—Reimagining Democracy for the Future and Strengthening Independent and Professional EMBs—with IIIDEM coordinating with International IDEA, ECI and Chief Electoral Officers, other Election Management Bodies for implementation of thematic priorities.

3. About Thematic Priorities of India's Chairship

The thematic priorities under India's Chairship are spread across three implementation categories:

- Category A (GT): Global Roadmaps, Policy Briefs, Knowledge Products and Tools
- Category B (MS): Model International Electoral Standards
- Category C (BP): Global Best Practices and Innovations in Electoral Processes

The thematic priorities have further been grouped as follows:

S.no.	Group	Thematic Priority
1	Promoting Democracy	GT1 - Democracy that Delivers GT2 - Democracy in 2050 BP21 - Democracy for Peaceful Co-existence amidst Diversity BP22 - Democracy for the Empowerment of Marginalized Sections of Society BP23 - Democracy for Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development BP24 - Democracy for Accelerating Sustainable Development Goals
2	Legal Framework	MS1 - Laws and Rules Governing Electoral Democracies MS2 - Legal Framework of Election Management Body and Independence
3	Political Parties & Candidates	MS4 - Ballot Access for Political Parties and Candidates BP9 - Transparency of Elections – Political Parties as Concurrent Auditors BP10 - Regulation of Political Parties

4	Voter Registration	<p>MS3 - Voter Registration and Voter Registers</p> <p>BP1 - Eligibility of Electors</p> <p>BP2 - Purity of Electoral Rolls</p> <p>BP3 - Ease of Voter Registration</p> <p>BP4 - Ease of Access to the Voter Register</p> <p>BP6 - Ease of Political Participation in Voter Registration</p> <p>BP7 - Technology-driven Voter Registration</p> <p>BP8 - Grievance Redressal in Voter Registration</p>
5	Electoral Campaigns	<p>MS5 - Democratic Electoral Campaigns</p> <p>MS11 - Elections, Media, and Voter Education</p> <p>BP11 - Model Code of Conduct for Campaigns</p> <p>BP19 - Tackling Misinformation and Disinformation in Elections</p> <p>BP20 - Regulating Media Campaigns</p>
6	Balloting	<p>MS7 - Balloting, including Electronic Voting Machines, Postal Ballots / Ballot Systems</p> <p>BP5 - Ease of Identification at the Ballot</p> <p>BP13 - Electronic Voting Machines</p> <p>BP14 - Postal Ballot System</p> <p>BP15 - Polling Day Operations</p>
7	Counting & Results	<p>MS8 - Counting and Tabulating Results</p> <p>BP16 - Robustness of Counting Process</p>
8	Election Technology	<p>GT3 - Artificial Intelligence and Elections</p> <p>MS10 - Election Technology</p> <p>BP18 - Integrated Technology Platforms</p>
9	Election Observation	<p>MS9 - Electoral Observers</p> <p>BP17 - International Election Visitors Programme</p>
10	Electoral Planning & Risk	<p>GT4 - Risk Management and Electoral Resilience</p> <p>GT5 - Training and Capacity Building of EMBs</p> <p>BP12 - Maintaining Law and Order</p> <p>BP25 - Electoral Planning</p>

11	Electoral Finance	GT6 - Sustainable Finance for EMBs and Cost of Elections MS6 - Campaign Finance and Expenditure
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4. About the Conference

The International Academic Conference on Democracy and Election Management serves as a forum with global relevance, where academic research meets operational excellence. While the study of democracy often resides in theoretical frameworks, the actual management of elections requires robust, scalable, and resilient practitioner-led solutions. This Conference aims to synchronize these two worlds. The Conference will be held on 18th-19th June 2026 at IIIDEM Campus in Sector 13, Dwarka, New Delhi.

To align with the global and comparative orientation of India's Chairship of International IDEA, submissions are expected to adopt a cross-country analytical perspective. Abstracts should clearly indicate the proposed comparative scope. Full papers must include a comparative analysis involving at least five other countries, examining legal frameworks, institutional arrangements, practices, innovations, or outcomes relevant to the selected thematic priority. Submissions are not restricted to individual authors; joint submissions by multiple authors are also welcome.

Interested authors should submit an abstract of no more than 500 words via the official Google form at

<https://forms.gle/k2wpVpjTuWBRKZAm6>

by the deadline of 31st March, 2026. In case of multiple authors, one author must be clearly designated as the corresponding author for all official communication with IIIDEM.



