



Electoral Literacy Club (ELC)

GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE VAILOO LARNOO (ANANTNAG)

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SWEEP

'Event Summary Report'

VOTER AWARENESS IN VIEW OF THE UPCOMING GENERAL ELECTIONS TO LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (GELA)- 2024

Jammu & Kashmir (UT)


22nd August - 15th September, 2024

Review
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INTRODUCTION

Under the ambit of the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Cell, Anantnag, the Electoral Literacy Club (ELC) of Government Degree College (GDC) Larnoo, in collaboration with 'College Debates & Seminar Committee' and "College Drama & Culture Committee" organized a series of impactful events from 22nd August to 15th September 2024, to enhance voter literacy and civic engagement. These events were aimed at fostering awareness among students and the community about the importance of voting, the electoral process, and democracy. The activities were strategically designed to engage participants in a variety of hands-on, creative, and educational experiences that underscored the value of active citizenship in the democratic process, with a particular focus on the Kashmir region in particular and J&K in general.







GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE

Vailoo Larnoo (Anantnag)
Affiliated with the University of Kashmir, Srinagar



Electoral Literacy Club (ELC)

in collaboration with
Drama & Culture Committee & Debates & Seminar Committee



Theme: General Election to Legislative Assembly (GELA) J&K- 2024
(22nd August – 15th September, 2024)


General Elections to Legislative Assembly (GELA) - 2024

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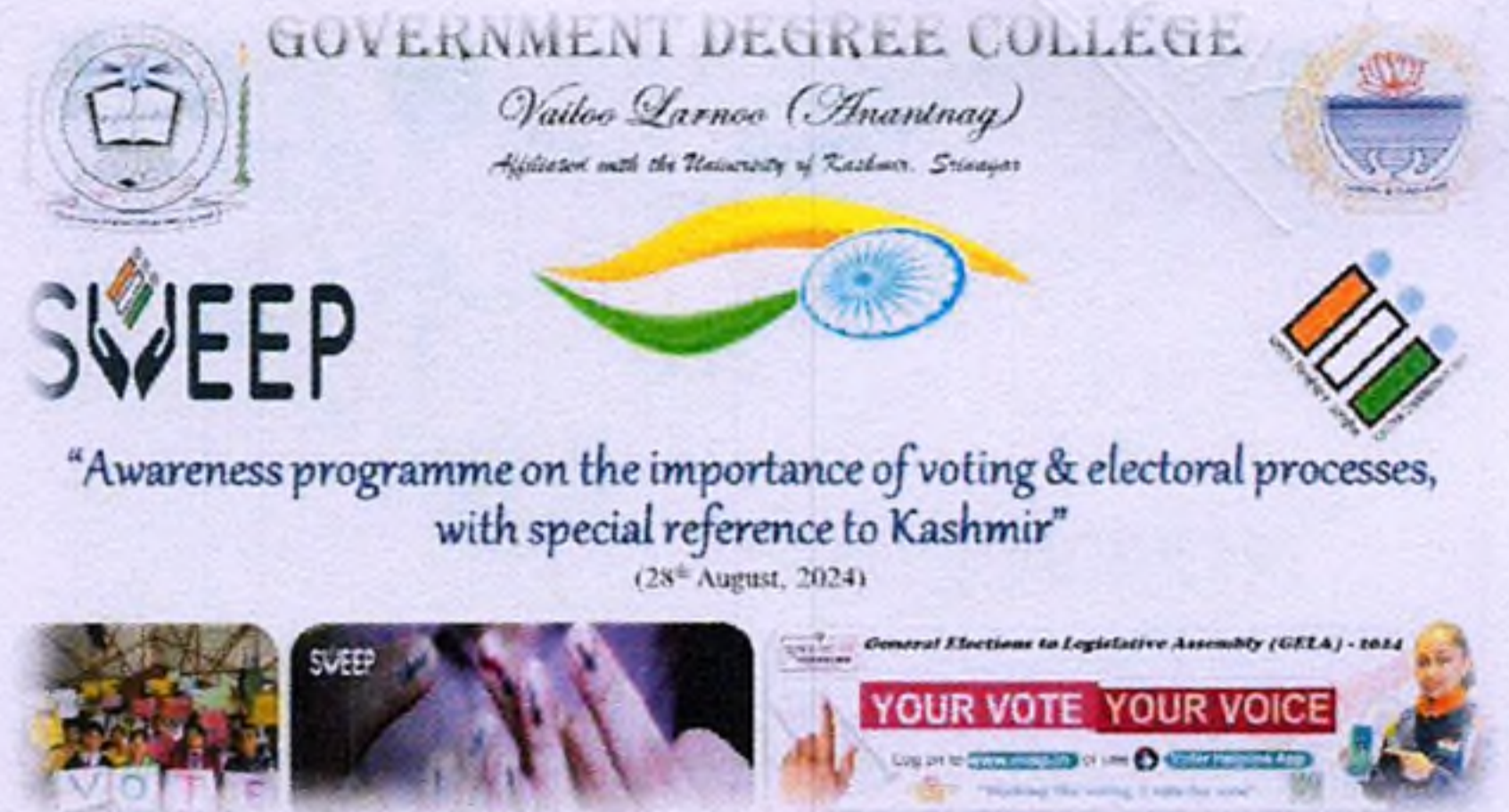


