Report

Voter Awareness Workshop Organized at GCOE/IASE Srinagar

Constituency: Lalchowk
Date: 28th August 2024

Introduction:

The Electoral Literacy Club in collaboration with the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Nodal Officer, Government College of Education (IASE) Srinagar, organized a Voter Awareness Workshop on 28th August 2024. The workshop was held in the Lalchowk constituency and aimed to equip students with the necessary knowledge and skills to cast their votes in an informed and responsible manner. The event was well-attended by students, faculty, and staff, reflecting the college's commitment to fostering a culture of informed and responsible voting among the youth.

Objective of the Workshop:

The primary objective of the workshop was to provide hands-on training to the students on how to cast their votes effectively using the latest voting technology. This initiative is crucial for empowering the youth, who are the future of the nation, to make informed decisions and participate actively in the democratic process.

Resource Persons:

The workshop was conducted by two distinguished resource persons:

1. **Mr. Tasleem Arif Dar**, Senior Lecturer.
2. **Mr. Gurdeep Singh**, Senior Lecturer.

Workshop Proceedings

1. Inaugural Session
The workshop commenced with a brief introduction by Prof. Lateef Ahmad

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Institute of Advanced Studies in Education

CLUSTER UNIVERSITY, SRINAGAR

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Shah, the organizer of the event. He welcomed the students and emphasized the importance of voting as a fundamental right and duty of every citizen in a democracy. Prof. Shah underscored the need for youth participation in the electoral process to build a progressive and inclusive nation.

2. Technical Session by Mr. Tasleem Arif Dar

Mr. Tasleem Arif Dar, Senior Lecturer, delivered an insightful session on the components of the voting system, including the Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT), the Control Unit, and the Electronic Voting Machine (EVM). He elaborated on the functions and significance of each part, explaining how these components work together to ensure a transparent, secure, and reliable voting process. Mr. Dar stressed the importance of understanding the technology behind the voting process to build trust and confidence among the voters.

3. Hands-on Training by Mr. Gurdeep Singh

Mr. Gurdeep Singh, Senior Lecturer, conducted a practical session where he provided hands-on training to the students on how to cast their votes using the EVM and VVPAT. He guided the students through each step of the voting process, ensuring that they understood the procedure thoroughly. The training aimed to familiarize the students with the operation of the machines, reduce any apprehensions, and promote confidence in the use of EVMs.

4. Moderation and Insights by Prof. Lateef Ahmad Shah

Throughout the workshop, Prof. Lateef Ahmad Shah played a pivotal role as the moderator. He facilitated the discussions and ensured that the workshop remained interactive and engaging. Prof. Shah highlighted the significance of every vote in shaping the country's future and encouraged students to become ambassadors of voter awareness in their communities.

5. Vote of Thanks by Mr. Anwer

Mr. Anwer, an in-service teacher candidate and student of B.Ed. 2nd semester, delivered the vote of thanks. He expressed gratitude to the resource persons, organizers, and participants for making the workshop a success. Mr. Anwer emphasized the need for continued efforts in voter education and awareness to strengthen democracy.

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Feedback and Impact

The workshop was well-received by the students, who appreciated the interactive format and practical training. Many students expressed that the workshop had enhanced their understanding of the voting process and boosted their confidence in participating in elections. The hands-on training provided a valuable opportunity for the students to experience the voting process first-hand, dispelling myths and misconceptions about EVMs and VVPATs.

Acknowledgments:

The workshop was made possible through the guidance and support of the respected Principal, **Prof. (Dr.) Seema Naz**. Her encouragement and leadership were instrumental in the successful organization of this workshop.

Conclusion

The Voter Awareness Workshop at GCOE/IASE Srinagar was a significant step towards promoting electoral literacy among the youth. The engaging sessions by the resource persons, along with the hands-on training, empowered the students to cast their votes responsibly and effectively. By fostering a deeper understanding of the voting process, the workshop contributed to the broader goal of creating an informed and active electorate that can drive positive change in society. The success of this event underscores the importance of such initiatives in strengthening the democratic fabric of the nation.

       Sd/-   **Sd/-**

Nodal officer SVEEP   **Principal**

NO: GCOE/IASE/24/2164

Dated: 30/08/24

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<u>Photos of the Voters Workshop</u>