



RIZVI EDUCATION SOCIETY'S
RIZVI COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Affiliated to University of Mumbai NCTE Recognized Institute (Code No: 123005)

NAAC Accreditation - 'B+' Grade (1st Cycle)

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“Empowering Future Teachers for Democratic Participation: Awareness Programme on BMC Elections”

Organising Institution: Rizvi College of Education

Venue: B.Ed. Classroom

Date: 7 January 2026

Time: 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Coordinator: Dr. Gyanprakash Arya

Theme: Spreading Awareness and Enrolment in Elections Use Your Voting Right: Every Vote Counts

Introduction-Democracy thrives on active and informed participation of its citizens. Elections form the backbone of a democratic system by providing people an opportunity to choose their representatives. In India, local self-government institutions such as the **Brihanmumbai**

Municipal Corporation (BMC) play a crucial role in urban governance, civic amenities, and public welfare. However, voter apathy, lack of awareness, and low enrolment, especially among young voters, remain significant challenges.

Teachers play a vital role in shaping democratic values among students and society. Therefore, it becomes essential to sensitize **future teachers** towards the importance of elections, voting rights, and responsible citizenship. Keeping this in view, Rizvi College of Education organized an **Awareness Programme on the forthcoming BMC Elections** for B.Ed. student teachers.

Objectives of the Program:

1. To create awareness among future teachers about the **importance of BMC elections**.
2. To develop an understanding of **local self-government and civic responsibilities**.
3. To motivate student teachers to **enroll as voters** if not already registered.
4. To encourage responsible and informed use of **voting rights**.
5. To prepare future teachers to act as **change agents** in spreading electoral awareness.
6. To promote democratic values such as **equality, participation, and accountability**.

Target Group: B.Ed. student teachers of Rizvi College of Education

Need and Significance of the Programme

The BMC is responsible for essential civic services such as water supply, sanitation, roads, public health, education, and disaster management in Mumbai. Decisions taken by elected representatives directly affect the quality of life of citizens. Despite this, many eligible voters remain unaware of the significance of municipal elections.

Future teachers, as nation builders, must possess a clear understanding of democratic processes. This programme aimed to bridge the gap between **theoretical knowledge of civics** and **practical democratic participation**, thereby strengthening the foundation of participatory democracy.

Programme Schedule

2:30 – 2:35 p.m.: Inaugural Session

- Welcome address and introduction to the programme
- Brief explanation of the theme and relevance of BMC elections

2:35 – 2:55 p.m.: Awareness Session

- Meaning and structure of BMC
- Role and functions of municipal councillors
- Importance of voting in local elections
- Voter eligibility and enrolment process

2:55 – 3:20 p.m.: Activity-Based Learning Session

- Role play, poster presentation, quiz, and group discussion

3:20 – 3:30 p.m.: Reflection and Conclusion

- Student reflections
- Key takeaways
- Vote pledge and concluding remarks

Essential Activities from an Election Point of View

1. Role Play: “You’re Vote, Your Voice”-Student teachers enacted short role plays depicting:

- A responsible voter vs. an indifferent voter
- The impact of voting on local issues like cleanliness, water, and roads
This activity helped students emotionally connect with the importance of voting.

2. Poster/Slogan Making Activity- Students prepared posters/slogans on themes such as:

- “Every Vote Counts”
- “Enroll Today, Vote Tomorrow”

The posters visually communicated electoral awareness and encouraged creativity and civic responsibility.

3. Voter Awareness Quiz-A short quiz was conducted covering:

- Eligibility criteria for voting
- Documents required for voter ID
- Functions of BMC
- Importance of local governance

This activity reinforced factual knowledge in an engaging manner.

4. Group Discussion-Students were divided into small groups to discuss:

- Reasons for low voter turnout
- Role of teachers in promoting electoral awareness

The discussion enhanced critical thinking and collaborative learning.

5. Voter Enrolment Guidance Session-Practical guidance was given on:

- How to check voter registration status
- Online voter enrolment process
- Importance of updating voter details

Students were encouraged to assist family members and community residents in voter registration.

6. Democratic Pledge-All participants took a pledge:

- To enroll as responsible voters
- To use their voting right ethically

- To promote electoral awareness in society
This symbolic activity reinforced commitment to democratic values.

Role of Future Teachers in Electoral Awareness

- Educate students about democratic rights and duties
 - Encourage informed decision-making
 - Act as role models of responsible citizenship
 - Participate actively in elections and civic life
- Through this programme, student teachers understood that teaching democracy goes beyond textbooks.

Outcome of the Programme

- Increased awareness about BMC elections among student teachers
- Motivation for voter enrolment and participation
- Enhanced sense of civic duty and democratic responsibility
- Development of leadership and communication skills
- Preparedness to spread electoral awareness in schools and communities

Conclusion: The **Awareness Programme on BMC Elections** successfully sensitized with the valuable guidance and encouragement of the **Principal of Rizvi College of Education**. The **teaching staff** provided continuous support and motivated student teachers to participate actively. The dedicated efforts of **club members and student volunteers** ensured the smooth organization of all activities. Their collective cooperation greatly contributed to the success of the programme. Under the guidance of **Dr. Gyanprakash Arya**, the programme proved to be a significant step towards nurturing democratic consciousness among future educators.



