

## 530% jump in assets of seven parties

The average total assets of seven national parties increased by 530% between 2004-05 and 2015-16, from about Rs. 62 crore to Rs. 388 crore, according to a report by the Association of Democratic Reforms (ADR).

The report said the BJP's assets increased by 627.15%, from Rs. 122.93 crore to Rs. 893.88 crore, while the Congress recorded an increase of 353.41%, from Rs. 167.35 crore to Rs. 758.79 crore. The CPI (M) and the Trinamool Congress are the only two national parties which have registered a steady increase in their annual declared assets. The total assets of CPI (M) between the same period increased by 383.47% (from Rs. 90.55 crore to Rs. 437.78 crore), while that of the Trinamool Congress increased by 17,896% (from Rs. 0.25 crore to Rs. 44.99 crore). Between 2012-13 and 2013-14, the BJP declared the highest increase in assets of Rs. 317.11 crore. The largest decrease was declared by the NCP.

The assets declared by national parties fall under six major heads: fixed assets, loans and advances, FDR/deposits, TDS, investments and other assets. During 2004-05, the maximum assets were declared under the FDR/deposits, amounting to Rs. 183.44 crore. It constituted 42.53% of total assets under various heads, said the report. During 2015-16, the highest category was "other assets", under which the parties declared holding Rs. 1,605.114 crore. and it formed 59% of the total assets,

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