

**Formation of the MIT ADT University  
Electoral Literacy Club (ELC)**

**CIRCULAR**

We are pleased to announce the establishment of the **Electoral Literacy Club (ELC)** at MIT ADT University, formed under the guidance of the Office of Student Affairs on **August 15, 2023**. The ELC aims to foster **democratic engagement, civic responsibility, and leadership** among students, creating awareness about electoral rights and promoting **voter registration** and **ethical voting** practices.

**Objectives:**

The ELC's key focus areas are:

- Raising **electoral awareness** and encouraging students to register as voters.
- Promoting **ethical voting** through education on responsible participation in democracy.
- Providing hands-on **civic learning** opportunities to engage students in the electoral process.

**Current Initiatives:**

- **Voter Registration Drives:** Collaborating with local authorities, we aim to register over **1,000 students** for the upcoming Maharashtra state elections.
- **Electoral Literacy Fair:** Scheduled for **November 2024**, this event will be organized with the District Collector and local bodies to further **voter awareness**.
- **Campaign Participation:** ELC will engage in **National Voter's Day** and **International Day of Democracy**, alongside the **MIT-IMPACT Student Council, SHD, IIC, and NSS**, to create campus-wide involvement.

**Educational Programs:**

- **Lecture Series:** Informative sessions on **voting rights** and the **democratic process** will be held to educate students about the importance of voting.
- **Election Exhibition:** During the **November 2024 state elections**, the ELC will host an exhibition featuring **interactive displays** like a simulated **Electronic Voting Machine (EVM)** and electoral forms, alongside photography by the university's photography club.

The **ELC** is committed to building a **socially aware, responsible, and engaged** student body, encouraging active participation in the democratic process. We invite all



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students, faculty, and staff to join us in our mission to strengthen democratic values on campus and beyond.

To ensure smooth operations and leadership, we have appointed the following individuals to key positions within the ELC:

1. **President:** Mr. Bhoumik Rajput
2. **Vice President:** Ms. Harvi Patel
3. **General Secretary:** Mr. Vaibhav Kalaskar
4. **Joint Secretary:** Mr. Lokesh Singhvi
5. **Social Media Head:** Mr. Abhijeet Varudkar
6. **Treasurer:** Ms. Siddhi Honrao
7. **Public Relations (PR) Head:** Mr. Adarsh Deshmukh
8. **Executive Member:** Mr. Satyam Kumar Pathak
9. **Executive Member:** Ms. Devanshi Jagtap
10. **Executive Member:** Mr. Yashashvi Raj Chaturvedi

### Faculty Mentors:

1. Prof.Dr.Suraj Bhojar – Associate Director Student Affairs
2. Dr. Ulhas Malawade – Assistant Director Student Affairs
3. Prof.Dr. Rakesh Sidheshware - Research & Innovation Officer
4. Prof. Dr Pratibha Jagtap - Associate Professor

The ELC is committed to upholding the university's vision of holistic student development, contributing not only to academic growth but also to the democratic responsibilities that shape future leaders.

  
Dr. Manesh Chopade  
Registrar



## MIT ADT University - Electoral Literacy Club (ELC)

**Established on August 15, 2023**

### **Vision**

The **Electoral Literacy Club (ELC)** at MIT ADT University is dedicated to cultivating a community of well-informed, responsible, and engaged democratic citizens. Through education, awareness, and active involvement, we seek to equip students with a comprehensive understanding of electoral processes and democratic values. Our vision is to empower students to become catalysts for positive change, recognizing the significance of their voices and voting in shaping the future of the nation. By fostering civic responsibility, critical thinking, and a commitment to democratic principles, the ELC aims to inspire active participation in democratic elections, ensuring that students make informed decisions that reflect their values and contribute to the development of a strong, transparent, and accountable governance system.

### **Mission**

The mission of the ELC is to:

- Promote electoral literacy among students, helping them understand the democratic process and their roles as responsible voters.
- Organize events and initiatives that encourage participation in local, state, and national elections.
- Facilitate discussions on electoral reforms and the importance of ethics in voting.
- Serve as a platform for educating students on the proper use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) to ensure transparency in the voting process.
- Work with local communities and authorities to raise awareness about voter rights, registration processes, and the importance of casting a vote.