Notifications regarding the acceptance of abstracts will be communicated by 15th April 2026. Following the acceptance of their abstract, authors will be required to submit a full paper by 15th May 2026, adhering to the specific guidelines provided by IIIDEM. All authors who successfully submit a full paper that meets the rigorous peer-review standards will be formally invited to present their research and findings at the International Academic Conference on Democracy and Election Management. Outstanding papers presented at the Conference may be recognized through the conferment of a Best Paper Award as decided by the Evaluation Committee constituted by IIIDEM. All papers presented at the Conference will be considered for inclusion in the official proceedings of the Conference.

Important Dates:

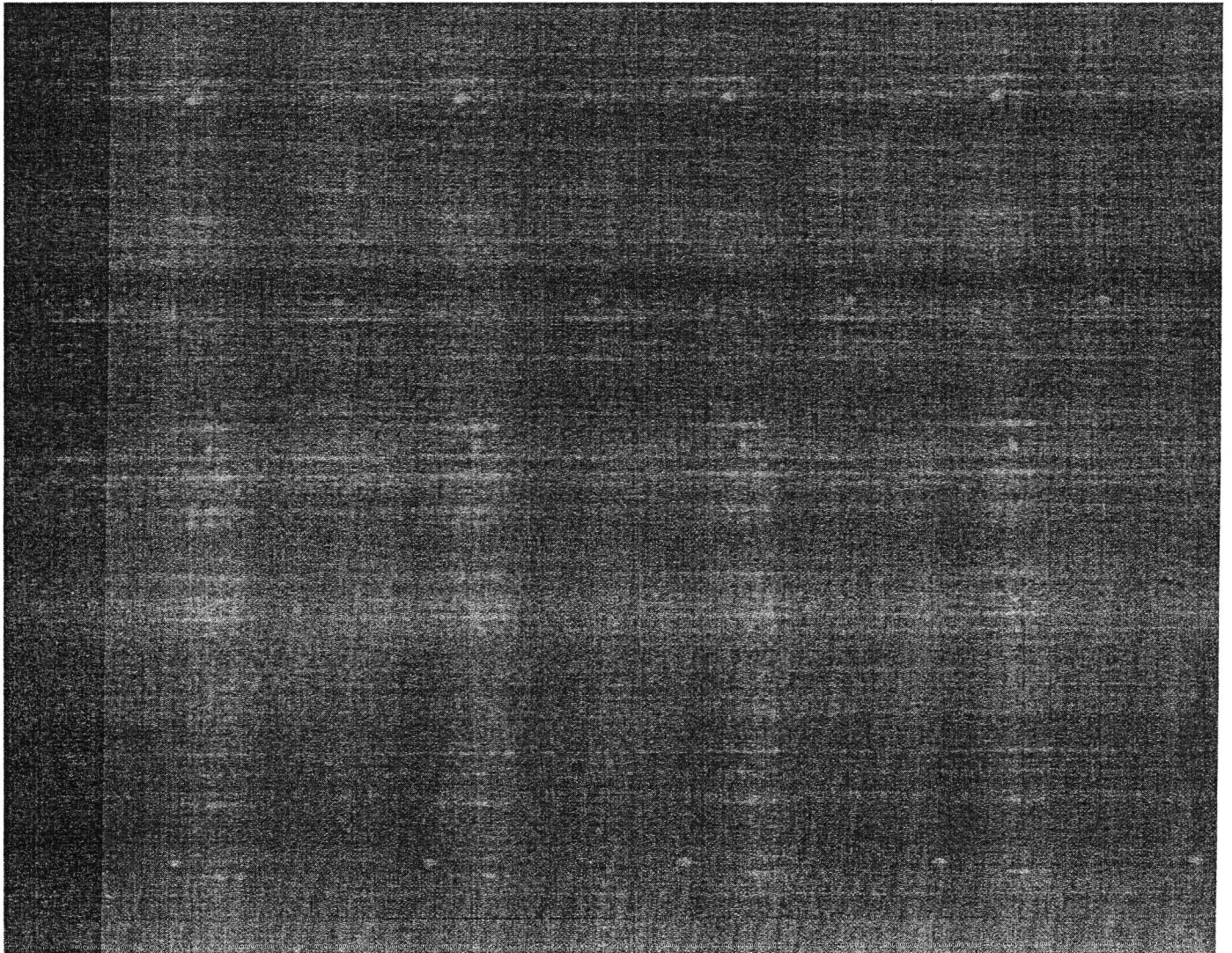
- **Abstract Submission Deadline: 31st March 2026**
- **Notification of Acceptance (from IIIDEM): 15th April 2026**
- **Full Paper Submission: 15th May 2026**
- **Invitation to Conference (from IIIDEM): 20th May 2026**
- **Date of Conference: 18th-19th June 2026**

Please note that there is no registration fee for the Conference. Logistical details for presenters will be communicated with the invitation to the Conference. The Conference will also be open to participants interested in attending the sessions without presenting a paper. Details regarding registration, including a separate registration form, will be communicated at a later date.



