



GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

BARASAT GOVERNMENT COLLEGE

NAAC ACCREDITED 'A' GRADE, DST-FIST SPONSORED & ISO 9001:2015, 14001:2015, 50001:2018 CERTIFIED COLLEGE

10, K.N.C. Road, Barasat, Kolkata - 700124, West Bengal, India

Phone: (033) 2552 3365, Fax: (033) 2562 5053, Website: www.bgc.ac.in, E-Mail: principal@bgc.ac.in

Electoral Literacy Club

An Electoral Literacy Club is a platform to engage school students through interesting activities and hands-on experience to sensitize them on their electoral rights and familiarize them with the electoral process of registration and voting. ELCs are also present in colleges and rural communities. At ELCs, learning meets fun. Through ELC, Election Commission of India, aims at strengthening the culture of electoral participation among young and future voters.

Electoral Literacy Clubs are especially being set up in colleges all across India targeting the new voters, (in the age group of 18-21 years old) pursuing their graduation.

Objectives

- I. To educate the targeted populations about voter registration, electoral process and related matters through hands on experience;
- II. To facilitate EVM and VVPAT familiarization and education about the robustness of EVM as well as the integrity of the electoral process using EVMs;
- III. To help the target audience understand the value of their vote and exercise their Right to franchise in a confident, comfortable and ethical manner;
- IV. To harness the potential of ELC members for carrying the electoral literacy in Communities;
- V. To facilitate voter registration for its eligible members who are not yet registered;
- VI. To develop a culture of electoral participation and maximize the informed and ethical Voting and follow the principle 'Every vote counts' and 'No Voter to be Left Behind'.

SVEEP is the flagship program of the Election Commission of India for voter education, spreading voter awareness and promoting voter literacy in India. It is a multi-intervention programme that reaches out through different modes and media to educate citizens, electors, and voters about the electoral process in order to increase their awareness and promote their informed participation. SVEEP is designed according to the socio-economic, cultural, and demographic profile of the state as well as history of electoral participation in previous rounds of elections. The Commission produces several voter awareness materials and disseminates the same through various mediums/platforms of communication i.e Print Media, Electronic Media, Social Media etc.

This policy, framed by the Election Commission of India is followed and implemented by every schools and colleges. Our college too is doing activities in this field adopting these policies.


Principal
Barasat Government College





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Institutional Initiatives for Electoral Literacy

<p>1. Whether Electoral Literacy Club (ELC) has been set up in the college?</p>	<p>In reference to Government Order No. 1616/SSM, dated 27.02.2024 an Electoral Literacy Club [ELC] has been formed at Barasat Government College on 29.02.2024. <i>Ex-officio</i>, Principal Dr. Samar Chattopadhyay is the Chairman of the Club. However, Electoral Literacy related activities have been performed from the academic session 2021-2022, although the ELC Committee was not framed properly. Primarily Head of the Department of Political Science and History acted as faculty members and students were selected to act as member at the times of holding programmes.</p>
<p>2. Whether students' co-ordinator and co-ordinating faculty members are appointed by the college and whether the ELCs are functional? Whether the ELCs are representatives in character?</p>	<p>Two faculty members, Mr. Rupak Saha, Assistant Professor in History and Mr. Aniruddha Das, Assistant Professor in Political Science are coordinating faculty members/ Nodal Officers along with twelve students' representatives, in reference to Government Order No. 1616/SSM, dated 27.02.2024 an Electoral Literacy Club [ELC] has been formed at Barasat Government College on 29.02.2024.</p> <p>Yes, the ELC is functional. The Club takes initiative in conducting various awareness programmes on Electoral Literacy, voting rights as well as on constitutional obligations, fundamental rights of citizen of India.</p>
<p>3. What innovative programmes and initiatives undertaken by the ELCs? These may include voluntary contribution by the students in electoral processes-participation in voter registration of students and communities where they come from, assisting district election administration in conduct of poll, voter awareness campaigns, promotion of ethical voting, enhancing participation of the under privileged sections of society especially transgender, commercial sex workers, disabled persons, senior citizens, etc.</p>	<p>The following initiatives have been undertaken by the ELC of Barasat Government College:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. 'Jay Bhim' film screening in collaboration with Department of Political Science on 27/06/2022. <i>No. of participants: 47</i> ii. Seminar on celebration of International Democracy Day on 15/09/2022 in collaboration with IQAC, Department of Political Science and Department of History. <i>No. of participants: 61</i>
<p>4. Any socially relevant projects/initiatives taken by college in electoral related issues especially research projects, surveys, awareness drives, creating content, publication highlighting their contribution to advancing democratic values and participation in electoral processes, etc.</p>	<p>The ELC organises special lecture series on constitutional rights and duties of the citizens, universal adult suffrage and importance of democracy. Students from all semesters were participated in the programme.</p>
<p>5. Extent of students above 18 years who are yet to be enrolled as voters in the electoral roll and effects by ELCs as well as efforts by the college to institutionalize mechanism to register eligible students as voters.</p>	<p>The Barasat Government College ELC takes initiatives in reviewing and ensuring that all its eligible students get registered as voters.</p>



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6. Other ELC related activities performed

a. District Administration, North 24 Parganas in collaboration with IQAC and the Department of Political Science organized **Orientation cum Awareness camp** involving members of the ELC on **14.08.2023** at Room No.1[Hall]. Hon'ble District Magistrate, North 24 Parganas graced the event. Students were informed about the duties of voters and made arrangements for enrolment of a few numbers of new voters

b. **International Democracy Day** was observed and organized jointly by Barasat Government College and the District Administration, North 24 Parganas at the Chemistry Gallery of the College on **15.09.2024**. Apart from having discussions on the significance of the Day, a poster competition was also organized and results declared.

c. **A voter Awareness Camp i.c.w S.R.E.R** was held on **25.11.2023** at Seminar Hall, Annex Building of the College by the District Administration in collaboration with IQAC and the Department of Political Science

d. **Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation Program[SVEEP]** organized by the Office of the District Election Officer. The meeting was held on **01/03/2024** at 2.00 pm at the Hall of Administrative Building, O/o. District Magistrate, North 24 Parganas.

Rupak Saha

[Rupak Saha]

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