Knowledge, Attitude and Practices of Voters – Endline Survey 2024

YOUR VOTE HAS POWER

Conducted by:
Political Science Programme, D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies, Goa University
and
Public Administration Programme, Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Governance and Public Policy, Goa University

On behalf of
OFFICE OF CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, GOA

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Office of Chief Electoral Officer

Goa

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MESSAGE

Chief Election Officer , Goa

It is my pleasure to present the Endline Survey Report 2024 of the Knowledge, Attitudes, and Perceptions (KAP) of Voters in Goa, conducted under the Systematic Voters' Enrolment and Education Programme (SVEEP), in collaboration with the Political Science Programme, DDKSSSBS and Public Administration Programmes, MPSLGPP, Goa University. This survey is a crucial part of our ongoing efforts at the Chief Electoral Office (CEO), Goa, on behalf of the Election Commission of India.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the teams at the CEO office and Goa University for their hard work and continued partnership in delivering this vital document for 2024. With the upcoming Elections this Endline report will play a key role in guiding our office as we work towards developing and implementing an enhanced SVEEP Strategic Plan to increase voter turnout and engagement.

The survey findings—based on a comprehensive field study and in-depth Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) across both districts of Goa—will provide critical insights to further fine-tune our strategies. The Endline survey has successfully captured the changes in voter knowledge, attitudes, practices, and electoral behaviour. These insights will help us channel our SVEEP initiatives more effectively to achieve the desired outcomes of greater voter participation and a more informed electorate.

I look forward to the continued support of all stakeholders as we work together towards ensuring a successful election process in Goa.

Shri. Ramesh Verma, IAS
Chief Electoral Officer, Goa

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Prof. Rahul Tripathi   Dr. Alaknanda Shringare
Coordinator   Co-coordinator
KAP Baseline Survey

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Executive Summary

Major findings

- 98 percent of respondents have a EPIC and only 2 percent do not have it. The main reason for those respondents who do not have a EPIC is that, either not interested in getting one or have not yet received it.

- 93 percent have voted in the last assembly election i.e., 2022 Goa Assembly Election and 93 percent voted in the recent 2024 Lok Sabha election.

- The main reasons for voting are that the respondents consider is it as their right or duty (66 percent).

- The main reasons for those respondents not voting are: they do not possess Voter ID (18 percent) and there was a long queue, and they did not have the time(14 Percent).

- 93 percent respondents are aware of Voter List.

- 90 percent of respondents have mentioned that their names are enrolled in the voter list.

- BLOs continue to play an important role in spreading elections-related information. For 62 percent respondent BLO is the main source to know that their name is enrolled in the Voters' List.

- 96 percent of respondents are aware of their Polling Booth.

- 68 percent of the respondents mentioned that the process to get EPIC made is easy.

- The most influential factor affecting voting preferences reveals that the 76 percent of the respondents identified the candidate as the most significant factor.

- 58 percent believe that VVPAT help in verifying their vote. It is observed that there is growing doubt over VVPAT providing accurate results. This trend was noticed more among the youth during the FGDs.

- 85 percent respondents believe every vote counts.

- 79 percent respondents are of the opinion that voting should be made compulsory.

- For 76 percent respondent's candidate remain the most influencing factor for voting

- 85 percent respondents mentioned that they did not face any difficulty during election

- 60 percent of respondents reported no security threats during election.

- While 44 percent of respondents considered the police presence to be sufficient, a notable 38 percent felt it was only somewhat adequate.

- With 89 percent ("Very Good" and "Good") 89 percent of voters expressed satisfaction with their polling experience.
- 92 percent of respondents had a positive experience with the polling staff.
- Only 22 percent respondents are aware of qualifying date for registration as voter.
- 74 percent respondents are aware of NOTA option.
- 72 percent of respondents are aware that they can vote using alternative IDs, with driving licenses and voter slips being the most used alternatives.
- 25 percent of respondents reported inducements during the elections, including cash distribution (11 percent) and liquor (8 percent). Additionally, 36 percent acknowledged the use of money or muscle power by candidates.
- 70 percent are aware of candidate's name is available in Braille on EVMs.
- Only 19 percent respondents accessed the voter portal.
- 69 percent of the respondents don't know about the National Voters Day. There is an emerging need to run awareness drives about the National Voters Day.
- Awareness of election-related apps like cVIGIL and KYC was low, with only 16 percent aware of cVIGIL and 33 percent aware of KYC.
- Only 35 percent respondents are aware of Summery Revision

Main reasons for political apathy

- **Defections:** Frequent changes in party by candidates are perceived as a reason for the growing apathy among the people.
- **Money power:** The use of money to attract votes undermines the fairness of the electoral process. Almost all the respondents unanimously said that money power is evident during elections. Respondents feel that, these practices damage the legitimacy of the electoral process, suggesting that the elections are influenced by money and political manoeuvring rather than being conducted in a truly free and fair manner.
- **Migrants:** It is observed that in many of the villages of Goa migrants population is increasing. They are also registered in the voter list of Goa. The migrants have become vote bank for the candidates who wants to win. This discourages the local voters from voting as they feel migrant voters play a significant role in deciding which candidate wins election.

Important suggestions

1) It is observed that overall, the data reflects a strong endorsement of the polling station experience, reinforcing the importance of maintaining high standards in electoral administration, while there is there is lack of awareness among majority of voters about the online services provided by the ECI, summery revision and the Apps developed by the Election Commission of India. Some of the suggestions received are as follows:

    i) To placing posters at prominent public places, canteens of colleges and Goa University

    ii) Creating awareness campaigns through NGO's, SHGs, Youth Clubs

    iii) Use of social media and television as these two media's have emerged as the main source of getting information about elections

    iv) Rallies by students at different places

    v) Street plays by students, poster competition

    vi) Conducting webinars in the colleges and University on one specific theme every quarterly

through Electoral Literacy Clubs of the colleges.

    vii) Sending SMSs to voters through BLOs

2) Every year two months prior the summery revision special awareness drive should be carried out in all the colleges especially for First Year under graduated students. It is also important to create awareness campaigns in schools for 12th Standard students.

3) It is also found that to increase the effective functioning of the BLOs. To make the functioning of the BLO's more effective there should be a policy to change the BLOs after every Five years.

4) It is found during FGDs that there are many places where voters moved out of India mainly for job or educational purposes who still have their voter card in Goa but might noting be voting either in assembly or parliamentary elections. The participants suggested for introducing the e-voting facility for the NRI voters to help them.

5) If NOTA gets the majority of votes compared to all other candidates contesting in the constituency, then the election in that constituency should be cancelled.

6) It is also observed during survey that voters are not aware of the terms used by the election commission for campaigning or awareness. It is suggested that to use simple terminology for voter campaigning, awareness, captions which are understandable to the voters.

7) It is also important that the awareness campaign should take place in between elections also and not restricted to having them just before the elections.

Chapter I

Introduction

1.1: Background

India, often celebrated as the "world's largest democracy," exemplifies the extraordinary evolution of democratic governance in contemporary times. Its democratic framework, being the largest and most robust globally, effectively encapsulates the broad spectrum and intricate cohesion of its diverse populace. A cornerstone of this democratic ethos is universal suffrage, where each electoral cycle manifests an unmatched engagement in political processes, echoing the voices of more than a billion individuals (Election Commission of India, 2024).

Elections in India are a fundamental part of the democratic process, serving as the primary means through which the citizens exercise their right to choose their representatives at various levels of government. Known for being the world's largest democracy, India's elections are held at multiple tiers, including the national, state, and local levels. The process is overseen by the ECI, an independent constitutional authority, ensuring that the elections are free, fair, and transparent. With a diverse electorate spanning different regions, languages, and cultures, Indian elections are a vibrant expression of the country's commitment to democratic principles.

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has introduced several initiatives in recent years to enhance voter participation and ensure fair and transparent elections. Key measures include bolstering security, computerising electoral rolls, issuing unique identity cards to voters, and enforcing the Model Code of Conduct to maintain a level playing field for all candidates. Additionally, efforts such as deploying Block Level Officers (BLOs), establishing Voter Registration and Epic Center (VREC), and facilitating the delivery of Electoral Photo Identity Cards (EPIC) have been implemented to raise awareness about the significance of voting.

The ECI's flagship program, Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP), began in late 2009 and has progressed through two phases. The first phase focused on 17 General Elections to State Assemblies, while Phase II centred on the 2014 Lok Sabha election and

assembly elections in 15 states and union territories. Building on the success of these phases, SVEEP-III was designed for the elections held between 2016 and 2020, with the key objective of ensuring "No Voter to be Left Behind."

1.2: SVEEP in Goa

The general objectives of SVEEP are:

- Purifying the electoral roll of every polling booth.
- Bridging gender gap in enrolment and turnout.
- Ensuring inclusion of all non-voters/ marginalised sections through targeted interventions, technological solutions and policy changes.
- Addressing urban and youth apathy in electoral participation. (SVEEP Manual, 2024)

In light of the above initiatives, and to better understand the perspectives of electors regarding the election process in Goa, the State Election Commission has proposed conducting an Endline Survey of voters following the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. The 2024 Endline KAP (Knowledge, Attitude, Practices) Survey has been initiated under the Commission's directive to evaluate voters' levels of knowledge, engagement, and the key factors that influenced their voting behaviour during the election. This survey will provide crucial insights to refine and improve communication strategies and interventions for future elections in Goa, with the ultimate goal of enhancing voter participation.

1.3: Purpose of the study

The KAP Endline survey is a study to assess the knowledge, attitude and practices of the voters of a particular community. The purpose of the study is to understand the opinion, perceptions and behaviour of voters towards the election process and understand their awareness of election related issues and SVEEP activities.

1.4: Objectives

1. To understand awareness of the election process among the voters of Goa.

2. To assess the knowledge, attitude and practices of voters in Goa towards the process of election.

3. To investigate the knowledge and behaviour of voters towards registration and voting.

4. To provide inputs for effective intervention strategies for future plan of action.

1.5: Research Design

The research aims to assess the knowledge, attitudes, and practices of the electorate by considering macro-level data, such as enrolment and voting rates. To gather comprehensive insights, the KAP tool and discussion guides for Focus Group

Discussions (FGDs) are used. These tools are carefully designed to extract detailed information from participants, providing a clear understanding of voters' perceptions and opinions regarding the electoral process and the initiatives introduced by the ECI (ECI).

The KAP tool is structured as a questionnaire with clearly defined coded responses. It features both single and multiple response questions, with most questions being closed-ended to ensure the study remains focused on the research objectives.

1.6: Geographical coverage

Geographical coverage is a critical aspect of election-related surveys. When selecting areas for the study, it is ensured that every region of the state is equally represented. The state of Goa is divided into two districts, North Goa and South Goa, which are further divided into 40 Assembly Constituencies (ACs). For the Endline survey, data is collected from 12 of these ACs, with six ACs selected from each district. These 12 ACs were chosen using probability proportional to size sampling, ensuring equal and balanced representation of all societal segments.

Table 1.1: Sampled Assembly Constituencies (ACs) for Endline Survey

Sr. No.	AC No.	AC Name	District
1	10	Aldona	North Goa
2	11	Panaji	North Goa
3	9	Porvorim	North Goa
4	13	St. Cruz	North Goa
5	14	St. Andre	North Goa
6	17	Sanquelim	North Goa
7	22	Shiroda	South Goa
8	25	Vasco-da-Gama	South Goa
9	27	Cortalim	South Goa
10	28	Nuvem	South Goa
11	32	Benaulim	South Goa
12	35	Velim	South Goa

Source: Data compiled from ECI website: www.eci.gov.in

Table 1.2: Assembly Constituencies selected for the Endline Survey 2024 with voting percentage

Sr. No.	AC No.	AC Name	Voting percent 2024 LS	Voter Turnout 2024 LS	Voter Turnout 2024 LS
1	10	Aldona	74.66	21329	Low
2	11	Panaji	69.42	15599	Low
3	09	Porvorim	74.59	21070	Low
4	13	St. Cruz	73.35	21861	Low
5	14	St. Andre	71.13	15247	Low
6	17	Sanquelim	89.17	25021	High
7	22	Shiroda	79.02	23754	High
8	25	Vasco-da-Gama	68.70	24700	Low
9	27	Cortalim	72.73	23295	Low
10	28	Nuvem	71.57	20392	Low
11	32	Benaulim	69.29	20189	Low
12	35	Velim	70.32	22292	Low

Source: Data compiled from Office of the ECI

The criteria for selecting these ACs included:

- Identified Two Assembly Constituencies (ACs) with the highest voter turnout in the 2024 Lok Sabha Election - One from North Goa and One from South Goa.
- Selected Ten Assembly Constituencies (ACs) with the lowest voter turnout in the 2024 Lok Sabha Election - Five from North Goa and Five from South Goa.

Table 1.3: Comparison of voter turnout in the AC's selected for the Baseline and Endline Survey

Sr. No.	AC No.	AC Name	Voting percent 2019 LS	Voter Turnout 2019 LS	Voting percent 2024 LS	Voter Turnout 2024 LS	Voter Turnout 2024 LS
1	10	Aldona	72.49	Low	74.66	21329	Low
2	11	Panaji	71.60	Low	69.42	15599	Low
3	09	Porvorim	72.69	Low	74.59	21070	Low
4	13	St. Cruz	73.18	Low	73.35	21861	Low
5	14	St. Andre	70.90	Low	71.13	15247	Low
6	17	Sanquelim	84.91	High	89.17	25021	High
7	22	Shiroda	84.37	High	79.02	23754	High
8	25	Vasco-da-Gama	66.34	Low	68.70	24700	Low
9	27	Cortalim	69.67	Low	72.73	23295	Low
10	28	Nuvem	69.08	Low	71.57	20392	Low
11	32	Benaulim	64.79	Low	69.29	20189	Low
12	35	Velim	68.44	Low	70.32	22292	Low

Source: Data compiled from Office of the ECI

Graph 1.1: Voter turnout in 2019 and 2024 Lok Sabha election in the selected ACs for Baseline and Endline survey
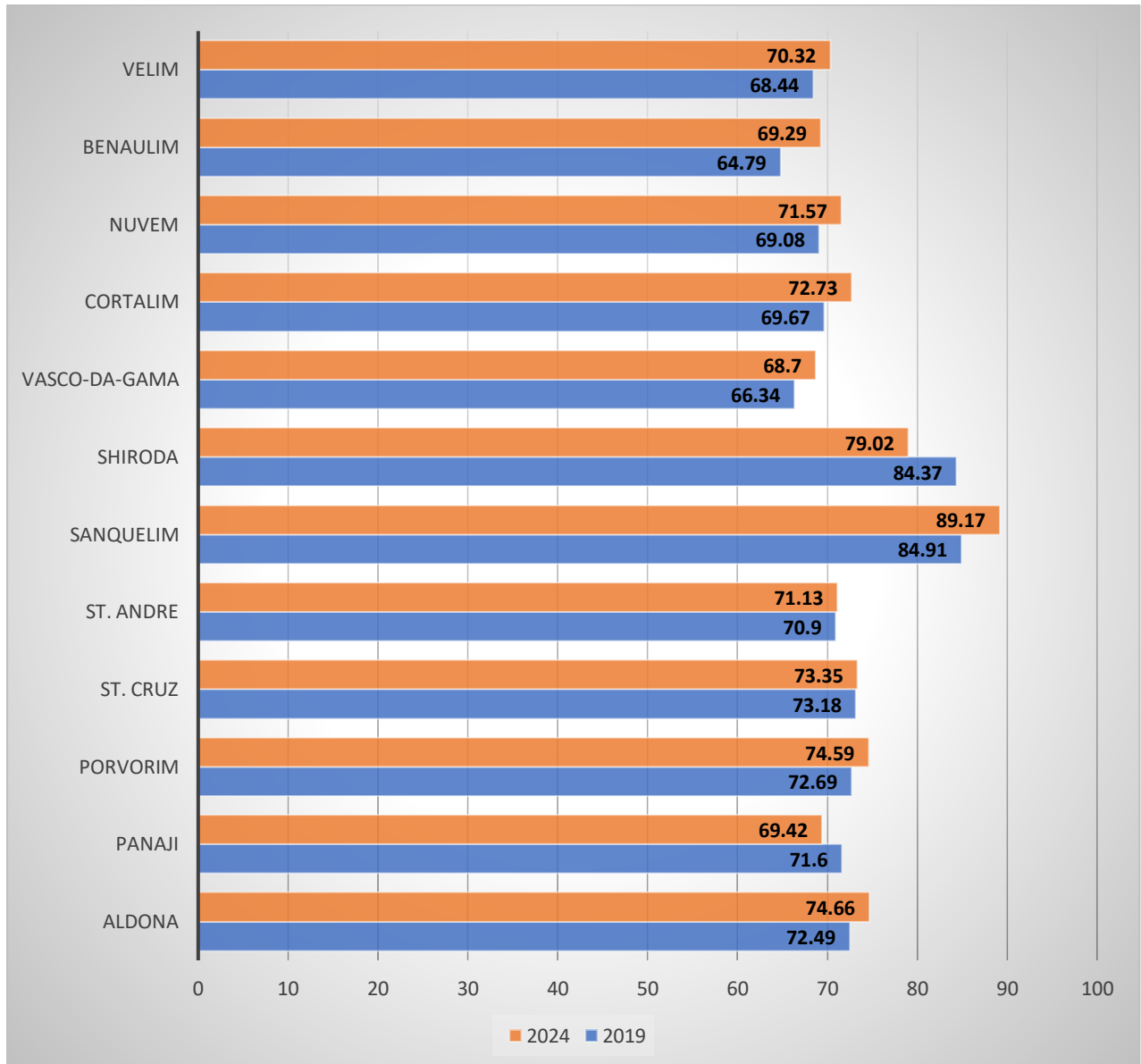
Source: Data compiled from Office of the ECI

1.7: Research Methodology

The data was collected from both quantitative and qualitative methods. The quantitative method included the use of a KAP tool in the form of a structured questionnaire. Most of the questions were closed-ended questions. Some questions included a single response while a few questions provided multiple

responses. The questionnaire was administered to voters residing in Goa.

Component A- Quantitative Survey

A Structured questionnaire provided by the ECI and designed by Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) was used to collect the data. The tool is divided into several sections which covered various aspects of the household as well as the respondent such as:

Section A: Identification and quality control

Section B: Selection of respondent

Section C: Voter registration

Section D: Elections- Knowledge, Attitude, Behaviour, Belief and Practices

Section E: Voter awareness and attitudes

Section F: Background information

Section G: Only for persons with disabilities

Section H: Inducement

The KAP tool was administered to respondents above the age of 18 years. Selection of the household was done randomly, while selection of the respondent was conducted using the 'KISH GRID' and they were subjected to the KAP tool.

Component B- Qualitative survey

The qualitative approach involved conducting Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) to gain deeper insights into voters' behaviour, attitudes, perceptions, and knowledge regarding the voting process. A total of Five FGDs were conducted: Three in North Goa and two in South Goa. Each district hosted one FGD for youth and one for women. These discussions were guided by separate, detailed questionnaires tailored for women, youth and mixed groups in accordance with the SVEEP Manual.

1.8. Sampling Design

The State of Goa is classified into two districts, namely North Goa and South Goa. It is divided into 40 Assembly Constituencies (ACs). Out of the 40 ACs, the data for the Endline survey is collected from 12 ACs which includes 6 ACs from each district. The ACs are selected on the basis of stratified random sampling method. Out of the 6 ACs selected from each district one AC with high voter turnout and five with low voter turnout are identified for the study. In Goa almost all ACs have voter turnout above 70 percent. The low voter turnout ACs are those having voter turnout between 70 percent to 80 percent. The high voter turnout ACs have voter turnout between 80 percent to 90 percent.

Map 1.1- Electoral Map of Goa

ELECTORAL MAP OF GOA STATE

NORTH GOA DISTRICT

SOUTH GOA DISTRICT

LEGEND

STATE BOUNDARY

DISTRICT BOUNDARY

CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY
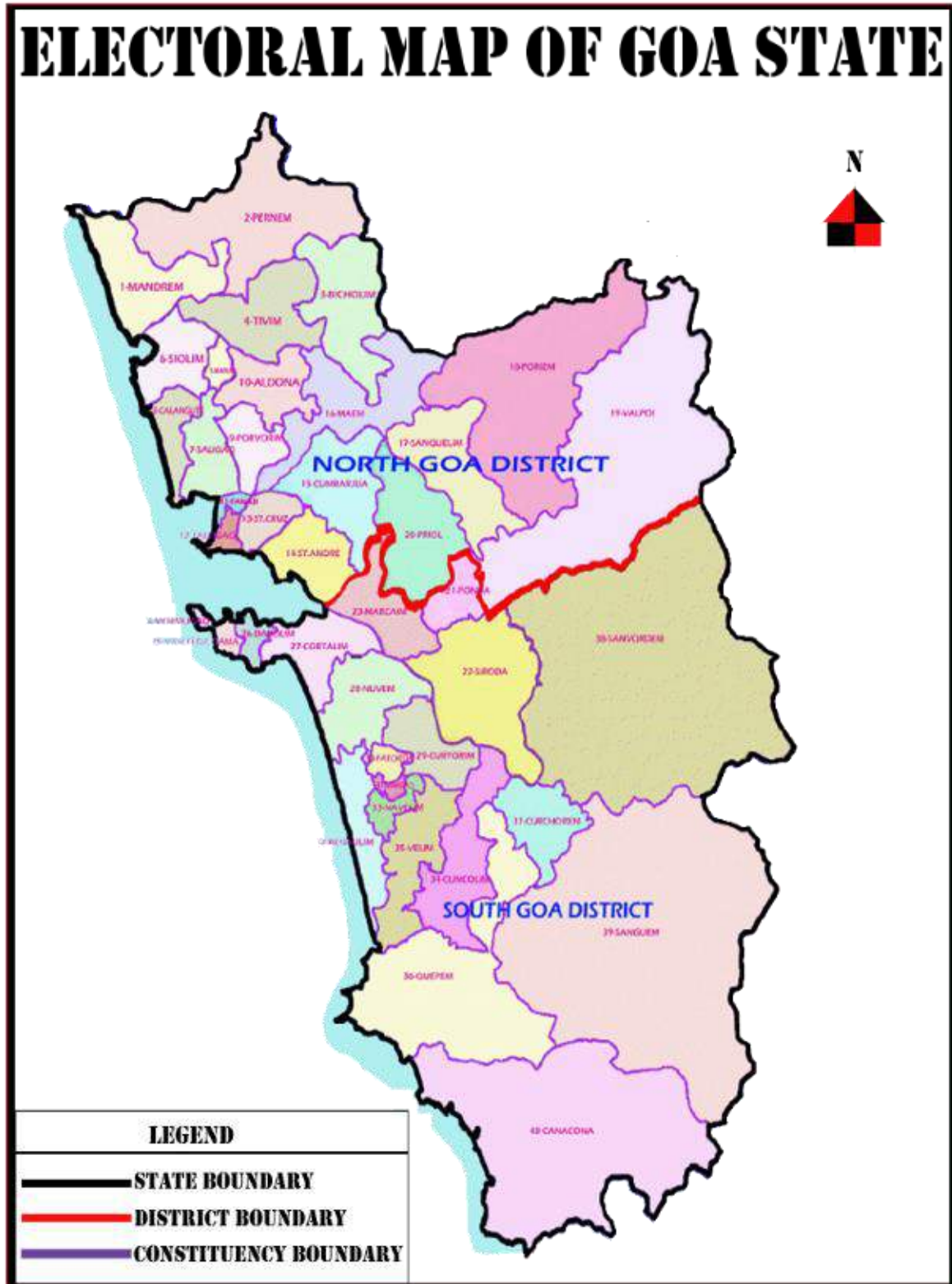
Source: CEO Goa website

Map 1.2- Electoral Map of North Goa
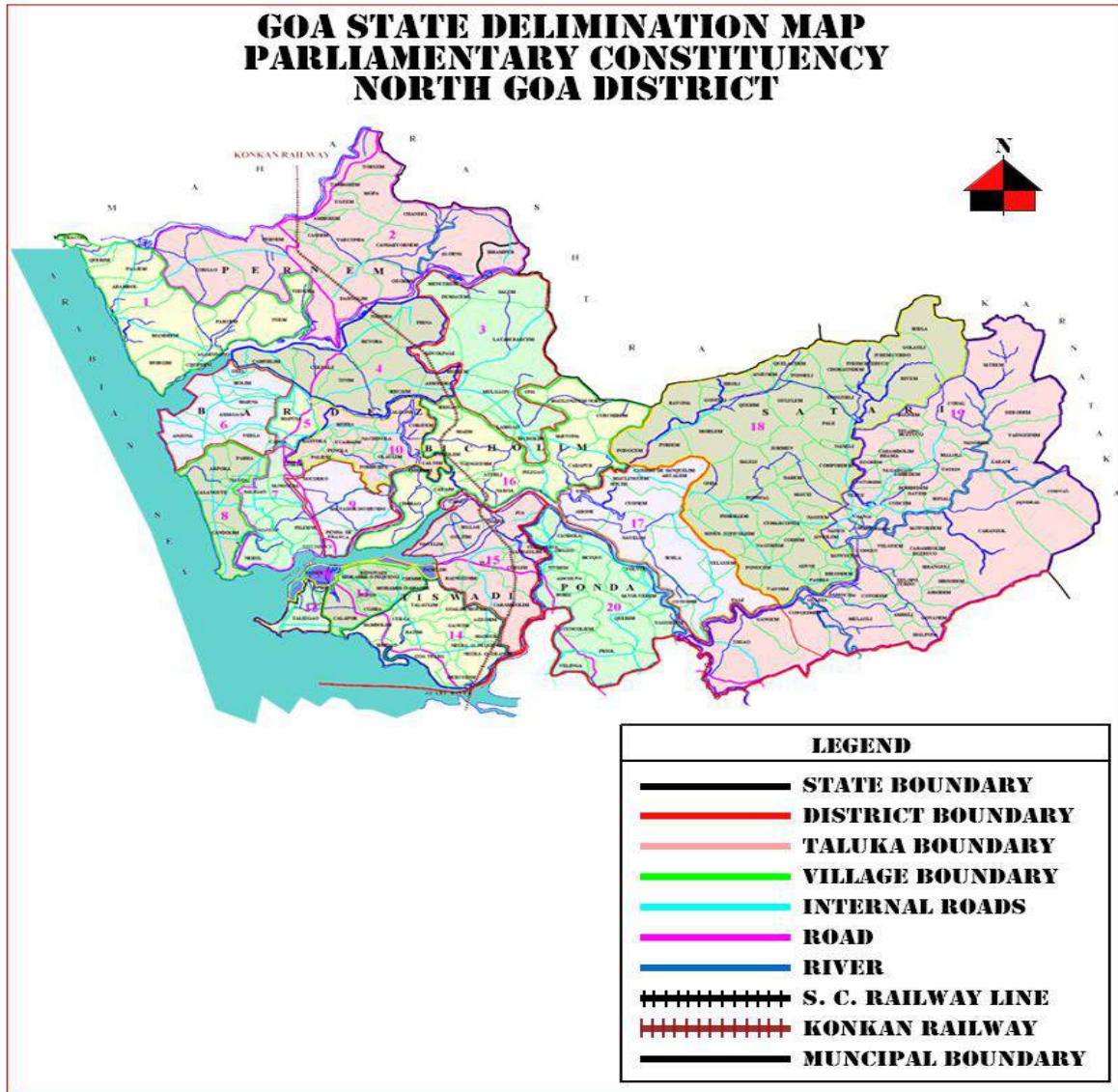
Source: CEO Goa website