Prof. Dr. Suraj Bhoyar

(Associate Director – Student Affairs)





### ELC Club Committee Members

- **President:** Mr. Bhoumik Rajput
- **Vice President:** Ms. Harvi Patel
- **General Secretary:** Mr. Vaibhav Kalaskar
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Prof.Dr.Suraj Bhojar  
(Associate Director – Student Affairs)



### Event Reports

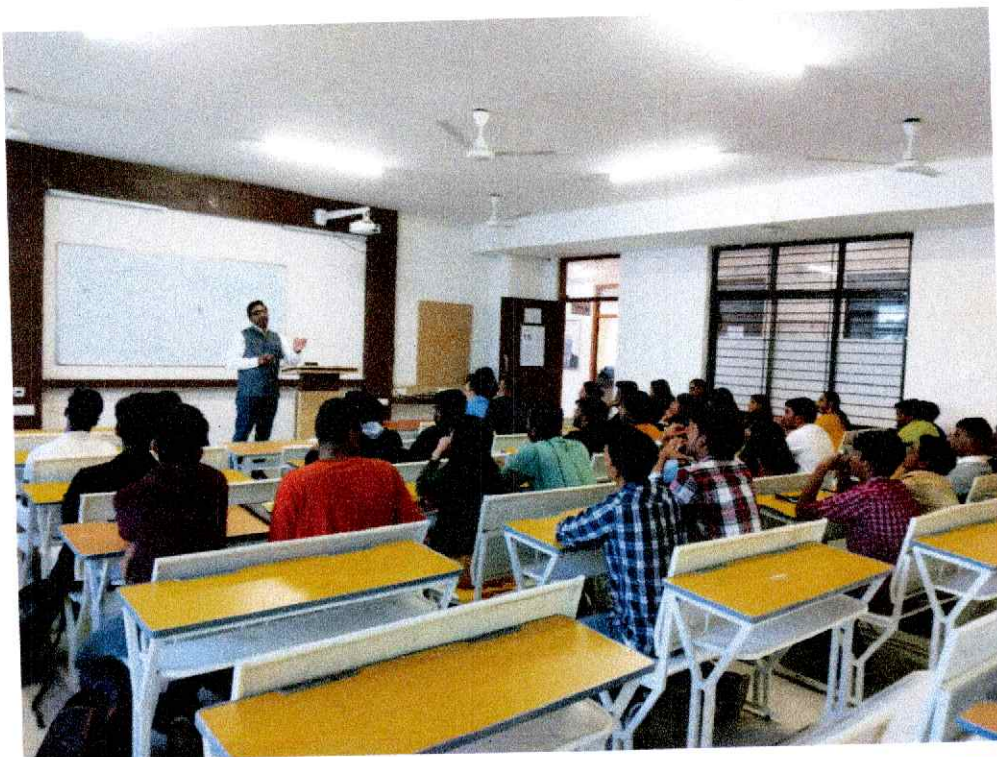
### 1. Electoral Literacy Inauguration Drive (August 16, 2023)

On the momentous occasion of India's 77th Independence Day, MIT ADT University's Electoral Literacy Club (ELC) was inaugurated with the aim of empowering the student community to understand and actively participate in the democratic process. The event kicked off with an introduction to the club's goals of promoting electoral awareness and strengthening democratic values among students. The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of Prof. Dr. Suraj Bhoyar, who delivered a thought-provoking keynote speech. He stressed the crucial role the youth plays in shaping India's future by exercising their voting rights responsibly.

#### Key Highlights:

- **Inauguration Ceremony:** Attended by over 200 students and faculty, the event was marked by high enthusiasm.
- **Guest Speech:** Prof. Dr. Bhoyar's keynote emphasized youth's role in democracy and the significance of responsible voting.
- **Voter Registration Drive:** A voter registration booth was set up on the premises, offering students the opportunity to initiate their registration process with assistance from the local electoral office.

**Outcome:** Over 100 students registered as first-time voters. The event laid the foundation for ELC's mission to nurture politically aware and engaged citizens within the university community.



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## 2. Voters Awareness Week (11 September 2023)

Following the successful inauguration, the Electoral Literacy Club launched a week-long "Voters Awareness Week" in September 2023. The initiative aimed to educate students about the importance of voter registration and provide comprehensive information about the electoral process. The club partnered with local electoral officers to ensure authenticity in registrations and organized workshops to demystify voter eligibility, the registration process, and the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trails (VVPATs).