SUMMARY OF THE ACTIVITIES:

1. ****Expert Talk on Awareness Programme on the Importance of Voting & Electoral Processes with special reference to Kashmir****

On August 28th, 2024, our worthy Principal-GDC Larnoo (*Prof. Farooq Ahmad Pandith*) kickstarted the SVEEP Action Plan for GELA-2024. The first event to be held was an expert talk delivered by Syeed Mudasir Mushtaq (Coordinator of the ELC), titled "Awareness Programme on the Importance of Voting & Electoral Processes, with special reference to Kashmir." The speaker addressed the historical and contemporary significance of voting in the Indian democratic system, focusing particularly on the unique socio-political landscape of Kashmir. He emphasized the importance of informed voting, highlighting how every individual vote contributes to shaping the future of this region. The session also explored the challenges and opportunities associated with electoral participation in Kashmir, where historical complexities have made voter education crucial. The talk was attended by the students and faculty members, all of whom participated actively in the interactive discussion that followed.

The audience was made aware about the various applications developed by Election Commission of India (ECI) for a better voter information and efficient electoral processes, like, 'cVigil', 'Know Your Candidate', 'Voter Helpline', 'PwBD', 'Saksham', etc. These applications have been found in reporting issues like violation of MCC, enquiring about facilities available at booths for specially-abled voters, plus providing necessary information about the contesting candidates.





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2. ****Mock Election Campaign****

Following the expert talk, a mock election campaign was held on 28th August-2024, to provide students with a hands-on experience of the electoral process. The students assumed the roles of candidates, campaign managers, and voters, simulating a real election environment. This practical exercise aimed to demystify the election process, encouraging first-time voters to become more comfortable and confident in participating in future elections. Through this exercise, students not only learned about voting procedures but also understood the importance of fair campaigning, the role of election officials, and the significance of casting an informed vote.



3. ****Poster/Pamphlet making and Social Media Campaign****

Between 28th and 29th August 2024, students took part in a poster and pamphlet-making activity, creating visually compelling materials emphasizing the importance of voting and democracy. The posters and pamphlets, bearing slogans like "Your Vote, Your Voice" and "Democracy is Strengthened by Voting," were displayed around the college. In tandem with this, students also engaged in a social media campaign, using platforms like WhatsApp, Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter to reach a wider audience. By leveraging both traditional and digital mediums, the ELC succeeded in amplifying the message of electoral participation beyond the physical confines of the college.





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4. **Digital Storytelling Project**

On 29th August 2024, the ELC launched a digital storytelling initiative where students were encouraged to create short videos or multimedia presentations exploring the importance of voting from their own perspectives. These digital stories ranged from personal narratives about voting for the first time to creative animations explaining the electoral process. The initiative allowed students to reflect on the role of voting in shaping society and to present their insights in a way that resonated with their peers and the broader community. This project not only fostered digital literacy but also deepened students' understanding of their civic duties.



5. ***Voting Pledge Campaign***

On 2nd September 2024, the ELC initiated a voting pledge campaign where students and teachers made a formal commitment to exercise their right to vote in the upcoming Legislative Assembly elections in J&K. The campaign created a sense of collective responsibility among participants, reinforcing the idea that voting is both a right and a civic duty. A large turnout of students and staff members took the pledge, inspiring others to follow suit. This event also included discussions on the importance of ethical voting and avoiding practices like vote-buying and coercion.





