



NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY

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School of Social Sciences,
Website: www.wbnsou.ac.in

Report on the National Webinar cum Learners Sensitization Programme celebrating

National Voter's Day on 25th January 2023

Organized by the Department of Public Administration in collaboration with the Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, NSOU

In recognition of **National Voter's Day**, which is observed throughout India, the Department of Public Administration, in collaboration with the Department of Sociology, School of Social Sciences, NSOU, organised a **National Webinar cum Learners Sensitization Programme celebrating National Voter's Day on January 25, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**, held in online mode. The learners, especially the young voters, were invited to participate and sensitised and made aware of the importance of voting in a democratic country like India, regardless of gender, department, or school of discipline, and not only from the NSOU but also from other state HEI's. The event was entirely conducted online using the Zoom Platform, thanks to the technical assistance of NSOU ICT team. The participants were not charged any registration fees. All were invited and welcomed to this programme and the meeting joining links were available in the programme brochure and the university's official website, and circulated on various social media platforms.



Objective of the Programme:

The fundamental goal was to establish a politically conscious and well-sensitized democratic civic society among India's young, particularly existing and forthcoming voters. The webinar aimed to educate and sensitise participants on the importance of voting in a democratic society, the conceptual components of electoral democracy in India, and the technological procedures of becoming a voter, updating a voter's card, voting, and so on.



Experts of the Programme:

Because the aforementioned issues were so pertinent and politically sensitive, the invited experts were experts invited for this programme were experts in their field, comprising of:

- Professor K. Seetharama Rao, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Advisor-CEMCA, Keynote Speaker.**
- Dr. Barnana Guha Thakurta (Banerjee), Head & Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, and Mr. Debajit Goswami, Assistant Professor, Department of Public Administration, NSOU.**



The programme was inaugurated by The Director of the School of Social Sciences. The webinar was organised and led by academics from the Departments of Public Administration and Sociology, SSS, NSOU. **Professor Chandan Basu**, Director of the School of Social Sciences at NSOU, gave the opening remarks, followed by **Professor Anirban Ghosh**, Director of the Centre for Internal Quality Assurance, NSOU. **Dr. Srabanti Choudhuri**, Assistant Professor at NSOU's Department of Sociology, compares the sessions. **Mr. Anupam Roy**, Programme Co-Convener and Assistant Professor of Sociology, SSS, NSOU, offered the official vote of gratitude. **Mr. Debajit Goswami**, Assistant Professor of Public Administration, SSS, NSOU, was the convener of the programme.

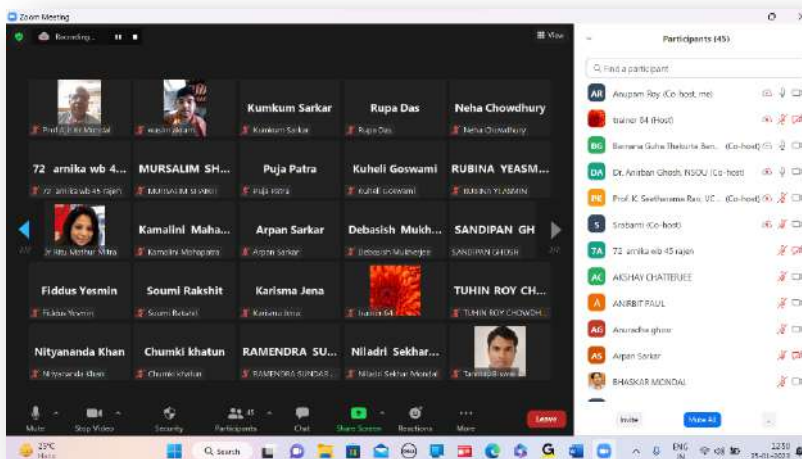
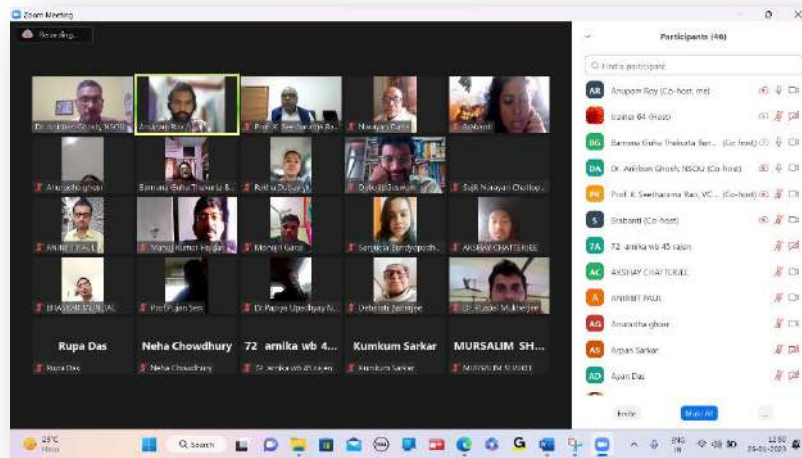
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In this programme, **52 participants joined via the online platform**. Participants include not only students, but also faculties from various disciplines from different institutions, as well as some members of the civil society, and young fraternity of electorate.



The event concluded with a brief feedback and interaction session involving the chairman, invited speakers, learners, and all the participants. It provided an excellent opportunity for everyone to enhance their existing knowledge on aspects of democracy and voting, as well as



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to familiarize young and first-time voters on the subject. All participants were given e-certificates and feedback was taken from the participants to continuously strive for better organization and performance of such events in the future and to reach the unreached in tune with the mission of Netaji Subhas Open University.

(Reported by Mr. Anupam Roy, Webinar Co-Convener & Assistant Professor of Sociology, SoSS, NSOU, Dated: 30/01/2023)