LOK SATTA

People Power

Mumbai Election Watch

AGNI Network

13th January 2002, Mumbai
Mission

To promote peaceful, democratic transformation of Indian governance process and enable India to achieve full potential through good governance.
Election Watch Activities

• Voter Rolls Verification & Rectification
• Know your candidate
• Screening of candidates
• Common Platforms – Corporator & City Level
• An agenda for the city - Governance, Civic Issues
• Voter Education
• Monitoring of polling
• Post-election agenda for city
Problems with endorsing/rating

- We have no real impact on outcome
- Change of players does not lead to change of rules of the game
- Resource, legal & procedural constraints remain
- We need to focus on a larger governance agenda
Post-election agenda for the city

- Citizen’s Charters
- Ward committees
- Right to Information
- Metropolitan planning committee
- Anti-corruption measures
- Ombudsman agency for city
- Empowering city government
What is the larger agenda?

Electoral reform

– Polling irregularities
– Criminalization
– Unaccounted money
– Disguised executive
– People selling their vote
– Political party regulation
– Better representation
What is the larger agenda?

Decentralization

– Funds
– Functions
– Functionaries
– Stake-Holder empowerment
– Ward committees
What is the larger agenda?

Rule of law – Speedy & efficient justice

– Police reform – independent crime investigation
– Limited but effective writ jurisdiction
– Time-bound adjudication
– Procedural law changes – CPC & CrPC
– Appointment of higher judiciary
– All India judicial service
– Accountability of subordinate judiciary
– Enhance number of courts
– Local gram nyayalayas
What is the larger agenda?

Instruments of Accountability

- Right to Information
- Citizen’s charters
- Stake-holder empowerment
- Independent crime investigation
- Independent appointment of constitutional functionaries
- Strong, independent anti-corruption machinery
What can AGNI Network do?

Build a movement in Maharashtra

– A group of credible persons with excellent track record
– Insights into governance
– An agenda which is acceptable to all segments
– Sustained, professional, full-time institution building
What can AGNI Network do?

Focus on four areas

– People’s Watch – fight against corruption and misgovernance
– Specific local goals of reform
– Election Watch
– National platform building