## "THE BALLOT IS STRONGER THAN THE BULLET"

- Abraham Lincoln

#### WHY WE MUST VOTE?

Voting is our civic responsibility. It is one of the fundamental tools by which our nation has guaranteed our inalienable rights throughout our country. India is one of the largest democracies in the world. The notion 'Government of the people, by the people and for the people' holds true only when the entire nation participates in the election process. In a true form of democracy, all the citizens come together to decide the future of the country and thereby their own. The right to vote gives the citizens of the country the power to exercise their franchise and decide collectively with the majority who they think is responsible enough to hold the highest office of the nation and carry on the responsibilities that come along with it.

"The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by human beings for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison people because they are different from others"

- Lyndon B. Johnson

## **SIGNIFICANCE OF VOTING:**

- ➤ Voting is the cornerstone of democracy and plays a crucial role in shaping the political landscape of India.
- ➤ It allows citizens to exercise their right to choose their representatives and participate in the decision-making process.
- > Through voting, individuals have the power to hold their elected officials accountable for their actions and policies.
- ➤ Voting ensures a fair and transparent electoral process, promoting social and political equality.
- It helps in establishing a government that reflects the will and aspirations of the people.
- > By voting, citizens have the opportunity to voice their opinions on various issues and contribute to the development of the nation.

"My vote is my voice...and the voice of all who struggled, so that I may have my voice".

- Lydia Obasi

### **VOTING IS NOT ONLY A DUTY BUT A RIGHT TOO:**

- ➤ Voting is not only a Statutory right but also a Constitutional right, which should not be waived on whatsoever grounds or reasons.
- ➤ Voting empowers marginalized sections of society, allowing them to have a say in matters that affect their lives.
- ➤ It promotes the growth of a responsible and responsive government, as elected representatives are more likely to address the concerns of their constituents.
- A high voter turnout strengthens the legitimacy and credibility of the democratic system. Voting is not only a right but also a civic duty, and by exercising it, individuals actively participate in the democratic process and contribute to the overall progress.

தெய்வப்புலவர் திருவள்ளுவரின் வாய்மொழியின் படி: *"இறைகாக்கும் வையக மெல்லாம் அவனை முறைகாக்கும் முட்டாச் செயின்"*.

(உலகத்தாரை எல்லாம் மன்னவன் காப்பாற்றி வருவான் முறை தவறாமல் அவன் செங்கோல் செலுத்தி வந்தால், அது அவனைக் காப்பாற்றி நிற்கும்).

"The king defends the world, and justice, when administered without defect, defends the king".

# Think Twice, Vote Wise!

Election commission of India offers online voter registration for Indian citizens who have attained the age of 18. Students can enroll himself/herself as General Voter and fill Form 6 online at National Voters' Service Portal. Registered voters should also check their enrollment status.

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