India International Institute of
Democracy and Election Management

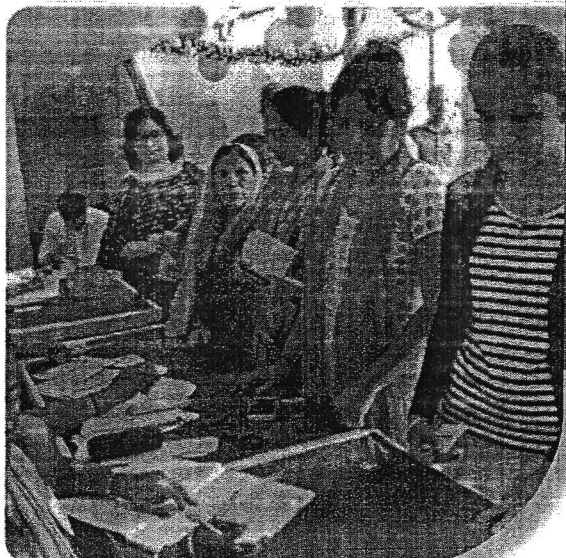
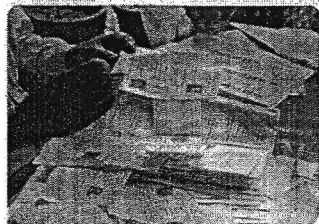
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STUDENT CONNECT - RESEARCH CHALLENGE ON DEMOCRACY AND ELECTION MANAGEMENT

Open to Undergraduate and Postgraduate Students



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STUDENT CONNECT - RESEARCH CHALLENGE ON DEMOCRACY AND ELECTION MANAGEMENT

IIIDEM invites undergraduate and postgraduate students to participate in Student Connect – Research Challenge on Democracy and Election Management, a international-level research competition aimed at fostering rigorous academic engagement with contemporary issues in democracy and election management.

The competition encourages students to systematically examine, compare, and document models, standards, and best practices adopted by Election Management Bodies (EMBs) across the world, using credible secondary sources. Through structured comparative analysis aligned with the thematic priorities of India's Chairship of International IDEA, the initiative seeks to nurture analytical skills, policy-oriented thinking, and evidence-based research among students.

1. About IIIDEM

The Election Commission of India has established the India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM) as a global resource centre in the field of democracy and election management. IIIDEM is supporting ECI, which has assumed the Chairship of the Council of Member States of International IDEA for 2026.

For more details, please visit <https://iiidem.eci.gov.in/>

2. About India's Chairship of International IDEA

India has assumed the Chairship of the Council of Member States of International IDEA for 2026, led by the Chief Election Commissioner of India, bringing a practitioner-led perspective to global democratic governance. Guided by the theme "Democracy for an inclusive, peaceful, resilient and sustainable world," rooted in Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, the Chairship reflects India's commitment to inclusive and sustainable development while sharing lessons from the world's largest democracy.

Supported by IIIDEM in close collaboration with International IDEA, the Chairship is anchored in two pillars—Reimagining Democracy for the Future and Strengthening Independent and Professional EMBs—with IIIDEM coordinating with International IDEA, ECI and Chief Electoral Officers, other Election Management Bodies for implementation of thematic priorities.

3. About Thematic Priorities of India's Chairship

The thematic priorities under India's Chairship are spread across three implementation categories:

- **Category A (GT):** Global Roadmaps, Policy Briefs, Knowledge Products and Tools
- **Category B (MS):** Model International Electoral Standards
- **Category C (BP):** Global Best Practices and Innovations in Electoral Processes

The thematic priorities have further been grouped as follows:

S.no.	Group	Thematic Priority
1	Promoting Democracy	GT1 - Democracy that Delivers GT2 - Democracy in 2050 BP21 - Democracy for Peaceful Co-existence amidst Diversity BP22 - Democracy for the Empowerment of Marginalized Sections of Society BP23 - Democracy for Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development BP24: Democracy for Accelerating Sustainable Development Goals
2	Legal Framework	MS1 - Laws and Rules Governing Electoral Democracies MS2 - Legal Framework of Election Management Body and Independence
3	Political Parties & Candidates	MS4 - Ballot Access for Political Parties and Candidates BP9 - Transparency of Elections – Political Parties as Concurrent Auditors BP10 - Regulation of Political Parties

