



STUDENTS' GENERAL ELECTIONS 2024 REPORT

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS

MARCH 2024



Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
Chennai, Tamil Nadu, 600036

Detailed Report on Students' General Elections 2024

4th February 2024 - 1st April 2024

Prepared by:



Student Election Commission, IIT Madras

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Executive Summary

This is a brief report for Students' General Elections 2024 (SGE 2024) that encompasses the whole election process from publishing of the Election Notification to the release of the results. The report talks about the initiatives and the activities that were undertaken by SEC 2023-24 to achieve 100% voter turnout as part of a unique campaign that was launched by the commission. The campaign Operation 100: Every Vote Matters not only aims to achieve 100% voter turnout in the SGE 2024 but expects all the first-generation voters of IIT Madras to cast their vote in SGE as well as 18th Lok Sabha Elections.

IIT Madras believes in the holistic development of its students and by making them politically aware future citizens of India, India will not only develop in the field of knowledge and innovation but even in the field of politics and e-governance. The Student Election Commission (SEC) aims to integrate technology into the everyday lifestyle of students and believes that Elections too have a lot of scope of using technology to make voting more simple, smooth and accessible. From remote voting to blockchain-based voting, SEC has brought in the idea of mobile polling booths in the form of E-karts, which are not only significant in increasing voting turnout but have even encouraged students to come up with more state-of-the-art innovations and help IIT Madras reach 100% voter turnout.

Introduction

The student election at IIT Madras is a fundamental democratic process that allows students to elect their representatives for various academic departments, programs, and hostels. This election plays a crucial role in shaping the student experience and fostering a sense of engagement and participation within the university community. The SGE 2024 began with the releasing of the [Election Notification](#) by DoST Office on 29th January 2024.

Events and Activities

Briefing Hour

Date: 24th February 2024

Venue: Central Lecture Theatre (CLT)

Recognizing the significant stress and pressure experienced by election candidates, the Election Holding Body organized a dual-purpose event aimed at addressing candidates' mental well-being and their queries regarding the electoral process. The event featured a dedicated session focusing on mental health, followed by a comprehensive briefing session to equip candidates with essential information and resources for a successful campaign. It was mandatory for all candidates to attend and saw an almost 100% participation by them. The CLT was packed and witnessed a 300+ crowd who were then given refreshments for their participation.

Event Highlights:

- **Mental Well-Being Session:** The event began with a session dedicated to candidates' mental health and well-being. Mental health professional/ counsellor associated with MITR was invited to provide insights into managing stress, anxiety, and maintaining overall mental well-being during the campaign period. Strategies for self-care, stress reduction techniques, and resources for seeking support were discussed to empower candidates in prioritizing their mental health.
- **Briefing Session on Campaigning:** Subsequent to the mental well-being session, candidates participated in a comprehensive briefing conducted by the election commissioners. The briefing covered various aspects of campaigning, including campaign rules and regulations, ethical conduct guidelines, key dates and deadlines, and soapbox announcement.
- **Resources and Support:** Throughout the event, candidates were provided with information regarding resources and support to assist them in their campaigns. Informational materials on mental health resources, campaign guidelines, contact information, IITM students were made available to candidates. Additionally, candidates were encouraged to reach out to the Student Election Commission (SEC) for any further assistance or clarification they may require throughout the campaign period.

Teaser Launch Event

Date: 12 February 2023

Venue: Himalaya Lawns

The Student Election Commission hosted the SGE 2024 Teaser Launch Event which started from 6pm and continued till 10 pm to kickstart the upcoming student elections. This vibrant event, featuring a combination of music club performances and engaging game stalls, aimed to foster community engagement, and excitement.

Event Highlights:

- **Game Stalls and Activities:** The event featured a range of game stalls which included carnival-style games such as the glass pyramid game, taboo, and Bingo. The game stalls provided opportunities for students to socialize, have fun, and participate in friendly competition whilst election managers tried to facilitate student voter awareness for the upcoming elections.
- **Food and Refreshments:** Stalls offered a variety of snacks, beverages, and treats as prizes for the games in question which incentivised people to show up with friends and fellow classmates, further enhancing the festive atmosphere of the event.
- **Promotion of Student Engagement:** Throughout the event, there was a strong emphasis on promoting student engagement and participation in the electoral process. A white board with markers and sticky board was made available for the students to make inquiries, tongue in-cheek remarks or list out their grievances.
- **Music Club Performance:** The last part of the event began with electrifying performances by the members college's music club contingent. The talented student musicians showcased their skills, entertaining the audience with a variety of musical genres, including pop, rock, and indie. The lively music set the tone for the energetic and festive atmosphere of the event.
- **Official Election Announcement:** In the middle of the music performance, the SEC started displaying the teaser for SGE 2024. This moment marked the beginning of the election season and heightened anticipation among students for the upcoming campaign period. The energy and enthusiasm generated by this event with a footfall of more than 750 people was expected to carry forward, motivating students to actively participate in the electoral process

Meme-ing Democracy

Date: 7th March 2024

Platform: Instagram

In a creative endeavor to engage students in political discourse and raise awareness about electoral processes within the institute, the Student Election Commission (SEC) organized an innovative event meant to foster political awareness through student-created memes. This event encouraged students to create memes relevant to institute politics, providing a platform for artistic expression while promoting understanding of democratic principles.

Event Highlights:

- **Call for Student-Created Memes:** The event commenced with a call for student-created memes focusing on various aspects of institute politics and electoral processes. Students were encouraged to unleash their creativity and humor to depict political scenarios, campaign strategies, and election-related themes unique to the institute, in any language they deemed relevant.
- **Memes Showcase and Voting:** A dedicated space, the story space of our 1000+ user strong Instagram account, was allocated for the display of submitted memes, creating an engaging gallery for students to explore. Participants and attendees were invited to vote for their favorite memes through the polling option, fostering a sense of community involvement and participation in the event.
- **Recognition and Gifts:** Outstanding meme creators were recognized and promised to be awarded goodies for their contributions. This recognition incentivized student participation and celebrated creativity in depicting institute politics through a humorous and relatable lens.
- **Social Media Campaign:** To extend the reach of the event beyond the physical venue, this served as a part of the social media campaign. This campaign amplified the event's impact and engaged students who were unable to attend in person.

Voice of the State: A Talk by Dr. V Palanikumar, the State Election Commissioner

Date: 28th February 2024

Venue: Student Activity Centre (SAC)

The Student Election Commission orchestrated a pivotal event that served as the launchpad for the soapbox scheduled later in the day preceding the college elections. The crowd comprised more than 500 students. Central to this event were two things: first, the compelling talk delivered by the esteemed State Election Commissioner which aimed to infuse students with a sense of civic duty and encourage active engagement in the electoral; second, the inauguration of

Operation 100, a campaign meant to boost voter turnout to 100%, by unveiling its foundational report.