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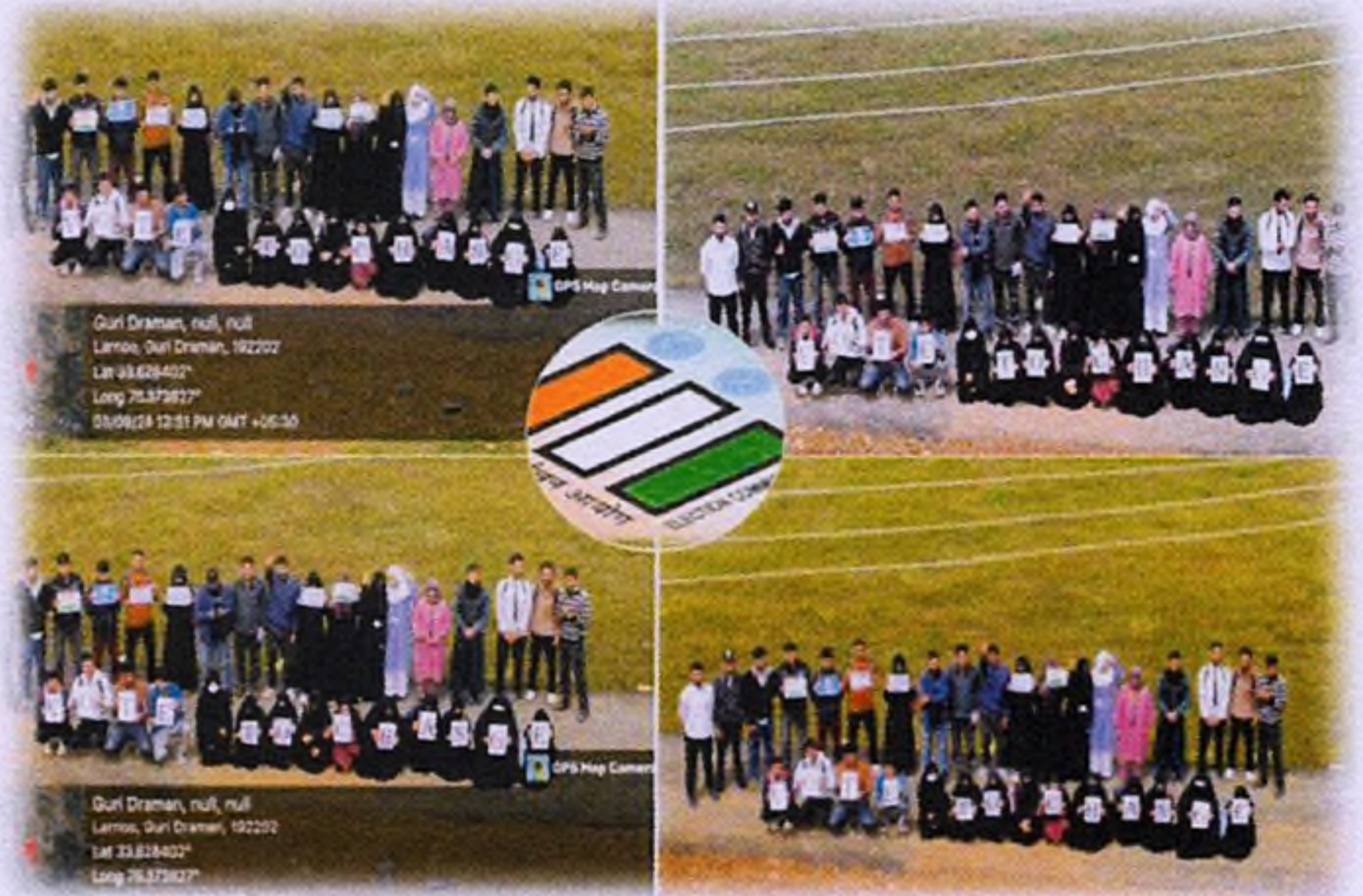
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6. ****Queue-based Placard display****

As part of the SVEEP initiative, ELC organized a placard display campaign to raise awareness about the importance of voting and democratic participation. The event saw enthusiastic participation from students and faculty, who carried vibrant placards bearing impactful messages such as "*Vote to Change*," "*Every Vote Counts*," and "*Strengthen Democracy, Vote Responsibly*." The campaign served as a visually engaging reminder about the power of each vote in shaping the region's future.



7. ****Voter Awareness Rallies****

On 10th September 2024, a voter awareness rally was organized, during which students and staff marched through local neighbourhoods and marketplaces to generate excitement and awareness about the upcoming elections. The participants carried banners and placards with slogans like "*Vote to Change*" and "*Every Vote Counts*," while distributing pamphlets and engaging with the public. This rally aimed to reach the wider local community, particularly those who might be less informed about the electoral process. The event was a visual demonstration of the college's commitment to increasing voter turnout and promoting informed voting within the region.