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5	Electoral Campaigns	<p>MS5 - Democratic Electoral Campaigns</p> <p>MS11 - Elections, Media, and Voter Education</p> <p>BP11 - Model Code of Conduct for Campaigns</p> <p>BP19 - Tackling Misinformation and Disinformation in Elections</p> <p>BP20 - Regulating Media Campaigns</p>
6	Balloting	<p>MS7 - Balloting, including Electronic Voting Machines, Postal Ballots / Ballot Systems</p> <p>BP5 - Ease of Identification at the Ballot</p> <p>BP13 - Electronic Voting Machines</p> <p>BP14 - Postal Ballot System</p> <p>BP15 - Polling Day Operations</p>
7	Counting & Results	<p>MS8 - Counting and Tabulating Results</p> <p>BP16 - Robustness of Counting Process</p>
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4. About Student Connect - Research Challenge on Democracy and Election Management

4.1 The key objectives of the competition are:

- To promote academic engagement with the thematic priorities of India's Chairship.
- To encourage comparative and cross-country analysis of electoral systems and practices.
- To develop students' ability to analyse policy frameworks, institutional designs, and innovations using secondary data.
- To generate knowledge and enhance sensitisation for election management and democracies worldwide.

4.2 Eligibility:

- The competition is open to students currently enrolled in Undergraduate (UG) or Postgraduate (PG) Programmes.
- Participants may submit entries either individually or as a team of up to three members.
- A maximum of three report submissions per individual or team is permitted.

4.3 Nature of the Competition:

- Submissions must be based on secondary information collected from credible sources.
- Participants are strongly encouraged to consult the Constitution and legal framework, official websites of Election Management Bodies (EMBs) of different countries, international organisations, policy institutions, and academic sources.
- Submissions are invited under all thematic priorities of India's Chairship as mentioned in Section 3 of this document.
- Each submission must focus on one thematic priority only, in accordance with the submission limits specified in Section 4.2.

4.4 Submission Requirements:

4.4.1 Content and Analytical Requirements

Each report must adhere to the following requirements:

- The submission must focus on one selected thematic priority.
- The report must include a comparative analysis of at least 10 countries relevant to the chosen theme.
- Analysis should clearly highlight:
 - Legal frameworks, institutional mechanisms, or practices adopted
 - Innovations, challenges, and outcomes
 - Cross-country similarities and differences
- All information must be supported by proper citations.

4.4.2 Referencing and Citations

- All sources must be cited within the text as footnotes.
- Each footnote must include:
 - Full reference details, and
 - The exact web link (URL) of the source used
- Use of credible sources such as EMB websites, official reports, international organizations, and academic publications is strongly encouraged.
- References should follow the American Psychological Association (APA) citation style (7th edition).

4.4.3 Originality

- Submissions must be original and prepared exclusively for this competition.
- Proper attribution of all sources is mandatory.