Event Highlights:

- **Address by the State Election Commissioner:** The event commenced with an enlightening address by the State Election Commissioner. With profound expertise and authority, the Commissioner delineated the essence of democratic principles, elucidated the electoral framework, and underscored the pivotal role of student leadership in fostering campus democracy.
- **Q&A Session:** A spirited question-and-answer session ensued, providing students with a unique opportunity to engage directly with the State Election Commissioner. Our chief election commissioner posed insightful queries on electoral processes and the Commissioner's perspectives on fostering a culture of active citizenship. This session ended with the arrival of director sir V Kamakoti, and the unveiling of the Operation 100 report.
- **Address by the Director:** Director sir V Kamakoti proceeded to address the crowd after the launch of Operation 100. There was a palpable emphasis on the importance of civic responsibility and participation in the electoral process. The Commissioner's address underscored the imperative for students to exercise their right to vote judiciously and engage meaningfully in the democratic process.
- **Announcement of the Candidate Debate:** Following Director sir's address, the Student Election Commission, SEC, officially announced the impending soapbox. This momentous declaration served to galvanize excitement among students, signalling the commencement of a platform for robust discourse, critical examination of ideas, and articulation of visionary leadership.

Official Declaration of Results

SGE 2024

The official certification of election results and the declaration of winners was announced by mail by the DoSt Office on Monday 18th March 12:19 pm. The total voter turnout was **59.43% (6723/11312)** which is a record breaking number in the history of IIT Madras as first time we have crossed 50% mark and have set the highest voting turnout of present day at IIT Madras.

Link: [■ Students General Election 2024 Results.pdf](#)

SLC Speaker Election

The official certification of election results and the declaration of winners was announced by mail by the DoSt Office on Monday 1st April 11:35 am. The voter turnout for SLC Speaker Election 2024 was **98.11% (52/53)**.

Initiatives

The initiatives introduced during the Students' General Elections 2024 at IIT Madras reflected a multifaceted approach to enhance voter engagement, ensure electoral integrity and promote environmental sustainability, and leverage technology. Following are the initiatives taken by SEC 2023-2024 :

Addition of Polling Week in the Calendar

First time in the history of SGEs at IIT Madras, this year, the academic calendar Jan-May 2024 had the mention of Polling Week from 2nd March to 9th March 2024. The rationale behind the introduction of polling week in the academic calendar is to inform the students beforehand that polling is going to happen tentatively on any one of the days across the polling week. Such an initiative allowed the students to prepare themselves for the upcoming elections by ensuring that they fulfill all the eligibility criteria. Planning the Polling week beforehand helps in avoiding the clashes with other big institute level events. Moreover, any change in the academic calendar would also lead to a change in the polling week, due to which the idea of polling week was introduced by SEC 2023-24.

Briefing Hour Session

This session aimed to address the well-being of candidates contesting elections. It was planned with a dual objective of addressing the mental health of candidates as well as to aware them about the intricate electoral processes, the Election Manual and the Model Code of Conduct. Recognizing the stress associated with campaigning, The Psychologist from Wellness Centre IIT Madras was invited to discuss stress management, anxiety reduction, and overall mental well-being. This was followed by a comprehensive briefing on campaign rules and regulations and all other information related to the electoral process by Ms. Meenakshi Anoop (Election Commissioner) and Mr. Sushant Jaswal (Chief Election Commissioner).

Operation 100 Launch by Tamil Nadu State Election Commissioner

Operation 100, a humongous initiative to maximize voter turnout, was launched on 28th February 2024 in the presence of the Tamil Nadu State Election Commissioner Mr. V. Palanikumar, Prof. V. Kamakoti (Director, IIT Madras), Prof. Sathyanarayanan Gummadi (Dean), Prof. Sudakar Chandran (Chief Election Officer), Prof. M.Jeganmohan (Deputy Election Officer) and the Student Election Commission Team. The campaign's goal was to achieve 100% voter participation, emphasizing the importance of civic duty and active engagement in the electoral process. Dr. V. Palanikumar delivered a lecture about the importance of voting in a democracy and urged the youth of IITM to vote and actively participate in the electoral process.

Campaigning Ambassadors recruitment

With a turnout target of 100% for SGE 2024 at IIT Madras, we aimed for a significant shift from last year's 48.6%. We recruited passionate campaign ambassadors to promote democratic values and emphasize the impact of every single vote among the students. Around 120 individuals were recruited to raise awareness, particularly among the research scholars who usually don't vote during SGEs, and educate students on the importance of voting, both for campus and general elections. They actively reached out to students allotted to them and ensured that they had voted. The ambassadors were selected in such a manner that every department or every hostel has at least 10-15 ambassadors who encourage students to vote on the day of polling. Ambassadors will be provided with merchandise such as T-shirts to aid in their efforts.

Certificates to Voters

Issuing certificates to voters as part of Operation 100 was aimed at enhancing voter engagement and participation in the democratic and participative electoral process. This acknowledges and rewards the act of voting as a vital contribution to democracy, directly appealing to the sense of civic duty and pride among the young student voters. By receiving a tangible acknowledgment in the form of a certificate, voters are not only recognized for their individual actions but are also reminded of the crucial role they play in shaping the future of the Student Governance of IIT Madras through their electoral choices. This form of recognition can foster a deeper connection between students and the democratic process, potentially leading to higher voter turnout rates. It emphasizes the idea that every vote counts and that participation in elections is both valued and impactful.

Green Campaigning

With a focus on sustainability, the Green Campaigning initiative aimed to minimize the environmental impact of the election process. Candidates were encouraged to adopt eco-friendly practices, such as using digital platforms for campaigning instead of physical flyers and posters. The Model Code of Conduct and the Election Manual officially banned the use of printed material for campaigning purposes. The Green Campaigning initiative is about more than just reducing the environmental impact of election; it's about setting a precedent for future campaigns and encouraging a shift in how political activities are conducted on campus. By embedding sustainability into the Model Code of Conduct and the Election Manual, the initiative institutionalizes these eco-friendly practices, making them a standard part of the electoral process in the IIT Madras.

Blockchain Technology

Plenome is an IIT Madras incubated startup working on blockchain technology for data security and interoperability. It has developed the blockchain-based election system which was implemented in the Students' Legislative Council Speaker's Election 2024. The system has been deployed on the Polygon public blockchain, and was accessed by voters on a web-based application on various devices situated in booths. The system enables the four fundamental principles of a robust public election system: availability by providing access through multiple devices, transparency of the process through real-time monitoring, anonymity through encryption of ballots, and auditability through post-election audits. The system was trialed with a small population the previous year, and was scaled and improved with audit and real-time monitoring features. Research and development is ongoing to function across larger and diverse populations, and eventually aiming to impact elections across India.

