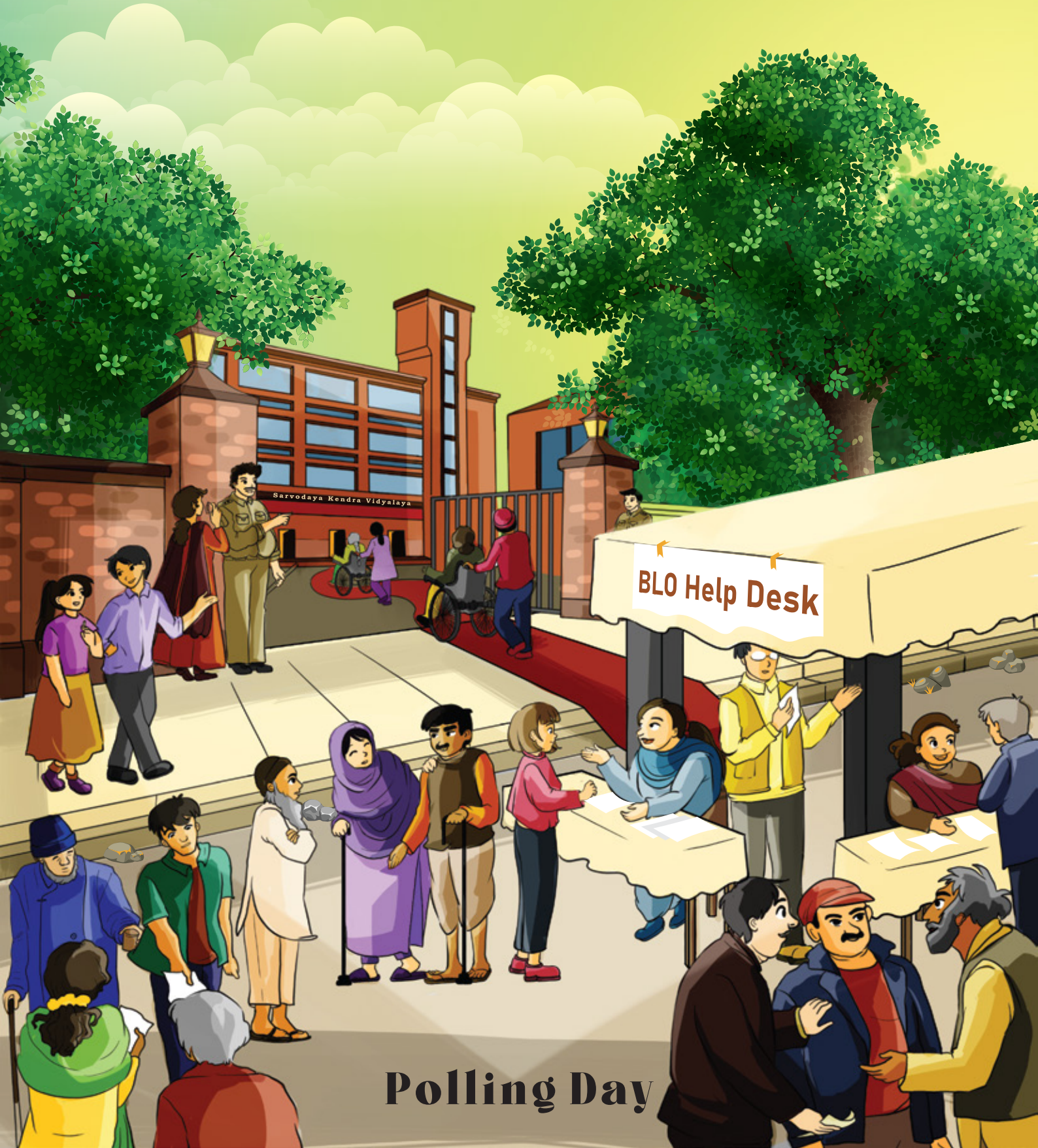




# Booth Level Officer E-Patrika

Volume 4, March 2023



**Polling Day**

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# Roadmap for the foot soldiers of Indian Democracy

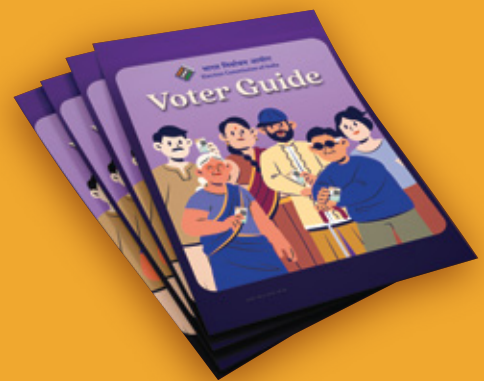


## To Inform & Educate Electors

- BLO assists eligible citizens to become voters and obtain voter cards (EPIC card).
- BLO informs citizens about ECI apps, initiatives, electoral reforms, and updates.
- BLO provides different forms for the addition, deletion, and correction of Electoral Roll entries, carries out physical verification and gives their report to Electoral Registration Officer (ERO).
- BLO interacts with local people and identifies dead/shifted/duplicate voters to be removed from the electoral roll after due process of law.