District No - Name: 1 - North Goa

No. of Assembly Constituencies: 20 Nos

District Electoral Officer (DEO): Dr. Sneha S. Gitte, IAS

Total Electors: 580710 (including service voters)

Map 1.3- Electoral Map of South Goa
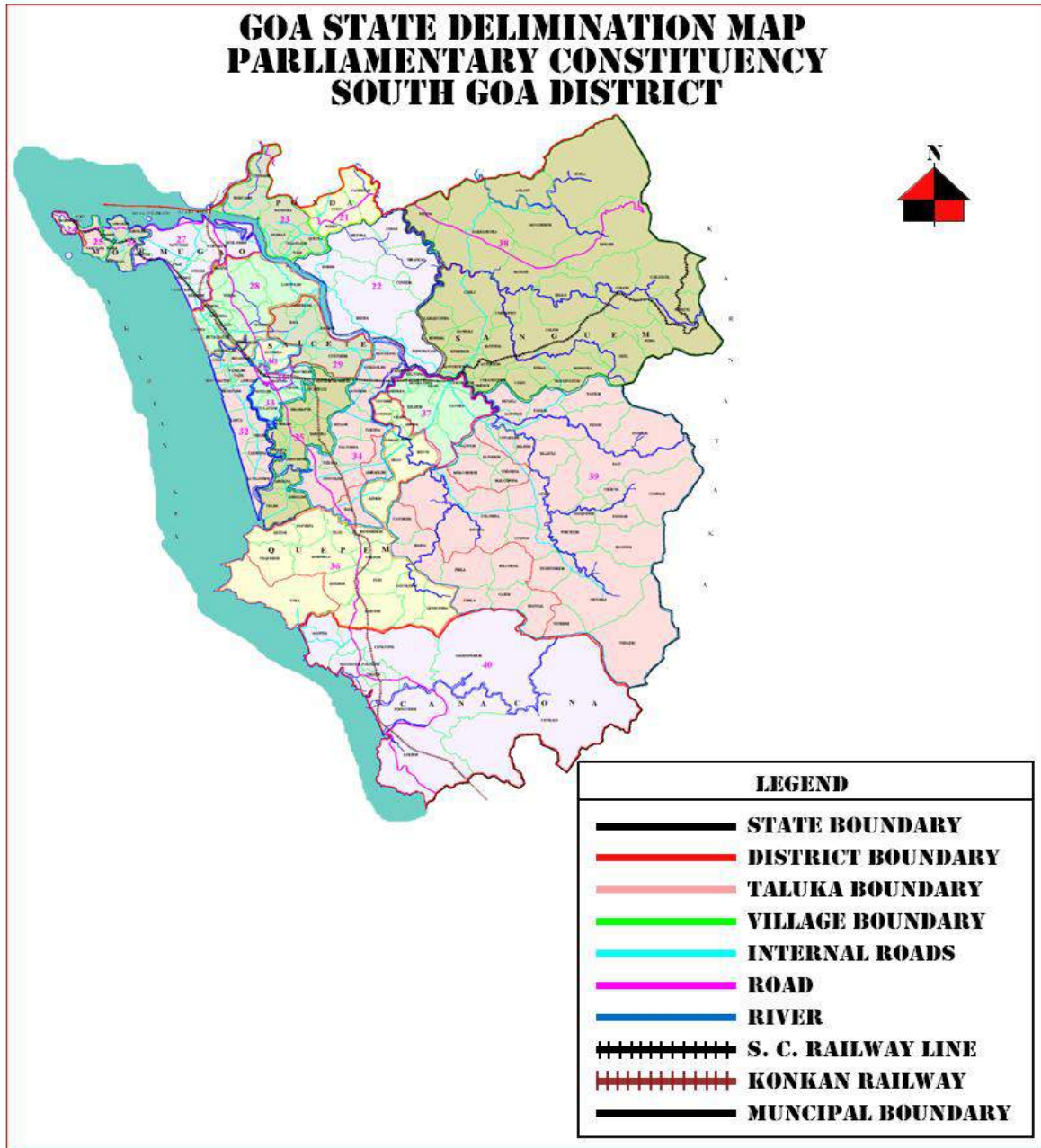
Source: CEO Goa website

District No - Name: 2 - South Goa

No. of Assembly Constituencies: 20 Nos

District Electoral Officer (DEO): A. Asvin Chandru, IAS

Total Electors: 598934 including service voters, (State Profile, 2024)

Table 1.4: Sampling Method

Number of Districts	2
Number of Assembly Constituencies selected for Survey	12
Total number of Polling Stations 4X12	48
Number of respondents from each Polling Station	15
Total number of respondents 15X48	720
Total number of Enumerators required for field work	24

● From each AC four Polling Stations (PSs) are selected - Two PSs representing high voter turnout and two with low voter turnout.

● In all, 48 PS are covered comprising 720 respondents.

● From each PS, 15 respondents are selected using a stratified random sampling method.

● From every AC, 60 respondents are selected for the survey.

Table 1.5: Sampled Polling Stations

AC No.	AC Name	PS No.	PS Name	Voter Turnout
10	Aldona	41	St. Domnic Savio Sports Club, Calvim	Low
		8	Govt. Technical High school, Moira (new Building)	Low

		16	Govt. Primary School Boa Vista (South Wing)	High
		2	Govt. Primary School, Kamarkhazan (south Wing)	High
11	Panaji	30	Dhempe college of Arts and Science, Ground Floor, Hall No.3, Miramar	Low
		26	Dr. T.B. Cunha Higher Secondary School, Campal (Room 2)	Low
		16	Goa State Commission for Backward classes, IPHB Altinho	High
		21	Executive Engineer, PWD, WD-VII (PHE), Junta House, Panaji, Goa	High
9	Porvorim	25	Vidhya Probhodini Higher Secondary Education Alto Betim, (West Wing) Porvorim	Low
		27	Dona Leonor Memorial High School (Formerly known as Acdil School), Alto Betim-Porvorim	Low
		16	Govt. Primary School (South Wing), Paitona, Porvorim	High
		15	Govt. Primary School (North Wing), Paitona, Porvorim	High
13	St. Cruz	29	St. Cruz High School (West Wing -1), St. Cruz	Low
		35	Village Panchayat Library, Near Football Ground, Bondir	Low

		6	Provedoria Public Assistance Old Age Home, Chimbel	High
		39	Goa University, Faculty Block-A, Department of Physics, Cacra	High
14	St. Andre	19	G.P.S. (S.W.), Forgottem	Low
		21	G.P.S (N.W) Forgottem	Low
		7	G.P.S. Pirbhat	High
		11	G.P.S. (W.W.) Paliem	High
17	Sanquelim	5	Govt. Higher Secondary School (West Wing), Sanquelim	Low
		9	Govt. College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Sanquelim	Low
		24	Govt. Primary School Fanaswadi, Navelim	High
		42	Govt. Primary School, Navarwada Pale	High
22	Shiroda	39	Government Primary School, Vazangal Shiroda	Low
		44	Government Primary School, Mapa Panchawadi	Low
		4	Government Primary School (South Wing), New Building Padal Betora	High
		30	Government Primary School, Devaddem, Shiroda	High

25	Vasco	33	Kendriya Vidhyalaya -I, Varunapuri, Mangor Hill (Room No. 1)	Low
		27	St. Therese's High School, Mangor Hill, Vasco -da -Gama (Room No. 1)	Low
		25	Government Primary School, Vasco -Main, New Building (Room No. 2)	High
		24	Government Primary School, Vasco -Main, New Building (Room No. 1)	High
27	Cortalim	33	Government Primary School, Arossim (Room No. 2)	Low
		38	Sports Complex, Velsao	Low
		14	Kiran Niketan School, Zuarinagar (Room No. 2)	High
		4	Govt. Primary School, Sindole, Sancoale (Room No. 1)	High
28	Nuvem	34	St.Anthony High School, Majorda	Low
		36	Govt. Primary School (north wing), Gomeswaddo, Majorda	Low
		1	Communidade House of Nagoa, Senior Citizen & Welfare Centre (Under Village Panchayat Nagoa)	High
		11	Government Primary School, Rassaim	High

32	Benaulim	17	Sub-Station Of Office Of Electricity Dept., Acsona,Mazilwaddo	Low
		37	Sacred Heart Of Jesus High School,Igreja Carmona,(East Wing)	Low
		35	Village Panchayat Office, Cavelossim	High
		13	Holy Family School, Seraulim(West Wing)	High
35	Velim	20	Mount Mary High School, (Central Wing) Chinchinim	Low
		32	Govt. Primary School, (South Wing) Sarzora	Low
		40	Sao Jose De Areal Multipurpose Community Hall, Molla	High
		41	Govt Primary School (Central Wing) Igregwado, Sao Jose De Areal	High

Source: Data collected from CEO, Goa website, https://ceogoa.nic.in

Map 1.4: ACs selected based on Voter Turnout
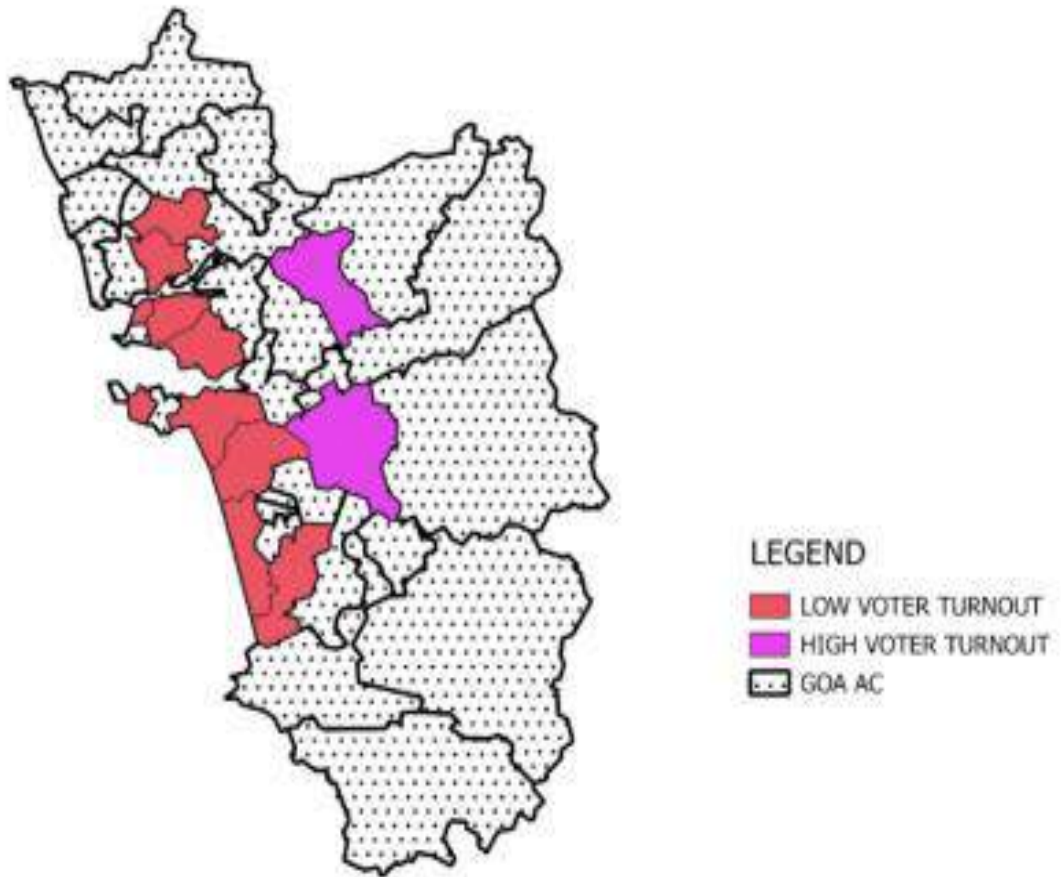
Source- QGIS (2023)

Map 1.5: Assembly Constituencies selected for KAP Endline

SELECTED ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES

LEGEND

- 10- ALDONA
- 11- PANAJI
- 09- PORVORIM
- 13- ST.CRUZ
- 14- ST. ANDRE
- 17- SANQUELIM
- 22- SIRODA
- 25- VASCO-DA-GAMA
- 27- CORTALIM
- 28- NUEM
- 32- BENAULIM
- 35- VELIM
- GOA AC MAIN

N

0   10   20 km
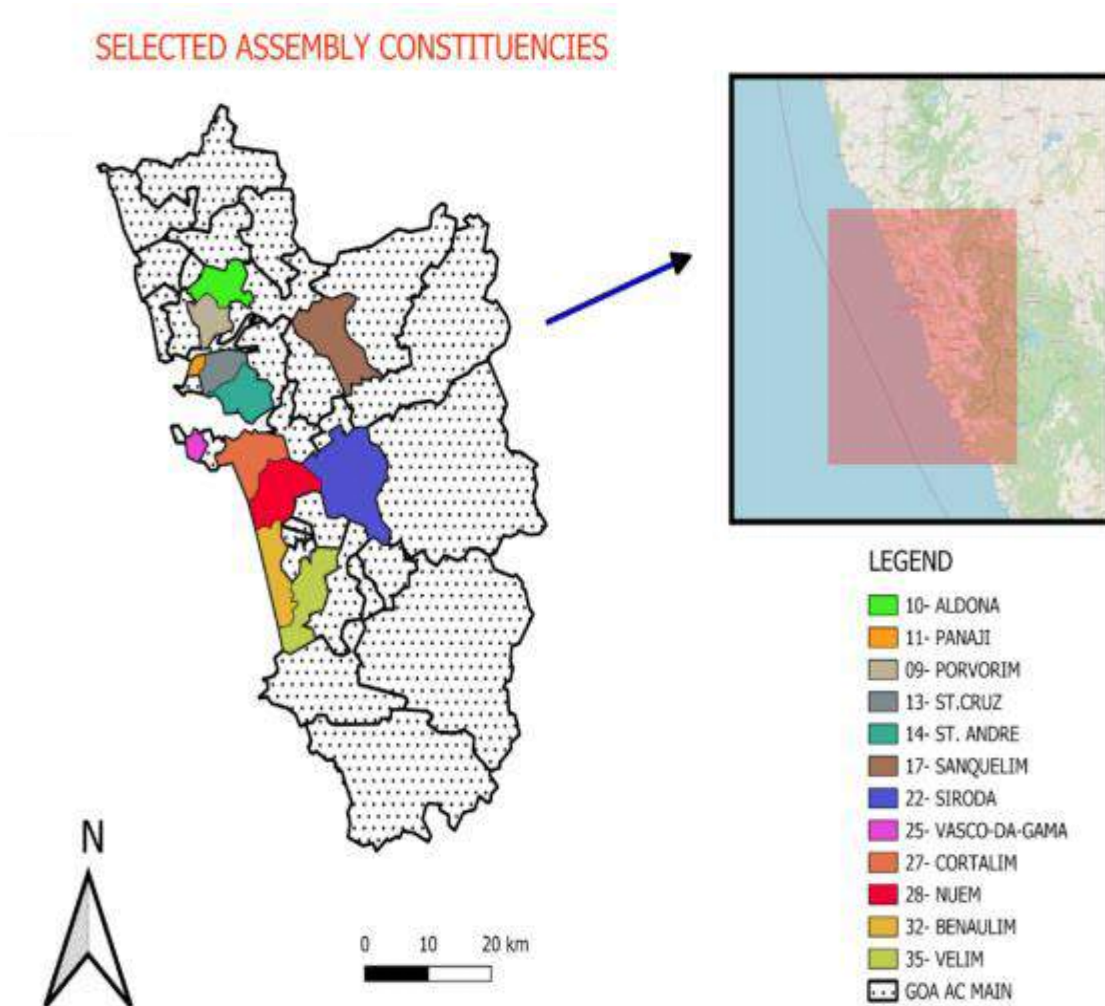
Source- QGIS (2023)

1.9- Project Implementation

The aim of this section of the report is to provide information about the operational details of the study.

1.10: Enumerators

A total of 24 Enumerators were required for the survey, with two Enumerators assigned to each Assembly Constituency (AC). Each Enumerator was tasked with covering two Polling Stations (PSs) to reach a total of 30

respondents. The work of the Enumerators was overseen by Five supervisors. Enumerators were provided with PDF files of their respective polling stations, available on the Chief Electoral Office, Goa website, to help them familiarise themselves with the survey locations.

In each PS, 15 respondents were selected using the Stratified Random Sampling method to ensure appropriate spacing between respondents and with a coverage of different areas within the PS. The KISH grid formula was employed by Enumerators to select respondents from the identified households. Additionally, the Enumerators were given the name and contact details of the Block Level Officers (BLOs) assigned to their respective polling stations, so they could seek assistance in identifying houses or understanding the geographical layout of the polling station if needed.

1.11: Training to the Enumerators

A total of 35 enumerators participated in the training and KAP Endline Survey 2024. In some PSs more than one student went for the survey as they were interested in getting involved in the survey and get field experience of conducting election survey. The Enumerators were made to attend a Two day rigorous training program from 8th -9th August 2024 before they were sent to the field for survey. Dr. Alaknanda Shringare, Mr.

Siddhesh Kalekar and Ms. Sanskruti Ayir coordinated the training. The Enumerators were trained in the various aspects related to the KAP survey, especially about conducting field work. The following topics were covered during the training:

Introduction to the KAP Survey and its objectives, Ethical considerations involved, informed consent and special considerations. Details Discussion on the questionnaire

Homework: To execute the questionnaire to one of the family member or friends or neighbour

All enumerators could read and speak Konkani, English and Hindi.

1.12: Data Analysis:

For data analysis, software like R- Studio and SPSS were used to generate tables and for cross tabs. QGIS software was used to create maps.

1.13: Ethical Considerations

Several ethical considerations were carefully observed during the study. These include:

1. When approaching respondents, enumerators began with a formal introduction, providing information about themselves and the institution they represented. They then explained the purpose of their visit and the study's objectives.

2. After ensuring that respondents fully understood the reason for the visit and the nature of the study, enumerators informed them about the estimated time required for the entire process.

3. Once all relevant information had been communicated, respondents were asked for their consent to participate in the study. Enumerators made it clear to each respondent that participation was entirely voluntary, and they had the right to decline if they chose.

4. Respondents were informed that they had the right to end the interview at any time during the process. They were also

given the option to skip any question or questions they did not wish to answer.

5. Interviews were conducted only after ensuring that respondents were comfortable with both the process and the surroundings.

6. During the interview, it was ensured that only the respondent provided answers, without any input or influence from other nearby individuals, even if they were from the same family or household.

7. Enumerators were instructed to maintain strict confidentiality by not disclosing any respondent's answers to others, even if asked to do so. This was done to ensure privacy and to prevent one respondent's answers from influencing another's.

8. During training, the entire team was instructed to respect the rights and dignity of all participants. The process was conducted in a way that made each respondent feel engaged and valued, rather than merely being a source of information.

9. Gender roles, as well as cultural and demographic considerations, were carefully respected throughout the fieldwork, especially in the qualitative aspects of the study.

1.14 Conclusion

This chapter has outlined the study objectives and provided a detailed overview of the research design and methodology, covering both quantitative and qualitative components.

It has also discussed the sampling plan and geographical coverage of the study. Additionally, the chapter has addressed the project implementation plan, ethical considerations, and concluded by highlighting the limitations of the current study. The following chapter will delve into the social, economic, and demographic characteristics of the respondents.

Chapter II

Profile of the Respondents

2.1: Introduction

The aim of this chapter is to profile the respondents based on their social, economic, and demographic characteristics, demonstrating that the survey sample is representative of the state's population. The discussion covers aspects such as age, sex, occupation, education, housing, and asset status of voter households.

According to the 2011 Census, Goa has a population of 1.459 million, with 739,140 males and 719,405 females. In terms of residence, 62 percent of Goa's population lives in urban areas, and 34 percent in rural areas (Census 2011).

The state boasts a literacy rate of 89 percent, significantly higher than the 72 percent national average. Specifically, the male literacy rate in Goa is 93 percent, while the female literacy rate stands at 85 percent. The average literacy rate in rural areas is 87 percent, with a male literacy rate of 92 percent and a female literacy rate of 82 percent (see Table 2.1). In urban areas, the average literacy rate is 90 percent, with males at 93 percent and females at 87 percent (see Table 2.1).

Table 2.1: Literacy rate in rural and urban areas (in percentage)

	Rural	Urban
Average literacy	87	90
Male literacy	92	93
Female literacy	82	87

Source: Goa Population Census 2011, accessed from https://www.censusindia.co.in/states/goa on 30th August 2024.

Table 2.2 provides details on Goa's working population. The table on Goa's working population from the 2011 Census reveals significant gender disparities in employment. Male workers dominate most sectors, particularly among main workers (75percent) and in "other workers" (76percent). Women are more involved in agriculture and marginal labour, making up around 38-39percent in these categories.

Interestingly, women constitute a majority (64percent) of the non-working population, highlighting potential challenges in female workforce participation. Although women are underrepresented in household industries and cultivators, their involvement is relatively higher in marginal and agricultural labour. Overall, the data points to a gendered division of labour in Goa's workforce.

Table 2.2: Goa working population

Type of Work	Total	Male	Female
Main Workers	4,76,053	3,56,967	1,19,086
Cultivators	24,062	14,866	9,196
Agriculture Labourer	10,758	6,532	4,226
Household Industries	10,780	7,951	2,829
Other Workers	4,30,453	3,27,618	1,02,835
Marginal Workers	1,01,195	62,569	38,626

Source: Goa Population Census 2011, accessed from https://www.censusindia.co.in/states/goa on 30th August 2024.

2.2: Some facts about 2024 elections in Goa

The parliamentary elections were held in Goa on 7th May 2024. There were 863 PSs in North Goa and 862 PSs in South Goa. One of the unique initiative started by the CEO, office in Goa since 2017 assembly elections is to set up Pink Booths. In these booths female officials handled the booth right from assisting people to vote, providing refreshments and other facilities creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all voters. Each AC has one Pink PS. Apart from Pink Booth, there were 80 Green Booths set up with the help of eco friendly, locally available materials, Eight Divyang Booths managed by persons with disability and Three Unique Booths and 2 Youth Booths.

In Eight booth in the urban area a unique experiment was done to attract more voters by having medical camp at PSs.

2.3: Demographic profile of the respondents

Goa has 1179644 registered voters, comprising 571909 males and 607723

females, 12 third gender voters and 300 service voters (State Profile, 2024). In the 2019 general election, voter turnout was 75.14 percent, this increased to 76.99 percent of voters casting their votes in the 2024 general election. Over the last decade, voter turnout in Goa has consistently improved due to the Strategic Voter Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) initiatives by the ECI. Notably, North Goa has shown a higher voter turnout compared to South Goa, with both districts recording more than 70 percent voter participation.

Analyzing the voter demographic profile reveals that between 2021 to 19th April 2024, 34,357 voters are registered. There is a significant increase in female voters (Table 2.3 and Table 2.4) and a corresponding rise in female voter turnout compared to male voters (Table 2.5). This upward trend in female voter engagement has been observed across nearly all constituencies in Goa over the past two decades.

Table 2.3: Comparative chart of registered electorate

	2024 (as on 19April2024)	2023	2022	2021
Total Electors	1179344	1167802	1156464	1144987
Total Male Electors	571617	567386	562500	558758
Total Female Electors	607715	600406	593960	586229
Total 3rd Gender Electors	12	10	4	0

Source: Data collected from https://ceogoa.nic.in/appln/uil/StateProfile.aspx on 6th September 2024

Table 2.4: Gender profile of the voters

Year	Total No. of electorates	Total no. male Voters	Total no. female Voters
2004	941167	475847	465320
2009	1020794	512475	508319
2014	1060777	528308	532469
2019	1136113	556059	580054

Source: Data collected from the ECI website: https://eci.gov.in/statistical-report/statistical-reports/ on 20th August 2024

Table 2.5: Gender-wise voter turnout in assembly elections

Year	Total Voter Turnout	Male	Female
2004	58.77	60.13	56.93
2009	55.29	56.64	53.8
2014	77.06	74.69	78.88
2019	75.14	73.63	76.16

Source: Data collected from the ECI website: https://eci.gov.in/statistical-report/statistical-reports/ on 20th August 2024

In 2024, following the Parliamentary elections in Goa, a KAP (Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice) survey was conducted to better understand voter behaviour and perspectives. The survey covered 48 polling stations across 12 assembly constituencies in occupation, and other relevant factors were carefully analyzed to assess how these characteristics influenced the knowledge, attitudes, and practices of voters. This detailed examination provided valuable Goa. Recognizing the importance of personal characteristics in shaping opinions and responses in social science research, this study placed significant emphasis on the demographic profiles of respondents. Key attributes such as age, gender, education level, insights into the relationship between individual backgrounds and their electoral engagement, contributing to a more nuanced understanding of voter behaviour in the region.

Table 2.6: Gender-wise distribution of respondents

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Male	341	47.36
Female	379	52.64

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Graph 2.1: Gender-wise distribution of respondents
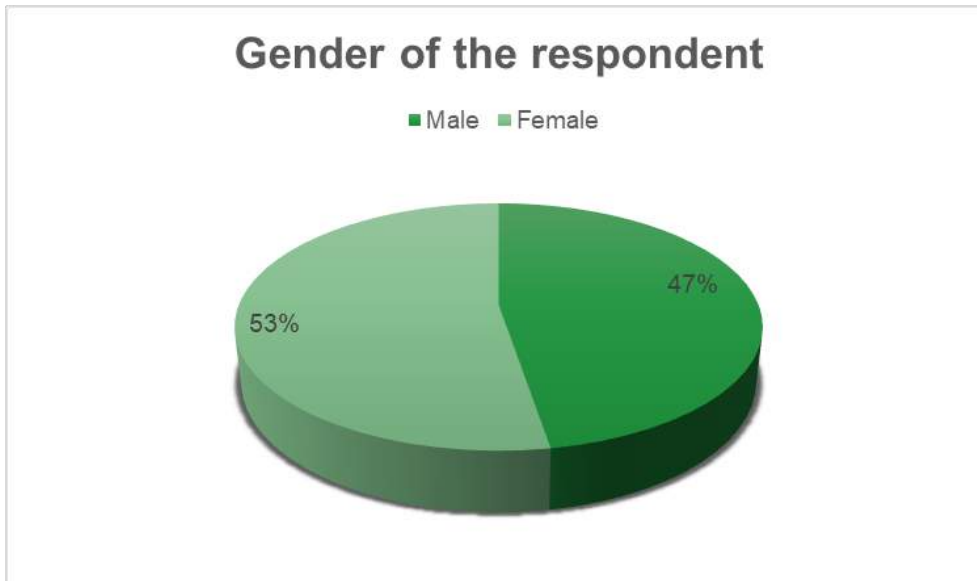
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The study comprises 341 male respondents and 379 female respondents. The survey included 720 respondents of which 53 percent respondents are female and 47 percent respondents are male.