Remote Voting Facilities for Students

Recognizing students' diverse commitments, SEC ensured voting accessibility to all those students who were not there in the institute on the day of polling due to some academic commitment. Students voted online from anywhere, accommodating internships, conferences, research, and fieldwork beyond campus by informing SEC about their absence at least 3 weeks before the day of polling. Proper safety measures were taken up to ensure that the remote voting is safe and secured and the secrecy of ballot is maintained.

E-Kart

By deploying mobile E-Karts that followed specified routes around the campus, students were provided with a convenient and efficient way to engage in the voting process, directly addressing issues of accessibility that might deter participation. Equipped with laptops connected to the Voting portal, these E-Karts effectively brought the voting booth to the students' doorstep, allowing them to cast their votes without the need to travel to fixed polling booths in hostels and Common booths. This initiative not only made the voting process more accessible but also demonstrated a commitment to leveraging technology for enhancing democratic participation. By reducing the time and effort required to vote, the E-Kart service significantly lowered the barriers to participation, potentially increasing voter turnout and ensuring that more students could exercise their right to vote with ease. This innovative solution underlines the importance of adapting electoral processes to the needs and lifestyles of the student voters especially in a dynamic and busy campus environment.

Polling Stamp

This SGE, SEC introduced a polling stamp, as a symbol of voting at IIT Madras, to mark a stamp over the hands of the voters after they have casted the vote. Its lasting imprint serves as a guard against electoral fraud and reinforces the importance of voting. Further, the idea is to make the students feel proud about the important duty that they have fulfilled by casting a vote in SGE 2024. To ensure that SGE is similar to the general elections so that students can at least be encouraged to vote with more vigor in the upcoming general elections, SEC had taken up this initiative this year.

Voter Turnout & Other Competitions

The introduction of a voter turnout competition among various hostels and departments of IIT Madras was an engaging way to boost participation in the electoral process. By turning voting into a competitive event, where hostels and departments strive to achieve the highest voter turnout, this competition incentivized students to participate in the democratic process and foster a sense of unity and collective action towards a common goal. Encouraging students to mobilize their peers and take pride in their contribution to the electoral process elevated the overall voter turnout. By making the act of voting both a personal duty and a collective challenge, the competition effectively engaged the student body, making democracy a shared endeavor that extended beyond individual action to encompass the broader academic community's involvement and enthusiasm. Moreover, there were two separate competitions which SEC had conducted during the elections that were - Young Psephologist & Meme Challenge.

In order to engage the students with the ongoing favor of SGE 2024, SEC conducted such competitions. There was a good response to these competitions as students participated in these competitions with full enthusiasm.

Offline Soapboxes

The revitalization of Offline Soapboxes by the Student Election Commission is a significant step towards fostering a more interactive and engaged electoral environment. By providing a physical platform for candidates vying for Executive Council positions to present their manifestos, field questions, and directly engage with the electorate, this initiative bridges the gap between candidates and voters, ensuring a transparent and dynamic exchange of ideas. This direct form of communication not only allows candidates to articulate their visions and policies more effectively but also offers voters the opportunity to pose questions, express concerns, and seek clarifications in real-time. It cultivates a vibrant democratic culture on campus, encouraging active participation in the electoral process and fostering a sense of community and democratic responsibility among students.

TRAI Message

The collaboration between the Student Election Commission and the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to send an SMS about polling dates and times directly to students' mobile phones was a significant initiative of Operation 100 that strategically used communication technology to enhance electoral participation. This method of direct communication not only served to increase awareness of the electoral process but also acted as a prompt for students to plan their participation, thereby potentially increasing voter turnout. The personalized nature of receiving a message on one's phone added a sense of importance and urgency to the act of voting, encouraging a higher level of engagement with the democratic process. This collaboration highlighted the potential of harnessing digital communication tools in mobilizing and informing the electorate, reflecting a modern approach to voter engagement that could set a precedent for future elections.

Mass Collaboration

The Student Election Commission IIT Madras collaborated with various bodies across the Institute, The successful collaboration with Wellness Centre for the Briefing Hour Session and the IITM TV. The collaboration between the Student Election Commission and IITM TV for the Student General Elections 2024 at IIT Madras marked a significant milestone in the history of

student elections on the campus. This partnership aimed to meticulously document all the moments of the Polling Day, capturing the essence of student participation, the vibrancy of democracy in action, and the intense engagement of the student body with the electoral process. By recording these moments, the initiative sought to create a comprehensive documentary that would not only serve as a historical record of the elections and Operation 100 but also highlight the democratic spirit and collective enthusiasm of the student community. The involvement of IITM TV brought professional videography and storytelling expertise to the table, ensuring that the documentary would be of high quality and engaging for viewers. This initiative allowed for a behind-the-scenes look at the electoral process, from the preparation phase to the culmination of Polling Day, providing insights into workings of the election machinery, and the participation of the electorate; this collaboration was a testament to the power of media in documenting and preserving the democratic processes within IIT Madras.

Social Media Campaigning - #Operation100

SEC also launched the campaign over its social media handles in collaboration with IIT Madras to make this campaign viral all across the social media platforms. So that more number of first generation voters can get encouraged with SEC, IIT Madras's initiative to achieve 100% voter turnout not just in SGE 2024 but even in the 18th Lok Sabha Elections. As part of this initiative, Director of IIT Madras - Prof. V. Kamakoti had encouraged students to vote in the upcoming elections through a short video which was published on multiple social media handles, especially Instagram from Reach IITM's account.

Wall Painting

In collaboration with the Fine Arts Club, Sangam, IIT Madras, the Student Election Commission dedicated an entire wall next to the Cultural Center for raising awareness among students about general elections. The wall featured elements reflecting the theme of the general elections, serving as a visual reminder for students as well as the role of technology in making voters' life comfortable. The painting has been curated in such a manner that the word vote has been spelled in the painting in a very ingenious manner where each letter has been transformed into existing natural structure. For instance the letter 'V' in the wall painting is being depicted by the antlers of the deer which are common to see in the campus.

Folk Dance Performance

The organization of a folk dance performance by a cultural group in Tamil Nadu at strategic campus locations like Himalaya Mess and Nilgiri Mess played an important role in the efforts to spread awareness about Operation 100 and the importance of voting. This innovative approach to voter mobilization combined cultural engagement with electoral advocacy, capturing the attention of the student body in a vibrant and meaningful way. It ensured maximum visibility, drew the attention of the crowd and created a memorable spectacle. Beyond entertainment, this event served as a platform for direct interaction between students and Election Managers and Campaigning Ambassadors who seized the opportunity to educate the students about the voting process and the significance of their participation in shaping student governance by becoming the part of Operation 100.

