

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi – 110 001

No. 491/SVEEP-III/ELC(Main)/2022

Dated: 22nd June, 2023

To

The Chief Electoral Officers of
All States and UTs

Subject: Mainstreaming of Electoral Literacy: Establishment of Electoral Literacy clubs in Schools, Colleges and Communities – regarding.

Sir/Madam,

This has a reference to ECI's letter No. 491/ECI/LET/SVEEP-I/EL/ELC/2017 dated: 3rd November, 2017 on the subject cited wherein certain guidelines were issued by the Commission for mainstreaming of Electoral Literacy. As per Para 3.2 of the said letter, it was mentioned that the ELCs shall be established as per the following pattern:

- (i) **ELC Future Voters** – For Classes IX to Class XII (Secondary and Senior Secondary Level)
- (ii) **ELC New Voters** – College, University, all other educational institutions including professional and technical educational institutions
- (iii) **Chunav Paathshala** – ELC in communities for the youth who are not a part of the formal education system
- (iv) **Voter Awareness forums** – in Government Departments, Organizations, Autonomous Bodies, Semi Government and non Government and the private sector.

Details of activities are given below:

2.ELC Future Voters:

Electoral Literacy Clubs will be set up in Secondary and Senior Secondary Schools. The club will have students of Class IX-XII as its members. Students may be encouraged to run the ELC through an elected body of Executive Committee with elected representatives from each of the Sections. Alternatively School may conduct the activities through teachers involving the students. One or two teachers, preferably from the Humanities Department will act as the Nodal Officers and Mentors for the ELC. The teachers with election duty experience should be given preference for this work.

3. ELC New Voters:

Electoral Literacy Clubs will be set up in colleges and university campuses for engaging students in hands on experience in electoral literacy. Guidance and involvement of teachers especially those who have experience of election duties will be an important

component the club will have students as its members and would be run by an Executive Committee from amongst the students with elected representatives from each of the Classes. Campus Ambassador will act as the Convenor of the ELC and will assist the Nodal officer in discharge of their functions. One or two teachers, preferably from the Political Science Department etc will act as the Nodal Officers and Mentors for the ELC.

4. ChunavPathshala:

Electoral Literacy Clubs will be set up at the Polling Station level catering to those outside the formal education structures and may be named as per the name of the polling station or a group of polling stations. These shall be called Chunav Pathshala. The BLO will act as Nodal Officer for the Chunav Pathshala and the BAGs shall support and guide the ELC and shall assist the BLO in making the Chunav Pathshalas functional and for enrolling members. Voluntary help by teachers, non-partisan CSOs, NLM functionaries, Panchayat officials or the Municipal officials (Non elected) of that Polling Station area may be taken for enrolment. The Venue of the 'Chunav Paathshala' shall be Polling Station in the last Lok Sabha or the Assembly Election or any other venue identified by the BLO.

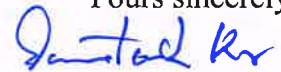
5. Voter Awareness Forums (VAFs):

Voter Awareness Forums will operate in Government Departments, Non government Organizations, Corporate and other Institutions. The membership will be open to all employees. Head of the Organization shall appoint one person as the Nodal Officer. Preference shall be given to an officer who has experience of the election duty. Nodal officer will liaise with the District Election Officer or the CEO of the State for VAF Resources.

Despite constant reminder of the Commission, no ELC Activities is taking place at ground level and it seems that ELCs are being functional only on paper. Hon'ble Commission has taken a serious view of this apathy of Election Officials towards ELC and has instructed to revamp ELC activities at ground level without any delay. Any further negligence from your end will be taken seriously by the Commission.

In view of the above, you are kindly requested to intimate the Commission about the work done till date for revamp of ELC activities within 30 days of receipt of letter.

Yours sincerely,



**(SANTOSH KUMAR)
SECRETARY**