All entries must be submitted through the designated

Google Form via <https://forms.gle/GG2oKErHhogDauyv9>

OR

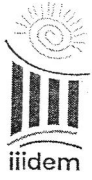


4.5 Submission Details:

- Submissions must be typed and submitted in PDF format only.
- For multiple submissions (allowed upto three submissions), individual/team must submit the Google Form separately for each report.
- The last date for submission of report is 31st March 2026.
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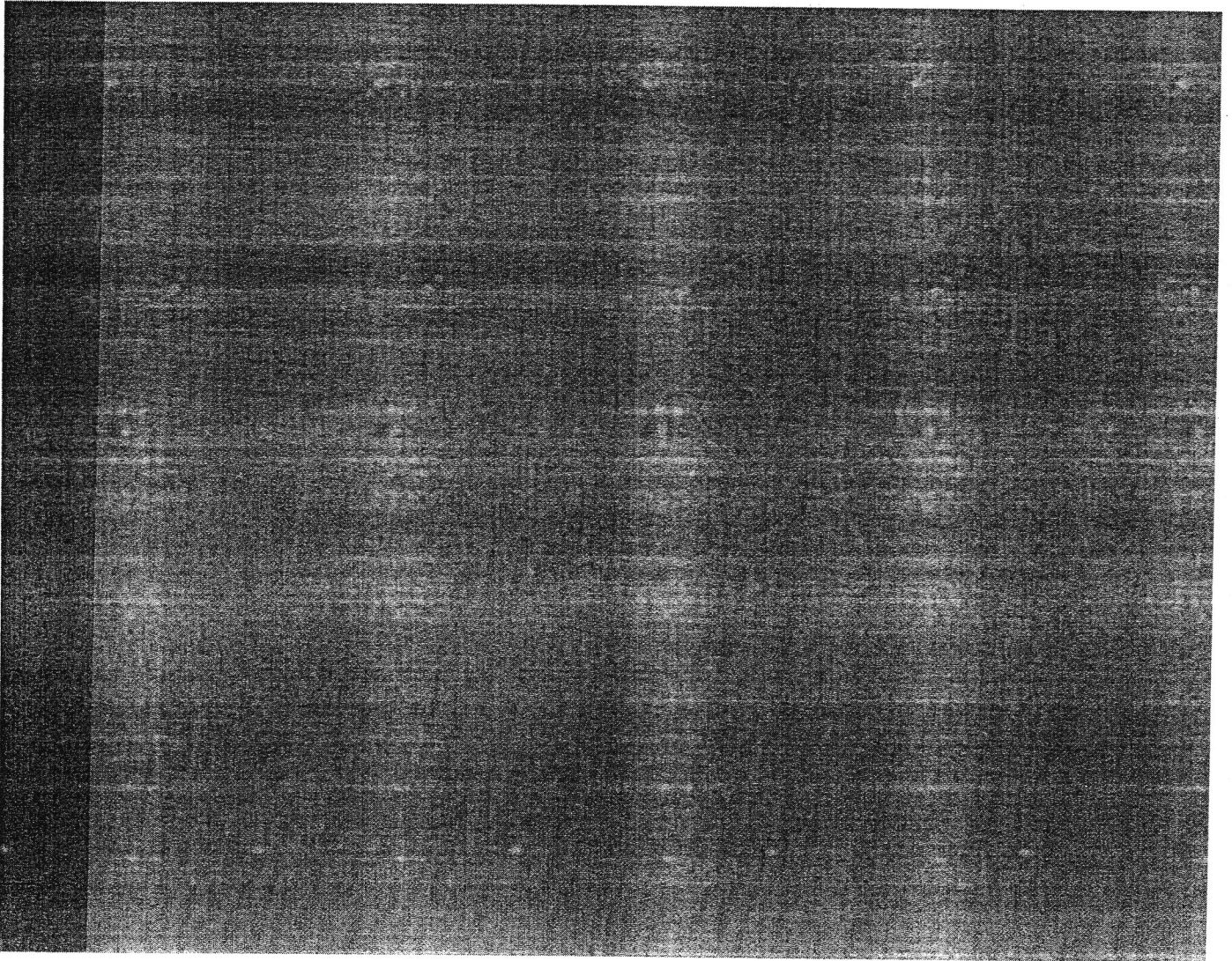
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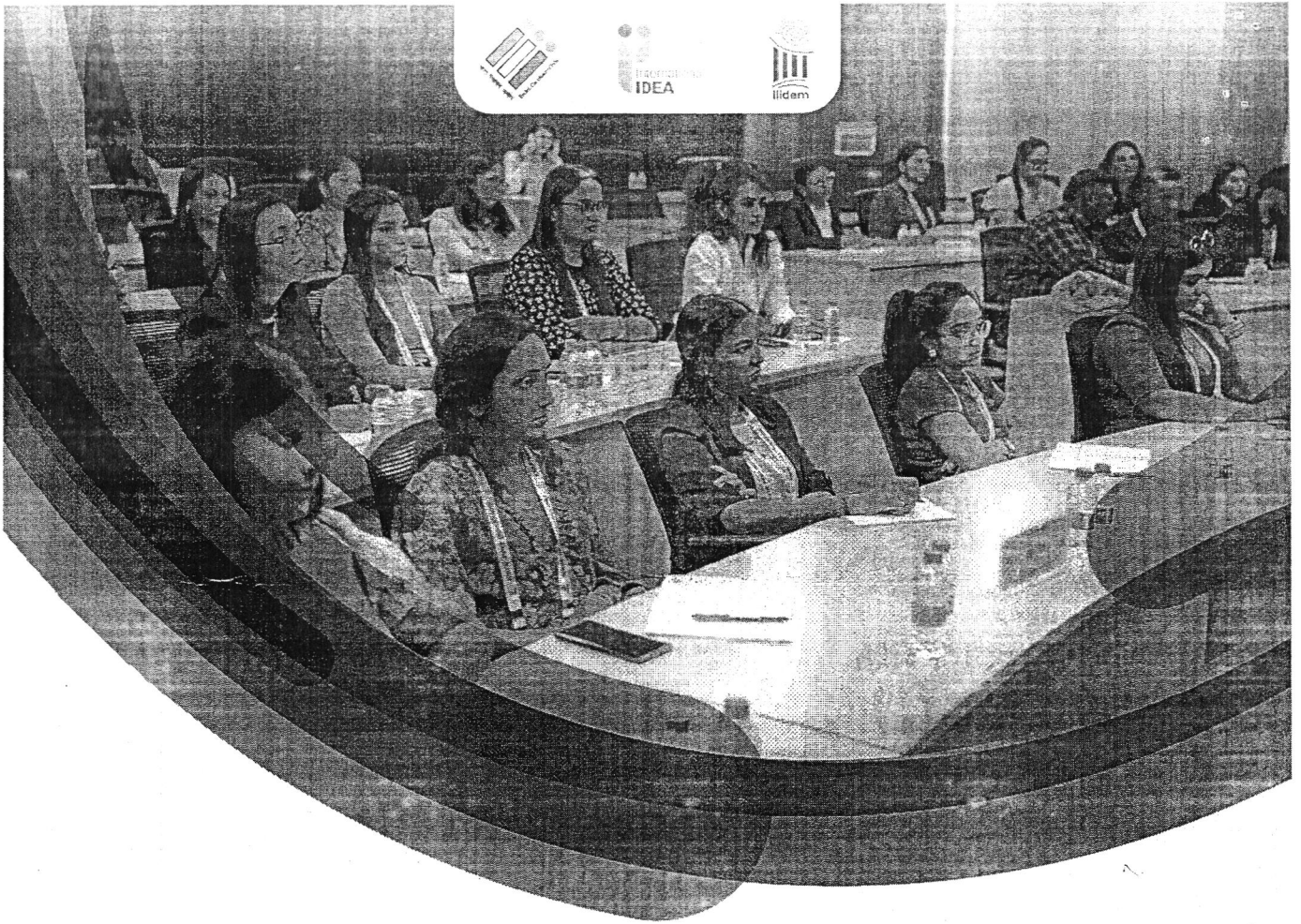
- Prizes will be awarded within each thematic priority, as follows:
 - First Prize: ₹8,000
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 - Third Prize: ₹4,000
- Certificates of Merit will be issued to prize winners, and Certificates of Participation will be issued to all eligible participants who submit valid entries.
- Select outstanding submissions may be suitably acknowledged in IIIDEM publications or other Chairship-related knowledge outputs during India's Chairship, subject to editorial review.
- Selected participants may be invited to participate in programmes, workshops, or events planned by IIIDEM during India's Chairship.
- Some participants may also be invited to appear for an interview for undertaking an internship with IIIDEM for a period of 6–8 weeks, subject to organisational requirements and selection criteria.