Table 2.7: Age of the respondents

Age	Frequency	Percent
18-25	70	10
26-45	252	35
46-60	242	33
60 and above	156	22

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The table presents the age distribution of 720 respondents from the 2024 KAP Endline survey conducted in Goa. The majority of respondents fall within the 26-45 age group, suggesting that this age range has a more prominent presence or engagement in the surveyed population. The younger demographic (18-25 years) is the smallest group, representing only 10percent of the total sample. The older age group (60 and above) comprises a significant 22percent, indicating substantial participation from senior voters. This distribution reflects a diverse age representation, with the middle-aged demographic being the most dominant in the survey sample.

Table 2.8: Type of Residence

Response	Frequency	Percent
Rural	510	71
Urban	210	29

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

From the above table, we can observe that out of 720 respondents, 71 percent, that is 510 respondents live in the rural areas whereas 29 percent, that is 210 respondents live in the urban areas. A significant majority of the respondents are from rural areas. Urban areas, although densely populated, might represent a smaller portion of the overall sample. This rural-urban split highlights the importance of understanding the different electoral behaviours and challenges faced by voters in rural versus urban settings, particularly when designing outreach and voter education programs.

2.4: Educational qualification of the respondents

The educational background of respondents provides insights into their income levels and, more broadly, their socio-economic status. Since education plays a crucial role in influencing election outcomes, the survey included participants with varying levels of education to better understand their electoral participation.

Table 2.9: Educational qualification of the respondents

Educational qualification	Frequency	Percent
Illiterate	23	3
Primary school	42	5
High school	212	29
Higher secondary	151	22
Diploma/ Certificate	67	10
Graduate & above including Professional/Technical Courses	179	25
No response	46	6

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Graph 2.2: Education level of the respondents

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The table illustrates the educational qualifications of 720 respondents from the 2024 KAP Endline survey in Goa. The largest group, 29percent, has completed high school, followed by 25percent who hold a graduate or higher degree, including professional and technical courses. 22percent have finished higher secondary education, while 10percent possess diplomas or certificates. Only 5percent of the respondents have received primary education, and 3percent are illiterate.

6percent of the participants did not respond to the question on education. This distribution highlights a relatively well-educated sample, with more than half of the respondents holding a high school diploma or higher. The high percentage of respondents with graduate degrees or professional qualifications reflects Goa's emphasis on education and may indicate a socio-economically advantaged population participating in the survey.

Graph 2.3: Education by age
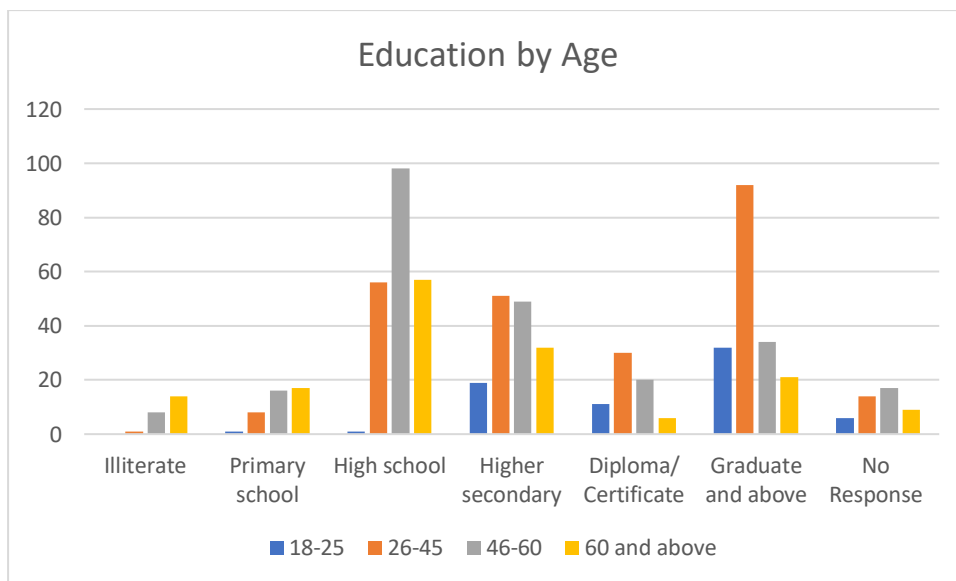
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The graph illustrates educational attainment by age group based on data from the KAP Endline survey in Goa (2024), with a sample size of 720. The 26-45 age group has the highest representation across most education levels, especially in high school

and graduate education, while the 18-25 age group shows a larger share in higher secondary education. Diploma and certificate qualifications are primarily concentrated in the 26-45 group, while illiteracy is relatively low, though more

prevalent among those aged 60 and above. Overall, younger age groups demonstrate higher education levels, with the older population showing lower educational attainment.

Table 2.10: Occupation of the Respondents

Occupation	Frequency	Percent
Student	41	6
Unemployed	51	7.
Government Service/Semi Government	79	11
Private Service	124	17
Own enterprise/self employed	104	14
Labourer/ Cultivator/ Agricultural and allied activities	26	4
Homemaker	227	31
Others	50	77
No response	56	8

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Occupation of voters signifies the knowledge, attitude, behaviour and practice of voting. In this regard, the assessment of the responses revealed that the highest number of respondents are homemakers i.e., 31 percent (227 respondents), followed

by 124 (17 percent) respondents being private sector employees. 11 percent of the respondents were Government employees. 14percent of the respondents are self-employed. 6percent of the respondents are students whereas around 7percent are

unemployed. While 7 percent of the respondents classified themselves under other categories which includes government retired officers, seafarers, retired private sector workers and the like.

2.5: Social group

Table 2.11: Social group of the respondents

Response	Frequency	Percent
SC	13	2
ST	73	10
OBC	79	11
GENERAL	311	43
Not answered	39	5
Not revealed	205	28
Grand Total	**720**	**100**

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Graph 2.4: Social group of the respondents
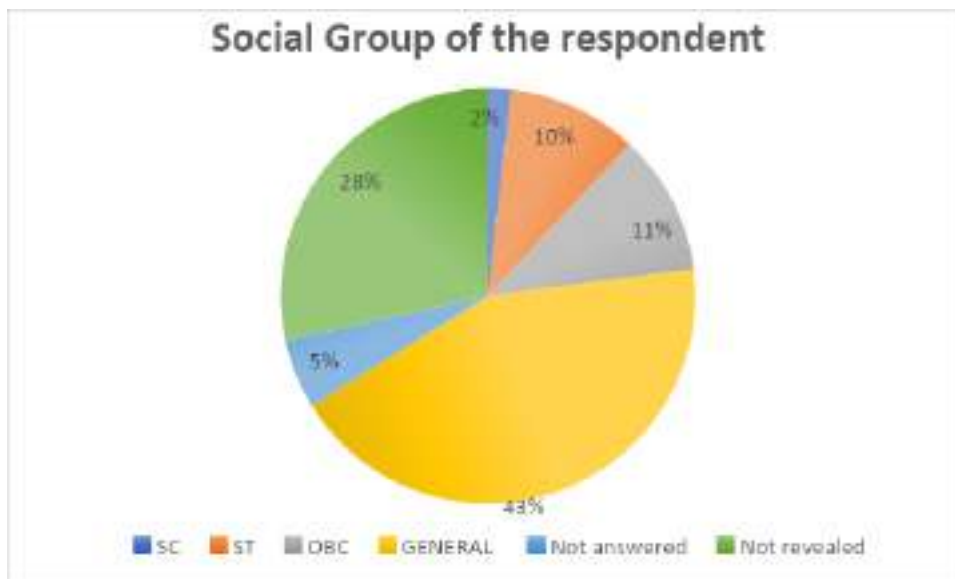
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

In the election process, caste consideration is another factor by which we can draw different perceptions among the voters. The assessment of the survey shows that 43percent of the respondents belong to the General category, 11percent belong to OBC category, 10 percent belong to ST category and only 2percent belong to SC category.

Table 2.12: Migrated in last one year

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	19	3
No	701	97

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

2.7 Disabled

Disability is one of the factor which prevents the electorate from voting. Recently ECI has taken up various initiatives to facilitate the Diwyang voters to vote in a hassle free manner. 'Electors / Voters having one among the 21 disabilities as mentioned by the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 are termed as voters with disabilities' (SVEEP, 2024). In addition, if a person with reduced mobility due to age, temporary ailment, pregnancy and other disease, and

2.6 Migrated in last one year

Migration plays a very important role in the election process and voter turnout. It is evident from table 2.13 that only 3 percent of the respondents have migrated to Goa in the last one year.

needs to be facilitated to get registered by filling Form 6 inclusive of information about one's disability online at www.nvsp.in by uploading the necessary documents. In case of any assistance required in filling the form, the same would be provided at both level officers.

In the present survey only 5 respondents were disabled. Of which, one respondent faced disability in seeing, one in speech and 3 in movement.

Table 2.13: Persons with Disability

Response	Frequency
Yes (in seeing)	1
Yes (in speech)	1
Yes (in movement)	3
No	715

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

2.8 Conclusion:

- Goa has high literacy rate compared to many other states of India. The educational profile of respondents is indicators of the same.
- The respondents profile depicts a greater number of women respondents
- which also corresponds with the ECI data on registered number of voters.
- The caste profile of the respondents corresponds closely to the Census 2011 data of Goa
- The survey covered a greater number of rural respondents

Chapter III

Voter Registration: Knowledge and Perception

3.1: Introduction

India stands as the world's largest and most vibrant functional democracy, and the credit for this remarkable achievement goes to its citizens for their active participation in the democratic process. Voting is not only a fundamental right but also a civic responsibility for all individuals aged 18 years and above. It empowers citizens to shape the nation's future, ensuring their voices are heard in the governance of the country.

The right to vote is the cornerstone of democracy, and it is crucial that every citizen understands and appreciates the significance of this right. It is not just a legal entitlement but a powerful tool for social change and political accountability. The intrinsic value of the right to vote must be constitutionally explored, deeply understood, and widely appreciated. By exercising this right, citizens contribute to the preservation of democratic ideals and the continuous improvement of the nation's governance.

The Indian Constitution, through Article 324, provides the necessary framework to give effect to the right to vote for all citizens. This article empowers the ECI (ECI) to oversee and conduct free and fair elections. Over the years, the ECI has undertaken the continuous and complex task of ensuring that every eligible citizen can exercise their right to vote.

The process begins with voter registration, which is the cornerstone of representative democracy. Voter registration ensures inclusivity in democratic governance, allowing citizens from all backgrounds to have an equal opportunity to participate in shaping the future of the country. It is through this essential step that the foundation of a truly representative democracy is built, ensuring that every voice, regardless of socio-economic status, is heard.

By registering to vote, citizens not only assert their democratic rights but also embrace their role as active participants in the nation's political process. This act reaffirms their commitment to upholding democratic values and contributes to the

strength and stability of the nation. Ensuring widespread voter registration and participation remains a crucial task in sustaining the vibrancy and inclusivity of India's democracy.

Table 3.1: Do you have a voter's card?

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	709	98.48
No	11	1.52

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Graph 3.1: Do you have a voter's card?

DO YOU HAVE A VOTERS CARD?

No 2%

Yes 98%
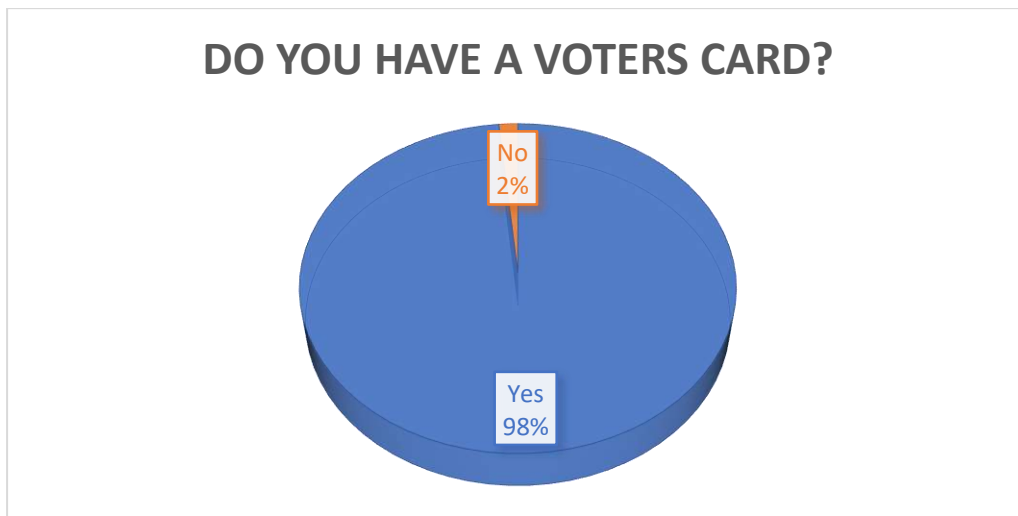
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

A Voter's Card, officially known as the Elector's Photo Identity Card (EPIC), is one of the most essential identity cards in India, serving multiple purposes beyond voting. It provides an individual with official status as a registered voter, reinforcing their role as a responsible citizen by enabling them to participate in the electoral process. Additionally, the EPIC can be used to obtain other important documents, making

it a versatile and valuable form of identification.

The ECI (ECI) has mechanisms in place to periodically update and revise the status of EPIC cards, ensuring that voter information remains accurate and up to date. As shown in Figure 3.1, an overwhelming 98 percent of the respondents reported possessing a valid voter card, while only 2 percent indicated they did not have one at the time of the survey.

Table 3.2: Reason not to have voter card

Response	Frequency
Not Aware	1
Not Received	2
Lack of time	2
Not Interested	6
Not Applicable	709

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The table summarizes the reasons why some individuals do not possess a voter card, with the most common reason being a lack of interest, cited by 6 respondents. Two individuals mentioned they had not received the necessary information, highlighting potential communication gaps, while another two pointed to a lack of time as their reason. Only one person was unaware of the voter card process, indicating that while awareness campaigns have been somewhat effective, there is still room for improvement.

Overall, disinterest and time constraints emerge as the primary barriers to obtaining a voter card. However, since the ECI permits individuals to vote using alternative identity cards, those without an EPIC may still participate in the election process by using another form of identification.

3.2: Voter's List

The voter list plays a vital role during elections. The lists are prepared based on polling booths. Booth-level officers conduct continuous inquiries to revise eligible voter updates for voting in an election. The electoral status update based on electoral registrations, forms 6, 6A, 7, 8, and 8A are the important tool to update the electoral status on the Voter's list. The list provides the Voter's voting details such as name, photo, serial number of voting, and address, part, and place of voting. It can also be considered a legal document for making a residence certificate. It is a continuous task of Electoral machinery. A voter list helps both Voter and electoral machinery to provide logistic support to the polling party during the elections. ECI has launched a special electoral summary revision campaign to update the voters list. Various platforms are made active for the same. In fact, it is the core aspect of the SVEEP mandate. During the summary revision, Voter's lists are displayed at different places, especially in Polling booths, Voter facilitation centers, through BLO, etc., for Voter verification, Also, Voter can check their details on the website on the Voter portal. Voter slips are distributed to every elector during the election based on the Voter's list.

Table 3.3: Awareness of Voter's List

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	666	93
No	27	4
Can't say/ do not know	17	2
Not answered	10	1

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)
N: 720

Table 3.3 illustrates respondents' awareness of the voter list. A significant 93 percent of respondents are aware of the voter list, while a small 4 percent are unaware. Less than 2 percent indicated uncertainty, and 1 percent chose not to respond to the question.

Table 3.4: Age by awareness of voters list

Response	18-25	26-45	46-60	60 and above
Yes	58	231	228	149
No	5	10	9	3
Can't say/ Don't know	6	5	2	4
No response	1	5	3	1

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Graph 3.2: Age by Awareness of voters list
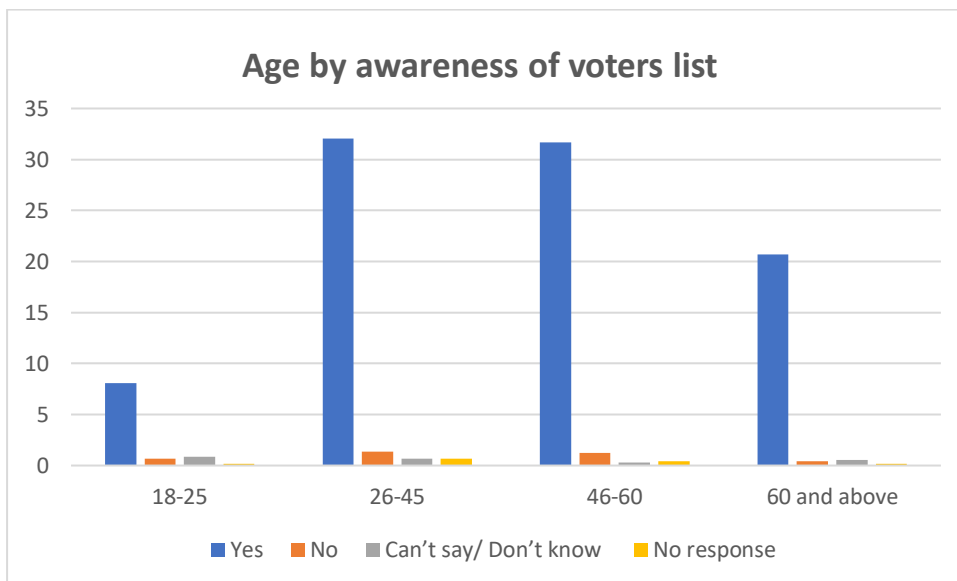
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The Table 3.4 highlights voter list awareness across different age groups. The majority of respondents in each age group are aware of the voter list, with the highest levels of awareness in the 26-45 age group (231 respondents) and the 46-60 age group (228 respondents). Among the 18-25 age group, 58 individuals are aware, while 149 respondents in the 60 and above category also reported awareness.

A small number of respondents in each age group are unaware, with 5 percent in the 18-25 years, 10 percent in the 26-45 years, 9 percent in the 46-60 years, and 3 percent in falling in the age group of 60 years and above. A few people are uncertain and there are minimal responses under "No response," indicating that overall, there is a relatively high level of awareness of the voter list across all age groups.

Table 3.5: Name enrolled in the Voter's List

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	645	90
No	10	1
Can't say/ do not know	26	4
Not answered	39	5

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Table 3.5 shows the enrolment of respondents' names in the voter list. An impressive 90 percent of respondents have mentioned that their names are enrolled in the voter list, indicating that the ECI's (ECI) summary revision campaign has effectively helped voters enrol their names in the voters list. Respondents actively use various methods to check their status on the voter list. Only a small percentage are either not enrolled or do not take the initiative to check their status.

Table 3.6: What was the reason for name being not enrolled in the voters list

Response	Frequency
Did not know about it	1
Was not told	2
Can't say/ do not know	4
Was not interested	3
No Response	710

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

When asked to the 10 percent of the respondents who either said their name is not enrolled in the voter list or refrained from answering the reason, it is found that were either unaware of the voter list or simply not interested in checking whether their name was included.

Table 3.7- How you came to know that your name is enrolled in Voters List

Response	Frequency	Percent
Friends/Relatives	129	18
Newspaper	18	2.5
Local Community leaders	82	11
BLO	449	62
TV	15	2
Social media/ website	23	3
Any other medium	40	5.5
Can't say	65	9
Not answered	135	19

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Preparing or updating the Voter's list is a continuous activity of the ECI. ECI has an established framework for the electoral process. Since preparing a voting list is the most crucial task of the machinery, SVEEP mandates are being implemented to achieve 100 percent enrolment. On various occasions and in various places, electoral registration drives have been organised under the directives of ECI. Table 3.7 provides a diverse picture of ECI's success in terms of the enrolment drive for names in the Voter's list.

Table 3.7 highlights the success of the ECI's enrolment drives. Booth Level Officers (BLOs) play a pivotal role in this process, with 62 percent of respondents indicating that they learned about voter registration from their BLO. Friends and relatives were the next most common source of information at 18 percent. Other sources also play important roles in raising awareness about voter registration and the inclusion of names in the voter list.

Table 3.8: Was the name correctly written in the Voters List?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	612	85
No	15	2
Can't say	38	5
Not answered	55	8

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Table 3.8 indicates that 85 percent of respondents confirmed that their names were correctly written in the voter list, while 2 percent reported errors. Additionally, 5 percent were unsure, and 8 respondents did not provide an answer.

Table 3.9: Any member of the family above 18 not registered?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	69	9
No	625	87
No response	26	4

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Voter registration marks the first stage of the electoral process and serves as the foundation of democracy. In fact, the electoral process in any democracy begins with the registration of voters. In our democracy, as outlined in the Constitution, power ultimately resides with the people. It is the crucial responsibility of every citizen to elect and send their representatives to Parliament.

The table above highlights the success of electoral drives in registering new voters. A significant 87 percent of individuals aged 18 and above within families have registered as voters, while 9 percent indicated they have not yet registered. Additionally, 4 percent of respondents did not provide an answer.

Table 3.10: Reason for not enrolling name in Voter's List?

Response	Frequency
Lack of awareness	21
Lack of interest	19
Lack of valid documents	24
Lengthy (difficult) procedure	10
Not permanent resident	5
No Response	651

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Registration of voters is the responsibility of the ECI authority. To enrol as an elector, a person requires valid documents such as address proof, age proof, parent's details, etc. ECI has recognized several documents for voter enrolment on the Voter's list. Address and age proof are mandatory documents.

The responses in the Table 3.10 includes only those respondents who said 'Yes' in the previous table (3.9). The question asked here allows multiple responses by the respondent. Table 3.10 highlights respondents' reasons for not enrolling family members who have turned 18 in the voter list. Out of 69 respondents who said 'Yes' in the previous table, 21 respondents cited a lack of specific awareness as the reason for not enrolling, while 19 showed no interest in the process. Additionally, 24 respondents were unable to register due to issues with valid documents, 10 found the procedure either difficult or too lengthy, and 5 respondents mentioned not having a permanent residential address.

Table 3.11: Do you know where to get registered?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Taluka Office	104	14
BDO	91	12
Panchayat Office	249	35
Collector's Office	114	15
Matdatar Sahayata Kendra / Voter Centre	58	8
VHA/NVSP/ECI website and ECI mobile app/through online methods	67	9
No response	37	5
Total	720	100

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

India's federal polity believes in the devolution of power and responsibility at various levels. ECI has a very diverse and decentralized electoral registration process. It has initiated a number of digital e-services to make the registration process voters-centric, transparent, and friendly. The above table (Table 3.11) highlights the various platforms or places for Voter registration. Panchayat being the closet grassroots level institution, have more voters' registrations; Around 35 percent of respondents mentioned Panchayat as the place to get registered in the voters list, followed by 15 percent mentioning Collectors Office, 14 percent said Taluka level Offices, 12 percent said BDO. Additionally, 8 percent said Matdatar Sahayata Kendra/ Voter Centres, 9 percent said Digital e-services such as VHA/NVSP/ECI website, App and other online method and 5 percent not responded.

3.3: Election Photo Identity Card (EPIC)

The Election Photo Identity Card (EPIC) symbolizes voters' pride in electoral democracy. Over time, the ECI (ECI) has transformed its EPIC services to deliver cards directly to the doorsteps of voters. Following a successful voter registration process, individuals receive their Smart EPIC card at their registered residential address within a few days. The ECI has adopted the latest technology to expedite these services.

Table 3.12: Are you aware of the EPIC?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	680	95
No	10	1
Can't say	15	2
No response	15	2

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The table is titled "Are you aware of the EPIC?" and it aims to assess the level of awareness among respondents regarding the Election Photo Identity Card, which is an important document for voters in India.

Table 3. A significant majority, 95percent (680 respondents), confirmed that they are aware of the EPIC. Only 1percent (10 respondents) reported that they are not aware of the EPIC. Overall, the data in Table 3.13 suggests a strong awareness of the EPIC among respondents, which is a positive sign for electoral participation. However, the presence of some uncertainty highlights the need for ongoing educational initiatives to enhance understanding and engagement with the electoral process.

Table 3.13: When did you get EPIC made?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Before last assembly election	214	30
After last assembly election	29	4
Don't remember	440	61
No response	37	5

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Table 3.14 shows the availability of EPIC cards. The majority of the voters received their EPIC card, but responses vary in terms of getting EPIC. The 30percent of respondents who received their EPIC before the last assembly election suggests a proactive approach to voter registration and identification, which is critical for electoral participation. 61 percent of respondents did not remember the date of getting their EPIC card. and only 4 percent said that they received it after the last election, and 5 percent did not respond.

Table 3.14: How many days it took to get the EPIC?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Within 15 days	127	18
Within one month	280	39
Within six months	32	4
Don't know	266	37
No response	15	2

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

ECI has adopted the most accessible mode of delivery of EPIC cards. There is a chain of officials from the BLO level to the CEO office involved in making EPIC more Voter-friendly from the beginning until the end. Table 3.15 provides an overview of the time frame of EPIC card delivery. EPIC delivery varies depending on when the voters have enrolled to vote.

The issue of EPIC is one of the most important criteria. The above table shows 39 percent of the respondents got EPIC within one month, 37 percent did not remember the time getting EPIC, 18 percent received it within 15 days, 4 percent of the respondents got it within six months, and 2 percent did not respond..

Table 3.15: Was it easy to get the EPIC?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	489	68
No	51	7
Can't say	164	23
No response	16	2

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The table indicates that 68 percent of respondents found it easy to obtain their Election Photo Identity Card (EPIC), This suggests that the process is generally user-friendly and accessible. Only 7 percent reported that the process was difficult. This highlights that there are still some barriers or challenges that a small portion of the population experiences. This could stem from issues such as a lack of information, difficulties with documentation, or logistical challenges in accessing registration centers. About 23 percent expressed uncertainty about the ease of obtaining the EPIC, while 2 percent did not provide a response.

Table 3.16: Main problems witnessed while getting EPIC

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Long procedure	54	7
Unfriendly officials	33	5
Can't say	53	7
Inaccessibility of the concerned office	13	2
No Response	567	79

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

However, when in a separate question asked to the respondents to state the main problem witnessed in obtaining the EPIC 54 indicated that the EPIC was received after a lengthy procedure, 33 reported encountering unfriendly officials, 53 were unsure about the issues they faced, and 13 cited inaccessibility of the relevant office.

