




drishti

Conference on 'Making our Elections Inclusive and Accessible'

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The Election Commission of India (ECI) has organised the **International Conference on 'Making our Elections Inclusive and Accessible'** on the occasion of **9th National Voters Day** which is observed on **25th January every year**.

- The National Voters' Day is celebrated all over the country on January 25 every year **since 2011** to mark the **Foundation day of Election Commission of India, which was established on 25th January 1950**.
 - The main purpose of the celebration is to encourage, facilitate and maximize the enrollment, especially for the new voters.
 - The **theme** of National Voters' day 2019 is **"No Voter to be Left Behind"**.
- To mark the occasion, ECI also released the January 2019 issue of its **Quarterly Magazine 'VOICE International'**. The magazine carries rich experiences for knowledge sharing on Inclusive and Accessible Elections across the democracies around the world.
- On the sidelines of the Conference ECI also renewed the **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** for cooperation in the field of election management with the **Election Commission of Bhutan**.
- ECI also highlighted its flagship programme, **Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP)** for enhancing Inclusion among various categories of voters and to encourage their electoral participation.

Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP)

- SVEEP, **started in 2009** is the flagship program of the Election Commission of India for voter education, **spreading voter awareness** and **promoting voter literacy in India**.
- SVEEP is designed according to the socio-economic, cultural and demographic profile of the state as well as the history of electoral participation in previous rounds of elections and learning thereof.