

2018 International Essay Contest for Young People

[Youth Category – Honorable Mention]

The Change I Want to Make

(Original)

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Change? Yes you read it right. Everyone want to change something in his life, it varies from person to person, similar for countries which may be trying to change GDP, Relations with other countries, extend boundaries of trade. So no one remains in the world untouched by the term “change”, but like any other innovation “change” do have its own benefits and harms depending upon the situation and person’s situation. So, now we need to think for a big objective which will profitable to common mob.

Most of the countries in world are democratic or leaders are chosen by referendum. So it means that periodically there are national elections and many small elections occurring in small cities for selecting there local representative depending on size, policies and norms of the respective country. But wait…… “whether this election is really necessary”? Most of you will quickly argue that yes elections give citizens of country chance to choose their representative but what if I ask you “are these elections too much costly?”, “can we increase our growth rate, medical amenities by this money?”

Obviously here we need a good calculation and some data gathered during last some years which can clarify the above asked questions. Starting from the most costliest election, the final price tag U.S. presidential election was \$ 6.5 billion in 2016 (source: [campaign finance watchdog OpenSecrets.org](http://campaignfinancewatchdog.org)), India prime minister election costs \$ 5 billion (source: <http://time.com/33062/india-elections-expenditure/>) in 2014, Australia spend \$286 million (source: Australia electoral history) in 2016 on its elections, Canada election cost was \$443 million (source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/elections-canada-443-million-1.3436139>), Japan expected election cost is **¥60 billion to ¥70 billion** (<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/09/20/national/politics-diplomacy/abes-snap-election-cost-taxpayers->) in its upcoming election and many more countries like Kenya investment in campaign per head (source: Business daily) is too much. Literally impacting heavily on its GDP, causing increase in inflation rate and adding gasoline to the fire of misery and burden.

National parties are investing millions of dollars for election campaign for strengthening their vote bank. Obviously I believe in the fact that democracy is not cheap but for development we need to take tough calls and try to cut down such high expenditure. For the same, I would request these national parties not to invest these vast amount on campaigning rather than invest this money directly (by taking grant from the court) on infrastructure, education, hunger, military equipment and all other basic need with having a aim to benefit country and also I demand an unbiased transparent election commission which will record all these activities done by political parties.

This will also benefit political parties because there campaigning effort decreases and they need to invest more on the development rather than travelling and people would also be able to choose their political parties more easily who really work on ground basis as "work speaks better than claims". This way there will be multiple time benefit for the country by all those party who are contesting election and futile expenditure would be minimal. Then we are left with one problem lastly "if political parties are not going to tell about the work done by them then how will people come to know who has done what?" Remember I demanded an unbiased, transparent election commission which is making a note of these works and can easily publish this work done by political parties through simple electronic media and paper media and cost of which can be easily incurred by election commission as they are already investing good amounts to make their voter aware about the elections.

Thus in my opinion these changes made by me would cause a big change in the present scenario and ultimately benefit country's development holding their citizens hand.