Overall, Table 3.17 highlights several challenges faced by respondents while obtaining their EPIC, with a predominant concern being the lengthy procedures involved. The issues of unfriendly officials, uncertainty about the application process, and inaccessibility also point to areas for improvement.

Table 3.17: Are you aware that you can vote with an alternative ID?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	521	72
No	162	23
No response	37	5

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Table 3.18 shows voters' awareness of alternative IDs that can be used for voting during elections. A majority of 72 percent of respondents are aware of alternative IDs, while 23 percent are unaware. Additionally, 5 percent did not respond to the question. The fact that 72 percent of respondents are aware of alternative IDs is a positive indicator of voter education and engagement. This awareness is crucial for ensuring that voters know their rights and options, which can facilitate higher participation in elections.

Table 3.18: Which alternative ID did you use for voting?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Licence	178	25
Ration card	58	8
Opening bank account	13	2
Voter slip	169	23
Any other	179	25
No response	123	17

Note: Multiple answers were allowed for the question.
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)
N: 720

From the above table 3.19, it is clear that voters use multiple alternative IDs to vote in the elections. Out of 72 percent respondents who were aware of alternate IDs can be used for voting, 25 percent of respondents use driving licenses, 23 percent use Voter slip, 8 percent use ration cards, 25 percent use other documents, and 17 percent didn't respond.

3.4: Local Person appointed to help enrolment

In a democracy, electoral experience from the field makes the ECI to appoint local people to help voters enrol. Local Persons bridge the gap between people and institutions, they connect the people to the system. Most of the time, the local person are government officials who reside in the voting area. They are familiar with the voters in the area. Since 2006, ECI has recognized the important role of local people in helping the population in the electoral process, popularly known as Booth Level Officer (SVEEP report 2014).

Table 3.19: Awareness of local Person to help enrolment

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	590	82
No	97	13
No response	33	5

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Survey responses in Table 3.20 reveal that most are aware of the local person appointed by the ECI to help the people in the enrolment process. The Table 3.20 indicates 82 percent respondents are aware of the local person appointed by the ECI, while 13 percent of the people are not aware of any local person, and 5 percent do not respond to it.

Table 3.20: Designation of local Person to help enrolment

Response	Frequency	Percent
Booth Level Officer	474	66
Identification Officer	11	1.5
Election Agent	63	8.5
Don't know	91	13
No response	81	11

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Table 3.21 illustrates the awareness of the designation of local representatives involved in the electoral process. 66 percent of respondents recognize the title of "Booth Level Officer" for the local individuals, while 8.5 percent refer to the person as "election agents" and 1.5 percent identify them as "identification officers." Additionally, 13 percent of respondents indicated that they do not know the designation, and 11 percent chose not to respond to the question.

Table 3.21: Local Person appointed for enrolment visited your house/office?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	446	62
No	115	16
Can't say	90	12
No response	69	10

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

As mentioned earlier, the voter registration process is a responsible task; the authorized person has to verify the Voter's residence during a continuous electoral revision exercise. An authorized local person's report is vital in finalizing voter entry on the voter's list. Table 3.22 reveals that 62 percent of respondents reported that the local person appointed for enrolment visited their homes. In contrast, 16 percent indicated that the local person do not engage with the community for enrolment purposes. Additionally, 12 percent of respondents expressed uncertainty by stating they cannot say, while 10 percent chose not to respond to the question.

Table 3.22: Knowledge of location of Polling Booth

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	692	97
No	17	2
No Response	11	1

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Table 3.23 indicates respondents' knowledge of the location of polling booths. An impressive 96.5 percent of respondents are aware of where their polling booth is located, while only 2 percent do not know about polling booth locations.

3.5: Persons with disability

The Indian Constitution guarantees equal rights to all citizens and mandates the state to ensure their implementation. To support this commitment, various affirmative strategies have been introduced for the upliftment of persons with disabilities (PwDs). The ECI (ECI) has taken significant measures to implement PwD-friendly electoral practices, ensuring that these services are well-designed to fulfil constitutional mandates in a democratic India.

Saksham App serves as a resource for PwDs, providing information about

electoral processes and available services. Moreover, the ECI efforts through "Purple Feast," aimed at boosting the morale of PwD electors. These initiatives have been widely appreciated by civil society, reflecting a growing recognition of the importance of inclusivity in the electoral process.

Table 3.23- Have you come across any publicity/voter edutainment material aimed at participation of PwDs?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	2	40
No	3	60

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Table 3.24 presents PwD respondents' opinions on the publicity of voter education and participation for persons with disabilities (PwDs) in electoral exercises. From among the five PwD respondents, three indicated that they had not encountered any publicity or educational material targeting PwDs, while two respondents reported having seen such publicity related to PwD voter education and participation.

Table 3.24:Do you know about an app Saksham app developed by ECI for PwD's?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	4	80
Yes	1	20

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Table 3.26 indicates voters' knowledge on ECI's Saksham app of PwDs. One respondent is aware of the Saksham app is available for PwDs while 4 respondents are not aware of about the App.

Table 3.25: How you rate the process of registration

Response	Frequency	Percent
Easy	0	0
Neither easy nor difficult	1	20
Difficult	2	40
No Response	2	40

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Table 3.27 shows PwD voter's rating of the registration process. The above table indicates that 2 respondents mentioned that the registration process is difficult, 1 respondents said it is neither easy nor difficult, none of the respondents said the process is easy, and 2 respondents didn't answer the question.

Table 3.26: Are you aware of the facility of postal ballots is extended to Senior citizens above 80 years and person with benchmark Disabilities

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	4	80
No	1	20

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Table 3.28 indicates respondents' opinion on postal ballot services available for senior citizens (above 80 years) and persons with benchmark disabilities. Out of 5 PwD respondents, 4 are aware of an extension of the postal ballot facility, whereas 1 person is not aware.

3.6 Conclusion The analysis highlights the strengths and areas for improvement in India's electoral system. While there is widespread awareness of EPICs, BLOs and polling booth locations, issues such as difficulties with EPIC issuance and gaps in PwD voter education suggest that further efforts are required to enhance voter services and inclusive in this regard.

Chapter IV

Elections: Knowledge, Attitude, Behaviour, Belief and Practices

4.1: Introduction

Elections are a cornerstone of democracy, with electoral participation serving as one of the key indicators of democratic health. Voter turnout and engagement are shaped by numerous factors such as the electoral system in place, voters' social affiliations, their personal beliefs, and where they live. This chapter explores various dimensions of electoral participation, including respondents' willingness to register and vote, reasons for some individuals not enrolling as voters, and factors contributing to registered voters abstaining from the electoral process. It further examines voters' opinions on the election process and makes comparisons across various demographic and socio-economic variables. The chapter also probes into voters' intentions to participate in future elections, highlighting a concerning trend of electoral disengagement and passivity. This analysis is crucial to understanding the dynamics of electoral democracy in Goa, particularly in the context of broader patterns of voter behaviour and participation

Table 4.1: Did you vote in the 2022 assembly election?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	671	93
No	35	5
No Response	14	2

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The last Assembly Elections in Goa was held in 2022. When asked if the respondents had voted in the last Assembly Elections, 93 percent of the respondents said they had voted. Only 5 percent did not vote. Whereas, 2 percent respondets did not respond.

Table 4.2: Did you vote in the 2024 Parliamentary election?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	674	93
No	32	4
No Response	14	2

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The last Parliamentary Election in India was held in the year 2024. When asked if the respondents had voted in the last Parliamentary Election, 93 percent of the respondents said yes. 4 percent did not vote in the Parliamentary Election. Whereas almost 2 percent did not respond.

Graph 4.1: Percentage of respondents who did not vote in 2024 Parliamentary Election
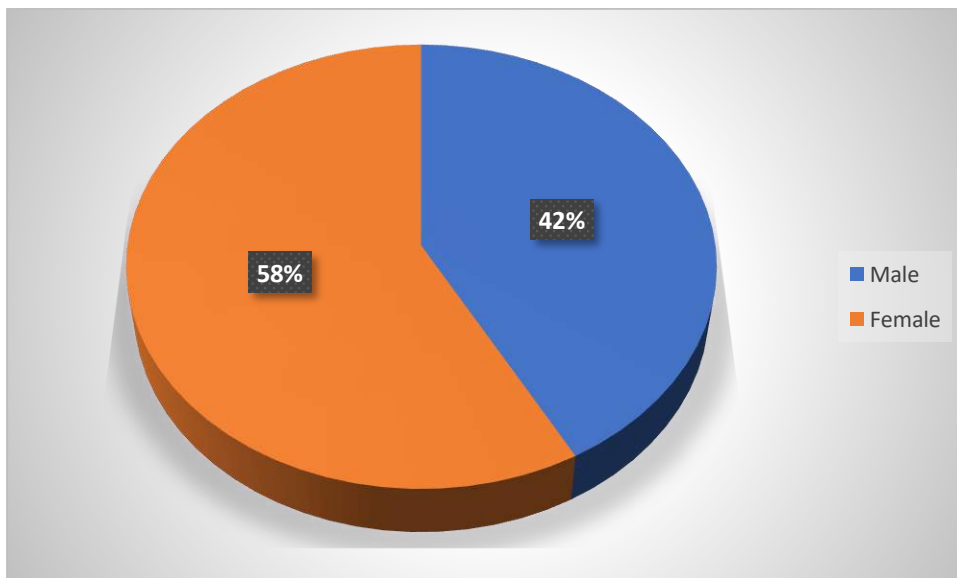
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Graph 4.2: Age group-wise voting in 2024 parliamentary elections
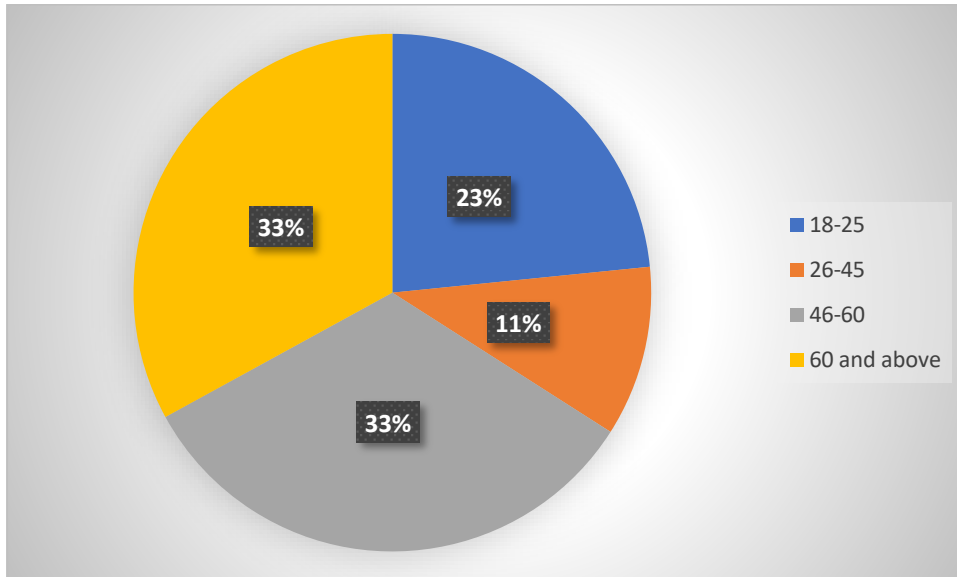
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

From among the 2 percent respondents who did not vote in the 2024 parliamentary elections majority (58 percent) are women (Graph 4.1) and majority of them belong to the age group of 46 to 60 years (33 percent) and 60 years and above (33 percent) (Graph 4.2)

Table 4.3: What is the reason for not voting?

Response	Frequency	Percent
I did not have electoral photo ID Card	21	18
I did not know my polling station	9	8
Polling station was at a distance	10	8
Long queue and I did not have the time	17	14
No faith in political system (or electoral democracy)	8	7
Any Other	54	45

Note: Multiple responses are allowed for the questions.

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

From the graph and tables above, it's evident that 35 respondents did not vote in the 2022 Assembly elections, while 32 respondents abstained from voting in the 2024 Parliamentary elections. When asked about their reasons for not voting in either election, 18 percent indicated that they lacked an electoral photo ID card, **7** percent were unaware of their polling station, 8 percent cited the distance to the polling station, 14 percent mentioned long queues and a lack of time, and 7 percent expressed a loss of faith in the political process. The remaining 45 percent attributed their non-participation to other reasons, including health issues and some respondents being minors during the 2024 Parliamentary elections. The data highlights several barriers to voter participation in both the 2022 Assembly and 2024 Parliamentary elections. Overall, the findings point to a combination of logistical challenges and broader societal issues that contribute to voter abstention, indicating areas for potential reform to encourage higher electoral participation.

Table 4.4: Reasons for voting

Response	Frequency	Percent
It was my duty/right	476	66
Candidate was good	109	15
Head of the family said to vote	32	4
I got registered in electoral roll	97	13
Candidate visited me personally	22	3
Wanted to defeat a particular candidate and/or a political party	58	8
Candidate was of my choice and from community and religion	21	3
Casted vote due to threat or coercion	24	3
Influenced by friends	28	4
Any other	42	6
No response	74	10

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The data reflects a multifaceted picture of voter motivation in Goa, with a majority of respondents (66 percent) driven by a strong sense of civic responsibility, viewing voting as a duty or right. This indicates a healthy level of democratic engagement and awareness among the electorate about their role in the political process. The 15 percent who voted based on the quality of candidates highlight a segment of voters who are more policy- and candidate-focused, suggesting they are informed and engaged with the specific issues and profiles of those running for office. Similarly, the 13 percent who stated the reason that as they got themselves registed in the electoral roll they voted demonstrate that voter registration likely have a positive impact on electoral participation. Meanwhile, the 8 percent who voted to defeat a specific candidate or party indicates that negative partisanship also plays a role in motivating voter turnout. These varied reasons suggest that both positive engagement and opposition to specific candidates or parties drive electoral participation in India.

Other responses included being influenced by the head of the family (4 percent), being personally visited by a candidate (3 percent), and voting due to community or religious affiliation (3 percent). A small percentage (3 percent) mentioned voting as a result of coercion, while 4 percent were influenced by friends. Additionally, 6 percent cited various other reasons not captured by the listed options. Interestingly, 10 percent of respondents did not provide any response to this question.

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4.2- Electoral Experience

Table 4.5: Experience in the last voting

Response	Frequency	Percent
Convenient	632	88
Inconvenient	23	3
Taxing	2	0.2
Can't remember	39	5.8
No response	24	3

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

When asked about their experience during the last election, 88 percent of respondents stated that it was convenient and easy, while a small 3 percent found it inconvenient. The fact that 88 percent of respondents found the voting process convenient and easy suggests that the overall electoral infrastructure and services provided during elections is satisfactory for most voters. This indicates that efforts by the ECI to streamline and modernize the voting process have been largely successful. The results suggest that reforms aimed at making the voting process easy and accessible have had a positive impact on the voting experience for a significant majority of voters.

4.6: Motivation for choice of candidate

Response	Frequency	Percent
Personally known	189	26
Experience	126	17
Honesty	211	29
Commitment	144	20
Any other	50	7

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

When respondents were asked about their motivation for choosing a candidate in the election, 29 percent cited the candidate's honesty as the primary factor. 26 percent mentioned that they personally knew the candidate, while 20 percent were motivated by the candidate's commitment. Additionally, 17 percent based their choice on the candidate's level of experience.

The data indicates that voters prioritize honesty and personal connections when selecting candidates, with 29 percent emphasizing honesty as the most significant factor. The importance of a candidate's commitment and experience also plays a role, suggesting that voters seek trustworthy and qualified representatives in the electoral process.

Table 4.7: Any family members eligible for voting not voted?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	81	11
No	619	86
No response	20	3

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The survey results reveal that a significant majority of families were fully participatory in the voting process, with 86 percent of respondents reporting that all eligible family members voted. In contrast, 11 percent acknowledged that some eligible family members did not vote, while 3 percent chose not to answer the question. These findings indicate a strong overall commitment to voting within families, though a small portion of households had individuals who did not exercise their voting rights.

Table 4.8: Reason for family member not voted

Response	Frequency	Percent
S/he did not have electoral photo ID Card	22	39
S/he was not in his/her constituency	6	10
S/he did not know the polling station;	7	11
Other reasons	22	39

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

To the question whether any family member eligible for voting who have not voted, 11 percent said yes. When further examined the reasons for the family members not voted, 39 percent respondents said that the family member did not have

electoral photo ID Card, 10 percent of the respondents said that their family member was out of the constituency. 11 percent respondents said that they did not know their polling station.

4.3: Influencing factor affecting voting preference

Table 4.9: Most influencing factor that affects voting preference

Response	Frequency	Percent
Family	45	6
Caste	27	4
Religion	46	6
Candidate	547	76
Any other	71	9
No response	67	9

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The analysis of the most influential factors affecting voting preferences reveals that the overwhelming majority of respondents (76 percent) identified the candidate as the most significant factor. This suggests that voters are highly focused on the individual candidates when making their voting decisions, indicating a strong candidate-centric approach to voting.

For a smaller portion, 6 percent of respondents indicated that family influence played a role, reflecting the traditional or familial decision-making dynamics that can affect voter behaviour in some households. Only 4 percent of respondents identified caste as the most influential factor, suggesting that while caste may still play a role in some areas, it is not a dominant factor in shaping voting preferences among the majority of respondents in this dataset. This shift indicates a movement toward more individual-based decision-making rather than identity-driven voting blocs.

Table 4. 10: Factor influencing high voter turnout

Response	Frequency	Percent
Money power	87	12
Muscle power	14	2
Both	49	7
Good Candidate	438	60
Favourable environment for voting	27	4
Very high awareness for importance of voting	74	10
Any other	44	6
No response	34	5

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The analysis of Table 4.11, which examines the factors influencing high voter turnout, reveals several key insights: Good Candidate is cited as the most significant factor by 60 percent of respondents as the reason for voter turnout. This underscores the critical role of individual candidates in motivating voters to participate in elections, suggesting that voters prioritize the personal qualities and policies of candidates over other factors. Around 12 percent of respondents identified "money power" as a factor influencing high voter turnout. This indicates that financial incentives or the distribution of money Around 10 percent of respondents attributed high voter turnout to "very high awareness" of the importance of voting.

during campaigns still plays a role in influencing electoral participation, though it is not the primary factor for most voters. This reliance on money undermines the democratic process, as it shifts focus away from candidate merit and policy to monetary gains, potentially skewing voter behaviour.

A smaller portion of respondents, 2 percent for "muscle power" and 7 percent for a combination of "money and muscle power," indicates that coercion or physical intimidation, while present, has a limited impact on voter turnout compared to other factors.

This highlights the impact of civic education and awareness campaigns in fostering voter participation. While 4

percent of respondents believed that a "favourable environment for voting" influenced turnout. This may refer to a peaceful and accessible voting process, indicating that logistical factors also contribute to participation, though to a lesser extent.

Overall, the data indicates that candidate quality remains the dominant factor in driving voter turnout, with financial incentives and public awareness playing secondary roles.

Table 4.11: Is there any security threat during election?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Very much	51	7
Somewhat	126	17
Not at all	429	60
Can't say	89	12
No response	25	3

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

This level of perceived insecurity could discourage voter participation and undermine the integrity of the electoral process. Therefore, it is crucial for election authorities to investigate these concerns and implement measures to ensure a safer voting environment, fostering greater confidence in the democratic process. The

data reveals a significant perception of safety during elections, with 60 percent of respondents reporting no security threats. However, the 24 percent who indicated the presence of threats—comprising 17 percent who felt some threat and 7 percent who perceived an obvious threat—highlights a concerning issue that warrants attention.

Table 4.12: Whether deployment of police force was sufficient during the election?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Very much	320	44
Somewhat	278	38
Not at all	41	6
Can't say	60	8
No response	21	3

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The data from Table 4.13 illustrates mixed perceptions regarding the sufficiency of police deployment during the elections. While 44 percent of respondents considered the police presence to be sufficient, a notable 38 percent felt it was only somewhat adequate. This suggests a general sense of security among the majority but also highlights a significant portion of the population that remains uncertain about the effectiveness of law enforcement during the electoral process. Furthermore, the 6 percent who deemed the deployment insufficient indicates a minority with concerns that could impact their voting experience. These findings suggest that while the police presence was perceived positively overall, there is room for improvement in addressing the concerns of those who feel inadequately protected, reinforcing the need for effective security measures in future elections.

Table 4.13: Experience at the polling booth during elections

Response	Frequency	Percent
Very good	186	26
Good	452	63
Not so good	33	4
Not at all good	5	0.7
No response	25	3.3

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The analysis of respondents' experiences at the polling station indicates a generally positive sentiment toward the voting process. With 26 percent reporting a "very good" experience and 63 percent rating it as "good," a substantial 89 percent of voters expressed satisfaction with their polling experience. This high level of positivity reflects well on the management and organization of the polling stations, suggesting that voters felt their needs were adequately met during the electoral process. Conversely, only 5 percent of respondents reported their experience as "not so good" or "not at all good," indicating that the issues affecting these voters were relatively minor in comparison to the overall satisfaction. However, it is important for election authorities to investigate the specific grievances of this minority to identify and address any underlying problems, ensuring an even more positive experience for future elections. Overall, the data reflects a strong endorsement of the polling station experience, reinforcing the importance of maintaining high standards in electoral administration.

Table 4.14: Whether the polling staff was cooperative?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Very cooperative	215	30
Cooperative	447	62
Not so cooperative	16	2
Not at all cooperative	4	0.5
Can't say	20	3
No response	18	2.5

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The analysis of respondents' perceptions of polling station staff behaviour indicates a generally favourable view. 30 percent of participants reported that the staff was "very cooperative," while a significant 62 percent described the staff as simply

"cooperative." This means that a combined 92 percent of respondents had a positive experience with the polling staff, suggesting that the personnel were effective in facilitating the voting process and providing assistance to voters.

Only 2 percent of respondents reported that the staff was "not cooperative," highlighting a very small minority who may have faced issues. While this percentage is low, it is still essential for election authorities to investigate any complaints or negative feedback to ensure that all voters receive the support they need. Overall, the data reflects a strong level of satisfaction with the behaviour of polling station staff, indicating their crucial role in fostering a positive voting environment. Maintaining and enhancing this cooperative atmosphere will be vital for encouraging voter participation in future elections.

Table 4.15: Did you face any difficulty in voting?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	88	13
No	614	85
No response	18	2

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The finding that 13 percent of respondents reported facing difficulties while voting is a notable concern that warrants further analysis. This percentage indicates that while the majority of voters likely experienced a smooth process, a significant minority encountered challenges that could hinder their ability to exercise their democratic right effectively.

Table 4.16: Type of difficulty faced while voting

Response	Frequency	Percent
Long queue	49	7
No separate queue for senior citizen	08	1
Lack of facilities including drinking water toilet and ramp	09	1
Any other	13	2
Not applicable/No response	641	89

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

About 7 percent of respondents reported encountering long queues at the polling booth, while 1 percent noted that there was no separate queue for senior citizens. Additionally, another 1 percent of respondents faced difficulties due to a lack of facilities, including drinking water, toilets, and ramps.

4.4: Inducements

The Election Commission is dedicated to ensuring elections are free, fair, transparent, and free from inducements. However, challenges remain, as candidates and political parties often find ways to influence voters through financial incentives or intimidation. The influence of money in elections is a major concern in recent discussions on electoral reforms in India (Kumar, V). Financial resources are closely linked to political success, with candidates who spend more money generally having a higher chance of winning.

Moreover, the issue of candidates with serious criminal charges being nominated by political parties is also prevalent. The reason for this is quite apparent: such candidates often have better chances of winning elections (Vaishnav, M). For instance, in the 2004 and 2009 parliamentary elections, a candidate without any criminal cases had only a 7 percent chance of winning, while a candidate with criminal charges had a 22 percent chance. This comparison, however, does not account for other factors like education, party affiliation, or the nature of the constituency (Vaishnav, M).

This chapter explores the impact of inducements, persuasion, and bribery on election results. It also examines the role of awareness about apps like CVigil and KYC in mitigating these issues and their effect on the electoral process.

Table 4.17: Were there any inducements from any groups to influence voting

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	181	25
No	512	71
No response	27	4

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Graph- 4.3: Were there any inducements from any groups to influence voting
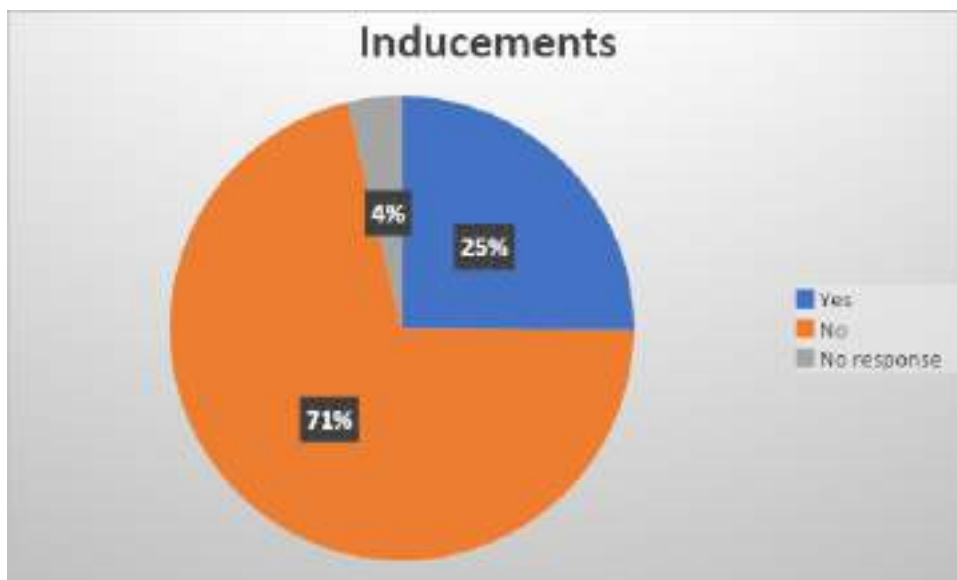
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The data indicates a significant perception of inducements in the electoral process, with 25 percent of respondents acknowledging that they encountered inducements from candidates or political parties. This suggests that a notable minority believes in the existence of unethical practices that could compromise the integrity of the elections. Conversely, 71 percent of respondents reported no such inducements, reflecting a more positive view of the electoral environment for the majority. However, the 4 percent who did not respond could indicate either apathy or a reluctance to discuss potential inducements, suggesting that further investigation into voter perceptions of electoral integrity may be warranted.

Table 4.18: Use of money power / muscle power by candidates / political parties

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	263	36
No	433	60
No response	24	3

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The data reveals a concerning divide in perceptions regarding the influence of money and muscle power in the electoral process. With 36 percent of respondents acknowledging the use of money or muscle power by candidates or political parties, this suggests that a significant minority believes these unethical practices play a role in elections, potentially undermining the democratic process. In contrast, 60 percent of respondents disagreed, indicating that a majority either have faith in the integrity of the electoral system or have not witnessed such practices.