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STUDENT CONNECT - RESEARCH CHALLENGE ON DEMOCRACY AND ELECTION MANAGEMENT

OPEN TO UNDERGRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

Take the challenge. Compete. Research. Win.

Submit your comparative research on democracy and election management and earn prizes and global recognition at IIDEM.

Prizes worth Rs. 7.5 lakh to be won*

Submit by 31st March 2026

To know more and submit your report visit
<https://forms.gle/GG2oKErHhogDauyv9>



*Prizes will be awarded within each thematic priority, see brochure for details





**India's Chairship of International IDEA
Launch of Research, Academic and Outreach Initiatives by IIIDEM**

IIIDEM, 6th March 2026

Launch of Research, Academics and Outreach Initiatives

Context and Background

1. India's Chairship of the Council of Member States of International IDEA – 2026
2. **Theme: Democracy for an Inclusive, Peaceful, Resilient and Sustainable World**
3. IIIDEM as the global training and research institute of the Election Commission of India
4. The launch of these initiatives is in continuation of the International Conference on Inclusive Elections and Democracy (IICDEM 2026) held in January 2026 and the ongoing series of symposiums being organized by IIIDEM, aimed at fostering dialogue, research, and global exchange on contemporary democratic practices.

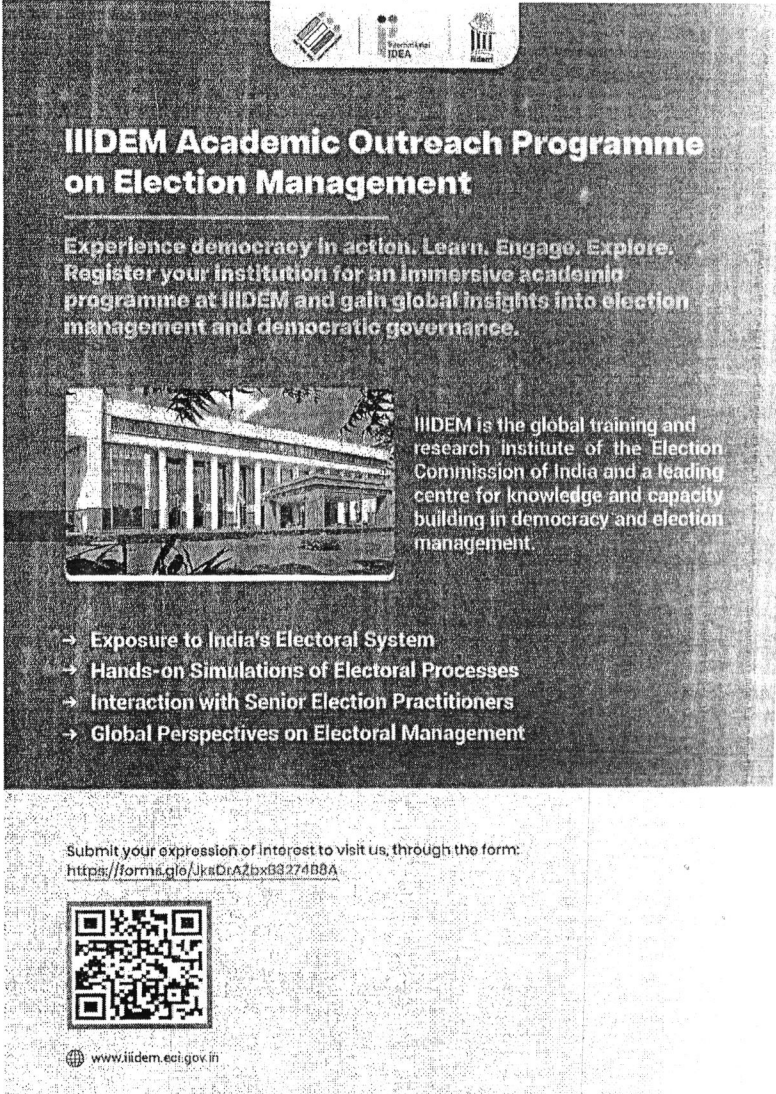
Launch of Research, Academic and Outreach Initiatives

Three Initiatives by IIIDEM

1. Academic Outreach Programme on Democracy and Election Management
2. Student Connect – Research Challenge on Democracy and Election Management
3. International Academic Conference on Democracy and Election Management

1. Academic Outreach Programme on Democracy and Election Management

- One-day immersive academic visit for Students, Researchers and Faculty Members of Universities at IIIDEM
- Exposure to India's electoral system
- Hands-on simulations of electoral processes
- Interaction with election practitioners
- Global Perspectives on Electoral Management



The poster features the logos of the Election Commission of India (ECI), the International IDEA, and IIIDEM at the top. The main title is "IIIDEM Academic Outreach Programme on Election Management". Below the title, it says "Experience democracy in action. Learn. Engage. Explore. Register your institution for an immersive academic programme at IIIDEM and gain global insights into election management and democratic governance." A photograph of the IIIDEM building is shown. To the right of the photo, it states "IIIDEM is the global training and research institute of the Election Commission of India and a leading centre for knowledge and capacity building in democracy and election management." Below the photo, there is a list of activities: "→ Exposure to India's Electoral System", "→ Hands-on Simulations of Electoral Processes", "→ Interaction with Senior Election Practitioners", and "→ Global Perspectives on Electoral Management". At the bottom, it says "Submit your expression of interest to visit us, through the form: <https://forms.glo/JkaDrA2bxG3274B8A>". A QR code is provided for more information, and the website "www.iiidem.eci.gov.in" is listed at the bottom.


IIIDEM Academic Outreach Programme on Election Management

Experience democracy in action. Learn. Engage. Explore. Register your institution for an immersive academic programme at IIIDEM and gain global insights into election management and democratic governance.

IIIDEM is the global training and research institute of the Election Commission of India and a leading centre for knowledge and capacity building in democracy and election management.