## Distribution of Voter Guide

- A voter guide contains protocols and safety instructions to be followed at the polling booth, approved identity documents required for voting, directions on how to vote using EVM-VVPAT, and facilities for senior citizens & PwDs.
- BLOs should distribute Voters' Guide, translated into the local language to every household, along with voter information slips, 5 days prior to the day of poll.



## Updated Electoral Roll



- BLOs must have an updated & approved electoral roll on the day of poll.
- It is used to verify details when voters arrive for polling.
- Electoral roll must be free of errors for ease of voting.



# Facilitating voters



- As the poll day approaches, BLO should register eligible electors (PwD/ Senior citizens) to avail pick and drop facility in advance.
- For senior citizens above 80 years, PwD with minimum 40% disability and quarantined Covid patients, such voters have the option to write an application (Form 12D) to the concerned Returning Officer (RO) for facilitating polling from home. BLOs should ensure smooth coordination of the overall process for such applications to concerned RO.

# Manage help desk on poll day

BLOs must man the helpdesk at the booth to assist the electors in locating their names in the approved voter list.





# Smart BLO: Promote ECI Apps for making Informed Electoral choices

ECI has created a series of mobile apps for the ease of voting and its pre-requisites. BLOs should inform the citizens about such apps and their usage must be encouraged wisely.

## Here's what smart BLOs should know to amplify the usage of technology in elections

### Voter Helpline App (VHA)

- It helps in Voter Registration, Contesting Candidate profiles, and live Election Results.
- The Voters can search their name & find the polling station located in the electoral roll by simply scanning their Voter ID card.

### Know Your Candidate (KYC)

- It is a mobile application for electors that provides the candidates' details and affidavits including criminal antecedents.

### Saksham-ECI App

- It is meant for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). They can request enrolment assistance, search for their name, navigate to the polling station, and see the list of contesting candidates for their election.

### e-Vigil App

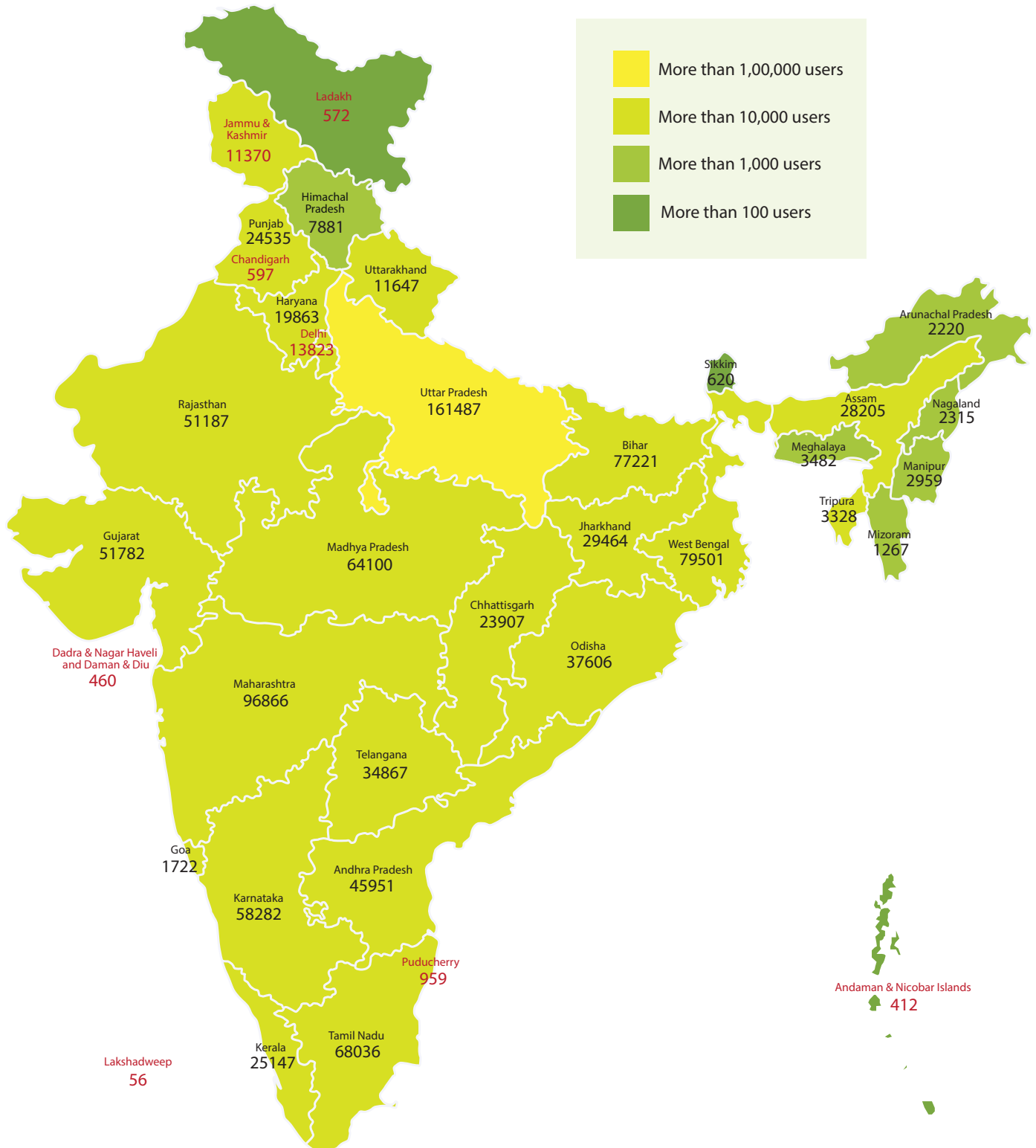
- The citizens can report the Model Code of Conduct Violations like money distribution, inducements, liquor, and gift distribution during the election period for prompt action by the enforcement agencies. The app reverts within 100 minutes of any complaint.