However, the fact that one-third of respondents perceive the influence of money and muscle power raises important questions about the overall health of the electoral environment. This discrepancy could reflect underlying issues such as voter disillusionment or distrust in political institutions. Furthermore, the 4 percent who did not respond might represent a segment of the population that feels uncertain or

hesitant to discuss the topic, further complicating the narrative.

Table 4.19: Types of inducements used

Response	Frequency	Percent
Distributing cash among women through self-help groups	71	11
Funding of local club to organise cricket / football matches	22	3
Distributing liquor	49	8
Distributing food packets	28	4
Any other	20	3
No inducements	96	15
No response	341	54

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

There has to be serious and constant awareness drives by the authorities about such apps so that more and more people can come out and use these apps. Both cVIGIL and KYC can help in conducting fair elections in India and therefore each voter should be aware of these apps.

When asked what type of inducements are being used by the candidates or the political parties, 11 percent respondents said that Distributing cash among women through self-help groups is a significant type of inducement (Table 4.25). The same has been revealed in women focus group discussions. 15 percent respondents also said that they never received any type of inducements from anyone. 4 percent respondents said that Distributing food packets is also another type of inducement used by the candidates or the political parties. 3 percent respondents agreed that there was Funding of local club to organise cricket / football matches by the candidates. 8 percent respondents agreed that they were offered alcohol as an inducement.

4.5: Participation in rallies/ meeting organised by political parties

Table 4.20: Do you participate in rallies/meetings organised by political parties

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	136	19
No	550	76
No response	34	5

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The data indicates a low level of active political engagement among respondents, with only 19 percent participating in rallies or meetings organized by political parties. This suggests that a significant majority, 76 percent, do not engage in these forms of political participation.

Table 4.21: Who bears the expenditure incurred on participating in those rallies

Response	Frequency	Percent
Own expense	74	41
Organising party	106	59

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

When asked to those respondents who participate in rallies/meetings organised by political parties, 41 percent said that the expenditure to participate in such rallies is incurred by own self whereas 59 percent of the respondents said that the expenditure to participate in such rallies is incurred by the organising party.

4.6: Knowledge of App

Table 4.22: Do you know about cVIGILApp

Response	Percent
Yes	16
No	75
No response	9

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

cVigil app empowers the voters to report Model Code of Conduct Violations. Through this mobile app, voters can click photos and record videos to strengthen the idea of community policing during elections. The App emphasizes the proactive and responsible role of citizens to curb malpractices during elections. Since most young voters use a smartphone, it became easy for them to get time-bound ECI notifications for public information. Any voter can file their immediate complaints to the ECI during a violation of political misconduct.

When asked if the sample is aware of the cVIGIL app, 16 percent seemed to be aware whereas 75 percent was unaware.

Table 4.23: Do you know about KYC App

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	234	32.5
No	424	59
No response	62	8.5

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The ECI has developed Know your Candidate (KYC) Applications for both Android and IOS platforms for informing about "Criminal Antecedents" status of candidates. This allows citizens to browse candidates with/ without Criminal Antecedents and empowers the citizens to know the criminal antecedents of the candidates. When asked if the respondents were aware about KYC app, 32.5 percent were aware whereas 59 percent were unaware.

4.7 Conclusion

It is evident from the above discussion that the overall experience of voting was satisfactory for most of the voter. Majority of the voters believe that voting is their right/duty. The respondents also raised concern over growing influence of money power during elections. Candidate emerged as one of the most influential factor for voting among the voters.

Source- CEO, Goa

Chapter V

Voter Awareness and Attitudes

5.1: Introduction

Voting in elections is influenced by a multitude of factors. However, fostering a democratic mindset among voters—one that prioritizes the collective good of the system—poses a considerable challenge. When individuals approach elections with genuine democratic intent, it can lead to improved governance. Institutional surveys play a crucial role in addressing this challenge by evaluating voter behaviour and enhancing awareness of their responsibilities as active participants in the democratic process. In this regard, the ECI has been actively working to gain insights into voters' knowledge, attitudes, behaviours, beliefs, and practices related to the electoral process.

Citizenship involves not only enjoying rights in a democratic system but also fulfilling important responsibilities. Active participation in elections is essential for the success of democracy, as engaged citizens hold governance agencies accountable. Citizens become eligible voters once they register on the electoral list after turning 18. Section E of the KAP questionnaire addresses questions related to voter awareness and attitudes toward voter registration.

Table 5.1: Do you know the name of your assembly constituency?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	630	88
No	77	10
No response	13	2

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Knowledge about Assembly Constituency is a very important one because it can play an important role in the election process. An individual who fails to know his/her AC might also not know important election related information and this can hamper the entire process. But from table 5.1, we can observe that 88 percent of the respondents are aware of their AC whereas 10 percent are unaware.

Table 5.2: What is the minimum age of registration to be a voter?

Response	Frequency	Percent
18	647	90
19	4	0.5
20	2	0.3
21	3	0.5
Don't know	50	7
No response	13	2

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

A voting age is a minimum age established by law that a person must attain before they become eligible to vote in a public election In India, the minimum age for a person to be an eligible voter is 18 years. When asked the same to the respondents, 90 percent respondents were aware that the minimum age to get registered as a voter is 18 years.

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Table 5.3: Date for determining qualifying age for getting registered on the electoral roll

Response	Frequency	Percent
18th birthday	374	52
1st January/1st April/1st July/1stOctober	158	22
Don't know	175	24
No response	13	2

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Special Summary Revisions (SSR) is a type of revision of the Electoral Roll under which initial draft rolls are published. During this revision, claims and objectives are invited. After the disposals of claims and objectives, final roll is published quarterly. These dates are 1st January/1st April/1st July/1stOctober of every year.

When asked about the date for determining qualifying age for getting registered on the electoral roll, only 22 percent of the

respondents were aware about the correct Special Summary Revisions dates. Many respondents (24 percent) said they are not aware whereas 52 percent of the respondents mentioned that 18th birthday of the individual is the qualifying age for getting registered on the electoral roll. A minimal 22 percent respondents were aware that the date for determining qualifying age for getting registered in the electoral roll is 1st January/1st April/1st July/1stOctober of every year.

Table 5.4: Awareness about Special Summary Revisions

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	254	35
No	433	60
No response	33	5

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The data from Table 5.4 reveals a significant knowledge gap regarding Special Summary Revisions in India, with nearly 60 percent of respondents indicating unawareness of this crucial electoral process. Conversely, the 35 percent of

respondents who are aware of these revisions. This finding underscores the need for enhanced communication strategies to raise awareness about Special Summary Revisions.

Table 5.5: Age wise distribution of Awareness about Special Summary Revisions

		Age				Total
		18-25	26-45	46-60	60 and above	
SSR	Yes	28	103	66	57	254
		11.00%	40.60%	26.00%	22.40%	100.00%
	No	40	138	162	93	433
		9.20%	31.90%	37.40%	21.50%	100.00%
	NR/NA	2	11	14	6	33
		6.10%	33.30%	42.40%	18.20%	100.00%
Total		70	252	242	156	720
		9.70%	35.00%	33.60%	21.70%	100.00%

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The analysis indicates that awareness of Special Summary Revision is significantly higher among respondents aged 26-45 and 46-60 years. This demographic trend suggests that younger and middle-aged voters are more likely to engage with electoral processes and policies compared to older or younger age groups. However, despite the heightened awareness among these age groups, the overall ratio of respondents who are unaware of Special Summary Revisions remains substantial.

Table 5.6: When is National Voters' Day celebrated?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Correct date	74	10
Incorrect date	134	19
Don't know	499	69
No response	13	2

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Since 2011, National Voters' Day has been celebrated on January 25 every year, across the country to mark the foundation day of the ECI, i.e., 25th January 1950. The main purpose of the NVD celebration is to create electoral awareness amongst citizens and encourage them to participate in the electoral process. Dedicated to the voters of the country, the National Voters' Day is also used to facilitate enrolment of voters, especially the newly eligible young voters. New voters are felicitated and handed over their Elector Photo Identity Card (EPIC) in the NVD functions held across the country.

NVD is celebrated at the national, state, district, constituency and polling booth levels, which makes it one of the largest celebrations in the country. (https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1999141)

In order to encourage more young voters to take part in the political process, Government of India has decided to celebrate January 25 every year as "National Voters' Day". It has been started from 25 January 2011 to mark the foundation day of ECI (Economic Times India). But from the KAP Survey that was conducted, we can observe that 69 percent of the respondents don't know about the National Voters day. There is an emerging need to run awareness drives about the

National Voters day. Especially among the youth to encourage them to focus on the fact that the right to vote is a basic right. 14th National Voters' Day was celebrated on 25th January 2024 with the theme Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure.

5.2- NOTA

NOTA, or "None of the Above," allows voters to formally reject all candidates contesting an election. Selecting NOTA indicates that the voter does not support any of the candidates or parties. On September 27, 2013, the Supreme Court of India affirmed voters' right to choose "none of the above" and directed the Election Commission to include a NOTA button on electronic voting machines (EVMs). The Election Commission also introduced a symbol for NOTA, which appears as the last option on all EVMs. The purpose of NOTA is to empower voters to express disapproval of all candidates while maintaining the secrecy of their choice. It enables voters to reject candidates they deem unworthy of their vote, ensuring that their dissatisfaction is recorded. The inclusion of this option reinforces the idea that the right to vote also encompasses the right to express disapproval. However, it is important to note that even if NOTA receives the highest number of votes, it

does not trigger a re-election, and the candidate with the highest votes still wins.

Table 5.1: Knowledge of NOTA on EVM
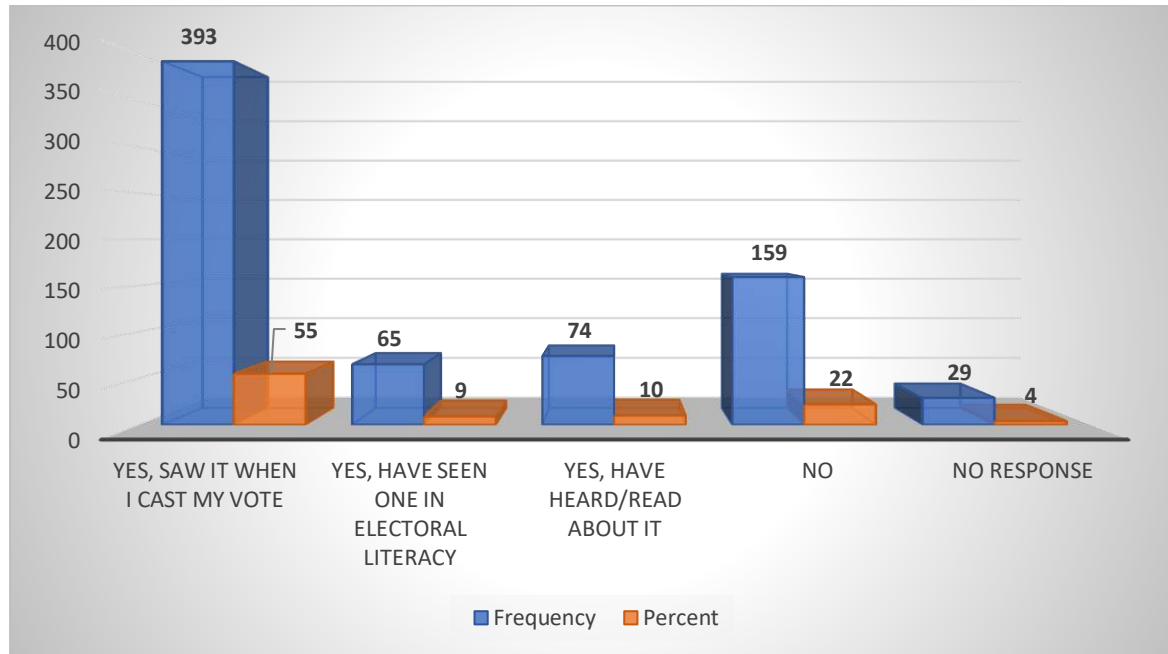
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The data reveals that a significant majority of respondents, 55 percent, became aware of the NOTA option during the voting process itself, indicating that many voters only learn about it when directly interacting with the electoral system. Additionally, 9 percent of respondents mentioned encountering it through electoral literacy efforts, while 10 percent had either read or heard about NOTA beforehand. However, 22 percent of the respondents remained unaware of the NOTA option, suggesting a need for broader outreach and education efforts to ensure that voters are informed about all their choices, including the option to reject all candidates.

5.3 EVM/VVPAT

Table 5.2: Knowledge of names of candidate available on braille on EVM

Legend: ■ Percent ■ Frequency

- No response — Percent: 5, Frequency: 34
- No — Percent: 24.5, Frequency: 177
- Yes, have heard/read about it — Percent: 11, Frequency: 81
- Yes, have seen one in electoral literacy — Percent: 11.5, Frequency: 83
- Yes, saw it when I cast my vote — Percent: 48, Frequency: 345
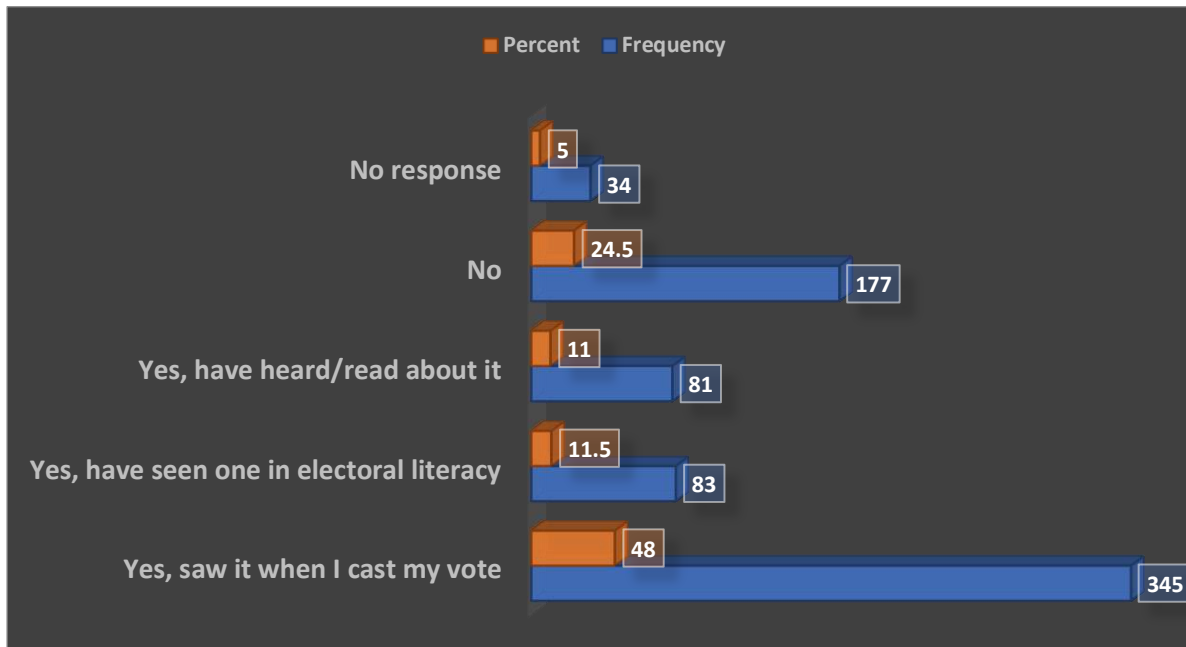
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) is an electronic device for recording votes. An Electronic Voting Machine consists of two Units – a Control Unit and a Balloting Unit – joined by a five-meter cable. The Control Unit is placed with the Presiding Officer or a Polling Officer and the Balloting Unit is placed inside the voting compartment. Instead of issuing a ballot paper, the Polling Officer in-charge of the Control Unit will release a ballot by pressing the Ballot Button on the Control Unit. This will enable the voter to cast his vote by pressing the blue button on the Balloting Unit against the candidate and symbol of his choice. (CEO, Madhya Pradesh). To facilitate the visually impaired voters to exercise their right to vote, the ECI has provided for the names of the candidates in Braille.

The data indicates that nearly half (48 percent) of the respondents became aware of the availability of candidate names in Braille on the Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) during the actual voting process. This suggests that for many voters, direct interaction with the voting process is their

first exposure to accessibility features like Braille on EVMs. Additionally, 11.5 percent encountered this information through electoral literacy efforts, while 11 percent had read or heard about it beforehand. However, a significant 24.5 percent of respondents were entirely unaware of the availability of Braille on EVMs, and 5 percent chose not to respond. This analysis points to a need for increased efforts in promoting the accessibility

features of EVMs, particularly for visually impaired voters.

While the presence of Braille on EVMs is a positive step toward inclusivity, the high percentage of respondents unaware of this feature underscores the need for more comprehensive public awareness and targeted outreach to ensure that all voters, especially those with disabilities, are informed about these essential provisions.

Table 5.3: Knowledge of VVPAT
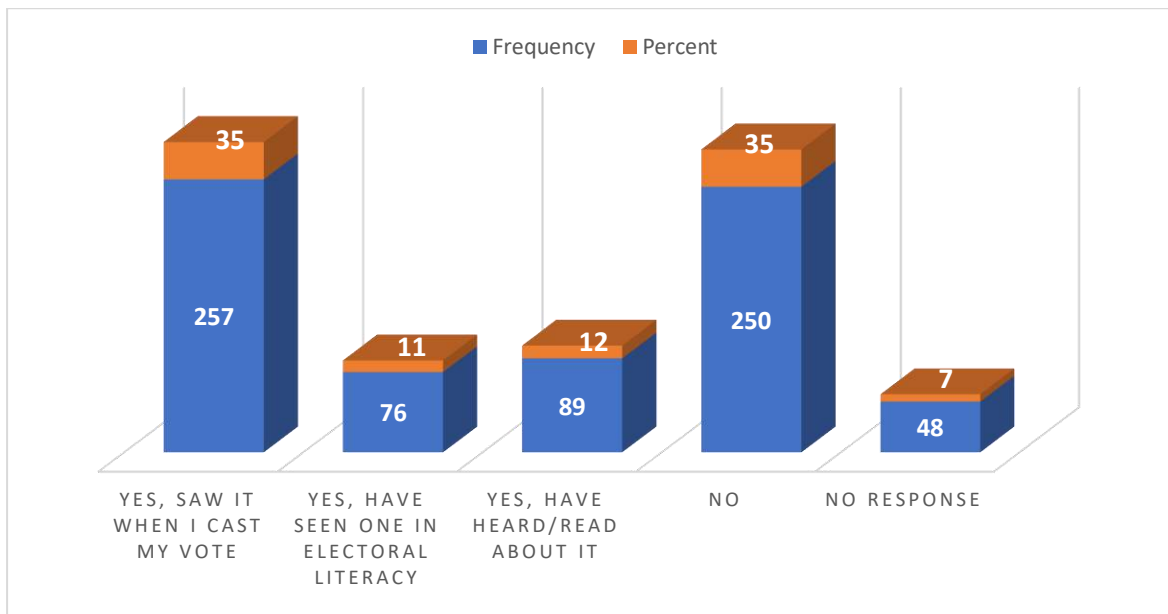
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) is an independent system attached with the Electronic Voting Machines that allows the voters to verify that their votes are cast as intended. When a vote is cast, a slip is printed containing the serial number, name and symbol of the candidate and remains exposed through a transparent window for 7 seconds. Thereafter, this printed slip automatically gets cut and falls in the sealed drop box of the VVPAT. (CEO, Madhya Pradesh) Only authorized engineers of the manufacturers, namely Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL), conduct the First Level Checking (FLC) of EVMs and VVPATs under control of District Election Officer and direct supervision of Dy. DEO in the presence of representative of Political Parties under videography.

The data reveals that awareness of the Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) system is somewhat mixed among respondents. A significant 35 percent became familiar with VVPAT when they cast their vote, suggesting that firsthand experience at the polling station plays a critical role in introducing voters to this technology. An additional 11 percent learned about it through electoral literacy initiatives, and 12 percent had heard or read about VVPAT outside of the voting process.

However, an equal 35 percent of respondents were entirely unaware of VVPAT and its uses, highlighting a substantial knowledge gap. This indicates that while some awareness campaigns and direct voting experiences have been effective, a considerable portion of the electorate remains uninformed about this key mechanism designed to enhance transparency and voter confidence in the election process.

5.4 ECI's online services

Table 5.7: Accessed Voters Website Portal or any other Election related Website

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	136	19
No	429	60
Don't know	125	17
No response	30	4

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

There are many initiatives undertaken by the ECI where they have launched multiples websites and made the registration process easy for the people by making it online.

Voters previously lacked the convenience of voter-centric features through a unified mobile app. All services were either available in physical form or scattered across various websites and applications. Voters had to fill out physical forms or navigate multiple sites to access services. Similarly, filing a complaint was a cumbersome process. Since the ECI's (ECI) main website caters to all stakeholders, an average voter faced significant challenges in navigating the site and locating the necessary information.

Voter Helpline App is the comprehensive app for Indian Voters to search their name in the electoral roll, submit forms for voter registration & modification, download their digital photo voter slips, make complaints, find details about the contesting candidates and most importantly see the real-time results of the elections.

There is also ECI Main Website, which contains gargantuan sized data starting from the year 1951. It had everything from History, Elections, Statistics, Photo Gallery, Current News, Press Release and what not. There are state specific CEO sites

too where details about the state officers, election results statistics and handbooks are available.

The second is the budding new website; ECI SVEEP Portal. It creates Voter Education. States can post pictures of their campaign, success stories and innovative ideas.

The third is the Citizen Grievance Portal. It had existed for many years and had been very successful for redressing grievances. All States' Chief Electoral Officers, District Election Officers and Electoral Roll Officers are connected and interwoven to receive and respond to grievances. One can bring the functionality of lodging the complaints on the mobile. It also provides the facility for tracking the complaint and the forward response of their grievance on their mobile.

The fourth was Electoral Search website. It helps for searching one's name in the electoral roll. It provides an option for electoral search from the mobile app. It gives the option of downloading the Voter details directly on mobile. It also links Contact details of the Booth Level Officer, Electoral Roll Officer, District Election Officer and Chief Electoral officers customised to voter area.

The fifth was the submission of Forms. This is called the National Voters Service Portal. It has been in existence for many years providing the facility for anybody to register online, request for transfer, request for a change in details and request for duplicate EPIC Card. It provides all the forms in the mobile app. It also provides the option to upload the required documents directly from mobile gallery or by clicking a picture from a mobile phone, gives an option for form tracking. There is also a tollfree 'Voter Helpline-1950'.(ECI, https://www.eci.gov.in/ict-app)

The data indicates that a significant portion of respondents, 60 percent, have not utilized election-related websites, highlighting a lack of awareness or engagement with online electoral resources. In contrast, only 19 percent reported having accessed these sites at any time. This discrepancy suggests that there may be barriers to access or a need for increased outreach and education about the availability and importance of these digital platforms. The low engagement rates could hinder informed voting and civic participation, emphasizing the necessity for the Election Commission and related organizations to enhance voter education efforts and improve the visibility of online electoral resources.

Table 5.8: Education wise use of Voters Portal (in percentage)

	No	Yes	Don't Knot	NA/NR	Total
Illiterate	0	65	35	0	100
Primary School	10	83	7	0	100
High School	8	75	13	4	100
Higher Secondary	12	62	23	3	100
Diploma/Certificat	43	46	6	5	100
Graduate and above	35	49	14	2	100
NA/NR	11	15	50	24	100
Total	19	60	17	4	100

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Note: NA-Not Applicable; NR- No Response

The data in Table 5.11 reveals a clear correlation between education level and the usage of the Voter Website Portal (VWP). The percentage of respondents who have accessed the VWP increases with higher educational attainment. Among those with a graduate degree or higher, 8.61percent reported having accessed the portal. A significant portion of respondents across all education levels indicated that they had not accessed the VP. For example, 22.08percent of high school graduates and 13.06percent of those with higher secondary education reported they had not used the portal.

The "Don't know" category also reveals some awareness issues, especially among the higher secondary and high school groups, indicating that while some are not utilizing the portal, others might be unaware of its existence. This highlights a need for improved outreach and education about the VWP

Table 5.9: Purpose to access the website

Responses	Frequency	Percent
To search name and other details on the Electoral Roll	49	6
To register/make modification online	61	9
To download registration forms	22	3
To know polling station details	48	6
Any other	51	6
No response	544	70

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

When asked about the purposes for which they accessed any election-related website, among the respondents who used the portal, nearly 6 percent utilized it to search for their names and other details on the Electoral Roll. Additionally, 9 percent accessed the site to register or make modifications online, while 3 percent downloaded registration forms. Another 6 percent used the portal to find polling station details, and an additional 6 percent accessed it for unspecified reasons.

5.5 EPIC

Having one's name enrolled in the electoral roll is just as important as possessing an EPIC Card. If a person has an EPIC Card but is not listed on the voter roll, they do not have the right to vote and are ineligible to participate in elections.

Table 5.10: Awareness that just having an EPIC does not provide you the right to vote unless until your name is included in the latest Electoral Roll

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Yes	525	73
No	130	18
No response	65	9

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

When asked about their awareness of the fact that simply having an EPIC Card does not guarantee voting rights unless their name is included in the latest Electoral Roll, 73 percent of the respondents acknowledged this fact, while 18 percent were unaware.

Table 5.11: Awareness about double EPIC is an offence

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Yes	517	72
No	145	20
No response	58	8

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Possessing two voter ID cards is a punishable offense. Individuals who hold voter ID cards from two different locations may face a jail term of up to one year, a fine, or both if caught (Times of India, 2013). When asked about their awareness of this offense, 72 percent of respondents indicated that they were aware, while 20 percent were unaware.

5.6: Opinion towards electoral process

Every voter has their own understanding and opinion of the electoral process, which is reflected in their attitude toward elections. Respondents were asked to respond to several statements based on the Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) Questionnaire.

Table 5.12: Every vote counts

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	13	2
Disagree	29	4
Neither agree nor disagree	45	6
Agree	426	59
Strongly agree	189	26
No response	18	3

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The responses indicate a strong belief among the majority of participants in the significance of their vote, with a combined total of 85 percent either agreeing or strongly agreeing that every vote counts. This suggests a healthy civic awareness and recognition of the power of individual votes in shaping electoral outcomes. A small percentages (only 6 percent) of respondents disagreed to the statement reflect a consensus that reinforces the importance of participation in the democratic process.

Table 5.13: Voting should be made compulsory

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	8	1
Disagree	38	5
Neither agree nor disagree	91	12
Agree	401	56
Strongly agree	168	23
No response	14	3

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The data reveals a significant majority of respondents, 79 percent, supporting the notion that voting should be made compulsory. This strong consensus underscores a collective belief in the importance of civic duty and the role of voting in a democratic society. With only 6 percent of participants expressing disagreement, the results indicate a minimal level of opposition to the idea. The substantial percentage of those who either agree or strongly agree suggests that many individuals view compulsory voting as a means to enhance electoral participation and ensure that the voices of all citizens are heard.

