## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, DELHI Old St. Stephen's College Building, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-110006

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## PRESS RELEASE

- > 'Illuminating Democracy'- A Celebration of Democracy in South Delhi
- District South Election Office successfully hosted 'Illuminating Democracy' at Qutub Minar in Mehrauli
- Illuminating Democracy' Lights Up Qutub Minar, Inspires Voter Participation in Delhi
- SVEEP Initiative Shines at Qutub Minar, Encouraging Inclusive Electoral Participation
- > Delhi CEO Urges Maximum Voter Turnout at 'Illuminating Democracy' Event
- Qutub Minar Becomes a Beacon of Democracy in South Delhi's Voter Awareness Drive

## **NEW DELHI**

## Dated: January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025

South Delhi witnessed a grand celebration of democracy at the 'Illuminating Democracy' event at the historic Qutub Minar premises today. Organized by the District South Election Office, this event underscored the importance of voter education and participation ahead of the upcoming Delhi Assembly Election 2025.

The Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Delhi, Smt. R Alice Vaz, was the chief guest on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the CEO stated that this event reflects our commitment to ensuring maximum voter participation in the Delhi Assembly Elections 2025. She stated that democracy thrives when every voice is heard, and every vote matters and urged the audience to take the message of contributing to the nation through voting and to spread this message among all to ensure a massive turnout on February 5.

This SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) initiative aimed to encourage first-time voters, empower Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), and promote transgender inclusion in the democratic process.

A breathtaking light show illuminated the monument, symbolizing the power of democracy and the participation of every citizen. There were special recognition and motivational programs for first-time voters, encouraging pride in their electoral participation as a part of 'First-Time Voter Encouragement initiatives.'

District Election Officer (DEO) Sh Mekala Chaitanya stated, "This program underscores our commitment to an inclusive democracy where every eligible voter, irrespective of their background or ability, feels empowered to participate. Our goal is to inspire citizens, particularly the youth, to recognize their responsibility and the transformative power of voting."

School students took part in the cultural programme during the programme. Cultural performances on theme of democracy were presented by folk groups of different regions. Inspiring performances and visuals were displayed to emphasize the importance of voting and democratic values.

The event promoted the theme of 'Inclusion for All' as it celebrated the active participation of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and the transgender community, showcasing the Election Commission's commitment to inclusivity.

All citizens were invited to join this vibrant celebration of democracy, ensuring that the message of "No Voter to be Left Behind" resonates across every section of society.

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