



Dr. Madhukarrao Wasnik
PWS Arts & Commerce College
Kamptee Road, Nagpur-26

Institutional Initiatives for Electoral Literacy

1. "Voter Awareness Week" (July 15 to July 30, 2017)

Dr. Madhukarrao Wasnik College of Arts, Commerce, and Science, under the Department of Political Science, organized the "Voter Awareness Week" from July 15 to July 30, 2017. As per the instructions of the District Election Office, Nagpur, the college conducted this program to register new students who would be eligible to vote during the 2017-2018 academic session. The program included filling out voter registration forms for the newly admitted students. Dr. R.P. Gan, the college principal, presided over the event, and election officials from the District Election Office, including Dr. Pradnya Bagde, Vice-Principal, and Vimal Rathod, Head of the Department, were present. The complete report of the program was submitted to the District Election Office in Nagpur.



Three Day Voters Registration camp by NSS from 20/07/2017 to 23/07/2017 during Voters Awareness Week in the College.



2. VVPAT Voter Awareness Program (March 8, 2019)

India is a democracy where the people hold the supreme power. The Indian Constitution has granted the right to vote to its citizens. This has brought significant changes to the lives of Indian people. Over the years, the machinery of democracy in India has evolved. Therefore, the traditional method of voting, where voters would mark their choices on a ballot paper and put it in a ballot box, became cumbersome and time-consuming. To modernize the voting process, the Election Commission of India introduced Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) for elections across the country over the past three decades.

However, using these machines has also introduced a new challenge – ensuring the integrity of the election process and eliminating discrepancies. These electronic machines have been a subject of debate and controversy in Indian politics and among Indian citizens. To address this issue, the Election Commission of India embarked on a journey to find a middle path. This led to the introduction of Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) machines, which allow voters to verify their vote before it is cast.

With VVPAT machines, when a voter presses the button on the electronic voting machine for their chosen candidate, a paper slip with the candidate's name, photo, and election symbol is printed. The slip is displayed to the voter for about seven seconds for verification. This ensures that the voter can verify whether their vote has been registered correctly. This step enhances transparency and gives voters confidence that their vote has been counted accurately.



To raise awareness about VVPAT and educate the students, the Department of Political Science organized a Voter Awareness Program in collaboration with the District Election Office, Nagpur. Officials from the Election Office demonstrated how VVPAT machines work, how

votes are cast using electronic machines, and how to verify votes using VVPAT. The program was attended by approximately 100 students from the college.

This initiative, led by the Head of the Department of Political Science, Vimal Rathod, and Dr. Sushant Chimankar, aimed to familiarize students with the modern voting process and the importance of VVPAT in ensuring fair and transparent elections.

3. National Voter's Day - January 25, 2021

In India, citizens who have reached the age of 18 have the right to vote, as granted by the Indian Constitution. India conducts a general election every five years, spanning from local self-government elections to parliamentary elections. However, many Indian citizens are still not fully aware of the importance of voting. To address this, the Government of India has initiated various programs to raise awareness about voting, with National Voter's Day being observed on January 25 every year.



The Department of Political Science organized National Voter's Day, where activities such as voter ID verification were conducted in areas like Tekanaka, Shende Nagar, and Avale Babu Nagar. Dr. Vimal Rathod, the Head of the Political Science Department, delivered a guiding speech during the program. In his address, he emphasized that voting is not just a right but also a duty as a part of one's service to the nation. He explained that a strong and active democracy is essential for the various facets of a nation's development, and active participation in the voting process contributes to the progress of the country. Therefore, every citizen should consider exercising their right to vote as a crucial responsibility.