Table 5.14: Voting is cumbersome chore

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	23	3
Disagree	262	36
Neither agree nor disagree	250	35
Agree	121	17
Strongly agree	13	2
No response	51	7

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The responses indicate that a significant portion of respondents—36 percent—disagrees with the notion that voting is a cumbersome chore, suggesting that they perceive the voting process as manageable or straightforward. However, a combined 19 percent (17 percent agreeing and 2 percent strongly agreeing) expresses some level of discomfort with the voting process, indicating that they do find it somewhat burdensome. The 35 percent of respondents who neither agreed nor disagreed may represent a group of individuals who are neutral or ambivalent about their voting experience.

Overall, the data suggests that while many respondents do not view voting as a chore, there remains a noteworthy segment of the population that finds it cumbersome, which could be attributed to factors such as accessibility issues, long waiting times, or lack of information. Addressing these concerns may be essential for improving voter engagement and participation in future elections.

Table 5.15: Elections are conducted freely and fairly in India

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	59	8
Disagree	130	18
Neither agree nor disagree	168	23
Agree	316	44
Strongly agree	35	5
No response	12	2

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The responses regarding the perception of free and fair elections in India reveal a mixed sentiment among the respondents. While a majority of 49 percent (44 percent agreeing and 5 percent strongly agreeing) express confidence in the electoral process, a significant portion—26 percent (8 percent strongly disagreeing and 18 percent disagreeing)—harbours doubts about its integrity.

Notably, the 23 percent of respondents who neither agreed nor disagreed indicates a substantial degree of uncertainty or ambivalence toward the electoral process. While there is a prevailing sense of confidence in the electoral process, the substantial proportion of respondents expressing doubt or neutrality highlights the need for continued efforts to enhance transparency, trust, and voter education in order to strengthen public confidence in the democratic process.

Table 5.16: EVMs provide accurate results

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	41	5
Disagree	120	16
Neither agree nor disagree	223	32
Agree	287	39
Strongly agree	28	4
No response	21	3

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The responses regarding the accuracy of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) indicate a notable division in public perception. While a combined total of 43 percent (39 percent agreeing and 4 percent strongly agreeing) express confidence in EVMs' ability to deliver accurate results, a significant portion—21 percent (5 percent strongly disagreeing and 16 percent disagreeing)—harbours scepticism regarding their reliability.

The presence of 32 percent of respondents who neither agreed nor disagreed highlights a concerning lack of awareness or understanding of EVMs and their functioning. The mixed responses emphasize the need for enhanced voter education and transparency regarding EVMs and Voter Verified Paper Audit Trails (VVPATs).

Table 5.17: Women should consult male members or elders before voting in elections

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	225	31
Disagree	300	41
Neither agree nor disagree	88	12
Agree	79	11
Strongly agree	14	2
No response	13	2

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)
N: 720

The responses regarding whether women should consult male members or elders before voting indicate a significant shift towards promoting women's independence in the electoral process. With a combined 72 percent of respondents (31 percent strongly disagreeing and 41 percent disagreeing) asserting that women should not feel obligated to seek guidance from male family members or elders, it is clear that there is a growing recognition of women's autonomy in making voting decisions. Only a small portion of respondents (13 percent) believe that women should consult others, which suggests a cultural shift towards valuing individual agency, especially among women.

Furthermore, the findings align with insights gathered from the Women Focus Group Discussion (FGD), reinforcing the idea that women's empowerment in electoral decision-making is gaining traction. As awareness and education continue to evolve, this perspective could lead to greater participation of women in the democratic process, ultimately contributing to more equitable representation in governance. these results reflect a progressive mindset that encourages women to exercise their voting rights independently, marking a positive development in the perception of women's roles in elections.

Table 5.18: The influence of money and muscle is increasing in elections

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	19	3
Disagree	139	19
Neither agree nor disagree	218	30
Agree	241	33
Strongly agree	83	11

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The responses regarding the influence of money and muscle in elections reveal a complex and divided perspective among respondents. With only 3 percent strongly disagreeing and 19 percent disagreeing, a substantial portion of the sample (30 percent) remains neutral on the issue. This neutrality may reflect uncertainty or lack of awareness regarding the extent of this influence in the electoral process.

Conversely, a combined 44 percent of respondents (33 percent agreeing and 11 percent strongly agreeing) acknowledge the growing impact of money and muscle power in elections. This indicates a significant concern about how financial

resources and coercive tactics might be shaping electoral outcomes and voter behaviour. The acknowledgment of this influence suggests that voters are increasingly aware of the potential for candidates and political parties to manipulate the electoral process.

Furthermore, insights from focus group discussions (FGDs) reinforce the quantitative findings, indicating that the use of inducements, whether financial or otherwise, has been on the rise. This qualitative data highlights a broader societal concern about the integrity of elections and the potential erosion of democratic principles.

Table 5.19: I do not intend to vote in the upcoming elections

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	110	15
Disagree	367	51
Neither agree nor disagree	127	17
Agree	59	8
Strongly agree	8	1

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The data regarding respondents' intentions to vote in the upcoming elections reveals a clear and robust commitment to democracy. With a combined total of 66 percent (15

percent strongly disagreeing and 51 percent disagreeing) indicating they do not intend to abstain from voting, it is evident that a substantial majority recognizes the

importance of their participation in the electoral process.

The high percentage of disagreement with the notion of abstaining suggests that respondents feel a strong sense of democratic responsibility. This is further reinforced by the low percentage of those who agreed (8 percent) or strongly agreed (1 percent) with the idea of not voting, indicating that the sentiment of

participating in elections is deeply ingrained among the respondents.

Additionally, the neutral stance taken by 17 percent of the respondents may represent individuals who are undecided or ambivalent about their voting intentions, possibly due to various personal or contextual factors. However, this neutral group is significantly outnumbered by those committed to voting.

Table 5. 20: Media usage

Frequency Response ↓	Almost every day	At least once a week	Less than once a week	Not at all	Not answered
Read a newspaper or magazine?	30	18	6	35	11
Listen to the radio	12	4	2	60	22
Watch television	69	15	2	8	6
Use the Internet (Facebook, WhatsApp etc.)	68	9	2	13	8

Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

Newspapers, magazines, radio. Television, mobile phones and internet and also social media form a part of the election process because they help to disseminated election related information. It is evident from the Table 5.23 the Television and Internet

sources emerged as the most popular mode of information among the respondents. When asked the respondents on how often they use these sources in general, about 69 percent respondents watch Television every day, 68 percent use various internet sources

everyday, 30 percent of the respondents agreed to read a newspaper/magazine every day. Additionally, 12 percent respondents listen to Radio everyday while 60 percent do not listen to Radio at all. said that they do not at all listen to a radio. While the

above table (Table 5.23) reveals data about usage of various print and electronic media, which source is used to receive election related information is analysed in the Table 5.24.

Table 5:4: Which source did you receive election related information?
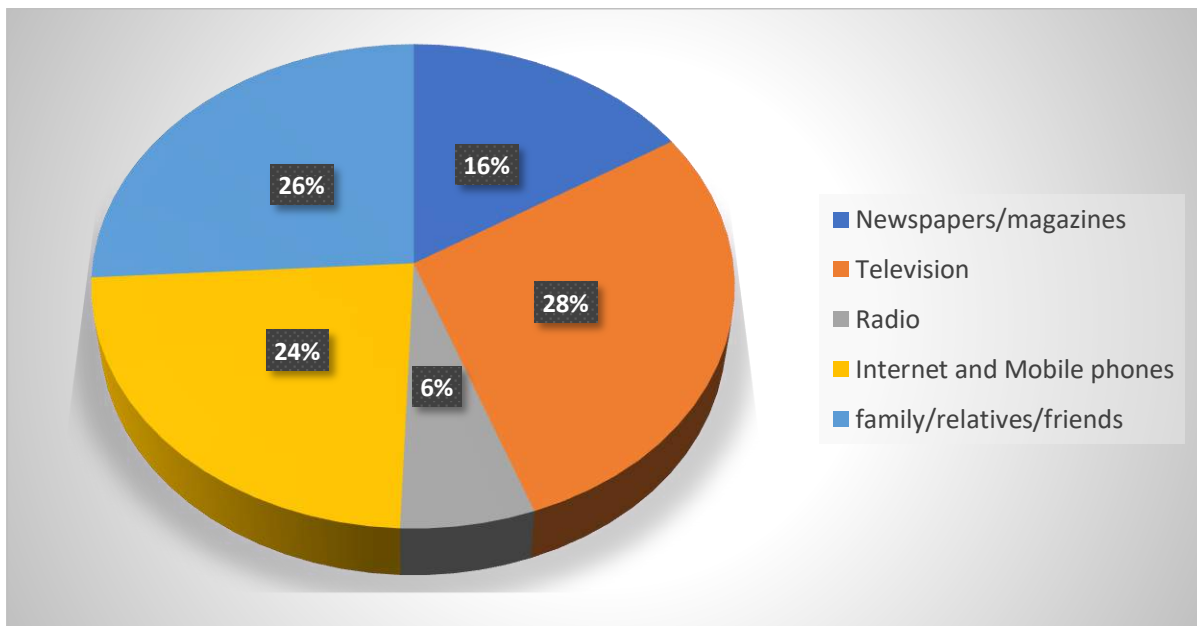
Source: Data collected from KAP Endline survey-Goa (2024)

N: 720

The data reveals diverse sources through which respondents obtain election-related information. Television remains the predominant source, with 23 percent of respondents relying on it for updates, indicating its continued relevance in disseminating information. The Internet and mobile phones follow closely, with 19 percent of respondents utilizing these

platforms, suggesting a growing trend toward digital media consumption for news.

Family, relatives, and friends serve as another significant source of information, as indicated by 21 percent of respondents, highlighting the importance of personal networks in shaping voter awareness. Newspapers, though traditional, still hold a

place in information dissemination, with 13 percent of respondents turning to them, while radio lags behind, garnering only 5 percent of responses.

5.7 Conclusion

In conclusion, the chapter on voter awareness and attitude highlights significant insights into the perceptions and behaviours of respondents regarding the electoral process. A notable majority of respondents demonstrate a strong understanding of the importance of voting, with many believing that their participation directly impacts the democratic system.

However, the mixed responses regarding the fairness of elections and the accuracy of electronic voting machines (EVMs) suggest a lingering scepticism that needs to be addressed through targeted awareness campaigns. Moreover, the increased engagement Television and Internment for various electoral information sources, indicates opportunities for enhancing digital outreach.

Chapter VI

Focused Group Discussion Report

6.1: Introduction

The Election Commission is the service provider and the facilitator of various facilities related to elections and voting which has updated itself with time and as the challenges incurred. These positive changes and upgrades are further possible by learning the stakeholders' opinions and suggestions. Hence to stand by its primary function of conducting free and fair elections in the democratic setup the Election Commission has commissioned a detailed set of questions for the women, youth, and the mixed group that are eligible for casting their votes. To achieve this goal through the KAP Baseline Survey 2024 a set of questions curated to know the voters' pulse via focused group discussion.

6.2 Importance of Focused Group Discussion

The Focus Group Discussion (FGD) was conducted as part of the KAP Baseline Survey 2024 to gather qualitative insights on voter awareness, attitudes, and behaviours. This method provided an opportunity to explore in-depth perspectives from various segments of society, including women, youth, and other mixed groups. The purpose of these discussions was to better understand voters' knowledge about the electoral process, their motivations for participation, and any challenges they face in engaging with elections. Through these conversations, the Election Commission aimed to identify key areas of improvement and enhance voter-centric services, ensuring a more inclusive and democratic electoral experience.

6.3 Details about FGDs

The FGDs were conducted for women, youth, and mixed groups in both North Goa and South Goa districts. A total of five FGDs took place in selected Assembly Constituencies (ACs) based on regions with lower voter turnout in the 2024 Parliamentary elections. In North Goa, the village of Cacra was chosen for the women's FGD, Dhempe College of Arts and Science in Miramar-Panaji hosted the youth FGD, and Merces Panchayat was selected for the mixed group FGD. In South Goa, the women's FGD was held in the village of Vellim, while the youth FGD took

place at Padre Conceição College of Engineering in Nuvem.

6.4 Focused Group Discussion with Women Participants

The Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with women voters was conducted to understand the unique challenges and perspectives women face in the electoral process. It aimed to explore their awareness, attitudes, and participation in elections, identify barriers to voting, and gather insights on how to improve voter turnout and engagement in general and among women in particular. In Goa women voter turnout is more than men. The FGD sought to address issues related to gender-specific concerns, such as the influence of family or societal expectations on voting behaviour and the accessibility of election-related information and facilities. The FGDs held at Cacra and Vellim with women participants gave valuable insight into various aspects and issues related to the elections.

Figure No. 1: Focused Group Discussion with women participants at Vellim Village.

Election-related information

When asked about the medium through which the women receive election-related information. Television serves as a major source of information, providing updates on election dates, results, and other relevant details. News channels and special election coverage segments keep viewers informed about the latest developments and important announcements.

Women typically become aware of the type of election events and key dates when candidates start their campaign activities. This often includes public rallies, door-to-door canvassing, and promotional events that draw attention to upcoming elections.

Mobile phones and social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram are actively used to receive real-time updates and information about elections. Candidates, political parties, and news organizations frequently post updates, campaign messages, and results on these platforms.

Traditional print media also remains a significant source of election information. Newspapers provide comprehensive coverage of election dates, candidate profiles, and election results, along with detailed analyses and opinions.

Information about elections is also shared through personal networks. Conversations with friends, family, and neighbours often include election news, candidate preferences, and voting advice.

Reasons for apathy

➢ It is observed that in many of the villages of Goa migrants population is increasing. They are also registered in the voter list of Goa. The migrants have become vote bank for the candidates who wants to win.

➢ One of the most crucial challenges is the fear of revealing the choice of votes by the service voters who chose to vote via postal ballot as reported by a few women.

➢ The women believe that elections in Goa are not truly free and fair. They argue that there is significant use of money to influence voters. This includes offering free parties before elections, distributing goodies and alcohol, and sponsoring religious events and pilgrimages to places.

➢ The use of money to attract votes undermines the fairness of the electoral process. The women's view reflects a belief that these practices damage the legitimacy of the electoral process, suggesting that the elections are influenced by money and political manoeuvring rather

than being conducted in a truly free and fair manner.

➢ The fake promises made to the parents and the youth of offering government jobs also lure the voters were also pointed out.

➢ Frequent changes in party by candidates are perceived as a reason for the growing apathy among the people.

➢ The feedback suggests that trust in political institutions and their ability to deliver on promises is a significant factor influencing voter turnout. When trust is low, the motivation to participate in elections diminishes.

➢ Some voters face physical challenges or disabilities that make it difficult for them to reach polling stations. For example, the elderly and disabled often lack adequate transportation or support to access the polling booths.

➢ Participants in the focus group believed that voting has little impact because promised changes and development often fail to materialize after elections. This sentiment of unfulfilled promises has led to a feeling of futility regarding the electoral process.

Knowledge and perceptions

➢ There was a mixed response received on the online facilities provided by the Election Commission. In the parts of Velim-Goa, the women were unaware of these services. Whereas at Cacra the women are aware of the voter helpline and its utility.

➢ They are familiar with the option to apply for voter cards online.

➢ They know about the postal ballot system but it was learned that all women were not familiar with the KYC service provided by the ECI.

➢ The Cvigil app, used for reporting electoral malpractices, is also completely unknown to them.

➢ Women were completely unaware of the voting facilities available for the NRI citizens.

➢ Majority of the women are not aware of the services available to the senior citizens.

➢ There was a mixed response from the women on the information related to facilities available for the people with disability. While many women are unaware of facilities available to the PwD.

➢ The majority of the women emphasized that the choice of the political candidate and party is their own and they are not been influenced by their family members, friends, or neighbours to vote. The few agreed that their husband has a big say in their decision on whom to vote but the majority among them informed that they do not heed to it.

➤ The women in the discussion generally consider Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) to be better due to their efficiency. However, they expressed concerns that being machines, They expressed concern over EVMs malfunctioning Recent controversies surrounding EVMs have also contributed to doubts about their reliability.

➤ Few favoured ballot papers while the rest viewed it as a problematic method due to the potential for errors in handling, such as incorrect folding, which can result in a waste of votes. However, some also acknowledge the challenges in counting them accurately.

➤ Nearly half of the total number of women were aware of the pink booths and appreciated this particular initiative of the Election Commission encourages them to consider their right to vote as a meaningful power. After learning about the concept, the rest wanted to experience the Pink Booth voting in their constituency.

➤ Women are aware of NOTA option but have not seen it on the EVM machine while voting and not used NOTA anytime. But they believe NOTA option has to be available

Suggestions

➤ Women emphasised that it is up to individual voters to refuse any form of bribery or inducement. Voters should be resolute and not accept any offers made to influence their vote.

➤ Implement a complete closure of bars and other establishments serving alcohol a few days before the election to prevent its use as a tool for bribery and manipulation.

➤ Increase the presence of police and other security personnel during the election period to ensure better oversight and reduce opportunities for electoral misconduct.

➤ Strict adherence of Code of Conduct and creating an atmosphere where voters feel free and fair elections.

➤ Continue to provide education and awareness programs about the importance of voting independently and making informed choices.

➤ The women suggested strict following of a order to have separate queue for the senior citizens so that no inconvenience is caused to the persons already standing in the queue and also to the senior citizens.

6.5 Focused Group Discussion with Youth Participants

Youth have an innovative mindset of approaching problems by focusing on solutions. This was witnessed while conducting focused group discussions with

them at Dhempe College of Arts and Science Miramar- Panaji and Padre Concesao College of Engineering Nuvem-Goa. Most of the participants were first-time voters and showed apathy towards electoral process. However, their meticulous observations and responses on a few aspects led to a fruitful discussion

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Focused Group Discussion with Youth Participants at Dhempe College of Arts and Science Miramar Panaji.

Focused Group Discussion with Youth Participants at Padre Concesao College of Engineering Nuvem.

Election-related information

➤ The youth said that they receive election-related information through social media.

Knowledge and perception

➤ There was a mixed response when asked about the online facilities provided by the ECI. Some were aware of the facilities but never availed of them while the rest never visited the website of ECI due to lack of awareness.

➤ The majority of the participants were first-time voters. When asked about the various facilities provided by the ECI they replied that they are not aware of the same.

➤ When asked about the NRIs, disabled, and migrant voters the participants had no comments to make.

➤ The first-time voters among the respondents agreed that their family members have influenced their voting decisions.

➤ While some said that their parents encouraged them to vote but did not influence their decision of choice of the candidates.

  ➤ The respondents also highlighted that if the candidate belonged to their community that their family and

friends try to influence them to vote in favour of the candidate.

Reasons for apathy

➤ The youth opined that the no choice of good candidate leads to lower participation in the voting process.

➤ The growing family raj in the local politics also led to the feeling of apathy towards voting among the youth.

➤ Growing violence, corrupt practices, and biased attitudes toward the voters that resulted in a lack of interest in electoral process.

➤ The respondents expressed that the candidates elected do not care about the actual problems of their constituency and the voice of the voters on certain issues is suppressed.

➤ The ease in the provision of residence certificates and epic cards to the migrants who have not completed fifteen years of residence in Goa also led to the disappointment of the young voters to willingly vote with responsibility during the election.

➤ The young voters also feel that their votes have no value due to candidates defecting to other political parties.

- The lack of educational qualification of the contesting candidates results in a loss of hope in politics.
- Most of the registered voters have shifted abroad from Nuvem is the reason sighted by the youth as one of the reasons in lower voter turnout.
- The youth opined that a generation gap between the young voters and the candidates contesting elections hence expressing worry that their demands would be non-considerate.
- Almost all the youths in the FGD agreed on the use of money, and muscle power during the elections by the candidates.
- Use of different types of threats by few candidates were also mentioned as discouraging their interest in politics
- Food packets and petrol were distributed during the campaign.
- Permission for illegal construction sites was granted.
- Distribution of cash by the candidates and the political parties on the eve of voting day.
- Every household in the wards was given groceries during the festivals.
- Few also mentioned that, youths were blackmailed in terms of creating hurdles for their future job opportunities.

Preferences of voting method

- Opinion on EVM/VVPAT: When asked about the preferable means to vote and with the given number of choices mixed responses from the youths were received. While a majority favoured EVM/VVPAT while few supported the use of ballot papers. They believed that EVM is a trusted method of casting votes where the voter is satisfied after confirming the vote on VVPAT. Others who do not trust the EVMs believe that EVMs can be manipulated. The respondents feel that other democracies in the world have ballot paper voting hence it is the most trusted method of voting.

- The respondents were aware of the Pink Booths and considered it as a good initiative.

- The youths are aware of the NOTA and felt that it was important in case of voters feel that no candidate is suitable for them. The youths feel that they can truly have their freedom of expression. Some were of the opinion that NOTA is not useful since it will lead to re-election costing the taxpayer's money.

Suggestions

- The youth mentioned that the voting process is easy and that youth face no challenges while voting.

➢ The respondents of both the youth FGDs strongly supported the need for the minimum education qualification as one of the criteria for the candidates contesting the elections.

➢ The respondents suggested demo polls for first-time voters in academic institutes that will encourage them to vote.

➢ Inclusion of the 'Indian Polity' syllabus in academics irrespective of the specialization in courses will help the young voters to understand the importance of their participation in the voting process.

➢ To resolve the issue of lower voter turnout in the Nuvem constituency the respondents suggested a non-cumbersome and speedy method of garnering NRI votes of the voters. They suggested for introducing the e-voting facility for the NRI voters.

➢ There was a strong demand for the identification of voters having two EPICs.

➢ To encourage young voters in the election process, they should be roped into the various activities related to the elections by the Election Commission. This will make young voters feel responsible and important.

➢ The elections should not be held closer to weekends which in turn lead to lower voter turnout.

➢ Digitalization of the voting facilities making it easy for all the eligible voters to vote with robust use of technology.

➢ An eligibility test for the candidates contesting for elections is to be conducted by the election commission and results are to be made public.

➢ The respondents suggested the constitutional status of the Modal Code of Conduct.

➢ The respondents unanimously agreed that all should reject the bribes and stand against the threat.

➢ There is a need to create more awareness about various Apps developed by the ECI.

➢ ECI should conduct training sessions for the candidates for conducting the campaigns.

➢ If NOTA gets the majority of votes compared to all other candidates contesting in the constituency, then the election in that constituency should be cancelled.

➢ The candidates who contested in such constituencies where previous people have rejected all the candidates those candidates should not be allowed to re-contest in any elections.

6.6 Focused Group Discussion with Mixed Group Participants

Focused Group Discussion with Mixed Group at Merces- Panaji

Election-related information

➢ The participants also mentioned the newspaper, social media, SMS and WhatsApp messages, and Television advertisements through which they learned about the polling dates, contesting candidates, and the results of the elections.

➢ The participants responded that they received election-related information from the Block level officers when they approached the voters with the voter's slips and,

➢ They also participated in the awareness program organized by the Election Commission at their Panchayat introducing EVMs and VVPAT.

Knowledge and perceptions

➢ When enquired about the various online services provided by the Election Commission via an online platform only one respondent was aware of the same. But the rest were curious to know more about them, when they heard that, they could avail of the voter's related services without visiting any other government offices.

➢ The participants said that they are happy about the changes and facilities provided to the voters at the polling station. They faced no challenges while casting their votes.

➢ The senior citizens mentioned that they did not stand in a long queue at the polling

station and could easily vote with the senior citizen's identity cards.

➢ The participants of the mixed group believed that to some extent voter's decision of whom to vote is influenced by the men within the family.

➢ People who have received any favour from the contesting candidates the family members are believed to have voted for the same irrespective of the individual choices.

➢ The respondents also mentioned that the opinions of the women's self-help group also influenced their voting choices when they are part of these groups.

➢ The parents among the participants said that they do not force their children to vote but advise them to cast the votes and not to waste it by choosing NOTA.

➢ The participants said that their affiliations with the religious institutions play a some role in influencing voters choice of candidate.

➢ The respondents unanimously said that they find EVMs as the best method of casting votes as they can also double check on VVPAT. According to the participants the ballot paper is an inconvenient method of conducting election owing to the large population.

➢ The respondents are aware of what Pink Booths are but have not experienced casting votes at the same.

➢ The participants of the FGD felt that, NOTA is very important option, as as it gives option to the voters reject all the candidates by clicking the NOTA button if they feel none of the candidates are good enough to be their representative. However, the respondents also mentioned that they consider it as the last resort and prefer not to waste the votes.

Reasons for apathy

➢ Almost all the respondents unanimously said that money power is evident during elections. Few narrated the instance of the distribution of envelopes with money on the previous night of the election. This is stated as one of the reasons for apathy among the voters.

➢ The respondents alleged that politicians favoured migrants over the residents. The migrants, reported by a few respondents were gifted televisions, and refrigerators and were provided with residential proof documents to cast the votes.

➢ The participants in Merces informed that since Goa's liberation their constituency has never witnessed a single MLA hold either a ministerial post or belong to the ruling party because of which the voters do not feel encouraged to vote in any elections.

➤ Youth unemployment and false promises are also the major issues that result in lower voter turnout in the constituency.

➤ The participants urged that even if the voters belong to the constituency of the opposition party leaders a proper attention should be given to the employment generation and development of the constituency. This will encourage the voters to vote.

Suggestions

➤ There is a need to create more awareness about the various online services provided by the ECI.

➤ The respondents opined that if all the voters unanimously decide that they will not receive any inducement, the practice of influencing the decision will stop but agreed that this is a ideal situation.

➤ The flying squads should be more stringent in their monitoring duty. The respondents reported instances of people distributing cash in envelopes eloped before the flying squads could reach the reported destination.

➤ There should be a retirement age for the contesting candidates.

➤ The politicians who defect from their political party post-election should be barred forever from contesting any election.

➤ Candidates contesting elections must do door-to-door campaigning. When it is not done voters unaware about the candidate do not think of casting their votes.

6.7 Conclusion

In conclusion, it can be stated that women receive election-related information through diverse channels, including TV, social media, newspapers, and personal networks. Lack of awareness of various internet services and Apps developed by the ECI requires interventions on the part of the ECI to create more awareness about these services.

The youth's focus group discussions reveal a mixed engagement with the electoral process. While they primarily receive election information through social media, their awareness of Election Commission services is limited, and they generally face no significant challenges voting.

The mixed group participants highlighted various aspects of the electoral process from their experiences. They primarily receive election-related information through traditional and digital media, with limited awareness of online Election Commission services. While they generally appreciate the improvements in voting facilities, concerns about election integrity persist, with widespread

acknowledgment of money and muscle power influencing the process.

Voting challenges differ among groups, with migrants benefiting from political support in exchange for votes, while service voters and NRIs face logistical hurdles. Elections are viewed as compromised by money and political influence. Most women assert that they vote independence despite pressures. While EVMs are trusted for efficiency, concerns about malfunctions persist with few. NOTA is considered as importation option during elections but many do not use NOTA as it is not counted.