### Key Highlights:

- **Workshops:** Daily sessions on electoral processes were conducted, with over 300+ students attending workshops on voter registration, voter eligibility, and the technicalities of EVMs and VVPATs.
- **Interactive Exhibitions:** Demonstrations of EVMs and VVPATs attracted large crowds, giving students a hands-on experience.
- **Door-to-Door Campaign:** ELC members went beyond campus, visiting nearby villages to raise awareness about voter registration and educate the local community.

**Outcome:** The event culminated in over 200 new voter registrations, both on campus and within the neighboring communities, significantly contributing to ELC's mission of encouraging voter participation among first-time voters.



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### 3. Plogathon Drive for Democracy Awareness (September 22, 2023)

The Electoral Literacy Club (ELC) at MIT Art, Design, and Technology University organized the Plogathon Drive for Democracy Awareness, marking National Youth Day. This unique initiative aimed to merge environmental sustainability with civic engagement, emphasizing the power of voting as a key to driving societal change. The event was a collaboration between MIT ADT University, the Swedish Institute, and the Sweden Alumni Network India - Maharashtra & Goa Chapter. Through a series of speeches, interactive discussions, and a clean-up drive the campaign inspired students to be both environmentally conscious and proactive in their participation in the electoral process.

#### Key Highlights:

- **Social Media Campaign:** The ELC leveraged digital platforms to promote voting awareness, reaching over 400 students online. The campaign shared informative content about the link between civic duty and environmental responsibility.
- **Interactive Booths:** ELC volunteers set up booths at strategic locations on campus, where students learned about the voter registration process and the importance of their participation in elections.
- **Guest Speakers:** The event featured prominent personalities who highlighted the importance of democracy and environmental sustainability:
  - Chief Guest, Mr. Yogesh Shinde, the visionary behind the Bamboo India Mission, inspired students to see voting as a tool for change, much like his efforts to replace plastic with sustainable bamboo products.
  - Ms. Ritu Kedia, a Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awardee, emphasized how perseverance and voting are both essential for driving success and change.
  - Mrs. Nirmala Thormote and Mr. Aniket Thormote from Do Save Foundation linked environmental practices like waste segregation to informed voting choices.
  - Shri Amit Jagtap from Green Foundation discussed the parallels between maintaining a clean environment and ensuring a transparent electoral process.
- **Democracy Pledge:** The event concluded with participants taking a pledge to vote responsibly in the upcoming elections and encouraging their peers to register and participate.

**Outcome:** The Plogathon Drive for Democracy Awareness successfully engaged more than 300 participants in person, with over 100+ students receiving voter registration assistance.

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#### **4. Event Title: Responsible Voting Workshop: Know Your Candidate (October 04, 2023)**

**Event Summary:** The ELC held a practical workshop titled "Responsible Voting: Know Your Candidate" to educate students on the significance of researching political candidates before casting their votes. The session emphasized informed decision-making, providing students with tools to assess candidates' track records, manifestos, and public service records.

**Associated Report:** MIT ADT University's Electoral Literacy Club hosted the "Responsible Voting: Know Your Candidate" workshop. The offline event focused on equipping students with the skills needed to make informed voting choices. The workshop covered topics such as understanding candidate backgrounds, interpreting political manifestos, and evaluating past performance in governance.

Participants were introduced to platforms and resources like candidate comparison websites and public data on political candidates. The interactive session included a mock voting scenario, where students had to choose between fictional candidates based on their manifestos and previous records.

#### **Key Highlights:**

- **Interactive Voting Scenario:** Students participated in a simulation where they had to assess mock candidates and cast informed votes.
- **Resourceful Tools:** The workshop introduced students to valuable resources for comparing candidates and understanding their promises.
- **Ethical Voting:** Emphasis was placed on the importance of ethical and informed voting practices, ensuring that participants understood their role as conscientious voters.

**Outcome:** The workshop successfully raised awareness about the importance of informed voting. Students left the event with the knowledge and confidence to critically evaluate candidates before participating in elections.



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## 5. TIRANGA ABHIYAN (October 11, 2023)

In October 2023, the ELC organized a patriotic event called "Tiranga Abhiyan" under the banner of "Your Vote, Your Voice" to inspire students to view voting as a civic responsibility. This initiative brought together the patriotic fervor of India's national symbols with the critical message of electoral participation. The day started with a flag-hoisting ceremony followed by a vibrant march across the campus. Students, faculty, and staff carried banners and slogans promoting the importance of voting, while a voter registration desk was set up to help students take the first step toward becoming responsible citizens.

