



**O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL**  
INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE  
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**Jindal India Institute**  
PROPELLING THE INDIAN CENTURY  
O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

# Jindal India Institute (JII)

## ONE DAY COURSE FOR DIPLOMATS

*on*



# INDIAN

## GENERAL ELECTIONS

# 2024

FRIDAY, 5 APRIL 2024

On 5th April, the Jindal India Institute (JII) of O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU) hosted a one-day certificate course for foreign diplomats on Indian general elections 2024 at the JGU International Academy, Taj Mahal Hotel, Mansingh Road, New Delhi. The course featured five insightful lectures on the dynamics, challenges, and prospects of the forthcoming Indian elections. It was attended by 19 diplomats from 12 countries and international organisations, including Russia, Indonesia, Iraq, the European Union, the Vatican, Slovenia, the United Kingdom, Guatemala, Brunei Darussalam, Ghana, South Africa, and Tanzania.

Prof. (Dr.) Sreeram Chaulia (Director General of JII) set the tone for the event by emphasising the importance of free and fair elections in a democracy. He highlighted the critical role of electoral integrity in ensuring the legitimacy of democratic processes and praised the achievements of the Election Commission of India (ECI) in upholding these principles. Taking this theme forward, the first session on “Free and Fair Elections in India” was delivered by Mr. Dharmendra Sharma (Director General, India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management – training and capacity building arm of the ECI). Mr. Sharma discussed the parameters that define a ‘free’ and ‘fair’ election and elaborated on why Indian elections meet these criteria. He surveyed the constitutional provisions governing Indian elections, the robust framework established by the ECI, and the procedural intricacies of voting, encompassing different methodologies and types of voting mechanisms. The second session titled “Opinion Polls and Prospects in Lok Sabha Elections” was conducted by Mr. Pradeep Bhandari (Founder and Editor-in-Chief, Jan Ki Baat). Participating diplomats were provided with valuable insights into the role of opinion polls in shaping the electoral landscape of India. Mr. Bhandari discussed the methodologies employed in conducting opinion polls and analysed emerging trends. He further delved into key election statistics, offering a comprehensive overview of the Indian polling scenario. Dr. Rashmi Singh (Assistant Professor, Jindal School of Liberal Arts and Humanities) led the third session on “Key Players in 2024 Elections: Parties and Leaders,” outlining key players and their campaign strategies for the impending elections, in addition to major independent and non-aligned entities. Prof. (Dr.) Swetasree Ghosh Roy (Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy) unravelled the complex interplay between regional and national politics in the fourth session titled “Regional Parties in National Level Politics and Elections.” In the final session, diplomats were treated to an enlightening presentation on “International Factors in Indian Elections,” by Prof. (Dr.) Chaulia. His astute analysis underscored the interconnectedness of domestic and international affairs, highlighting the nuanced ways external factors shape electoral outcomes and political discourse within the Indian context.

This event was part of JII's broader training mission to educate and engage foreign diplomats on various aspects of Indian elections and to positively influence international opinion about India's democratic practices. Such initiatives also contribute to enhanced international cooperation and dialogue, strengthening diplomatic relations and promoting mutual understanding between India and other nations.

Few  
**GLIMPSSES**  
from the event