Voter turnout is impacted by broken political promises and challenges faced by vulnerable groups, but strategies like voter education, and logistical support for the elderly and disabled can enhance participation. Promoting fairness, privacy, and support for women and PWD voters is crucial for a more inclusive electoral process. These insights reflect a desire for greater transparency, fairness, and engagement in the electoral process. Most of them had some appreciation for initiatives like Pink Booths.

The FGDs revealed a significant gap in information on the services provided by ECI and an emerging need to spread awareness of the election process. It is important to note that all the respondents from the different groups were vocal and placed their opinions freely. Many participants from all three groups voiced their concerns about the influence of money, muscle power, and community pressures on elections.

Chapter VII

Conclusion

7.1- Introduction

Elections serve as the primary means for a democratic and peaceful transfer of power, ensuring that the choice and consent of the majority are respected. As such, the right to vote and participate in elections are fundamental human rights, encompassing freedoms of opinion, expression, peaceful assembly, and association, as well as the right to participate in government through freely elected representatives. An Endline KAP survey is conducted to gather data on what people know, believe, and do in relation to general or specific aspects of the election process within a particular population. However, on the ground, numerous challenges persist, where citizens are neither encouraged nor adequately informed about the power of voting in shaping the nation's future. Addressing these concerns is crucial to improving participation and enhancing the electoral process. This chapter presents key observations from the survey, along with recommendations for a better understanding of the KAP regarding elections.

7.2- Major findings

The data presented in this report offers a comprehensive view of voter engagement, participation, and challenges within the electoral framework, particularly focusing on the 2022 Goa Assembly Election and the 2024 Lok Sabha Election. Through a range of survey responses and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), we have garnered valuable insights into the perceptions, behaviors, and attitudes of voters in Goa. This conclusion seeks to synthesize the key observations and provide critical reflections on voter engagement and electoral participation while highlighting areas for improvement and policy intervention.

Voter Engagement and Participation

The overwhelming majority of respondents in this survey demonstrated a high level of engagement with the electoral process. 98.48 percent of respondents possess a Voter ID card, underscoring the robust voter enrolment drive in Goa. This finding reflects the success of efforts to ensure that eligible voters are registered and equipped to participate in elections. However, the 2

percent who do not possess a Voter ID card cited reasons such as lack of interest or not having received the card, indicating a gap in voter outreach and service delivery.

The data on actual voting participation further supports this engagement. 93 percent of respondents voted in the 2022 Assembly Elections, and an equal number participated in the 2024 Lok Sabha Elections. This high voter turnout reflects a strong commitment to civic duty, with many respondents citing their sense of duty and right to vote as primary motivations. The idea that voting is a right and duty was consistently echoed in the qualitative responses, reinforcing that the democratic culture is deeply ingrained among the electorate in Goa.

However, it is important to note that some respondents who did not vote mentioned logistical challenges, such as not possessing a Voter ID, long queues, and time constraints. Addressing these concerns through procedural improvements and voter facilitation will be critical in ensuring that even more voters participate in future elections.

Role of BLOs and Information Dissemination

Booth Level Officers (BLOs) have emerged as critical intermediaries in the electoral process. For 62 percent of respondents,

BLOs were the primary source of information about their inclusion in the voter list, followed by 18 percent who relied on friends or relatives. This emphasizes the importance of personal and local networks in disseminating electoral information. However, the reliance on BLOs also reveals potential limitations in the reach of digital and media-based awareness campaigns. Enhancing the visibility and accessibility of information through multiple channels, including mobile applications and online portals, could complement the efforts of BLOs and further streamline the information flow to voters.

Accessibility and Awareness Gaps

While the overall level of awareness among voters is commendable, there are notable gaps in specific areas that warrant attention. For instance, only 22 percent of respondents were aware of the qualifying date for voter registration, suggesting a significant lack of awareness about important deadlines. Similarly, awareness of alternative voting methods, such as the NOTA (None of the Above) option and the availability of candidates' names in Braille on Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), was not as widespread as expected, with 74 percent aware of NOTA and 71 percent aware of Braille on EVMs.

The Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) system, designed to enhance

voter confidence by providing a paper trail, has also not been universally trusted. While 58 percent of respondents believe that VVPAT helps verify their vote, there is a growing trend of skepticism, particularly among the youth, as evidenced during the FGDs. This emerging doubt suggests a need for greater public education on the reliability and function of VVPAT technology to rebuild confidence.

Positive Electoral Experience

A significant proportion of respondents reported a positive electoral experience, with 88 percent finding the voting process convenient and 92 percent describing polling staff as cooperative. This positive feedback reflects well on the efficiency of election day operations and the professionalism of polling staff. Furthermore, 85 percent of respondents stated that they faced no difficulties during the elections, indicating that the logistical aspects of voting, such as locating polling booths and navigating polling stations, were well-managed.

However, there are still areas for improvement. Only 19 percent of respondents accessed the voter portal, highlighting a disconnect between voters and available digital resources. Additionally, the fact that 39 percent of respondents did not find voting to be a cumbersome chore suggests that efforts to streamline the process have been successful, but further innovations could improve the experience for all.

Motivating Factors for Voting and Candidate Selection

The reasons behind voting and the factors influencing candidate selection provide key insights into voter behaviour. 76 percent of respondents indicated that the candidate's qualities were the most influential factor in their voting decision. Honesty, personal knowledge of the candidate, and commitment were the top factors cited for candidate selection. These findings suggest that voters are making informed choices based on the individual merits of candidates, rather than being swayed by party affiliations or other external factors.

However, inducements in elections remain a concerning issue. 25 percent of respondents reported encountering inducements, such as cash and liquor, during the elections, and 36 percent acknowledged the use of money or muscle power by candidates. This reflects a worrying trend in the use of unethical tactics to influence votes. The influence of money and muscle power in elections was further echoed in FGDs, where respondents expressed concerns about the integrity of the electoral process. Addressing these malpractices will be essential in ensuring free and fair elections in the future.

Awareness and Usage of Election Technology

Despite advancements in election technology, awareness and usage of election-related apps and online services remain low. Only 16 percent of respondents were aware of the cVIGIL app, and 32.5 percent were aware of KYC (Know Your Candidate). These tools are designed to empower voters with real-time information and report violations during the electoral process, but their low usage suggests that more extensive awareness campaigns are needed to promote their benefits.

In addition, only 19 percent of respondents accessed election-related websites or portals. Given the increasing reliance on digital tools for civic engagement, this statistic is indicative of a digital divide that must be addressed. Improving the accessibility and user-friendliness of these platforms could encourage higher engagement, especially among younger voters.

Electoral Education and Civic Awareness

The survey data underscores the need for sustained efforts in electoral education and civic awareness. While 90 percent of respondents were aware of the minimum voting age, a significant portion of the electorate remains unaware of critical elements of the electoral process. For example, 60 percent of respondents were unaware of Special Summary Revisions (SSR) for voter registration, and 69 percent did not know the date of National Voters' Day (January 25th). These gaps highlight the need for targeted awareness campaigns to ensure that all eligible voters are fully informed about their rights and responsibilities.

The survey also reveals a strong belief in the importance of civic duty, with 79 percent of respondents agreeing that voting should be made compulsory. This aligns with broader trends in electoral participation, where voters view their role in elections as integral to the democratic process. At the same time, 49 percent of respondents believe that elections are conducted freely and fairly, while 23 percent remain undecided, indicating a degree of scepticism about the fairness of elections. Building trust in the electoral system will require continuous efforts to enhance transparency and combat electoral malpractices.

7.3 Important observations

Based on the findings of the 2024 KAP Endline survey and focused group discussions, several suggestions can be made to improve voter engagement, awareness, and the overall electoral process in Goa:

1. **Enhanced Voter Education Programs**:
   There is a clear need for continuous voter education, particularly around specific services such as the Special Summary Revisions (SSR), the significance of being enrolled in the electoral roll, and the use of modern electoral tools like VVPAT and the cVIGIL app. A targeted campaign aimed at educating the public, especially young voters and marginalized groups, will ensure better awareness of voting rights and processes.

2. **Strengthening Digital Literacy and Access to Election Resources**:
   The low usage of election-related apps and online voter portals indicates a need to promote digital literacy among voters. The Election Commission should focus on simplifying access to its online services and increase outreach efforts through digital campaigns, explaining how voters can check their registration status, lodge complaints, and access election-related information using online platforms. Additionally, increasing mobile access to voting resources, especially through simplified apps and SMS-based services, will help engage more voters.

3. **Awareness Campaigns for Vulnerable Groups**:
   There should be a focused effort to ensure that elderly, disabled, and migrant voters are aware of the facilities available to them, such as postal ballots for senior citizens and persons with disabilities. The Election Commission should increase outreach through community leaders, local government offices, and NGOs to ensure these vulnerable groups are informed and can participate in the electoral process without barriers.

4. **Promoting the Use of Election Technology**:
   While the use of EVMs and VVPAT is generally accepted, there is a need to build further confidence in these systems. The Election Commission should organize demonstrations and voter education sessions to show how these technologies work, particularly in schools, colleges, and community centres. Regular updates on how VVPAT ensures transparency and accountability can help address doubts about the reliability of the system.

5. **Addressing Electoral Malpractices**:
   The survey indicates ongoing concerns about the influence of money and muscle power in elections. The Election Commission should work to strengthen

the enforcement of rules that curb electoral malpractices, such as vote-buying, and enhance the effectiveness of flying squads and surveillance teams. Encouraging the use of the cVIGIL app to report violations and ensuring quick, visible action against offenders will reinforce trust in the system.

6. **Increase Focus on National Voters' Day and SSR Campaigns**: The lack of awareness about National Voters' Day and the qualifying dates for voter registration suggests that these initiatives are not reaching their full potential. The Election Commission should leverage National Voters' Day as a platform to celebrate democracy and engage new voters, especially through public events, media outreach, and school-based activities. Strengthening SSR campaigns and making the registration process simpler will ensure that more citizens, particularly first-time voters, are included in the electoral roll.

7. **Addressing Concerns Raised in FGDs**:
   The concerns expressed in the Focused Group Discussions, particularly regarding the influence of religious and community leaders on voting decisions, should be taken seriously. The Election Commission should promote greater

voter autonomy by conducting impartial voter awareness campaigns that emphasize the importance of individual choice and discourage group-based voting pressures.

8. **Encouraging the Participation of Women and Youth**: While many women expressed confidence in their voting choices, there remains a need to ensure that all women can vote freely without familial or social pressure. Specific programs aimed at empowering women voters, alongside initiatives to increase the participation of young voters through educational institutions and digital platforms, can help foster a more inclusive and participatory election environment.

9. **Improve the Functionality of Local Enrolment Services**: Given the crucial role of Booth Level Officers (BLOs) in voter registration, their capacity and reach should be strengthened. Training programs for BLOs, coupled with a system of accountability, can ensure that voter enrolment is conducted effectively. Additionally, regular door-to-door visits by these officers in hard-to-reach areas will ensure higher registration rates. It is It is also found that to increase the effective functioning of the BLOs there

should be a policy change the BLOs after every Five years.

10. **Introduce More Transparent Electoral Monitoring**: Building public confidence in the transparency of elections is essential. To this end, real-time monitoring of the electoral process, from campaign finance to the counting of votes, should be enhanced. Engaging independent observers and ensuring that polling and counting stations are monitored by multiple stakeholders can increase the legitimacy of the electoral process.

11. **Institutionalize Voter Feedback Mechanisms**:

There should be a formal mechanism for voters to provide feedback about their experiences during the electoral process, such as their interactions with polling staff, the convenience of voting, and any issues they encountered. This feedback can help the Election Commission make improvements for future elections and address any recurring issues.

7.4 Suggestions

In conclusion, the data reveals a highly engaged electorate in Goa, with strong participation in recent elections and a positive voting experience for most respondents. However, there are notable areas where improvements can be made to further enhance the electoral process.

➤ It has been brought out in the survey as well as FGDs that the influence of money power is increasing in the elections. This also is seen as one of the reasons for growing apathy among the voters. Addressing the concerns surrounding the influence of money power in elections will be essential for increasing voters trust in the electoral process.

➤ Bridging the awareness gap regarding voter registration deadlines, alternative voting methods, and digital electoral tools is critical. Furthermore, the survey reveals mixed attitudes towards the election process itself. While a majority of respondents believe that elections are generally free and fair, there remains a notable level of scepticism regarding the influence of money and muscle power, particularly during campaigns. The misuse of inducements such as cash distribution and promises of jobs or other benefits remains a concern for many voters. This practice, along with frequent party defections by candidates, undermines trust in the electoral process and reduces confidence in political institutions.

The FGDs also highlighted the challenges faced by vulnerable groups, including women, the elderly, and migrants. Women, in particular, expressed concerns about the fairness of elections, citing undue influence from local political leaders and community figures. Despite this, many women in the FGDs demonstrated a strong sense of autonomy in their voting decisions. The youth, on the other hand, while highly engaged through social media platforms for election-related information, showed limited interaction with formal election services offered by the Election Commission.

Some of the suggestions are:

i) to placing posters at prominent public places, canteens of colleges and Goa University
ii) Creating awareness campaigns through NGO's, SHGs, Youth Clubs
iii) use of social media and television as these two media's have emerged as the main source of getting information about elections
iv) Rallies by students at different places
v) Street plays by students, poster competition
vi) Conducting webinars in the colleges and University on one specific theme every quarterly through Electoral Literacy Clubs of the colleges.

vii) Sending SMSs to voters through BLOs
viii) Every year two months prior the summery revision special awareness drive should be carried out in all the colleges especially for First Year under graduated students. It is also important to create awareness campaigns in schools for 12th Standard students.
ix) It is also found that to increase the effective functioning of the BLOs there should be a policy change the BLOs after every Five years.
x) It is found during FGDs that there are many places where voters moved out of Inida mainly for job or educational purposes who still have their voter card in Goa but might noting be voting either in assembly or parliamentary elections. The participants suggested for introducing the e-voting facility for the NRI voters to help them with voting.
xi) If NOTA gets the majority of votes compared to all other candidates contesting in the constituency, then the election in that constituency should be cancelled.
xii) It is also observed during survey that voters are not aware of the terms used by the election commission for campaigning or awareness. It is suggested that to use simple terminology for voter

campaigning, awareness, captions which are understandable to the voters.

xiii) It is also important that the awareness campaign should take place in between elections also and not restricted to having them just before the elections.

7.5 Conclusion

The ECI, along with, academic institutions and civil society organizations, should prioritize voter education initiatives, particularly targeting younger voters and marginalized groups. Efforts to promote digital literacy and expand access to online election-related resources will also play a crucial role in modernizing the electoral process. By addressing these challenges and building on the strengths of the current system, Goa can continue to foster a vibrant and participatory democracy.

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ANNEXURE I

CROSSTABLES

Education wise knowledge of Summery Revision

	SSR			Total
	Yes	No	100	
Illiterate	1	22	0	23
	4.30%	95.70%	0.00%	100.00%
Primary School	7	32	3	42
	16.70%	76.20%	7.10%	100.00%
High School	48	151	13	212
	22.60%	71.20%	6.10%	100.00%
Higher Secodary	54	92	5	151
	35.80%	60.90%	3.30%	100.00%
Diploma/Certificate	33	29	5	67
	49.30%	43.30%	7.50%	100.00%
Graduate and above including professional/Technical Courses	99	77	3	179
	55.30%	43.00%	1.70%	100.00%
NR/NA	12	30	4	46
	26.10%	65.20%	8.70%	100.00%
	254	433	33	720
	35.30%	60.10%	4.60%	100.00%

Age- wise knowledge of Summery Revision

		Age				Total
		18-25	26-45	46-60	60 and above	
SSR	Yes	28	103	66	57	254
		11.00%	40.60%	26.00%	22.40%	100.00%
	No	40	138	162	93	433
		9.20%	31.90%	37.40%	21.50%	100.00%
	NR/NA	2	11	14	6	33
		6.10%	33.30%	42.40%	18.20%	100.00%
Total		70	252	242	156	720
		9.70%	35.00%	33.60%	21.70%	100.00%

Occupation-wise awareness of Special Summery Revision

	SSR			Total
	Yes	No	100	
Student	15	24	2	41
	36.60%	58.50%	4.90%	100.00%
Unemployed	16	29	8	53
	30.20%	54.70%	15.10%	100.00%
Government Service/ Semi Government	39	34	5	78
	50.00%	43.60%	6.40%	100.00%
Private Service	57	58	3	118
	48.30%	49.20%	2.50%	100.00%
Enterprise/self employed	40	54	5	99
	40.40%	54.50%	5.10%	100.00%
Labour/Cultivator/Agriculture and allied activities	7	15	1	23
	30.40%	65.20%	4.30%	100.00%
Home maker	38	144	3	185
	20.50%	77.80%	1.60%	100.00%
Other	22	43	2	67
	32.80%	64.20%	3.00%	100.00%
NR/NA	20	32	4	56
	35.70%	57.10%	7.10%	100.00%
	254	433	33	720
	35.30%	60.10%	4.60%	100.00%

Gender- wise knowledge of Summery Revision

		Gender		Total
		Male	Female	
SSR	Yes	135	119	254
		53.10%	46.90%	100.00%
	No	183	250	433
		42.30%	57.70%	100.00%
	NR/NA	23	10	33
		69.70%	30.30%	100.00%
Total		341	379	720
		47.40%	52.60%	100.00%

Gender-wise knowledge of voter portal

	Gender		Total
	Male	Female	
No	71	65	136
	52.20%	47.80%	100.00%
Yes	196	233	429
	45.70%	54.30%	100.00%
Don't Know	54	71	125
	43.20%	56.80%	100.00%
100	20	10	30
	66.70%	33.30%	100.00%
	341	379	720
	47.40%	52.60%	100.00%

Education-wise knowledge of voter portal

		Voter Portal				Total
		No	Yes	Don't Know	100	
Education	Illiterate	0	15	8	0	23
		0.00%	65.20%	34.80%	0.00%	100.00%
	Primary School	4	35	3	0	42
		9.50%	83.30%	7.10%	0.00%	100.00%
	High School	17	159	28	8	212
		8.00%	75.00%	13.20%	3.80%	100.00%
	Higher Secondary	19	94	34	4	151
		12.60%	62.30%	22.50%	2.60%	100.00%
	Diploma/Certificate	29	31	4	3	67
		43.30%	46.30%	6.00%	4.50%	100.00%
	Graduate and above including professional/Technical Courses	62	88	25	4	179
		34.60%	49.20%	14.00%	2.20%	100.00%
	100	5	7	23	11	46
		10.90%	15.20%	50.00%	23.90%	100.00%
Total		136	429	125	30	720
		18.90%	59.60%	17.40%	4.20%	100.00%

Occupation-wise knowledge of voter portal

		Voter Portal				Total
		No	Yes	Don't Know	100	
Occupation	Student	16	12	10	3	41
		39.00%	29.30%	24.40%	7.30%	100.00%
	Unemployed	13	30	9	1	53
		24.50%	56.60%	17.00%	1.90%	100.00%
	Government Service/ Semi Government	21	44	10	3	78
		26.90%	56.40%	12.80%	3.80%	100.00%
	Private Service	27	70	21	0	118
		22.90%	59.30%	17.80%	0.00%	100.00%
	Enterprise/self employed	12	77	6	4	99
		12.10%	77.80%	6.10%	4.00%	100.00%
	Labour/Cultivator/Agriculture and allied activities	5	17	1	0	23
		21.70%	73.90%	4.30%	0.00%	100.00%
	Home maker	21	139	21	4	185
		11.40%	75.10%	11.40%	2.20%	100.00%
	Other	13	26	23	5	67
		19.40%	38.80%	34.30%	7.50%	100.00%
	100	8	14	24	10	56
		14.30%	25.00%	42.90%	17.90%	100.00%
Total		136	429	125	30	720
		18.90%	59.60%	17.40%	4.20%	100.00%

Age-wise knowledge of voter portal

		Age				Total
		18-25	26-45	46-60	60 and above	
Voter Portal	No	21	73	31	11	136
		15.40%	53.70%	22.80%	8.10%	100.00%
	Yes	25	135	152	117	429
		5.80%	31.50%	35.40%	27.30%	100.00%
	Don't Know	18	39	49	19	125
		14.40%	31.20%	39.20%	15.20%	100.00%
	100	6	5	10	9	30
		20.00%	16.70%	33.30%	30.00%	100.00%
Total		70	252	242	156	720
		9.70%	35.00%	33.60%	21.70%	100.00%

Gender-wise response on 'Every vote counts'

		Gender		Total
		Male	Female	
Every vote counts	Strongly Disagree	30.80%	69.20%	100.00%
	Agree	69.00%	31.00%	100.00%
	Neither agree nor disagree	37.80%	62.20%	100.00%
	Agree	46.00%	54.00%	100.00%
	Strongly Agree	49.70%	50.30%	100.00%
	100	55.60%	44.40%	100.00%
Total		47.40%	52.60%	100.00%

Age-wise response on 'Every vote counts'

		Age				Total
		18-25	26-45	46-60	60 and above	
Every vote counts	Strongly Disagree	7.70%	38.50%	38.50%	15.40%	100.00%
	Agree	6.90%	48.30%	31.00%	13.80%	100.00%
	Neither agree nor disagree	4.40%	33.30%	37.80%	24.40%	100.00%
	Agree	9.90%	33.60%	34.70%	21.80%	100.00%
	Strongly Agree	10.10%	37.00%	31.20%	21.70%	100.00%
	100	22.20%	27.80%	22.20%	27.80%	100.00%
Total		9.70%	35.00%	33.60%	21.70%	100.00%

Education-wise response on 'Every vote counts'

		Every vote counts						Total
		Strongly Disagree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	100	
Education	Illiterate			17.40%	56.50%	26.10%		100.00%
	Primary School	7.10%	7.10%	11.90%	52.40%	16.70%	4.80%	100.00%
	High School	0.50%	3.30%	2.80%	70.80%	21.70%	0.90%	100.00%
	Higher Secondary	0.70%	2.00%	4.00%	60.30%	32.50%	0.70%	100.00%
	Diploma/Certificate	7.50%	10.4%	13.40%	35.80%	31.30%	1.50%	100.00%
	Graduate and above including professional/ Technical Courses	1.70%	4.50%	2.20%	61.50%	29.60%	0.60%	100.00%
	100		2.20%	23.90%	34.80%	15.20%	23.90%	100.00%
Total		1.80%	4.00%	6.20%	59.20%	26.20%	2.50%	100.00%

Occupation-wise response on 'Every vote counts'

		Strongly Disagree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	100	
Occupation	Student	2.40%		2.40%	73.20%	19.50%	2.40%	100.00%
	Unemployed	9.40%	5.70%	5.70%	43.40%	35.80%		100.00%
	Government Service/ Semi Government	2.60%	7.70%	1.30%	60.30%	28.20%		100.00%
	Private Service	1.70%	7.60%	1.70%	60.20%	28.80%		100.00%
	Enterprise/self employed		4.00%	3.00%	60.60%	31.30%	1.00%	100.00%
	Labour/Cultivator/Agricultural labour		4.30%	13.00%	56.50%	26.10%		100.00%
	Home maker	1.60%	1.10%	5.90%	66.50%	23.20%	1.60%	100.00%
	Other		3.00%	16.40%	56.70%	20.90%	3.00%	100.00%
	100		3.60%	17.90%	37.50%	21.40%	19.60%	100.00%
Total		1.80%	4.00%	6.20%	59.20%	26.20%	2.50%	100.00%

Gender-wise opinion on 'Voting should be made compulsory'

		Gender		Total
		Male	Female	
Voting should be made compulsory	Strongly disagree	12.50%	87.50%	100.00%
	Disagree	60.50%	39.50%	100.00%
	Neither agree nor disagree	46.20%	53.80%	100.00%
	Agree	46.40%	53.60%	100.00%
	Strongly agree	47.60%	52.40%	100.00%
	100	64.30%	35.70%	100.00%
Total		47.40%	52.60%	100.00%

Age-wise opinion on 'Voting should be made compulsory'

		Age				Total
		18-25	26-45	46-60	60 and above	
Voting should be made compulsory	Strongly disagree	12.50%	12.50%	25.00%	50.00%	100.00%
	Disagree	5.30%	21.10%	36.80%	36.80%	100.00%
	Neither agree nor disagree	7.70%	31.90%	38.50%	22.00%	100.00%
	Agree	10.00%	35.40%	34.40%	20.20%	100.00%
	Strongly agree	10.10%	40.50%	28.00%	21.40%	100.00%
	100	21.40%	28.60%	42.90%	7.10%	100.00%
Total		9.70%	35.00%	33.60%	21.70%	100.00%

Age-wise opinion on 'Voting should be made compulsory'

		Voting should be made compulsory						Total
		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	100	
Education	Illiterate	13.00%	8.70%	13.00%	39.10%	26.10%		100.00%
	Primary School		9.50%	9.50%	57.10%	23.80%		100.00%
	High School	0.50%	4.70%	14.60%	59.00%	20.30%	0.90%	100.00%
	Higher Secondary	2.00%	4.60%	6.60%	61.60%	23.80%	1.30%	100.00%
	Diploma/Certificate	1.50%	9.00%	20.90%	37.30%	31.30%		100.00%
	Graduate and above including professional/Technical Courses		4.50%	11.70%	58.10%	24.60%	1.10%	100.00%
	100		2.20%	17.40%	45.70%	17.40%	17.40%	100.00%
Total		1.10%	5.30%	12.60%	55.70%	23.30%	1.90%	100.00%

N:720

Occupation-wise opinion on 'Voting should be made compulsory'

		Voting should be made compulsory						Total
		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	100	
Occupation	Student			22.00%	56.10%	19.50%	2.40%	100.00%
	Unemployed		9.40%	7.50%	47.20%	35.80%		100.00%
	Government Service/ Semi Government		5.10%	17.90%	60.30%	15.40%	1.30%	100.00%
	Private Service		2.50%	8.50%	65.30%	23.70%		100.00%
	Enterprise/self employed	1.00%	7.10%	13.10%	49.50%	27.30%	2.00%	100.00%
	Labour/Cultivator/Agriculture and allied activities	4.30%	4.30%	8.70%	47.80%	34.80%		100.00%
	Home maker	3.20%	4.30%	12.40%	58.40%	20.50%	1.10%	100.00%
	Other		9.00%	4.50%	64.20%	22.40%		100.00%
	100		7.10%	23.20%	32.10%	23.20%	14.30%	100.00%
Total		1.10%	5.30%	12.60%	55.70%	23.30%	1.90%	100.00%

Gender-wise opinion on – 'Influence of money and muscle power is increasing in elections'

		Gender		Total
		Male	Female	
Influence of money and muscle power is increasing in elections	Strongly disagree	47.40%	52.60%	100.00%
	Disagree	40.30%	59.70%	100.00%
	Neither agree nor disagree	43.60%	56.40%	100.00%
	Agree	49.80%	50.20%	100.00%
	Strongly agree	57.80%	42.20%	100.00%
	100	65.00%	35.00%	100.00%
Total		47.40%	52.60%	100.00%

Age-wise opinion on – 'Influence of money and muscle power is increasing in elections'

		Age				Total
		18-25	26-45	46-60	60 and above	
Influence of money and muscle power is increasing in elections	Strongly disagree	21.10%	31.60%	31.60%	15.80%	100.00%
	Disagree	7.20%	38.80%	34.50%	19.40%	100.00%
	Neither agree nor disagree	8.30%	37.20%	35.30%	19.30%	100.00%
	Agree	11.20%	34.40%	31.50%	22.80%	100.00%
	Strongly agree	10.80%	20.50%	36.10%	32.50%	100.00%
	100	10.00%	55.00%	25.00%	10.00%	100.00%
Total		9.70%	35.00%	33.60%	21.70%	100.00%

Education-wise opinion on – 'Influence of money and muscle power is increasing in elections'

		Influence of money and muscle power is increasing in elections						Total
		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	100	
Education	Illiterate		26.10%	39.10%	17.40%	17.40%		100.00%
	Primary School		31.00%	33.30%	26.20%	9.50%		100.00%
	High School	2.40%	18.90%	29.70%	39.60%	7.50%	1.90%	100.00%
	Higher Secondary	3.30%	17.90%	26.50%	37.70%	11.90%	2.60%	100.00%
	Diploma/Certificate	3.00%	22.40%	31.30%	20.90%	19.40%	3.00%	100.00%
	Graduate and above including professional/Technical Courses	3.90%	19.60%	27.40%	33.00%	15.60%	0.60%	100.00%
	100		6.50%	47.80%	26.10%		19.60%	100.00%
Total		2.60%	19.30%	30.30%	33.50%	11.50%	2.80%	100.00%

Occupation * Influence of money and muscle power is increasing in elections Crosstabulation

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	NR/NA	
Student	980.00%	12.20%	36.60%	31.70%	9.80%		100.00%
Unemployed	3.80%	24.50%	43.40%	18.90%	9.40%		100.00%
Government Service/ Semi Government	1.30%	21.80%	20.50%	39.70%	16.70%		100.00%
Private Service	0.80%	16.10%	32.20%	36.40%	12.70%	1.70%	100.00%
Enterprise/self employed	4.00%	19.20%	26.30%	35.40%	11.10%	4.00%	100.00%
Labour/Cultivator/Agriculture and allied activities		4.30%	17.40%	43.50%	34.80%		100.00%
Home maker	2.20%	27.60%	29.20%	29.20%	10.30%	1.60%	100.00%
Other	3.00%	11.90%	22.40%	53.70%	9.00%		100.00%
NR/NA	1.80%	10.70%	48.20%	16.10%	3.60%	19.60%	100.00%
Total	2.60%	19.30%	30.30%	33.50%	11.50%	2.80%	100.00%

ANNEXURE II

Survey Template

Knowledge, Attitude and Practice(KAP)

Introduction and consent. Greeting! My name is ------------ (full name). I work for -------------- (name of institute) a research organization based in ------------- (place) that regularly conducts surveys on various socio-economic and political issues. Presently we are interviewing people here in ------------------ (name of town/village) in ------------- (state) and collecting information regarding about their electoral participation. I'm going to ask you some questions related to registration and participations in elections. Some of the answers to the questions may be personal, but I want you to know that all your answers will be kept completely confidential. There is no compulsion on answering every question and you may choose not to respond to any question. Further, you may also terminate this interview at any time if you are uncomfortable answering the questions. There is no penalty for refusing to take part in this interview nor is there any incentive for participation. However, your honest answers to these questions will help us better understand how people think. We would greatly appreciate your help in responding to this survey. The survey will take about ------------- minutes to ask these questions. Would you be willing to participate?