### Key Highlights:

- **Flag Hoisting & March:** Over 200 participants, including students, faculty, and community members participated in the march, showcasing their support for democracy and the importance of voting.
- **Voter Registration Desk:** The booth remained active throughout the day, with volunteers assisting first-time voters in registering themselves.
- **Expert Talks:** Faculty experts discussed the crucial role elections play in a democratic society and how each vote can lead to significant changes in governance.

**Outcome:** The event saw 150+ new voter registrations, and its resounding success increased awareness about electoral participation among more than 200 attendees, further solidifying the club's impact on campus.



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## 6. Youth Empowerment through Voting Awareness (November 24, 2023)

The ELC hosted an enlightening "Voting Awareness Session", in collaboration with the local police station, aimed at spreading awareness about the importance of voting among young minds. The session brought together law enforcement officials, political science experts, and students to discuss the significance of electoral participation and civic responsibility.

### Key Highlights:

- **Panel Discussions:** Featured an esteemed panel of experts discussing the role of youth engagement in enhancing the democratic process, with participation from over 300 students and faculty members.
- **Interactive Q&A Session:** Students actively participated in the discussions, asking pertinent questions about voter apathy and the importance of informed voting, along with how to combat electoral malpractices.
- **Workshops on Responsible Voting:** The session concluded with workshops focused on responsible voting practices, emphasizing the need for integrity in elections and the long-term impact of informed voter behaviour on governance.

**Outcome:** The session not only educated students on the significance of voting but also spurred meaningful conversations about civic engagement and the future of democracy in India.



### **7. Event Title: The Power of One Vote Campaign (January 16, 2024)**

**Event Summary:** To highlight the impact of every individual vote, the ELC launched "The Power of One Vote" campaign. This campaign involved setting up interactive stations across campus, where students could engage in discussions and activities that demonstrated the profound influence of a single vote on elections and governance.

The ELC at MIT ADT University launched the "The Power of One Vote" campaign, a day-long event focused on emphasizing the importance of every single vote. Interactive booths were set up across the campus, featuring activities that highlighted historical elections where just a few votes made a significant difference.

#### **Key Highlights:**

- **Interactive Booths:** Students participated in discussions and role-play scenarios to understand the impact of voter turnout.
- **Historical Insights:** Displays featured examples from past elections where a small number of votes changed the outcome, reinforcing the power of individual participation.
- **Inspiring Content:** Infographics and short videos inspired students to exercise their right to vote in every election.

**Outcome:** The campaign was highly successful in demonstrating the power of a single vote. Over 80+ students visited the booths, and many pledged to vote in the upcoming elections, with several first-time voters registering on the spot.



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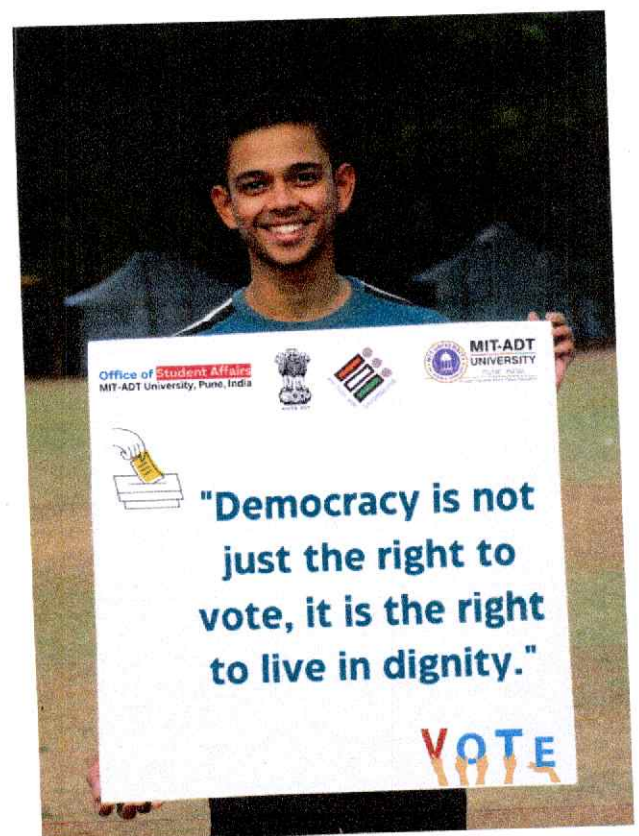
## 8. National Voters' Day (January 25, 2024)

Marking National Voters' Day, the Electoral Literacy Club organized a grand celebration in line with the nationwide initiative led by the Election Commission of India. The event focused on raising awareness about the importance of voting, especially among first-time voters. It began with an oath-taking ceremony where students pledged to exercise their democratic rights with responsibility and integrity. To make the experience more interactive and informative, the ELC conducted a mock election using EVMs and VVPATs, helping students gain a clear understanding of the process.