- Exposure to India's Electoral System
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www.iiidem.eci.gov.in

2. Student Connect – Research Challenge on Democracy and Election Management

- International research competition
- Open to Undergraduate and Postgraduate students
- Comparative research aligned with thematic priorities of India's Chairship of International IDEA
- Analytical reports based on global electoral practices



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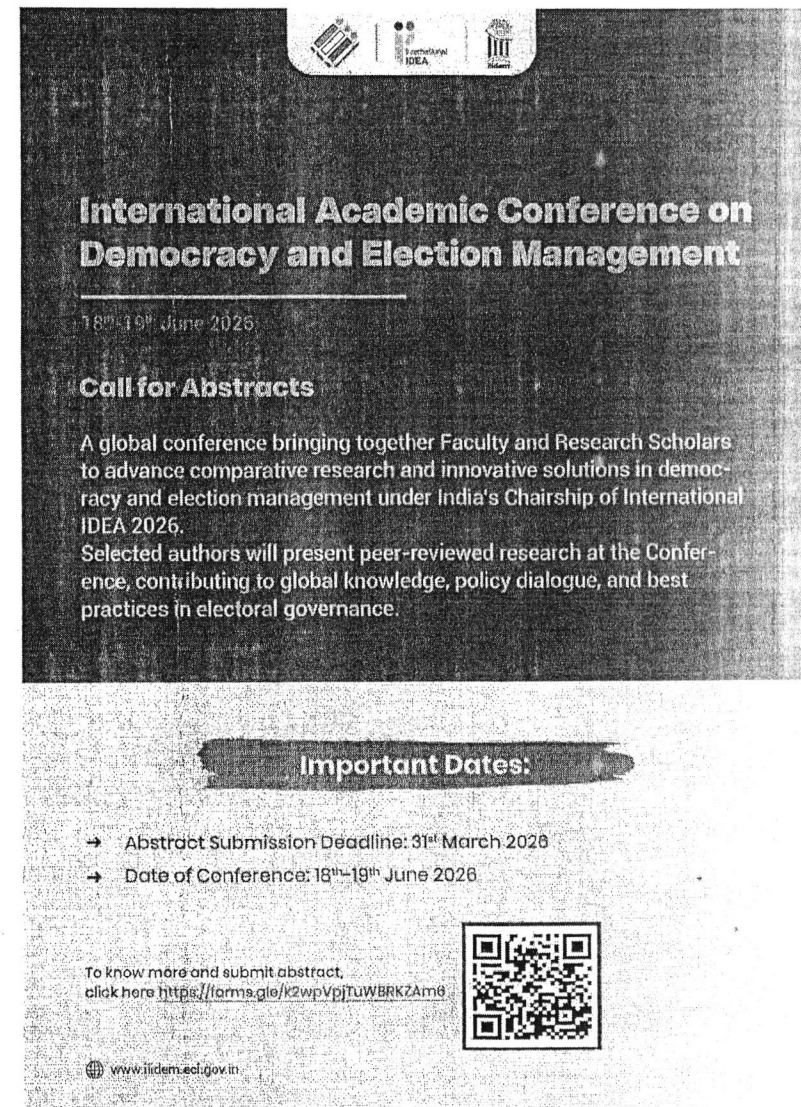


*Prizes will be awarded within each thematic priority. See brochure for details.



3. International Academic Conference on Democracy and Election Management

- Global academic forum bringing together faculty members and research scholars to engage in evidence-based dialogue on democracy and election management.
- Encourages policy-relevant and comparative research bridging academic theory with the practice of election management.



The poster features a dark background with white text. At the top right, there are three logos: the Government of India, the International IDEA, and the Election Commission of India. The main title is 'International Academic Conference on Democracy and Election Management' in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the title, the dates '18th-19th June 2026' are listed. A section titled 'Call for Abstracts' follows, describing the conference's focus on comparative research and innovative solutions in democracy and election management under India's Chairship of International IDEA 2026. It mentions that selected authors will present peer-reviewed research at the conference, contributing to global knowledge, policy dialogue, and best practices in electoral governance. A dark grey box with white text highlights 'Important Dates:'. Below this, two arrows point to the abstract submission deadline (31st March 2026) and the conference dates (18th-19th June 2026). At the bottom left, there is a call to action to know more and submit an abstract, with a URL: <https://fams.gle/k2wpVpjtUWBRKZAm9>. To the right of this text is a QR code. At the bottom left, the website www.idea.ed.gov.in is listed.

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Important Dates:

- Abstract Submission Deadline: 31st March 2026
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To know more and submit abstract, click here <https://fams.gle/k2wpVpjtUWBRKZAm9>



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Thank You

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OR