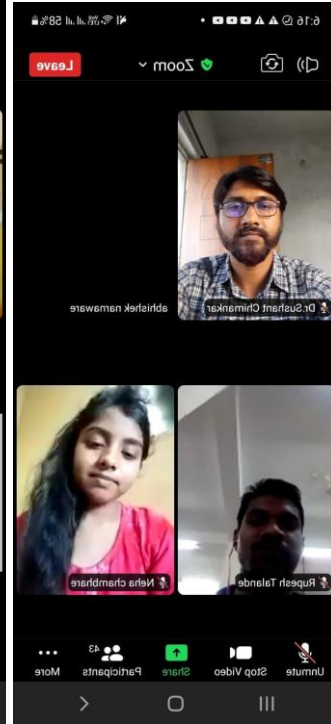
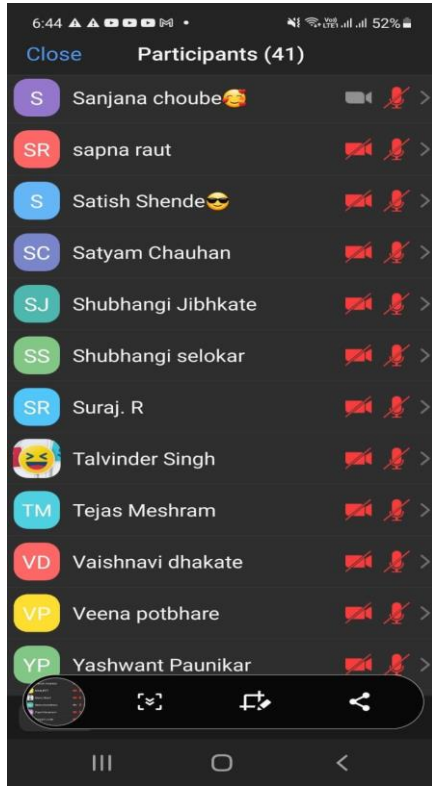
This program, coordinated by Dr. Sushant Chimankar, aimed to engage approximately 150 citizens in the process of voter ID verification and raise awareness about the importance of voting as a cornerstone of democracy.

4. National Voter's Day Awareness Program (July 14, 2021)

Dr. Madhukarrao Wasnik College of Arts, Commerce, and Science, under the Department of Political Science and the National Service Scheme (NSS), jointly organized an awareness program on the subject of voting to increase voter awareness and promote voter participation. The program featured Dr. Sushant Chimankar as the keynote speaker.

Dr. Sushant Chimankar's speech emphasized the declining trend of voter turnout and the need for increased voter awareness. He stressed the importance of raising awareness among women and ensuring that they are well-informed about their rights and responsibilities related to voting.

Dr. Vimal Rathod, the Head of the Political Science Department, presided over the program. He emphasized the need to build awareness among voters, increase voter turnout, and enhance the understanding of rights and responsibilities in a democracy to make it successful.



व्यक्त केली होती. आता परीक्षेला जुन्या अभ्यासक्रमाची प्रश्नपत्रिका देण्यात ही फेरपरीक्षा गुरुवारी सकाळी परीक्षाही ऑनलाईन स्वरूपात घेण्यात आल्या होत्या.

मध्ये 'आरंभ'

नागपूर : येथील नागपूर इन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नॉलॉजीमध्ये प्रथम वर्षाचा प्रवेश घेतलेल्या विद्यार्थ्यांसाठी ऑनलाईन इंडक्शन प्रोग्राम 'आरंभ' नुकताच आयोजित करण्यात आला होता. पर्सिस्टंट सिस्टम्स लिमिटेड, नागपूरचे समीर बेंद्रे कार्यक्रमाचे प्रमुख पाहुणे होते. त्यांनी विद्यार्थ्यांना 'तांत्रिक प्रगती आणि सामाजिक समस्या' या विषयावर मार्गदर्शन केले. प्राचार्य यांचे स्वागत केले आणि एनआयटीच्या कार्याची माहिती दिली. प्रा. नरेश तवले यांचे विभागप्रमुख डॉ. जितेंद्र भैसवार यांनी लन डॉ. सोनिका कोचर यांनी केले. प्रा. व प्रथम वर्षाच्या चमूने कार्यक्रमासाठी