Merch Branding

The introduction of election-related merchandise, such as branded t-shirts, as part of the Student General Elections 2024 campaign at IIT Madras played a strategic role in not only promoting the electoral event but also in instilling a sense of pride and belonging among the student body. This initiative served as a new approach to keeping the electoral process at the forefront of students' minds, with the merchandise acting as a constant, tangible reminder of their participation in a key democratic event on campus. More importantly, the impact of this merchandise extended beyond the immediate election period, serving as a lasting memento that would remind voters of their engagement with the democratic process even after the elections were over. Wearing these items became a symbol of the individual's contribution to campus democracy, fostering a culture of political engagement and community involvement among the students. This continuous visibility of election branding through merchandise ensured that the spirit of participation and the significance of having a voice in the student governance structure resonated with students long after the votes were cast, embedding the experience of the 2024 elections into the fabric of campus life.

Complaints and Grievance Redressal

SEC throughout the elections has been dealing with complaints that are often raised against the candidates and the General Student Body members who are not abiding by the Election Manual or the Model Code of Conduct. Following is the small gist of the complaints that SECC received during the Student General Elections 2024.

- Violation of the Campaigning Guidelines mentioned in the Model Code of Conduct was the most common grounds on which multiple complaints were filed with SEC. Incidents like candidates campaigning before or after the prescribed campaigning period (24th February, 10:00 AM to 10th March, 10:00 PM) either through online mode (social media campaigning through Instagram or WhatsApp) or offline mode (door-to-door campaigning or sharing manifestos) were communicated to SEC.
- There were concerns regarding the extension of the nomination period and the documents submission period. The SEC clarified that as per the suggestions from the Director, Dean (Students) and Election Officers SEC had decided to extend both the windows.
- One complaint against the candidate contesting for the post of Executive Council. The Candidate violated the Model Code of Conduct by printing the posters and distributing among the electorate, SEC took cognizance of the act and imposed sanctions like the Campaigning restriction and sending a public apology to the General Student Body, the candidate followed the directions from SEC and performed the needful.
- Couple of complaints were regarding the violation of the Social Media Policy of the Institute, after checking the validity of the complaints were transferred to the Dost Office (as per the policy guidelines) for the further actions.
- Couple of complaints were regarding the credibility of the credentials of the candidates mentioned in the Manifesto. SEC checked the validity of the complaints, consulted the various stakeholders pertaining to the credentials and provided clarifications to the complainants.
- Concerns were raised regarding the privacy of the students during the campaigning in hostels as well as campaigning using WhatsApp personal messages. SEC instructed candidates to take care of the privacy and consent of the students along with the compliance with the Campaigning Guidelines mentioned in the Model Code of Conduct.
- One complaint was received against the candidate regarding the circulation of documents that did not match with the documents submitted on the portal. SEC checked the validity of the complaint, and the candidate's candidature was canceled.
- SEC received complaints regarding the identical manifesto points and the similarity between the documents of some candidates. After taking cognizance of the complaint and after due investigation SECC found that the creation of the documents involved the usage

of the Institute machinery. After thorough investigation with the candidates and the students responsible, required actions were taken by SECC, sanctions were imposed on them. The campaigning ban of 48 hours was imposed on a total of 10 Candidates by SEC.

- The sanctions that were imposed by the SEC ranged from giving disciplinary warnings, public apology disqualifications. Most of the sanctions imposed by SEC were restorative in nature as the complainant was always BCC'd in the mail which mentioned the sanction that was directly imposed over the candidate who had violated the election guidelines.

SLC Speaker Elections

This section provides a comprehensive analysis and report on the Student Legislative Council (SLC) Speaker Elections 2024 conducted at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras), Chennai. It encapsulates the entire election process, from the nomination phase to the final announcement of results, under the auspices of the Student Election Commission, mandated and guided by the Dean (Students) Office.

Election Schedule and Procedural Compliance

The Commission formally initiated the election process through a public announcement on 18th March 2024, delineating the timeline and procedures to be followed. The schedule encompassed:

- Nomination Phase: Initiated on 19th March 2024, concluding on 21st March 2024, during which candidates submitted their nominations electronically.
- Withdrawal of Nominations: Deadline set for 22nd March 2024.
- Announcement of Valid Nominations: Released on 23rd March 2024.
- Submission Deadline for Complaints and Manifestos: Concluded on 24th March 2024.
- Campaign Period: Spanning from 25th March 2024 to 27th March 2024.
- Polling Day: Conducted on 27th March 2024, including a "Soapbox" event prior to the commencement of voting.

The electoral list and detailed regulations concerning eligibility and nominations were disseminated to prospective candidates, alongside guidelines for the electoral campaign and the conduct of elections.

Eligibility Criteria and Nomination Validation

In accordance with Annexure I, candidates were required to meet stringent academic and conduct standards, among other specified criteria. The nomination process necessitated the submission of detailed personal and academic information, alongside endorsements from proposers and seconders within the electoral body. The eligibility criteria, as detailed, were enforced without exception, ensuring candidates' compliance with the institutional standards set forth by IIT Madras.

Campaign Conduct and Electoral Integrity

The Commission expressly prohibited negative campaigning, emphasizing the need for a respectful, fair, and dignified electoral discourse. Candidates and their supporters were mandated to adhere to the highest standards of conduct, under penalty of disqualification or other disciplinary measures.

Polling Procedure and Voting Integrity

The Commission employed a blockchain-based voting portal to facilitate secure and transparent voting on 27th March 2024. Electors were required to authenticate their identity through institutional ID cards and were provided unique passcodes to access the voting system. Strict prohibitions on the use of electronic devices within the polling booth were enforced to preserve the integrity of the electoral process.