Section A: Identification and quality control

Q No.	Question	Response	Code				Skip
A1	Consent	Not received	0				►END
		Received	1				
A2	Name of state/UT & census code						
A3	Name of district & census code						
A4	Type of residence and region	Rural (Hilly)	1				
		Rural (Non- Hilly)	2				
		Urban(Hilly)	3				
		Urban (Non- Hilly)	4				
A5	Name of AC & code						
A6	Name of polling station & part no.						
A7	Name of village/urban block & code						
A8	Landmark near house						
Subsection A(i): Details of interview							
A9	Date of interview	(In DD-MM format)					
A10	Start time of interview	(In HH:MM, 24 hour format)					
A11	End time of interview	(In HH:MM, 24 hour format)					
A12	Interview result codes	Completed	1				
		Entire HH absent for a long time	2				

* Instruction in bold are highlighted for the enumerator/surveyor. Kindly pay attention.

			Postponed	3	
			Refused (Pl. specify reasons)	4	
			HH/dwelling vacant	5	
			Address of HH/dwelling not found	6	
A13	Name of enumerator and ID/code				
A14	Name of supervisor and ID/code				
Subsection A(ii): Quality control					
A15	Field: back check		No	0	
			Yes	1	
A16	Field: scrutiny		No	0	
			Yes	1	
A17	Data entry: double entry		No	0	
			Yes	1	

Section B: Selection of respondent

Q No.	Question	Response	Code
B1	How many people (including you) ordinarily reside in this household?		
B2	How many people are older than 18 years? (as on. . . . . as per SSR)		

Subsection B(i): Household (HH) roster

NOTE: LIST ALL THOSE WHO LIVE UNDER THE SAME ROOF, SHARE THE SAME KITCHEN AND ARE ABOVE 18 YEARS OLD STARTING WITH THE HH HEAD. THE NUMBER OF ENTRIES IN THE HH ROSTER (B3) SHOULD BE EQUAL TO THE CODE IN B2.

B3	B4	B5		B6	B7	B8	B9	B10	B11
S No.	Name	Relation with HH head		Sex	Age (in years)	Disabled	Migrated in last 1 year	Voted in last LokSabha election	Voted in last Assembly election
1		0	1						
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									

* Instruction in bold are highlighted for the enumerator/surveyor, Kindly pay attention.

CODE LIST FOR HH ROSTER:

- **Relationship with HH head:** Head=01; Wife/Husband=02; Son/Daughter=03, Daughter-in-law/Son-in-law=04; Grandchild=05; Father/Mother=06; Brother/Sister=07; Father-in-law/Mother-in-law=08; Nephew/Niece=09; Brother-in-law/Sister-in-law=10; other relatives=11; Servant/Others=12
- **Sex:** Male=1; Female=2; Third gender =3
- **Disabled:** No =0; Yes (in seeing)=1, Yes(in speech)=2; Yes(in hearing)=3, Yes(in movement)=4;
- **Migrated in last 1 year:** No=0; Yes=1
- **Voted in last LokSabha /Assembly election:** No=0; Yes=1

Subsection B (ii): Kish grid

LAST DIGIT OF QUESTIONNAIRE NO.	TOTAL NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE RESPONDENTS IN HOUSEHOLD							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	1	2	2	4	3	6	5	4
1	1	1	3	1	4	1	6	5
2	1	2	1	2	5	2	7	6
3	1	1	2	3	1	3	1	7
4	1	2	3	4	2	4	2	8
5	1	1	1	1	3	5	3	1
6	1	2	2	2	4	6	4	2
7	1	2	1	4	1	2	6	4
8	1	1	2	1	2	3	7	5
9	1	1	2	1	2	3	7	5

INSTRUCTIONS TO SELECT RESPONDENTS FROM KISH GRID: Look at the last digit of the questionnaire number on the cover page. This is the row number you should circle. Check the total number of eligible respondents from the household roster or B2. This is the column number you should circle. Find the box where the circled row and the circled column meet and circle the number that appears in the box. Record this in B12. This is the selected respondent to whom you should administer the questionnaire. For example, if the household questionnaire number is '3716', go to row 6 and circle the row number ('6'). If there are three people eligible for an interview in the household (it does not matter if they are available for interview or not), go to column 3 and circle the column number ('3'). Draw lines from row 6 and column 3 and find the box where the two meet, and circle the number in it ('2'). This means you have to select the second eligible person

Q No.	Question	Response	Code	Skip
B12	Number selected from kish grid	Enter code from kish grid		
B13	S. No of the sampled respondent	Enter code from HH roster/B3		

* Instruction in bold are highlighted for the enumerator/surveyor, Kindly pay attention.

Section C: Voter registration

Q. No.	Question	Response
C1	Do you have a voter's card/EPIC? (If registered as a voter) [Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No}	
C2	If no, why? (Write 1 = Not aware, how to procure this card; 2 = Lost by self; 3 = **Not Received**; 4 = Could not get time to get photographed; 5 = Did not get information when they are making; 6 = Lack of time; 7 = Cumbersome procedure; 8 = Not Interested in getting the same)	
C3	Are you aware of 'Voter's List'? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No; 3 – Can't say/do not know)	
C4	If yes to Q-3, has your name been enrolled/ included in the voter's list? (Write 1 = Yes, 2 – No; 3 = Can't say/do not know)	
C5	If no to Q-3 what was the reason? (Write 1 = Did not know about it; 2 = Was not told; 3 = Can't say/don't know: 4 = Was not interested)	
C6	If yes to Q-4 how did you come to know that your name has to be enrolled? [Write 1 = Friends/Relatives; 2 = Newspapers; 3 = Local Community leaders; 4 = BLO; 5 = TV; 6 = Social Media/Website) 7=Any other medium 8=can't say	
C7	If yes to Q-4, was it correctly written in voter's list? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No; 3 = Can't say/do not know)	
C8	Are there members in your family who are 18+ years of age and not registered? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No)	
C9	If yes to Q8, what are the reasons for them not to enroll in the voter's list?	

* Instruction in bold are highlighted for the enumerator/surveyor, Kindly pay attention.

	(Write 1 = Lack of awareness; 2 = Lack of interest; 3 = Lack of valid documents; 4 = Lengthy (difficult) procedure; 5 = Not permanent resident)	
C10	Do you know where to get registered as elector? (Write 1 = Taluka Office; 2 = BDO; 3 = Panchayat Office; 4 = Collector's Office; 5 = Matdata Sahayata Kendra / Voter Centre) 6=VHA/NVSP/ECI website and ECI mobile app/through online methods	
C11	Are you aware of the EPIC (Election Card)? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 – No; 3 = Can't say)	
C12	If yes to Q12, when did you get the EPIC made? (Write 1 = Before last assembly elections; 2 = After last assembly elections; 3 = Don't remember)	
C13	How many days did it take for you to get the EPIC? (Write 1 = Within 15 days; 2 = Within 1 month; 3 = Within six months; 4 = Don't know)	
C14	Was it easy for you to get the EPIC? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No; 3 = Can't say/ don't remember)	
C15	If no, what were the main problems you witnessed while getting your EPIC? (Write 1 = Long procedure; 2 = Unfriendly officials; 3 = Can't say; 4 = Inaccessibility of the concerned office)	
C16	Are you aware that you can vote with alternative ID? {1=Yes;2=No}	
C17	If you did not have EPIC, which alternative ID did you use for voting? (Write 1 = License; 2 = Ration Card; 3 = Opening Bank account; 4 = Voter Slip; 5 = Any other}	
C18	Do you know that Govt. /Election office has appointed local persons to help for enrolment? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No)	

* Instruction in bold are highlighted for the enumerator/surveyor, Kindly pay attention.

C19	If yes, to Q18 then what is his/her designation? (Write 1 = Booth Level Officer; 2 Identification Officer; 3 = Election Agent; 4 = Don't know)	
C20	Has s/he ever visited your house / office? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No; 3 = Can't say)	
C21	Do you know where your Polling booth is? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No)	

Section D: ELECTIONS – KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE, BEHAVIOUR, BELIEF, AND PRACTICES

Q. No.	Question	Response
D1	Did you vote in previous Assembly Elections? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No)	
D2	Did you vote in 2024 Parliamentary Elections? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 – No)	
D3	If no to D1 or D2 what were the reasons? (Can record more than one reasons) (Write 1 – I did not have electoral photo ID Card; 2 = I did not know my polling station; 3 = Polling station was at distance (I had transportation logistic problem; 4 = Long queue and I did not have time; 5 = No faith in political system (or electoral democracy); 6 = Did not vote as community or religious leader said so; 7 = Head of family said not to vote; 8 = Voting is not essential for maintenance of democracy; 9 = There was no good candidate; 10 = Candidate was not of my choice or community; 11 = I just did not want to vote as nothing will change; 12 = I was not in my constituency a. Education b. Marriage c. Work d. Premanently shifted e. Temporary absence f. other reasons (please specify) 13 = I was afraid/felt insecure to go to the polling station; 14 = My name was not on electoral roll; 15=I was not aware of the poll date and time; 16=I was not aware of the fact voting can be done with alternative document; 17=Any Other (Specify).................................	

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D4	If yes to Q1 or Q2 what were the reasons? (Can record more than one reasons) (Write 1 = I am political party sympathizer; 2 = Casted vote due to threat or coercion; 3 = Head of family said to vote; 4 = Influenced by friends; 5 = Wanted to defeat a particular candidate and/or a political party; 6 = It was my duty/right; 7 = Because of repeated appeal and advertisement by Election Commission; 8 = Because of enabling environment (free and Fair) created by Election; 9 = Commission; 10 = I got registered in electoral roll; 11 = Candidate was good; 12= Candidate was of my choice and from community and religion; 13 = Candidate visited me personally; 14 = Money / Liquor/inducement was offered; 15 = Any Other (Specify)...
D5	How did you find the electoral experience during your last voting? (Write 1 = Convenient; 2 = Inconvenient; 3 = Taxing; 4 = Can't remember)
D6	What motivated your choice of the candidate during last elections? (Write 1 = Personally known, 2 = Experience; 3 = Honesty; 4 = Commitment; 5 = Any other specify...)
D7	Are there any family members eligible for voting who have not voted? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No}
D8	If yes to Q7, specify possible reasons: (Write 1 = S/he did not have electoral photo ID Card, 2 = S/he did not know the polling station; 3 = Polling station was at distance (S/he had transportation /logistic problem; 4 = Long queue and S/he did not have time; 5 = No faith in political system (or electoral democracy); 6 = Did not vote as community or religious leader said so; 7 = Head of family said not to vote; 8 = Voting is not essential for maintenance of democracy; 9 = There was no good candidate, 10 = Candidate was not of his/her choice or community; 11 = S/he just did not want to vote as nothing will change; 12 = S/he was not in his/her constituency; 13 = S/he did not get voter slip even on polling day at the booth, 14 = S/he was afraid/felt insecure to go to the polling station;

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	15 = His/her name was not on electoral roll; 16 = Any Other (Specify)..	
D9	Which is the most influencing factor that affects your voting preference? (Write 1 = Family; 2 = Caste; 3 = Religion; 4 = Candidate; 5 = Any other)	
D10	The Factor influencing high Voter turnout is: (Write 1 = Money power; 2 = Muscle power; 3 = Both; 4 = Good Candidate; 5 = Favourable environment for voting) 6=Very high awareness for importance of voting 7=Any other	
D11	Do you feel there was security threat during elections at any point? (Write 1 = Very much; 2 = Somewhat; 3 = Not at all; 4 = Can't say)	
D12	Do you think the deployment of police force was sufficient during the last elections? (Write 1 = Very much; 2 = Somewhat; 3 = Not at all; 4 = Can't say)	
D13	What was your experience at the polling booth during elections? (Write 1 = Very Good; 2 = Good; 3 – Not so good; 4 = Not at all good; 5 = Can't Say)	
D14	Whether the polling staff was cooperative during the election process? (Write 1 = Very Cooperative; 2 = Cooperative; 3 = Not so cooperative; 4 = Not at all cooperative; 5 = Can't say)	
D15	Did you face any difficulties in voting? (Write 1 – Yes; 2 = No)	
D16	If Yes to Q 15, then difficulties were (can record more than one option) (Write 1 = Long queue; 2 = No separate queue for senior citizen; 3 = Lack of facilities including drinking water toilet and ramp; 4 = Coercion/threat by political party booth operators;	

* Instruction in bold are highlighted for the enumerator/surveyor, Kindly pay attention.

	5 = Difficulties in locating my polling station; 6 = Difficulties in getting my voter slip at facilitation center; 7 = No guidance from polling personnel, 8 = Any other, specify..)	

Section E: Voter awareness and attitudes

Q. No.	Question	Response	Code		
E1	Do you know name of your assembly constituency / Parliamentary Constituency	1=Yes			
		2=no			
E2	What is the minimum age of registration to be a voter? * Code 99 FOR DON'T KNOW	In years			
E3	What is the date for determining qualifying age for getting registered on the electoral roll/voting?	18th Birthday	0		
		1st January/1st April/1st July/1st October	11		
		Don't know	99		
E4	Are you aware of Special Summary Revision every year?	1=Yes			
		2=no			
E5	When is the National Voters' Day celebrated?	Incorrect Date	0		
		Correct date	1		
		Don't Know	99		
E6	Do you know about: a. option of NOTA/none of the above on EVM that could be used if you don't like any candidate b. names of candidates available in Braille on the EVM? c. Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail VVPAT, that helps verify your vote?	Responses	a.	b.	c.
		1. Yes, saw it when I cast my vote	1	1	1
		2. Yes, have seen one In electoral literacy	2	2	2
		3. Yes, have heard/read about it	3	3	3
		4. No	4	4	4
E7	Have you ever accessed Voters Portal or any other election related website? 1.No 2.Yes 3. Don't know				
E8	If yes, for what purpose did you access the website? 1.to search name and other details on the Electoral Roll 2.To register/make modification online 3.To download registration forms 4.To know polling station details 5.Others(please specify)				
E9	Are you Aware that just having an Epic does not provide you the				

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	right to vote unless until your name is included in the latest Electoral Roll. (1=Yes;2=No)				
F10	Are you aware that it is an offence to have your enrolment for more than one place	1=Yes 2=no			
E11	Finally, I am going to read out a few more statements and I would like to know your opinion on them. Please tell me if you strongly disagree (=1), disagree (=2), neither agree nor disagree (=3), agree (=4) or strongly agree (=5). There are no correct or incorrect responses so please give me your honest opinion.	Every vote counts			
		Voting should be made compulsory			
		Voting is cumbersome chore			
		Elections are conducted freely and fairly in India			
		EVMs provide accurate results			
		Women should consult male members or elders before voting In elections			
		The Influence of money and muscle is increasing in elections			
		I do not intend to vote in the upcoming elections			

Section F: Background Information

Q No.	Question	Response	Code
F1	What's your educational qualification?	Illiterate	1
		Primary school	2
		High school	3
		Higher secondary	4
		Diploma/ Certificate	5
		Graduate & above including Professional/Technical Courses	6
F2	What's your occupation?	Student	1
		Unemployed	2
		Government Service/Semi Government	4
		Private Service	5
		Own enterprise/self employed	6
		Labourer/ Cultivator/ Agricultural and allied activities	7
		Home maker	8
		Others (please specify)	
F3	What's your social group?	SC	1
		ST	2
		OBC	3
		Others	4

* Instruction in bold are highlighted for the enumerator/surveyor, Kindly pay attention.

How often do you:		Responses	a.	b.	c.	d.
F4	a. read a newspaper or magazine?	1. Almost every day	1	1	1	1
	b. listen to the radio?	2. At least once a week	2	2	2	2
	c. watch television?	3. Less than once a week	3	3	3	3
	d. Internet (Facebook, WhatsApp etc.)?	4. Not at all	4	4	4	4
F5	During elections, which of the following sources did you rely on the most to get news on elections and politics?	Newspaper/Magazine	1			
		Television	2			
		Radio	3			
		Internet	4			
		Mobile phone	5			
		Family/relatives/friends	6			
		Others (please specify)				

Section G: Only for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)

Q. No.	Question	Response
G1	Have you come across any publicity/voter edutainment material aimed at participation of PwDs? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No)	
G2	Have you been contacted by the BLO of your area? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No)	
G3	Do you know about Saksham app developed by ECI for PwD's? (Write 1 = Yes, 2 = No)	
G4	How you rate the process of registration (Write 1 = Easy; 2 = Neither easy nor difficult, 3 = Difficult) If option 3 is chosen, please elaborate on the difficulties faced in the process of registration	
G5	Please elaborate on the difficulties faced in the process of voting. (can record more than one option) (Write 1 = Long queue; 2 = No separate queue for senior citizen/pwds; 3 = Lack of facilities including drinking water toilet and ramp; 4 = Coercion/threat by political party booth operators; 5 = Difficulties in locating my polling station; 6 = Difficulties in getting my voter slip at facilitation center; 7 = No guidance from polling personnel;	

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	8 = Any other, specify..)	
G6	Are you aware of the facility of postal ballots is extended to Senior citizens above 80 years and Person with benchmark Disabilities (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No)	

Section H: Inducement

Q. No.	Question	Response
H1	Were there any inducements from any groups to influence voting? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No)	
H2	Was there use of money power / muscle power by candidates / political parties to influence voters during the last elections? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No)	
H3	Do you participate in rallies/meetings organized by political parties / candidates? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No)	
H4	If yes in H3, Who bears the expenditure incurred on participating in those rallies? (Write 1 = Own expense; 2 = Organizing party)	
H5	Do you know about cVIGIL App? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No)	
H6	Do you know about KYC App? (Write 1 = Yes; 2 = No)	
H7	Were any of the following inducements used to lure you during the last elections: [Multiple options Applicable] (Write 1= Distributing cash among women through self help groups; 2 = Funding of local club to organize cricket / football matches; 3 = Distributing TV, Radio, Projector etc. for small groups / communities / schools; 4 = Distributing Purse, Bangles, Vanity Case among women; 5 = Distributing liquor; 6 = Distributing food packets; 7 = Distributing coupons for free Diesel, Petrol, LPG, Kerosene; 8 = Distributing cash for construction of toilets, hand pumps and buying of mobile phones and laptops; 9 = Any other, specify...)	

Any others Suggestions/Inputs

* Instruction in bold are highlighted for the enumerator/surveyor, Kindly pay attention.

Annexure- III

Focussed Group Discussion Guide (Mixed Group)

AC _____   **Polling Station** _____

District _____   **Taluka**_____   **Date**_____

1. Why in your opinion voter turnout is high in some elections and low in others?

_____

_____

_____

2. What in your opinion are the best methods to create awareness about the election process? Why?

_____

_____

_____

3. How do you receive election related information ?(Announcement of dates, results, other election related information)

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_____

_____

4. What is your opinion on services provided by the Election Commission (registration, apps, helpline numbers, etc)?

_____

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_____

6. ECI ensures Elections are held in free and fair manner What will be your point of view? Why?

_____

_____

_____

7. What do you think of the use of inducements such as money, liquor, etc. during election by candidates and political parties.

_____

_____

_____

 8. Do you think it affects the casting of votes? What do you think can be done to remove/eliminate that? Do you think Voters education and increased awareness would be helpful in that?

_____

_____

_____

9. Do you think that certain communities are directly or indirectly coerced to vote in a particular manner? What do you think can be done about that?

_____

_____

_____

10. Voters decision to whom to vote is influenced by family/friends/neighbours/any other agencies. Do you think an individual should be casting his/her vote as per his/her choice?

_____

_____

_____

11. Women's decision whom to vote is sometimes influenced by family members. In your opinion what else can be done by ECI to facilitate women cast their vote as per their choice?

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_____

12. How can we encourage young people/First time voters to register and cast their vote in larger numbers?

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13. What are the challenges the Migrant workers and Service voters, NRIs and elder citizens and PWD face? How can we make the process easy and comfortable for them to cast their vote?

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14. Which according to you is the most trusted voting tool? (Ballot paper, EVM/ VVPAT, or any other)? Do you have any doubt? How confident are you on the EVMS/VVPATs?

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15. What are your opinions about NOTA?

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16. Suggest some methods to encourage voters to vote. Why you feel those methods are effective?

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Focussed Group Discussion Guide (Women)

AC _____   **Polling Station** _____

District _____   **Taluka**_____   **Date**_____

1. Why in your opinion voter turnout is high in some elections and low in others?

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2. What in your opinion are the best methods to create awareness about the election process? Why?

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_____

_____

3. How do you receive election related information ?(Announcement of dates, results, other election related information)

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_____

4. What is your opinion on services provided by the Election Commission (registration, apps, helpline numbers, etc)?

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6. ECI ensures Elections are held in free and fair manner What will be your point of view? Why?

_____

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_____

7. What do think of the use of inducements such as money, liquor, etc. during election by candidates and political parties.

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_____

8. Do you think it affects the casting of votes? What do you think can be done to remove/eliminate that? Do you think Voters education and increased awareness would be helpful in that?

_____

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9. Do you think that certain communities are directly or indirectly coerced to vote in a particular manner? What do you think can be done about that?

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_____

10. Voters decision to whom to vote is influenced by family/friends/neighbours/any other agencies. Do you think an individual should be casting his/her vote as per his/her choice?

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11. Women's decision whom to vote is sometimes influenced by family members. In your opinion what else can be done by ECI to facilitate women cast their vote as per their choice?

_____

_____

_____

12. How can we encourage young people/First time voters to register and cast their vote in larger numbers?

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_____

13. What are the challenges the Migrant workers and Service voters, NRIs and elder citizens and PWD face? How can we make the process easy and comfortable for them to cast their vote?

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14. Which according to you is the most trusted voting tool? (Ballot paper, EVM/ VVPAT, or any other)? Do you have any doubt? How confident are you on the EVMS/VVPATs?

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15. What are your opinions about NOTA?

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16. What are your opinions about Pink Booth?

_____

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17. Suggest some methods to encourage voters to vote. Why you feel those methods are effective?

_____

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_____

AC _____   **Polling Station** _____

District _____   **Taluka**_____   **Date**_____

1. Why in your opinion voter turnout is high in some elections and low in other?

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2. What in your opinion are the best methods to create awareness among the young voters about the election process? Why?

_____

_____

_____

3. Are youths more interested or apathetic towards election? Why?

_____

_____

_____

4. Suggest some methods to encourage young voters to vote. Why you feel those methods are effective?

_____

_____

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5. How do you receive election related information ?(Announcement of dates, results, other election related information)

_____

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6. What is your opinion on services provided by the Election Commission (registration, apps, helpline numbers, etc)?

_____

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7. Elections are held in free and fair manner do you agree or disagree?Why?

_____

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_____

8. What in your opinion are the reasons for the use of inducements such as money, liquor, etc. during election.

_____

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9. Types of inducements used

_____

_____

_____

10. Do you agree that the influence of inducements such as money, liquor, etc is increasing during elections? Why?

_____

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11. Do you agree that certain communities are coerced to vote in a particular manner?

_____

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12. Voters decision to whom to vote is influenced by family/friends/neighbours/any other agencies. Do you agree or disagree.

_____

_____

_____

13. Young voters decision whom to vote is influenced by family members. Do you agree or disagree. Why?

_____

_____

_____

14. Which according to you is the most trusted voting tool? (Ballot paper, EVM/ VVPAT, or any other)?

_____

_____

_____

15. What are your opinions about NOTA?

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