

Call for Applications

Research Associate (01) and Research Assistant (01) Contractual Basis | Sponsored Research Project

Project Title: “Electoral Management Bodies and Media-Based Voter Education: A Comparative Analysis of Regulatory and Institutional Provisions Worldwide to Design a Global Standard Model”

About the Project

The Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Rajasthan, has been assigned the theme MS11: “Elections, Media, and Voter Education” under Group 5 (Electoral Campaigns) of the thematic work programme. The research is being executed through a Sponsored Research Project awarded to National Law University Jodhpur (NLUJ), which serves as the academic partner institution.

The project aims to undertake a comprehensive comparative analysis of regulatory and institutional provisions governing the relationship between Electoral Management Bodies and media-based voter education worldwide. The objective is to produce a practitioner-oriented global resource that deepens understanding of elections and election management across diverse contexts and, ultimately, to design a Global Standard Model. The final report will be published by IIIDEM under the aegis of the Election Commission of India.

The Research Associate and Research Assistant will work under the guidance of the State Thematic Group and the overall supervision of the Chief Electoral Officer, Rajasthan, and the Principal Investigator at NLUJ. Applications are invited for the same as per the below-mentioned details.

Position and Eligibility

Post	No. of Positions	Essential Qualifications	Desirable Qualifications	Consolidated Remuneration
Research Associate	01 (One)	1. Master’s degree in Political Science / Journalism & Mass Communication / Law / Public Policy / Public Administration or allied disciplines with a minimum of 55% marks from a recognised University, along with UGC NET qualification; OR 2. Ph.D. in a relevant discipline.	Research experience in electoral law, media regulation, voter education, or comparative democratic governance. Published papers in Scopus/UGC CARE List journals or policy publications.	Rs. 30,000/- per month (for the project duration)

Research Assistant	01 (One)	Postgraduate degree in Political Science / Journalism & Mass Communication / Law / Public Policy / Public Administration or related fields with a minimum of 55% marks from a recognised University.	Familiarity with research methods and documentation. Prior research or internship experience related to elections, media studies, or disability/rights frameworks.	Rs. 10,000/- per month (for the project duration)
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Note: Mere possession of the minimum qualifications shall not confer any right to appointment. Preference will be given to candidates with published research experience in projects/research institutions in Scopus/UGC CARE List journals, policy briefs, or other academic publications in relevant areas.

Duration and Nature of Engagement

- The engagement shall be on a contractual basis for the duration of the project (approximately three months from the date of appointment, co-terminus with the project timeline).
- The nature of engagement shall be largely online with periods of offline engagement at the campus and in the field.
- The positions are based at the National Law University Jodhpur and/or the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Rajasthan, as determined by the Principal Investigator and the CEO Office.
- The engagement is project-specific and does not confer any right to continued employment or regularisation.
- The associate and assistant shall not be entitled to any other benefits.

Roles and Responsibilities

Research Associate:

- Lead qualitative and quantitative primary and secondary research on electoral management bodies and media-based voter education practices across global jurisdictions.
- Conduct systematic literature review and global evidence mapping covering EMBs across various regions, drawing on sources such as International IDEA, IFES, UNDP, ACE Network, The Carter Centre, EISA, and OSCE/ODIHR.
- Identify and screen relevant cases and develop structured case models.
- Coordinate stakeholder consultations, workshops, and structured dialogues to gather diverse perspectives and validate findings.
- Undertake comparative analysis and thematic synthesis to identify common patterns, best practices, and transferable models.
- Support the drafting of the thematic report, including case documentation, standards articulation, and packaging of outputs.
- Coordinate with IIIDEM, the Thematic Lead, faculty supervisors, and institutional stakeholders as part of the State Thematic Group.
- Assist in conducting surveys/questionnaires for Election Management Bodies as coordinated through IIIDEM.

- Maintain research ethics, data integrity, and confidentiality in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of the thematic group.
- Contribute to the preparation of policy briefs and present research findings at relevant forums as directed by the CEO/PI.

Research Assistant:

- Assist the Research Associate and the Thematic Group in data collection, field visits, and documentation.
- Prepare and manage survey instruments, interview tools, and questionnaire formats in standardised structures suitable for comparative compilation.
- Compile and synthesise research findings from secondary sources, including published reports, institutional documents, and comparative studies from EMB websites listed by IIIDEM.
- Support statistical and qualitative data analysis.
- Assist in the drafting of interim reports, background material, literature reviews, and other research outputs.
- Maintain research documentation, data files, and correspondence records in an organised manner.
- Provide logistical and coordination support to the Thematic Group, including scheduling meetings and maintaining minutes

Code of Conduct

The selected candidates must adhere to the following:

- Integrity in data collection, analysis, and reporting; no fabrication, falsification, or misrepresentation.
- Strict confidentiality regarding all internal deliberations, unpublished data, and draft versions of the report. No part of the research may be published independently.
- Neutral, evidence-based approach; no partisan political activity or bias in research.
- Transparent disclosure of conflicts of interest and open responsiveness to feedback and revision.
- Compliance with IIIDEM's Terms and Conditions for the working of Thematic Groups and Academic Experts, including provisions on copyright, which shall vest solely with IIIDEM/ECL.
- Professional conduct in all interactions with supervisors, peers, stakeholders, and institutional representatives.

How to Apply

- Applications must be submitted by e-mail to recruitment@nlujodhpur.ac.in within 07 (seven) days of the publication of this advertisement.
- The application must include: (i) a detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV); and (ii) a Statement of Purpose (SoP) of not more than 500 words outlining the candidate's interest in and suitability for the position.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interview. No TA/DA shall be admissible for attending the interview.
- The National Law University Jodhpur/Office of the CEO, Rajasthan, reserves the right to shortlist candidates, modify the number of positions, or keep any post vacant in case of unsuitable candidates.