

## **Electoral Literacy Club (ELC) @SACM**

### **Introduction:**

Electoral Literacy Club (ELC) of Saheed Anurup Chandra Mahavidyalaya (SACM), had been set up in accordance with ECI guidelines to promote electoral literacy in all age groups of the Indian citizens, especially, students of the college by carrying out many diversified and interesting activities on apolitical, neutral and non-partisan manner.

The institutional **Electoral Literacy Club** was also set up with the **specific objective** of targeting the new voters (in the age-group 18-21 years) who are pursuing their graduation in the college. Since the college is located in a **village area**, **Panchayat Election** has been found to possess a prominent role in the locality and hence in the young learners of the college.

**Almost 100% employees of the college participate in every election in different level starting from 3<sup>rd</sup> Polling officer to Presiding officers.**

### **Objectives:**

**The objectives of the ELC are as follows:**

- To develop a culture of electoral participation and ethical voting
- To educate the targeted populations, in the college and the locality, about voter registration, electoral process and related matters
- To help the target audience understand the value of their vote and exercise their right to franchise in a confident, comfortable and ethical manner.
- To harness the potential of ELC members for carrying the electoral literacy in communities
- To follow the principle 'Every vote counts' and 'No Voter to be Left Behind'.

### **Structure:**

The ELC is being coordinated by **two Coordinators** – one **Faculty Coordinator** and one **Student Coordinator**. There is an **Executive Committee** where **5 Student members** and **3 Faculty members** are present to look after the different functions and activities of the ELC Club. All the students of the college are the default members of the club by virtue of its policy.

The **faculty Coordinator** is selected who has experience of election duty. Here **Political Science faculty** are usually preferred in our college because of their relevant exposure and experience. The **student side Coordinator** is selected who has experience in participating in any election and casting vote.

#### **Different Activities:**

This ELC Club usually conduct the following activities under the banner of this club:

- 1) Celebration of "National Voters' Day" on January 25 every year
- 2) Awareness Programme on Importance of casting your valuable Vote
- 3) Voters Awareness Campaign
- 4) Orientation Programme for ELC Students
- 5) Participation in Human Chain Making for Electoral Awareness
- 6) Invited Talk by external experts on relevant fields
- 7) Some other activities are also conducted as and when required

The college has a **Student Union** which is formed based on election where all students of the college cast their votes for which the students in the college are well aware of election, casting vote and other important aspects of an election. Being an undergraduate college, majority of the students are above 18 years of age and because of different types of election starting from Panchayat to Legislative to Parliamentary elections, almost 80% student are eligible and majority of them cast their votes enthusiastically.