

## THE INCREDIBLE INK OF DEMOCRACY

DIPANJAN GHOSH\* AND SREEPARNA GHOSH

---

*Chemistry is everywhere in the world --- living or non-living. Like all other man-made things, the ink of democracy, i.e., the indelible ink is also a chemical wonder. This special ink is used for the purpose of marking a person after casting vote. Election ink cannot be erased or washed away and the process of manufacturing this ink is a top secret since its invention. Generally it is thought that voting ink is actually a mixture of silver nitrate and distilled water. Melanin pigment of skin reacts instantly with silver nitrate of ink in presence of ultraviolet rays of sunlight which leaves a coloured stain on the skin of finger. In this article the mystery of indelible voting ink has been unveiled.*

---