

MANIFESTO REPORT CARD

How have the political parties performed on renewable energy?

In 2009, Greenpeace India began a campaign in Bihar for decentralised renewable energy, or DRE, as the solution to the power crisis in the state. Anticipating the October 2010 Assembly elections, we urged all political parties to include DRE in their manifestos.

All the parties accept that energy is key to development of the state and its people, and every manifesto released so far has addressed energy as an issue.

Manifestos of three of the main four political parties have been released to date: Janata Dal (United), Bharatiya Janata Party and the Rashtriya Janata Dal. That yet of the Congress party is not yet released.

Following from our campaign for decentralized renewable energy in Bihar, Greenpeace has analysed the three released manifestos on the following criteria:

1. Addressing the energy crisis in the state

The state has a critical shortage of power, and parties must first address this as an election issue of importance.

2. Intent and direction to resolve energy crisis

The clarity with which each of the parties have provided a road-map to solve the energy crisis has then been analysed. Does decentralised renewable energy form a significant part of their vision?

3. Strategy and implementation

Finally, we have examined the detailed steps and strategies that parties have proposed in their manifestos to build the energy infrastructure in the state. This has been done with an eye to the legal and policy frameworks proposed, the budgetary allocations indicated and the timelines, if provided, with which they hope to achieve their energy targets.

The party positions based on the above analysis

Party	Manifesto	Rating
BJP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talks of structural reforms Identifies limitations of fossil fuels Proposes that a separate RE policy be developed Proposes technical and financial support for RE, and supports DRE for small scale industrial growth 	
JD(U) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talks about special RE policy Proposes 30% budgetary fund for RE projects Expresses commitment to DRE Proposes technical and financial support for RE 	

<p>RJD</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talks about new RE law• Indicates support for a local generation and management of energy• Proposes technical and financial support for RE	
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