Conclusion and Acknowledgements

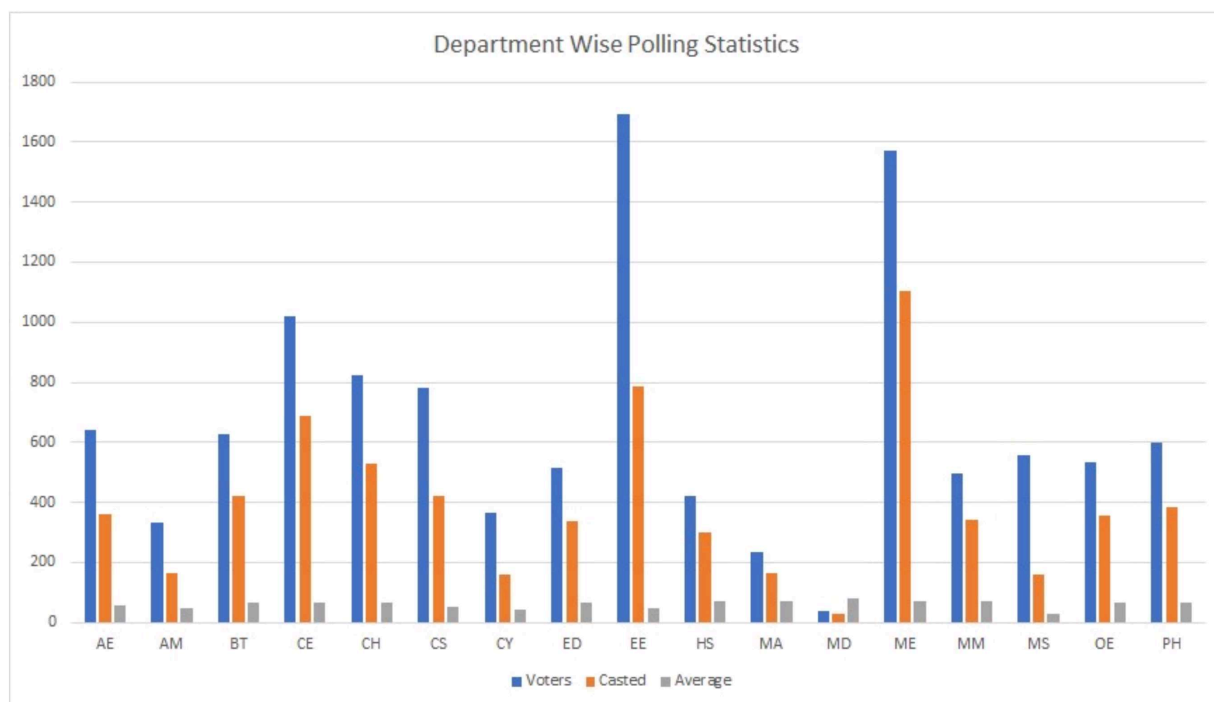
The SLC Speaker Elections of 2024 concluded with the adherence to the principles of fairness, transparency, and democratic integrity, reflective of the collective will of the student body and the regulatory framework established by IIT Madras.

Polling Statistics

Department Wise

Department	Voters	Casted	Average
AE	639	361	56.49
AM	334	164	49.1
BT	625	421	67.36
CE	1022	687	67.22
CH	823	529	64.28
CS	782	422	53.96
CY	366	160	43.72
ED	516	337	65.31
EE	1693	787	46.49
HS	421	302	71.73
MA	235	163	69.36
MD	38	31	81.58
ME	1573	1102	70.06
MM	497	342	68.81
MS	555	159	28.65

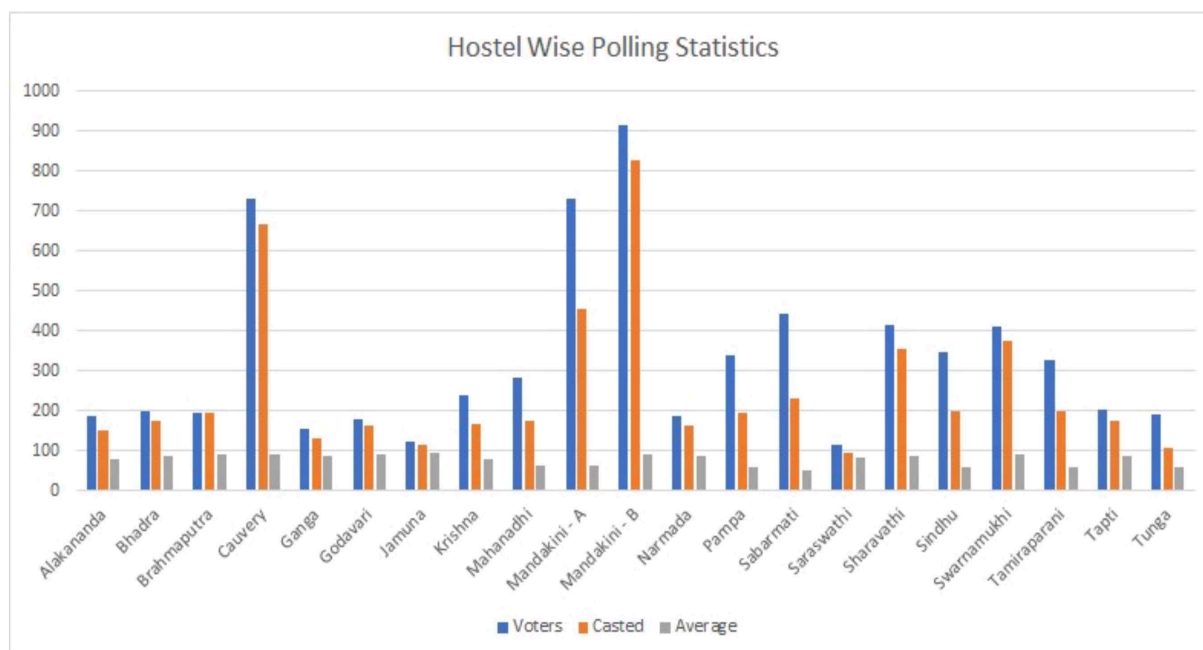
OE	535	356	66.54
PH	600	385	64.17



Hostel Wise

Hostel	Voters	Casted	Average
Alakananda	186	149	80.11
Bhadra	200	173	86.5
Brahmaputra	196	196	88.69
Cauvery	729	666	91.36
Ganga	153	130	84.97
Godavari	180	161	89.44
Jamuna	122	116	95.08