# Garuda App

This app equips BLOs with the facility to promptly capture changes in Forms 6, 7, and 8 pertaining to electors. It is helpful during field verifications. Supporting documents and photos could be uploaded in digital form seamlessly over the App.

The below diagram shows that BLOs across the country are extensively using Garuda app.



Total App users = 10,43,697

# NVD 2023: Celebrations Galore across the Country

Every year on January 25, ECI celebrates National Voters Day at national, state, district, and booth levels to encourage informed and ethical participation in elections. Below is a glimpse of the nationwide celebrations held to recognise the importance of voting.



Group photograph of the Hon'ble President of India alongwith the Commission and National Awardees for Best Electoral Practices.



Group photograph of the Hon'ble President of India alongwith the Commission and ECI Song Celebrities.



# Best BLO Awards

National Voters Day 2023

Assam



“To mark the 13th National Voter's Day and to encourage newly enrolled voters for participation in the electoral process, National Voters Day was celebrated in Udalguri District with the theme “Nothing like Voting, I Vote For Sure”.

Andaman & Nicobar Islands



“Chief Electoral Officer, A&N Islands distributed Certificate of Appreciation to BLOs.”

Tamil Nadu



“District Collector, Thiru. M. Arvind, IAS honoured the Best BLOs in Kanniyakumari, Tamil Nadu .

Budgam, Srinagar



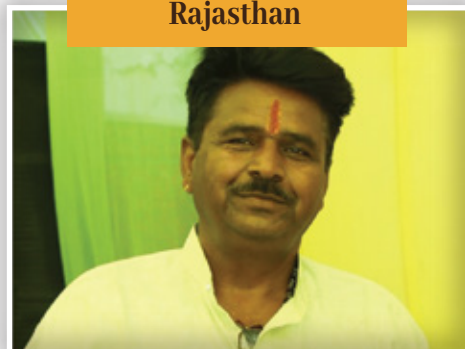
“Celebrating National Voters' day at Horticulture Zonal Office across Budgam District in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir.”

Rajasthan



“Best BLOs being awarded in District Election Office, Jhalawar, Rajasthan.

Rajasthan



Shri Rajendra Prasad Sharma, Head Master, GPS, Beed Ka Kheda, Part No. 253, AC- Mandal (Bhilwara, Rajasthan) awarded for maximum digitalisation of Form 6 through BLO app.

## Delhi



Ms. Parveen, Part No.-206, AC-34 (Matial) South west Delhi. Awarded on NVD 2023 for Improvement in health of electoral roll by enrolment of young voters.