### Key Highlights:

- **Oath Ceremony:** More than 150 students and faculty took part in the oath, committing to uphold democratic values and participate in upcoming elections.
- **Mock Election:** A practical demonstration of EVMs and VVPATs was held, allowing students to familiarize themselves with voting technologies and procedures.
- **Expert Lectures:** Faculty mentors addressed the importance of free, fair, and transparent elections, highlighting the impact that responsible voting can have on the nation's future.

**Outcome:** The celebration sparked renewed enthusiasm among the students, especially first-time voters, and fostered a greater understanding of the electoral process, with over 150 participants actively engaging in the mock election exercise.



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### 9. Event Title: **Vote for Change Community Outreach Campaign (February 02, 2024)**

The Electoral Literacy Club (ELC) at MIT ADT University conducted the "Vote for Change" Community Outreach Campaign. This campaign aimed to promote voting awareness among local citizens in the surrounding community, including shop owners, daily wage workers, and local residents. The initiative sought to inform people about the power of their vote and the significance of participating in upcoming elections. ELC volunteers took to the streets, set up informative booths, and distributed flyers to maximize outreach and promote voter registration.

#### Key Highlights:

- **Street Booths & Information Stalls:** ELC volunteers set up interactive booths at strategic locations around the community to offer insights into the electoral process, provide voter registration assistance, and distribute educational materials.
- **Flyer Distribution:** Over 500 informational flyers were distributed across the community, explaining the steps for voter registration and the importance of voting in a democracy.
- **Face-to-Face Engagement:** Volunteers engaged with community members through conversations, providing guidance on the registration process, and answering questions regarding voting procedures.
- **On-the-Spot Voter Registration:** ELC members assisted local residents in registering as voters on the spot using mobile devices and provided a step-by-step guide for those who preferred online registration later.

**Outcome:** The "Vote for Change" campaign successfully engaged over 400 local residents, with 150 people registering as first-time voters. The initiative left a lasting impact by spreading awareness about the importance of voting and the direct influence that individual votes have on shaping governance.



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India  
Lat 18.556413°  
Long 74.066148°  
23/02/24 10:46 AM GMT +05:30

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### 10. Your Vote, Your Voice Campaign (February 15, 2024)

The ELC launched the “Your Vote, Your Voice” campaign, aimed at emphasizing the importance of each individual’s vote in shaping the future of the country. With the upcoming general elections in mind, this campaign took a hybrid approach, utilizing both online and offline methods to maximize outreach. The club created engaging social media content such as infographics, videos, and testimonials from students, showcasing how voting gives individuals the power to drive change. In addition to this, interactive booths were set up on campus, encouraging students to register as voters and learn about the electoral process.

#### Key Highlights:

- **Social Media Campaign:** The digital campaign reached over 500 students, featuring interactive content that explained the significance of voting and provided a step-by-step guide for voter registration.
- **Interactive Booths:** Located strategically across campus, these booths were manned by ELC volunteers who assisted students with the registration process and answered questions about voting procedures.
- **First-Time Voter Testimonials:** Personal stories from students who had registered as first-time voters were shared to inspire their peers and reinforce the importance of electoral participation.

**Outcome:** The campaign successfully engaged more than 500 students digitally, with over 200 new voters registered. The initiative not only increased voter registrations but also left a lasting impact by instilling a sense of responsibility towards voting.



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### 11. Electoral Reforms Session (March 05, 2024)

The ELC hosted a thought-provoking "Electoral Reforms Symposium" in March 2024, bringing together political science experts, policymakers, and students to discuss recent electoral reforms in India. The symposium focused on key topics such as the increasing use of technology in elections (EVMs and VVPATs), voter privacy, and ethical voting practices. Esteemed guest speakers from the Election Commission of India provided insights into the latest reforms aimed at ensuring transparency and accountability in the voting process. The panel also discussed the future of Indian elections and how reforms could strengthen the democratic process.

