

2025 LiveLaw (SC) 804**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
SURYA KANT; J., JOYMALYA BAGCHI; J.****Writ Petition(s)(Civil) No(s).640/2025; 14-08-2025****ASSOCIATION FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS & ORS. *versus* ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA**

Election Commission of India (ECI) - Voters List - Supreme Court has directed the ECI to take series of additional steps as an interim measure - i. ECI will display a list of approximately 65 lakhs voters whose names appeared on 2025 Voter List but were not included in Draft Roll dt. August 1, 2025; ii. The list will be displayed district-wise on the websites of the District Election Officers; iii. Information will be booth-wise and accessible by using the Electors Photo Identity (EPIC) number; iv. The displayed list must also include the reason for the non-inclusion of names in Draft roll; v. Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Bihar must also display soft copies of these district-wise lists on its website; vi extensive publicity will be given in vernacular and English daily newspapers with wide circulation in Bihar; vii. Aggrieved persons can submit their claims with a copy of their Aadhaar card; viii. ECI is to obtain a compliance report from all Booth Level Officers and District Election Officers and place it on record as a collated Status Report. [Para 3]

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Satayam Singh, Adv. Mr. Shivam Singh, Adv. Mr. Sanjeev Gupta, Adv. Mr. Amit Kumar Sharma, Adv. Mr. Neeraj Kumar Singh, Adv. Ms. Pragati Keshri, Adv. Ms. Diksha Singh, Adv. Ms. Vipasa Jain, Adv. Ms. Neema, AOR Ms. Rashmi Singh, Adv. Ms. Pinky Behera, AOR Mr. Atif Inam, AOR Mr. Zarif Hosain, Adv. Mr. Abishek Jebaraj, AOR Mr. Prashanto C Sen, Sr. Adv. Mr. Prasanna S., AOR Mr. Rohit Ghosh, Adv. Ms. Injila Muslim Zaidi, Adv. Mr. Prasanna B, Adv. Ms. Vrinda Grover, Adv. Mr. John Simte, Adv. Ms. Devika Tulsiani, Adv. Mr. Soutik Banerjee, Adv. Mr. Aakarsh Kamra, AOR Mr. Fuzail Ahmad Ayyubi, AOR Dr. K.S. Chauhan, Sr. Adv. Mr. P.S. Teji, Sr. Adv. Mr. Abhishek Chauhan, Adv. Mr. Kriti Ranjan, Adv. Mr. Ajit Kumar Ekka, Adv. Mr. Alok Kumar, Adv. Mr. S.P. Singh, Adv. Mr. Ravi Shankar Singh, Adv. Mr. Jyoti Jyotsana, Adv. Mr. Narender Kumar, Adv. Ms. Divya Sinha, Adv. Mr. Ratan Singh, Adv. Mr. Pushp Manikes, Adv. Mr. Ravi Prakash, AOR Mr. Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, Adv. Mr. Ashwani Kumar Dubey, AOR Ms. Nikhil Upadhyay, Adv. Mr. Chandra Shekhar, Adv. Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Sr. Adv. Mr. Prashanto Chandra Sen, Sr. Adv. Mr. Muhammad Ali Khan, Adv. Mr. Amit Bhandari, Adv. Mr. Omar Hoda, Adv. Ms. Eesha Bakshi, Adv. Mr. Uday Bhatia, Adv. Mr. Arjun Sharma, Adv. Mr. Kamran Khan, Adv. Ms. Gurbani Bhatia, Adv. Mr. Rohit Ghosh, Adv. Mr. B Vittal, Adv. Mr. Surya Kiran Singh, Adv. Mr. Usman Ghani Khan, AOR Mr. Shoeb Alam, Sr. Adv. Mr. Ujjwal Singh, AOR Mr. Kapil Sibal, Sr. Adv. Ms. Fauzia Shakil, AOR Ms. Aparajita Jamwal, Adv. Ms. Tasmiya Talaha, Adv. Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Sr. Adv. Ms. Neha Rath, AOR Ms. Kajal Giri, Adv. Mr. Pranav Sachdeva, Adv. Mr. P. Rohit Ram, Adv. Ms. Priyansha Sharma, Adv. Ms. Somya Kumari, Adv. Mr. Kalyan Bandopadhyay, Sr. Adv. Mr. Vivek Singh, AOR Mr. Abhishek Mohanty, Adv. Mr. Gopal Sankaranarayanan, Sr. Adv. Mr. Debanjan Mandal, Adv. Mr. Kunal Vajani, Adv. Mr. Kunal Mimani, AOR Ms. Mahima Cholera, Adv. Ms. Shraddha Chirania, Adv. Mr. Dhruv Sahu, Adv. Mr. Talha Abdul Rahman, AOR Mr. Shadan Farasat, Sr. Adv. Mr. Harshit Anand, Adv. Ms. Natasha Maheshwari, Adv. Mr. Yash S. Vijay, AOR Mr. Shikhar Aggarwal, Adv. Mr. Rishav Ranjan, Adv. Mr. Prashant Bhushan, AOR Mr. Haris Beeran, Adv. Mr. Azhar Assees, Adv. Mr. Anand B. Menon, Adv. Mr. Radha Shyam Jena, AOR Mr. Raja Choudhary, Adv. Mr. Rajesh Singh Chauhan, AOR Mr. Nizam Pasha, Adv. Mr. Arif Ali, Adv. Mr. Madhav Deepak, Adv. Mr. Abishek Jebaraj, AOR Ms. A Reyna Shruti, Adv. Mr. D. P. Singh, Adv