## Delhi Metro Rail Corporation



Tweet by DMRC: "#NationalVotersDay is celebrated on 25th January every year. This year's theme is "Nothing like voting, I vote for sure". In this regard a pledge was administered to the employees of DMRC in all its offices. Let us all vote to make a difference."

## SSB Srinagar



"Voters Pledge taken by the personnel of 10 Bn SSB Srinagar (J&K) on the occasion of National Voters Day."

## the Department of Environment & Forests



"The 13th National Voters Day with theme 'Nothing like Voting' was observed in the Department of Environment & Forests, A & N Islands and voting rights pledge was administered in all forest divisions across the islands."



## CISF officers

"CISF officers & personnel took pledge to uphold the democratic traditions of our country and the dignity of free, fair and peaceful elections on the occasion of #NationalVotersDay\_2023 @ CISF Units & formations."





# Story from the ground

Thiru. P. Chinnappaiyan resides at Nallampallai Taluk of Dharmapuri District in Tamil Nadu. He was appointed as the BLO in Part No. 262 of Dharmapuri Assembly Constituency. He is a Physically Disabled person with visual impairment of 40% disability in one of his eyes.

It has now been over a decade since Chinnappaiyan took over as the BLO in this area and the voters know him well. His observation to details and the systematic way of completing assigned tasks have been his trademark as a professional.

During Epic-Aadhaar linkage, he personally called the head of each house to fetch details. The BLO has consistently used Garuda App and encouraged voters to make use of technology at hand.

Additionally, the BLO created a WhatsApp group for the voters to provide election related updates like Aadhaar Linking, SSR and National Voters Day. Finally. The hard work has produced significant output over time.

Chinnappaiyan is the first person in the Dharmapuri district to achieve 100% Epic-Aadhaar linkage of 703 Voters. His efforts were appreciated by the District Administration with Appreciation Certificate and Shield.





# Baaton Baaton Mein

## In Conversation with BLO

Jammu & Kashmir

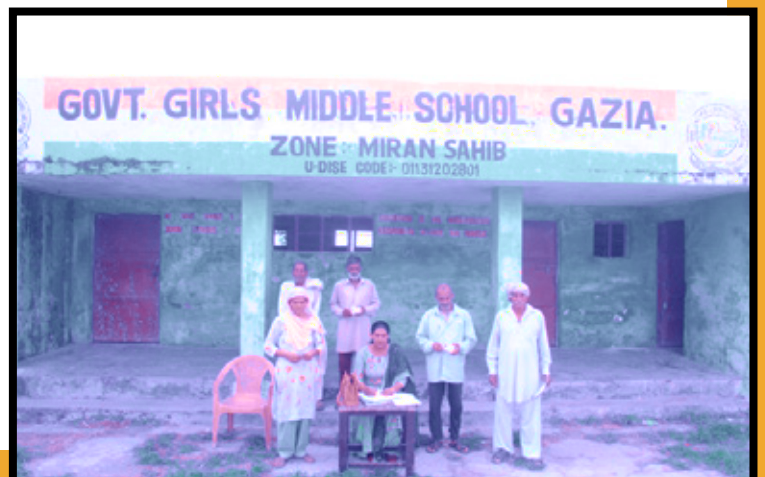
Smt. Leelo Devi, AC 74 R S Pura- Jammu South Constituency, Polling Station No: 52, District:- Jammu (write in blue colour)

"I have been working as an angandwadi worker in ICDS Department and also as a BLO for last 6 years.

I started house-to-house visits on the very 1st day of Special Summary Revision i. e 15th September 2022. I visited every household in my polling station area and organized additional camps in the panchayats to encourage voters to actively participate in the electoral process.

I made announcements through loudspeakers at Gurudwaras and temples requesting the general public to enroll themselves.

I have managed to digitize all the forms and achieved 100% target much before time and was awarded by District Election Officer Jammu for the same."





भारत निर्वाचन आयोग  
Election Commission of India

## ECI SONG

The song '**Main Bharat Hoon- Hum Bharat ke Matdata Hain**' is based on the philosophy that every voter of India represents the Country and its diversity, thus voter's participation makes Indian Elections, inclusive.

The ECI song produced by Election Commission of India in association with Subhash Ghai Foundation, is released on 13th National Voters' Day.

The song has been sung by leading singers from different parts of the Country. Nearly 40 celebrities do appear in the song and is released in Hindi and Multi-lingual versions.

**Listen the full song here -**

**Multilingual Version -** <https://youtu.be/to324Jlljf8>

**Hindi Version -** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-x6cXNUuEdk>