#### Key Highlights:

- **Panel Discussions:** Featured an esteemed panel of experts discussing the role of electoral reforms in enhancing the democratic process, with participation from over 300 students and faculty members.
- **Interactive Q&A Session:** Students actively participated in the discussions, asking pertinent questions about electoral malpractices and how reforms can mitigate them.
- **Workshops on Ethical Voting:** The symposium concluded with workshops on ethical voting, emphasizing the need for integrity in elections and the long-term impact of voter behavior on governance.

**Outcome:** The symposium not only educated students on recent reforms but also spurred deep conversations about the future of elections in India. The event saw a high level of engagement, leaving students more informed and invested in the democratic process.







### **11. Event Title: Electoral Debate: Shaping the Future (March 08, 2024)**

Event Summary: ELC organized the "Electoral Debate: Shaping the Future," an offline debate competition where students engaged in thought-provoking discussions on current electoral issues and reforms. This event was designed to sharpen students' understanding of election-related challenges while promoting critical thinking and public speaking.

Associated Report: On February 15, 2024, the Electoral Literacy Club hosted an exciting debate competition titled "Shaping the Future." The event featured 20+ teams, each representing different perspectives on electoral reforms, including lowering the voting age, compulsory voting, and the role of technology in modern elections. Teams presented well-researched arguments, followed by rebuttals, showcasing their knowledge of political processes and the reforms needed to strengthen Indian democracy.

The panel of judges, consisting of professors from the Political Science and Law departments, provided constructive feedback and encouraged participants to continue engaging with democratic processes. The winning team argued for the implementation of technology in voting systems, emphasizing blockchain-based elections as a secure and transparent solution.

#### **Key Highlights:**

- **Engaging Debate Topics:** Students debated hot-button electoral reforms, sparking a vibrant exchange of ideas.
- **Critical Thinking:** Participants showcased their ability to argue logically and respond to tough questions from opponents and judges.
- **Feedback from Experts:** Judges provided valuable insights, motivating students to delve deeper into electoral issues.

Outcome: The debate enhanced students' awareness of electoral challenges and sparked a wave of discussions about modernizing election systems. It also fostered public speaking and research skills, making it a well-rounded learning experience.

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## 12. Jan Jagurti Abhiyan (April 7, 2024)

As part of its ongoing mission to raise electoral awareness and foster responsible citizenship, the Electoral Literacy Club (ELC) at MIT ADT University organized the **Jan Jagurti Abhiyan**. This initiative aimed to inspire students to recognize the power of their vote and understand their critical role in shaping national and local governance.