पीडब्ल्यूएसमध्ये राष्ट्रीय मतदार दिवस

नागपूर : डॉ. मधुकरराव वासनिक पीडब्ल्यूएस कॉलेजमध्ये राष्ट्रीय मतदार दिवसानिमित्त कार्यक्रमाचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते. राज्यशास्त्र विभागाच्या सहकार्याने हा कार्यक्रम घेण्यात आला. प्रमुख वक्त्या म्हणून नायब तहसीलदार रुपाली पोड होत्या. अध्यक्षस्थानी प्राचार्य डॉ. यशवंत पाटील होते. ऑनलाईन स्वरूपात झालेल्या या कार्यक्रमाला जिल्हाधिकारी आर. विमला, उपप्राचार्य डॉ. नरेंद्र बागडे, उपजिल्हाधिकारी चिवंडे, राज्यशास्त्र विभागप्रमुख डॉ. विमल राठोड, रासेयो समन्वयक डॉ. सुशांत चिमणकर प्रामुख्याने उपस्थित होते. सर्व मान्यवरांनी यावेळी विद्यार्थ्यांशी संवाद साधून मतदार दिवसाचे महत्त्व सांगितले. कार्यक्रमाचे संचालन अभिषेक पाटील तर मराठी विभागप्रमुख डॉ. अमृता डोर्लीकर यांनी आभार मानले.

The program aimed to create a sense of responsibility and awareness among the citizens towards the electoral process. Dr. Narendra Bagde conducted the program, and Mr. Gedam expressed his gratitude for the initiative. The program was attended by students and faculty members from the college.

5. National Voter's Day (January 25, 2022)

Dr. Madhukarrao Wasnik College of Arts, Commerce, and Science, under the National Service Scheme (NSS) and the Department of Political Science, organized an event on National Voter's Day on January 25, 2022, with the goal of creating awareness among the public. The program aimed to educate people about their rights and responsibilities, promote democracy, and emphasize the importance of voting.

The event was presided over by the principal of the college, Dr. Yashwant Patil, and the keynote speaker was Deputy Tehsildar Rupali Pol. Also present at the event were Dr. R. Vimala, Nagpur City District Collector, and Mr. Chivande, Sub-District Magistrate.



In her address, Chief Speaker Mrs. Rupali Pol, Deputy Tehsildar, highlighted the importance of civic responsibility and urged citizens to actively participate in the electoral process. She emphasized that as Indian citizens, our love for our country should be reflected in our active engagement in the governance of the nation. India is a young country, and it is the duty of the

youth to ensure that their names are registered on the voter list. She encouraged every citizen to make sure their names are on the voter list and to vote responsibly.



Dr. Yashwant Patil, the Principal of the college and the event's chairperson, stressed the importance of voting and encouraged each young person to ensure they are registered on the voter list. He also emphasized the importance of actively participating in the electoral process.

The program was conducted by Abhishek Patil, and Dr. Sushant Chimankar read the Voter's Oath. Dr. Amrita Dorlikar expressed her gratitude for the program. Approximately 150 students attended the event.

6. State Level Seminar on

“Indian Democracy and Voter’s Behaviour” (April 7, 2022)

Dr. Madhukarrao Wasnik College of Arts, Commerce, and Science, Nagpur, in collaboration with the Department of Political Science and the B.L. Bhole, Study Circle, organized a one-day intercollegiate state-level seminar on the topic of "Indian Democracy and Voter behaviour" on April 7, 2022.

Objectives of the Seminar:

1. To instil democratic values among students.
2. To create awareness about voting among students.
3. To educate students about their rights and responsibilities.
4. To impart knowledge of justice, freedom, equality, and fraternity.
5. To nurture ideal citizens among students.

Dr. Yashwant Patil, the Principal of the college, presided over the seminar, and Dr. Dattatraya Watmode, Dean of Humanities at Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, delivered the inaugural address.



डॉ. मधुकरराव वासनिम पी. डब्ल्यू. एस. कला, वाणिज्य व
विज्ञान महाविद्यालय, नागपूर
राज्यशास्त्र विभाग
व
डॉ. भा. ल. भोळे विचारमंच, नागपूर
यांच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने एक दिवसीय आंतरविद्याशाखीय राज्यस्तरीय चर्चासत्र