For Respondent(s): Mr. Tushar Mehta, SG Ms. Sansriti Pathak, Adv. Mr. Gaurang Bhushan, Adv. Mr. Raman Yadav, Adv. Mr. Kanu Agrawal, Adv. Mr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, AOR Mr. Maninder Singh, Sr. Adv. Mr. Sidhant Kumar, Adv. Mr. Sahil Tagotra, AOR Mr. Prabhas Bajaj, Adv. Ms. Manyaa Chandok, Adv. Mr. Om Batra, Adv. Ms. Shreya Kaseria, Adv. Mr. Amarpal Dua, Adv. Mr. Dama Seshadri Naidu, Sr. Adv. Mr. Prateek Kumar, AOR Mr. Abhinav Thakur, Adv. Mr. Mohit Mishra, Adv. Mr. Deepak Sharma, Adv. Mr. Sukumar Pattjoshi, Sr. Adv. Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Adv. Mr. Raina Anand, Adv. Mr. Devansh Rai, Adv. Mr. Rakesh Dwivedi, Sr. Adv. Mr. Eklavya Dwivedi, AOR Mr. Maninder Singh, Sr. Adv. Mr. Mohd. Yasir, Adv. Mr. Kumar Utsav, Adv. Mr. Ashish Shukla, Adv. Mr. Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General Mr. Kanu Agrawal, Adv. Mr. Raman Yadav, Adv. Ms. Sansriti Pathak, Adv. Mr. Gaurang Bhushan, Adv. Dr. N. Visakamurthy, AOR Mr. Manish Kumar, AOR Mr. Divyansh Mishra, Adv. Mr. Samarvir Singh, Adv. Mr. Siddharth Dharmadhikari, Adv. Mr. Aaditya Aniruddha Pande, AOR Mr. Shrirang B. Varma, Adv. Mr. S. Udaya Kumar Sagar, AOR Mr. Barun Kumar Sinha, Adv. Mrs. Pratibha Sinha, Adv. Mr. Sneh Vardhan, Adv. Mr. Chhail Bihari Singh, Adv. Mr. Rakesh Mudgal, Adv. Mr. Pankaj Kumar Shukla, Adv. Mr. Ritu Raj, Adv. Mrs. Kanika, Adv. Mr. Sidhant Thakur, Adv. Mr. Neeraj, Adv. Mr. Anantha Narayana M.G., AOR

Mr. Anilendra Pandey, AOR Ms. Aarati Sah, Adv. Mr. Sandeep, Adv. Mr. Animesh Shukla, Adv. Mr. Ashutosh Gupta, Adv.

ORDER

1. We have heard a battery of learned Senior Counsel/ counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioners/the petitioner-inperson, primarily with reference to the interim prayers made in this batch of Writ Petitions.

2. We have very briefly and partly heard Shri Rakesh Dwivedi and Shri Maninder Singh, learned Senior Counsel representing the Election Commission of India.

3. On instructions, it has been agreed that the Election Commission of India, as an interim measure, will take the following additional steps:

(i) The list of 65,00,000 (approximate) voters, whose names appeared in the Voter List as on 2025 but are not included in the Draft Roll dated 01.08.2025, shall be displayed on the websites of the District Election Officers (District-wise). The information will be boothwise, but it can be accessed by referring to the Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) number of each voter.

(ii) The list so displayed shall also disclose the reason for non-inclusion in the Draft Roll.

(iii) The Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Bihar will also get the soft copies of the District-wise lists of the voters who have not been included in the Draft Roll, along with the reasons for their non-inclusion, displayed on its website.

(iv) It is clarified that the lists so displayed in all the websites shall be in searchable mode with the EPIC number.

(v) In addition, the booth-wise lists of 65,00,000 (approximate) voters whose names have not been included in the Draft Roll, shall also be displayed on the Notice Board of respective Panchayat Bhavan and Offices of the Block Development Officer/Panchayat Officers to enable the general public to have access to the aforesaid voters lists along with the reasons for non-inclusion of their names.

(vi) With a view to inform the people about online availability of the above-mentioned lists on the websites of the District Election Officer and the display of such lists at the Panchayat Bhavans and the offices of the Block Development/Panchayat Officers, extensive publicity shall be given in the daily newspapers in the vernacular language as well as English newspapers having wide circulation in the State of Bihar. In addition, it shall also be broadcasted and telecasted through radio and on the electronic media. If the District Election Officers/Chief Electoral Officer, Bihar, have any official social media accounts, the public notice may also be displayed on those profiles also.

(vii) In the public notice, it shall also be expressly mentioned that the aggrieved persons may submit their claims along with a copy of their Aadhar Card.

(viii) The Election Commission of India shall obtain a compliance report from all the Booth Level Officers and District Election Officers and place it on record as a collated Status Report.

4. Post these matters on 22.08.2025 at 2.00 P.M. for further consideration.