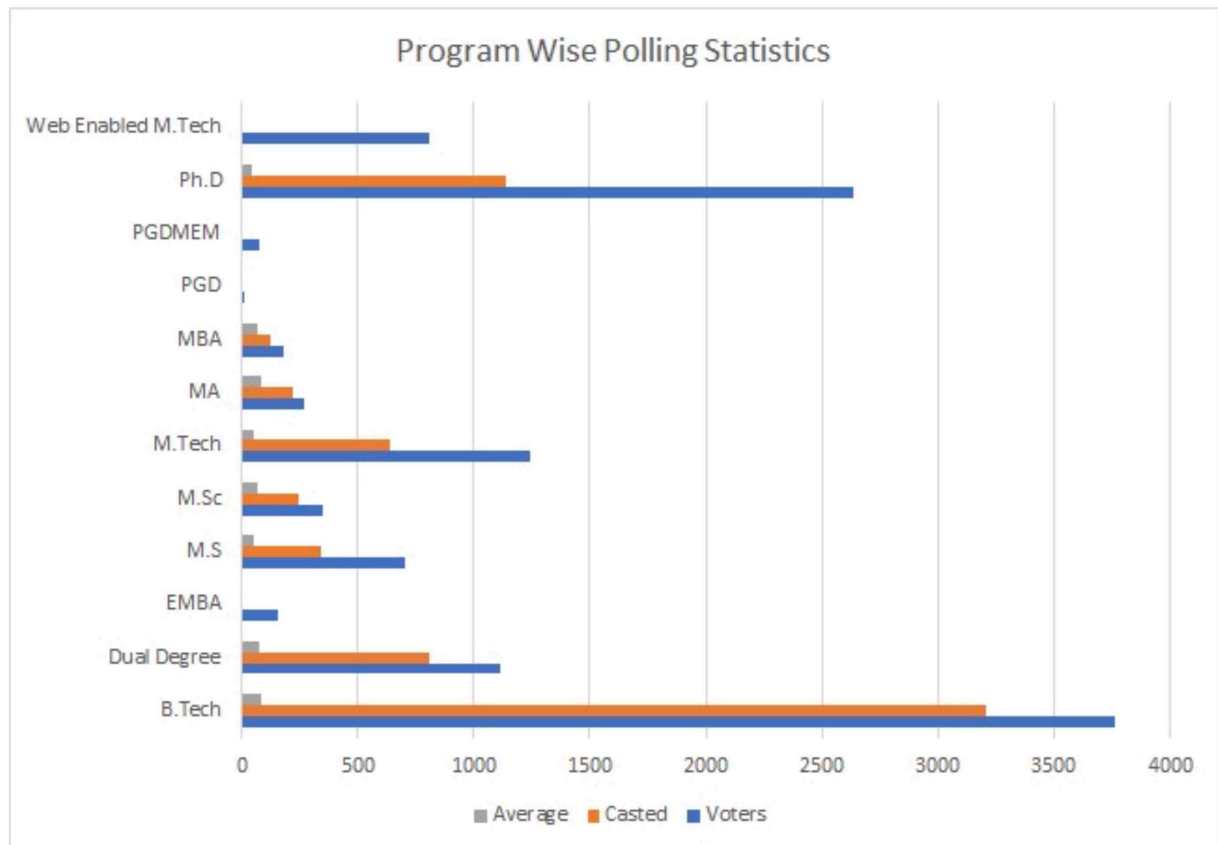
Krishna	239	168	76.71
Mahanadhi	283	173	61.13
Mandakini - A	731	454	62.11
Mandakini - B	913	825	90.36
Narmada	186	161	86.56
Pampa	337	195	57.86
Sabarmati	442	230	52.04
Saraswathi	114	94	82.46
Sharavathi	413	354	85.71
Sindhu	346	199	57.51
Swarnamukhi	410	374	91.22
Tamiraparani	327	197	60.24
Tapti	203	175	88.18
Tunga	189	107	56.61



Program Wise

Program	Voters	Casted	Average
B.Tech	3759	3206	85.29
Dual Degree	1112	808	72.66
EMBA	159	0	0
M.S	707	344	48.66
M.Sc	350	245	70
M.Tech	1241	636	51.25
MA	272	220	80.88
MBA	178	125	70.22

PGD	15	0	0
PGDMEM	80	0	0
Ph.D	2631	1139	43.29
Web Enabled M.Tech	808	0	0

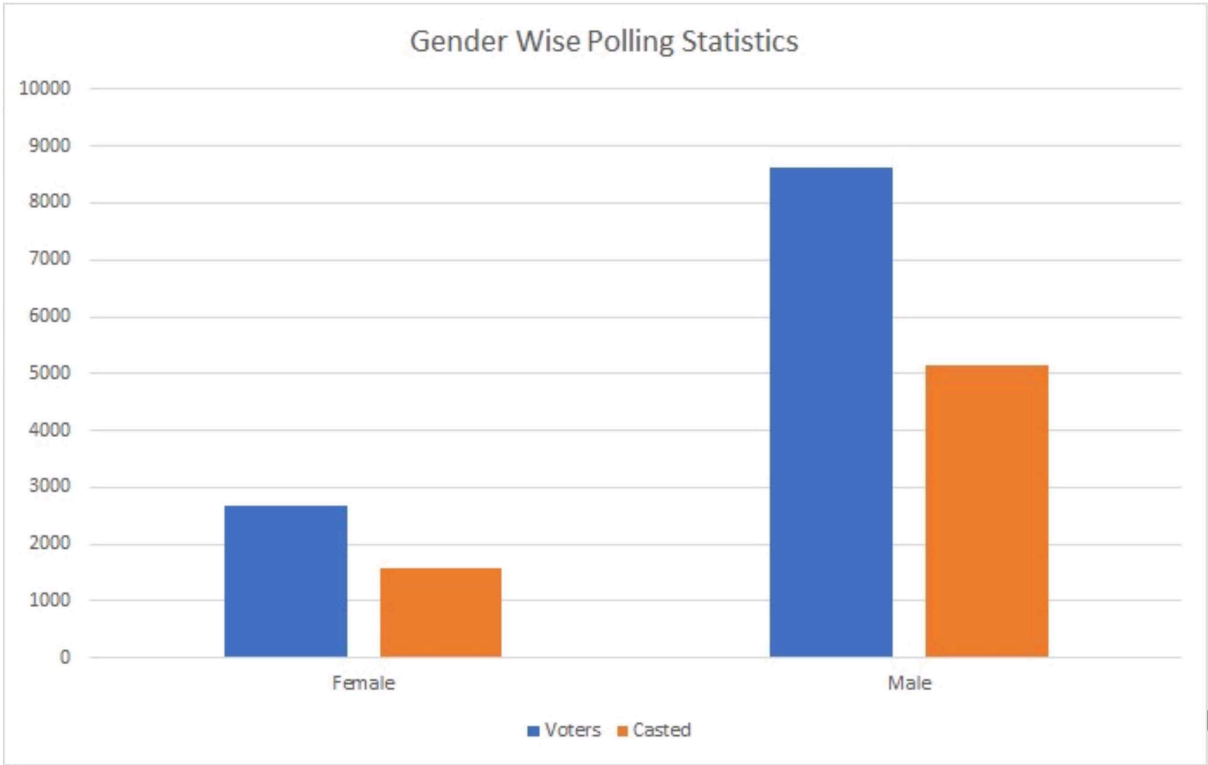


Mode Wise

Voting Mode	Voters	Casted	Average
Online	75	41	54.67
Offline	11237	6682	59.46

Gender Wise

Gender	Voters	Casted	Average
Female	2680	1567	58.47
Male	8632	5156	59.73



Recommendation

Feedback from the GSB

We received a total of 322 responses for the feedback form. The feedback received regarding the recent election operations at the institute provides valuable insights into various aspects of the process, including both positive aspects and areas for improvement. Here is an overview of the chief concerns of the General Student Body:

Positive Feedback

- **Efforts for Online Voting:** One of the standout positives was the effort to provide online voting options, which was appreciated by many. This move was seen as inclusive and forward-thinking, accommodating those who were not on campus.
- **Clarity in Voting Options:** The provision of clear options such as preference order, abstain, or reject before entering the booth was acknowledged positively. This helped voters understand their choices better.
- **Acknowledgement of Team Effort:** Several respondents praised the overall effort of the election organizing team, highlighting the initiative and hard work put in for achieving a better voter turnout.
- **Good Security Measures and Management:** Positive remarks were made regarding the security arrangements and the overall management of the election process.
- **Mobile Polling Booths:** The introduction of mobile polling booths was seen as a positive step, making it easier for some students to cast their votes conveniently.
- **Feedback Mechanism:** Some respondents appreciated the opportunity to provide feedback, indicating an openness to improvements in future elections.

Areas for Improvement

- **Technical Glitches:** Several complaints were made regarding technical issues, including website downtime, difficulty in casting votes, and lack of confirmation after voting. These issues need to be addressed to ensure a smooth voting experience.
- **Communication Overload:** Many respondents expressed frustration with the excessive number of emails received from the election organizing team. The sheer volume of emails was seen as overwhelming and led to email fatigue among recipients.
- **Queue Management:** Long queues at polling stations were a common complaint, with some students reporting missed classes due to delays. Improvements in queue management are necessary to prevent inconvenience to voters.
- **Accessibility:** Suggestions were made to improve accessibility for all students, including visually impaired individuals. Ensuring that the voting process is accessible to everyone is essential for inclusivity.
- **Venue Distribution:** Concerns were raised about the distribution of polling venues, with some students having to travel long distances to cast their votes. Suggestions were made to have polling booths in each department to increase accessibility.
- **Incentives and Amenities:** Many respondents highlighted the lack of incentives such as snacks or refreshments at the polling booths. Providing small incentives could potentially increase voter turnout.
- **Clarity on Voting Process:** Some voters expressed confusion about the voting process, particularly regarding the significance of certain options such as abstain and reject. Clearer communication about how votes are counted is necessary to avoid confusion.
- **Stamping Process:** Criticisms were made about the stamping process, with concerns about the quality of ink and its spread. Alternative methods may need to be considered for future elections.
- **Feedback Quality:** While feedback is essential, some comments were inappropriate or unrelated to the election process. Ensuring that feedback channels are used constructively is important for meaningful improvements.

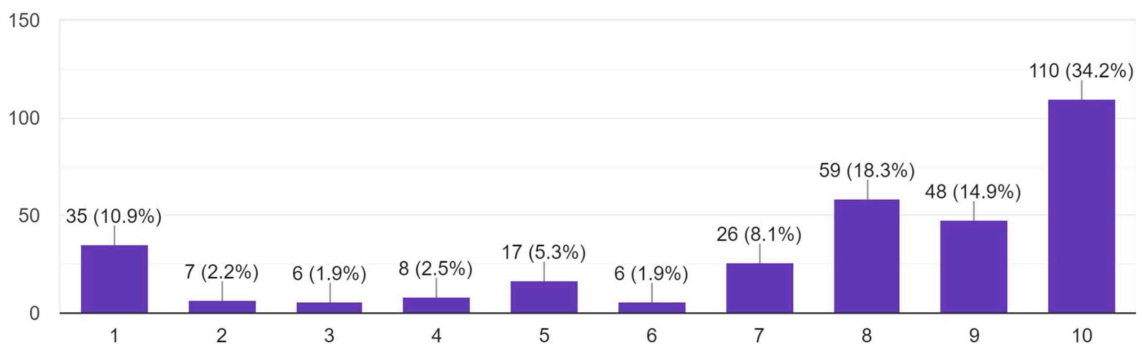
The feedback received provides valuable insights into the strengths and weaknesses of the recent election operations. Addressing technical issues, improving communication strategies, enhancing queue management, ensuring accessibility, and considering incentives are key areas for improvement. Overall, while there were commendable aspects of the election process, there is room for enhancement to ensure a smoother and more inclusive experience for all voters in future elections.

Feedback Statistics

For the following feedback statistics, the scale is from 1 to 10.

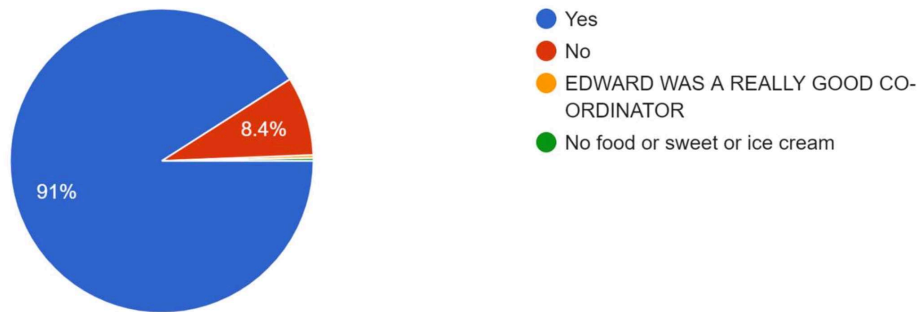
How would you rate your overall experience of SGE 24 election?

322 responses



Did you find the voting process easy and straightforward?

