

THE SOCIAL SCIENCE PERSPECTIVE

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Event Reports

Panel Discussion: The Indian Constitution and Electoral Learnings- Putting the Past in Perspective

Date: 8 July 2022

Mode: Zoom

The Representation of the People Act (RPA) of 1951 undoubtedly provides a constitutional roadmap for conducting elections to the Centre and State Legislatures. Though the act has been amended over the years to reflect upon the changing needs, it seeks further room for healthy engagements with the stakeholders. In 2019, debates on electoral reforms at the Parliament touched upon contentious issues such as the appointment processes of Election Commissioners; political funding; Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs); the proposition for conducting multi-level simultaneous elections; the role of social media; and the usage of data targeting the swing voters. To this may be added more electoral concerns of contemporary times- organisational weakness of political parties generating the routine cases of political defections, perpetuating political violence, and caste, gender, and communal dynamics shaping political practices.

Thus, the panellists spoke on the constitutional facets of electoral reforms on the 8th of July, 2022 during a Zoom panel discussion held between 3.30 pm and 5.00 pm. The discussion was chaired by Prof. P. S. Jayaramu, Superannuated Professor, at Bangalore University. He posed the important questions regarding the same succinctly for further deliberation. Panellist M.G.

1 of 2

JGI JAIN CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN SOCIAL SCIENCES AND EDUCATION



Under the aegis of the Event Series on
Electoral Reforms in Indian Democracy
Vestiges of Past, Volatility Now, & Vision Ahead

Presents
Panel Discussion on

The Indian Constitution and Electoral Learnings- Putting the Past in Perspective

Date: 8 July 2022 | Time: 03:30 p.m. - 05:00 p.m.

Platform:  Zoom | Mode:  Hybrid

For more details on the event, please visit the website of JGI at www.jgi.ac.in.
Participation confirmation and meeting details will be sent upon successful registration.
E-certificates will be issued to the participants.

Chair



Prof. P. S. Jayaramu
Superannuated Professor
at the Department of
Political Science
Bangalore University

Panelists



Prof. Sandeep Shastri
Vice-Chancellor
Jagori Lalitpur University,
Bhopal



M. G. Devanahayam
National Vice-Chair and
Coordinator of Citizens
Commission on Elections

Patrons

Dr. Chandra Rajan Chancellor JAI (Deemed-to-be University)	Dr. (Mrs.) Dr. B. Subhasreega Pro-Chancellor JAI (Deemed-to-be University)
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Devasahayam, a former Indian Army and Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer as well as an active mind pushing for electoral reforms in the country discussed the government accountability in this matter as well as expressed his deep suspicion towards the valourisation of EVM machines as sacrosanct in the Indian electoral process. Prof. Sandeep Shastri, a Political Scientist with years of experience, currently the Vice-Chancellor of Jagaran Lakecity University focused primarily on the constitutional evolution surrounding electoral reforms and electoral processes. Apart from highlighting the historical aspects, the experts also made comments on the contemporary developments surrounding the issue area.