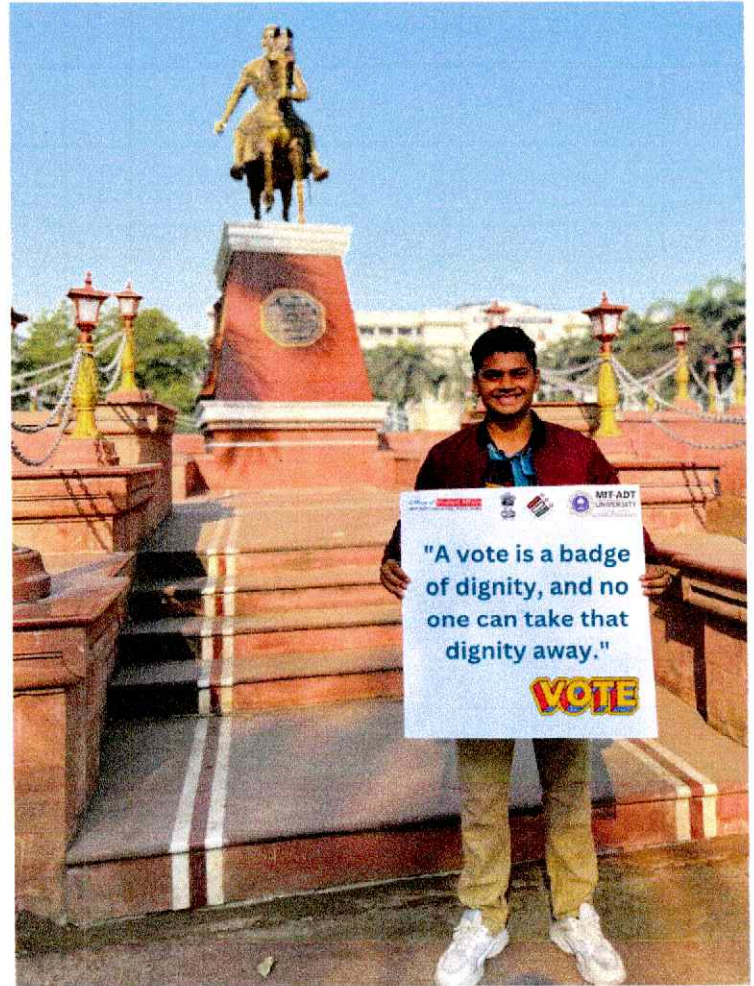
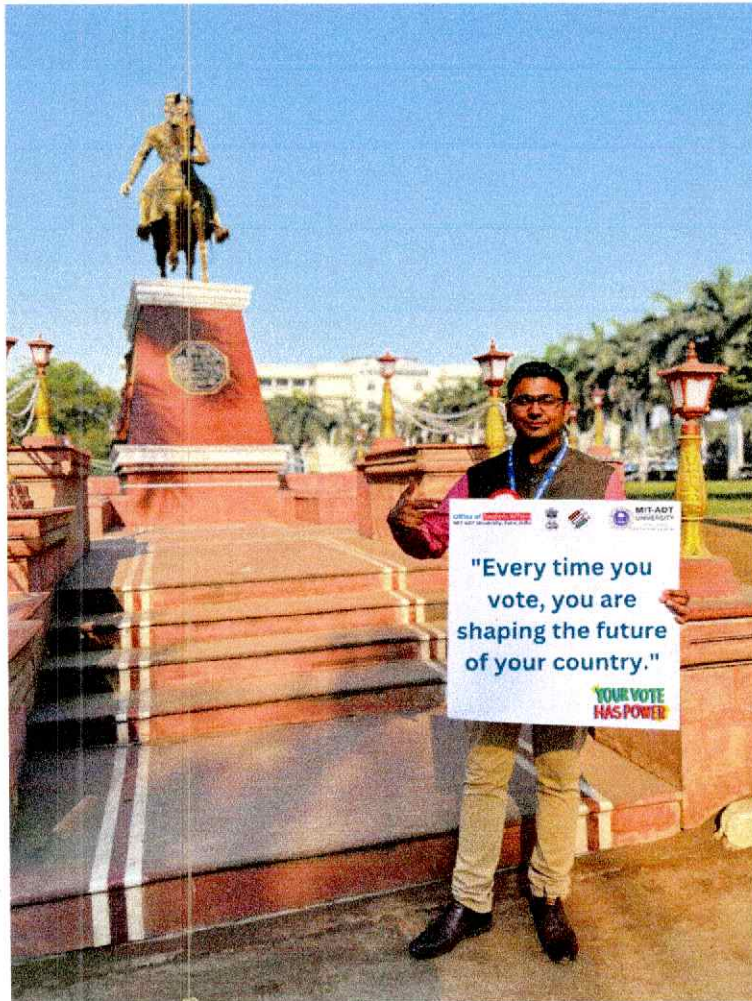
The event was anchored by a keynote lecture delivered by **Dr. Bhojar**, a renowned advocate of youth participation in democratic processes. His speech focused on how individual votes have the power to drive significant changes in society and stressed that voting is not just a right, but a civic duty that young people must take seriously.

### Key Highlights:

- **Keynote Lecture by Dr. Bhojar:** The lecture emphasized the responsibility of youth in shaping the nation's political future through informed voting.
- **Interactive Discussion:** Students and faculty actively participated in a dynamic discussion about electoral participation, gaining insights into how their vote influences governance.
- **Pledge to Vote:** The event concluded with a powerful moment where all participants took a collective pledge to vote in the upcoming elections and to promote the message of electoral participation among their peers.

**Outcome:** With over 80+ students and faculty members in attendance, the **Jan Jagurti Abhiyan** successfully motivated the university community to understand the importance of their vote.





The **Electoral Literacy Club (ELC)** at MIT ADT University has been at the forefront of promoting democratic participation and electoral literacy among students and the broader community. Through its various initiatives and campaigns, the club has successfully registered hundreds of new voters and fostered a deeper understanding of the electoral process. Going forward, the ELC aims to continue its efforts to promote informed and responsible voting, ensuring that the students of MIT ADT University are empowered to actively contribute to India's democratic fabric.



Prof. Dr. Suraj Bhojar

(Associate Director – Student Affairs)