विषय : भारतीय लोकशाही आणि मतदारसर्वतन

गुरुवार दि. ७ एप्रिल २०२२

उद्घाटन समारंभ

वेळ : सकाळी १०.०० ते ११.३०

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| अध्यक्ष : | मा. डॉ. यशवंत पाटील (प्राचार्य, पी.डब्ल्यू. एस. महाविद्यालय, नागपूर) |
| उद्घाटक : | मा. डॉ. दत्तात्रय वाटगोडे (अभिज्ञान, मानव विज्ञान विद्याशाखा, रा.तु.म. नागपूर विद्यापीठ) |
| प्रमुख वक्ते : | मा. डॉ. संदीप काळे (राज्यशास्त्र विभाग प्रमुख, यशवंत महाविद्यालय, सेलू) |
| सत्कारमुर्ती : | मा. डॉ. सज्जदप्रसाद पटले (अध्यक्ष, राज्यशास्त्र अभ्यास मंडळ, रा.तु.म. नागपूर विद्यापीठ) |
| प्रमुख उपस्थिती : | मा. प्रा. शेषकुमार येस्तेकर (अध्यक्ष, डॉ. भा. ल. भोळे विचार मंच, नागपूर) |
| | मा. डॉ. अशोक काळे (सचिव, डॉ. भा. ल. भोळे विचार मंच, नागपूर) |

विशेष सत्र : विद्यार्थ्यांचे शोधनिबंध वाचन व संवाद

वेळ : सकाळी ११.३० ते १.००

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| अध्यक्ष : | मा. डॉ. अश्विनी खापरे (कोषाध्यक्ष, डॉ. भा. ल. भोळे विचार मंच, नागपूर) |
| प्रमुख उपस्थिती : | मा. डॉ. अशोक काळे (सचिव, डॉ. भा. ल. भोळे विचार मंच, नागपूर) |
| | मा. डॉ. ज्ञानेश्वर शंभरकर (सहसचिव, डॉ. भा. ल. भोळे विचार मंच, नागपूर) |
| | मा. डॉ. भस्म यतोट (उपाध्यक्ष, डॉ. भा. ल. भोळे विचार मंच, नागपूर) |

वेळ : दुपारी १.०० वाजता स्नेहभोजन व प्रमाणपत्र वितरण

प्रस्तुत चर्चासत्र ऑफलाईन पद्धतीने आयोजित करण्यात येत आहे.
नोंदणी शुल्क : १००/- रुपये

डॉ. विमल यतोट
समन्वयक

डॉ. सुशांत चिमणकर
संयोजक

The keynote speaker, Dr. Sandeep Kale, Head of the Department of Political Science at Yashwant Mahavidyalaya, Seloo, Wardha, emphasized the need for India to adopt a democratic governance system. He pointed out that the voter turnout in India is considerably low due to various temptations and distractions while voting, such as alcohol, bribes, feasts, and money. He stressed the importance of voting without being influenced by caste, religion, region, etc., and urged citizens to vote responsibly.

Dr. Kale, Key note speaker addressing the gathering



Winners of Paper presentation along with dignitaries



Dr. Ashok Kale, Secretary of the B.L. Bhoje Study Circle, Nagpur, highlighted the role of Dr. B.L. Bhoje in promoting Lokshahi (democracy) and encouraging people to vote. Dr. B.L. Bhoje's ideas were centered around promoting Lokshahi and fighting for justice, freedom, equality, and fraternity. Dr. Ashok Kale encouraged the audience to adopt these values in their lives.

Dr. Yashwant Patil, the Principal of the college, urged students to vote for candidates based on their merits rather than factors like caste, religion, or region. He suggested organizing various programs to create voter awareness in society to achieve a healthy democracy.

In the second session, research papers were presented by students. A total of 12 students presented their research papers, and prizes were awarded to those with outstanding presentations.

First Prize: **Miss Tina Sheikh** (Dayanand Arya Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Nagpur)

Second Prize: **Miss Arpana Patle** (Dayanand Arya Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Nagpur)

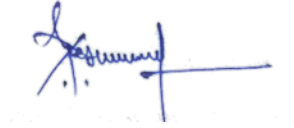
Third Prize: **Mr. Abhishek Patil** (Dr. M.V.P.W.S. College, Nagpur)



Delegates and students in the seminar



Dr. Vimal Rathod, Head of the Department of Political Science was the convener of the State level Seminar, and the proceedings of the session was conducted by Dr. Amrita Dorlikar from Dept. of Marasthi. Dr. Sushant Chimankar, faculty in the dept. of Political Science & Coordinator of the seminar proposed the vote of thanks. A total of 40 professors and 50 students attended the seminar.



Principal

Dr. Yeshwant Patil