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8. ****Drama/Skit on Voting and Democracy****

On 14th September 2024, students performed a drama/skit highlighting the importance of voting and democracy. The theme of the performance centred around the selection of a better candidate, focusing on the qualities of leadership, accountability, and commitment to societal development. The skit illustrated how the 'right choice of leadership' can positively impact a community's growth and well-being. By dramatizing these themes, the students were able to communicate the significance of thoughtful voting in an engaging and relatable manner. The performance was well-received by both students and staff members, sparking further conversations about the role of voting in choosing leaders who can contribute to the overall development of society.

In the end, Principal-GDC Larnoo praised the 'skit performers' and thanked all others for making this month-long campaign a success.





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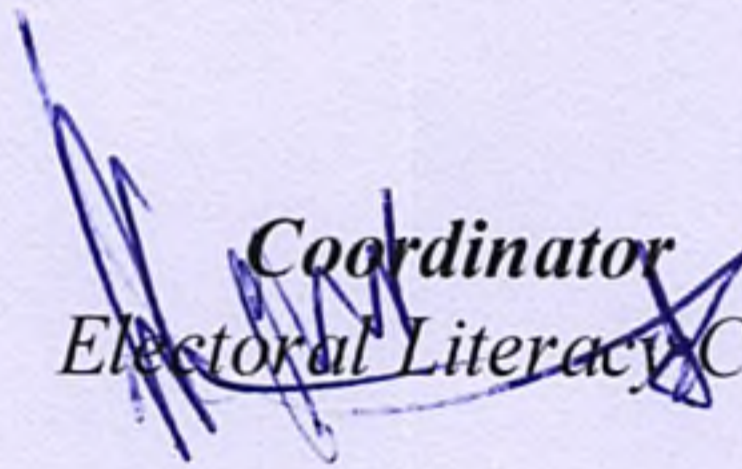
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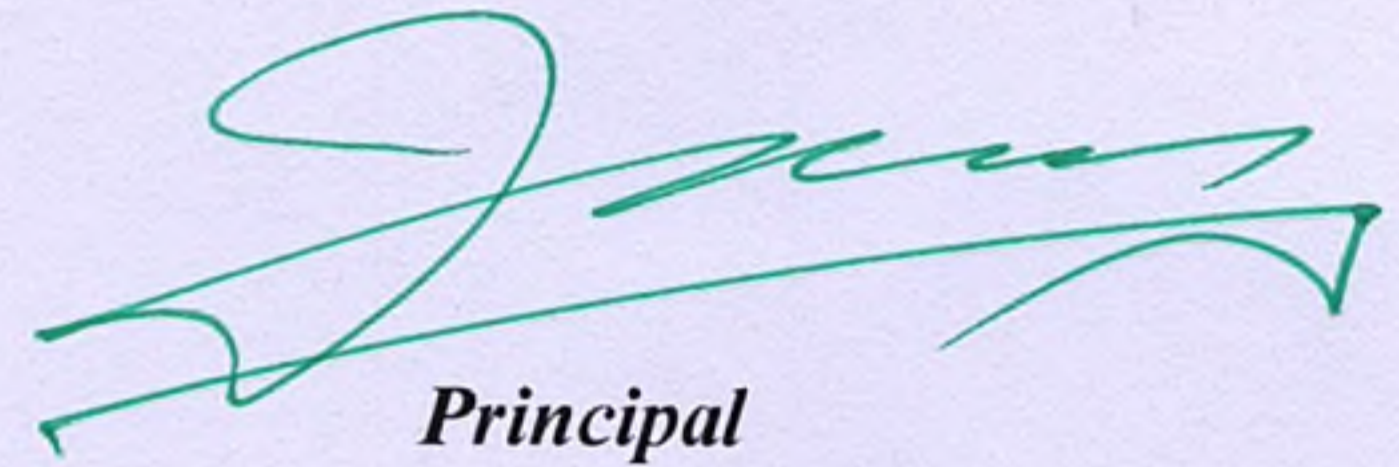
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CONCLUSION

The events organized by the Electoral Literacy Club (ELC) of Government Degree College Larnoo, under the ambit of the SVEEP Cell (Anantnag), were successful in creating a heightened sense of awareness and responsibility among students and the local community regarding electoral participation. From expert talk(s) and mock elections to creative storytelling and public rallies, these activities provided diverse and engaging platforms for learning about the electoral process and the critical role of voting in a democracy. The involvement of students in both the organization and participation of these events ensured that the message of active citizenship reached a broad audience, fostering a culture of informed and responsible voting. The ELC remains committed to continuing such initiatives in the future, with the aim of further empowering the youth and the community to actively participate in shaping the democratic future of the nation.


Coordinator
Electoral Literacy Club


Principal