



ज्ञान-विज्ञान विमुक्तये

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सचिव

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Secretary



सत्यमेव जयते



विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग
University Grants Commission
(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
(Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

D.O.No.2-76/2023(CPP-II)

19th December, 2023/ 28 अग्रहायण, 1945

Subject: MoU signed between Election Commission of India and Ministry of Education-regarding

Respected Madam/Sir,

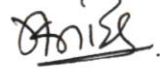
As you are aware, Electoral participation is vital for a democracy and it is imperative that the interest of youth for the same is encouraged. The young and future voters constitute a sizeable part of India's democratic polity and it's future. The Election Commission of India (ECI) has been pursuing the ideals of inclusive and accessible elections along-with informed and ethical voting and striving to address the issues of youth apathy and urban apathy by making concerted efforts and forging suitable partnerships. The ECI is implementing its flagship programme called Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) that aims at universal and enlightened participation of all eligible citizens in elections inter alia by addressing urban and youth apathy. Continuous Electoral and Democracy Education (CEDE) is an important component of SVEEP strategy which needs to be formalized and grounded in the school and higher education system in order to motivate future voters for greater electoral participation that would enable them to be responsible citizens who take pride in being a part of our democratic system in an informed manner with a sense of duty and purpose to strengthen our democracy.

As a part of implementing the SVEEP programme, a MoU has been signed between the Ministry of Education and ECI on 02nd November, 2023 to incorporate voter education and electoral literacy formally into the University/ College education system to prepare future and new voters for greater electoral participation. The suggested activities in the MoU are given in the Annexure.

The Higher Educational Institutions are requested to disseminate the information and take necessary steps to take up the suggested activities mentioned in the Annexure for deepening the spirit of democracy in the country.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Manish Joshi)

Encl: As above.

To
The Vice-Chancellors of all Universities
The Principals of all Colleges/Institutes



Annexure

1. Integrate voter education and electoral literacy appropriately in the curricular framework for all colleges / universities in a manner and to the extent of credit & hours suitable for different disciplines.
2. Orient / train teachers in imparting electoral literacy in the classrooms.
3. Create an institutional framework for using anonymised & aggregated UDISE (Unified District Information System for Education), All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) and other databases of students who have attained 17+ years of age with due regard to data privacy and protection with a view to facilitating online voter registration of eligible and prospective students after every qualifying date (1st January, 1st April, 1st July and 1st October of every calendar year) and during the Annual Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls (in the last quarter of every calendar year) using voter registration portals and mobile apps of ECI; evolve a robust mechanism to fulfill the aspirational goal of ECI to handover the Voter ID card to every student of the country immediately after their attaining the age of 18 years.
4. Develop an institutional framework for inculcating a sense of ownership amongst State Education Departments for the Electoral Literacy Clubs (ELCs) in schools / colleges for new / future voters, and other co-curricular activities for imparting voter awareness amongst students with a view to making them fully conversant with the electoral system of the country and inculcate in them the willingness to register as voters and participate in every election in a passionate, informed and ethical manner.
5. Conduct online / offline / blended training of nodal teachers for organising ELC activities and appoint / train campus ambassadors in schools and colleges to lead the ELC activities.
6. Include Electoral Literacy in the curriculum for adult literacy and basic education, develop educational content on electoral processes for life-long learning and make electoral literacy an integrated component of life-long education.
7. Disseminate communication material on electoral literacy prepared in consultation with ECI through various forms of media appropriate for school / college students.
8. Organise mobilisation campaigns and participatory activities in schools / colleges, administer a pledge to vote by students, organising mock polls, EVM-VVPAT demonstrations, information about ECI mobile apps, conduct competitions for electoral education and outreach.
9. Organise intensive activities on the occasion of National Voters' Day (25th January), and undertake voter awareness drive by students during the election time.
10. Devise a system of credits for students taking part in CEDE to pursue higher studies.
11. To regularly monitor the electoral literacy programme in all schools / colleges / universities at the national and state levels, among other things, to meet its objectives and to ensure the non-political and non-partisan character of the collaboration.
12. Introduce electoral literacy awareness programmes in colleges/ universities wherever elections to student bodies are held for inculcating practices of ethical voting right from the formative days and ensuring free, fair & inducement-free ethical elections at the student union level.
13. Ensuring end-to-end accessibility of every school / college building which is used as a polling station during elections, by providing standard ramps (1:10 gradient slope); an adequate number of separate male and female toilets and accessible toilets; and proper lighting / electricity.
14. Implement the above-mentioned activities and issue necessary directions to all the Universities / Colleges for making it an integral part of the routine functioning of their relevant authorities and personnel.
15. Report and document action taken and lessons learnt in the matter and appropriately disseminate success stories.