322 responses



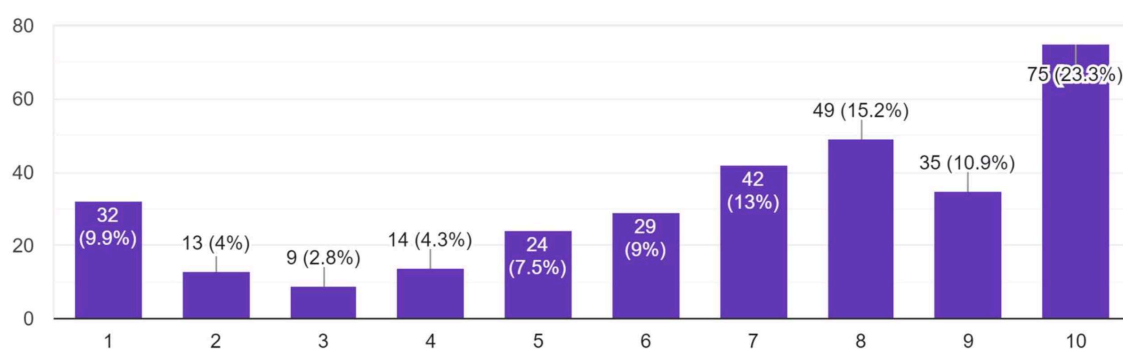
Were the polling stations well-organized and accessible? (Single polling station)

322 responses



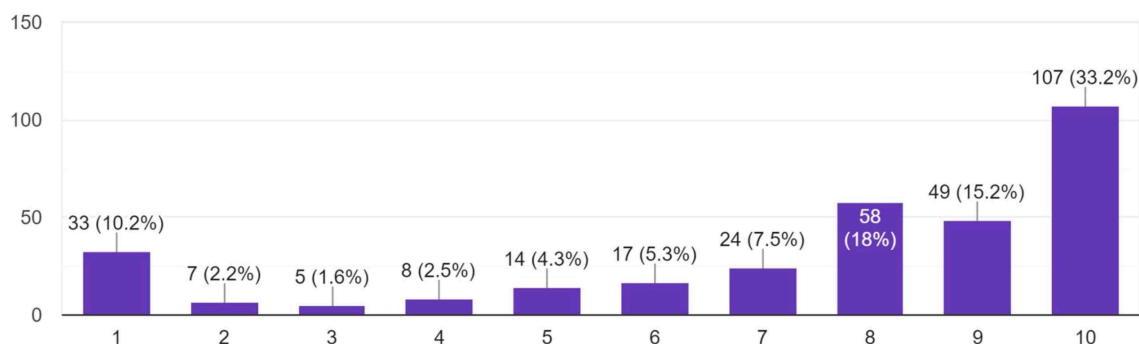
How well-informed were you about the candidates and their platforms?

322 responses



How effective was the communication regarding election dates, procedures, and candidate information?

322 responses



Conclusion

The report concludes with a summary of key points and findings, emphasizing their significance. The broader significance of the student election within the academic institution and its impact on the student experience are highlighted. SEC has taken the required measures to fill the vacant posts as per Annexure IV of the Election Manual 2024.

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of individuals or organizations that contributed to the report as well as to the Students' General Election 2024 has been mentioned below.

1. Dr. Sudakar Chandran. - Chief Election Officer
2. Dr. M. Jeganmohan - Deputy Election Officer
3. Dr. M. Anbarasu- SECC Faculty Advisor
4. Dr. Sathyanarayana N. Gummadi - DoSt
5. Dr. JM Mallikarjuna - CCW Chairman
6. Dr. Sanyasiraju VVS Yedida - CCW Vice Chairman
7. Mr. Johnkenedy - CCW Operations Head
8. Hostel Managers
9. Mr. Sushant Jaswal - SEC Chief Commissioner
10. Ms. Meenakshi Anoop - SEC Commissioner
11. Ms. Tejaswini Jagtap - SEC Commissioner
12. Heads of Secretariat
 - Mr. Kinshuk Kandpal - Events Head
 - Mr. Utkarsh Upadhyay - Constitutional Monitoring & Operations Head
 - Ms. Pooja Chandra - Design Head
13. SEC Coordinators
 - Mr. Souvik, Mr. Karthik, Mr. Nithin, Mr. Pranay, Mr. Kaushik.
14. Election Managers

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Vansh	ME23B210
Salihundam Srinivas Rahul	BS21B029
P Vamshidar Reddy	CH22B017
Niyas	EE20B094
Akade Tejas	MD23B002
Ram Bhatta	EE22B047
Biranchi	BS21B011
Sasank Moulidhar	NA22B008
B Srikanth	NA22B030
Partheeban Natesh	CE23M069

Samal Partha Amarendra	HS22H049
Prathik	ME22B025
Soumajit Paul	HS22H073
P Vamshidar Reddy	CH22B017
Anurag	OE22S024
Akash	MS23A008
Sohan R	AE22M016
Chenni Valavan	HS22H019

Prithish Kumar M	BE22B009
Ria Hansda	CH22B091
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Alige Dhanraj	MD23B003
Nawin Pragasaran E	ED23B069
Hariharan Devarajan	MD23B011
Sai Samarth	NA23B067
Prithviraj	EP23B017
Naveen J	NA23B060
M.Rahul	ME23B145
Vishnu Vardhan Reddy	CH22B076
Daniel Calvin	ME23B104
Fatema	NA22B036
GSVS Tejas	ME22B040
Sindhu	NA22B034
Juthika Beena Raju	NA22B013
Jai Sakthivelan	ME22B046
Dhanush	AE23B024
Akshit	MM23B009

Srishti kumari	NA22B073
V.V.S.Lasya Priya	CH22B015

Manasvi Rangari	ME23B140
Anushka	NA23B045
Asritha	NA23B062
Juthika Beena Raju	NA22B013
Sharanya	EE23B072
Anamika Anand	MD23B004
R Pranay Reddy	CH22B018
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Himanshu	HS21H026

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Jujhar Singh	CE22B061
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Afzal	HS23H035
Ahlawat	HS20H059
Akshat Porwal	NA22B025
Anjhana	ME23B013
Arjun Balamurali	CE20B015

Ashwajit Tayade	CH23B008
Atharva Ghodke	CH22B035
Avugoddu Sree Nishank	ME21B038
B Sumanth	ME23B101
Bharath	MD23B006
Chandra kumar chandrakar	ME20S025
Chhatrapal Pal	CE23M104
DHISANTH K S	MM23B043
Eslavath Anjali	CH23B081
Gnanadeep	NA21B076
GOVIND KUMAR	HS23H005
Gowthami	ME23B165
Greeshma Reddy	ME23B131
Kavya	NA23B057
KISHOR	MM23B046
Mrityunjay Bharti	CE22D021
NARESH KUMAR MISHRA	MD23B017
Paras garg	MM23B056
Raghavendra Naidu Gudivada	ME21B154
Rahul Kumar	ED22B079
Ravi Khiyani	ME23M095
Ritesh S	NA23B028

ROHITH VISHVA	MM23B017
RYAN LOBO	CE22B098
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Sai Likhith M	CH23B064
Sandeep	ME21B176
Sandeep Jai	ME21B177
Sedwin T C	ME23M102
shibli	HS20H029
Shubham Upadhyay	MS23A081
Sreerag PN	ME23B206
Vaibhav Awasthi	HS20H045
VAIBHAV YADAV	AE23B032
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