



**National Voters Day celebrated in Budgam with enthusiasm fervor.  
DC hands over EPICs among new voters, highlights significance of NVD**

Budgam, 25 January, 2017 like other parts of the country, the National Voters Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm & fervor in District Budgam. The main function was held at the Sheikh-UI-Alam Hall Budgam which was chaired by the District Election Officer/Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Mir Altaf Ahmad.

Speaking on the occasion, the DEO/DC while reviewing the progress on registration of new eligible voters in various constituencies of the District, also highlighted the significance & objective of the “National Voters Day”. He said the occasion provides an opportunity to reach out to the new young voters for enrolment in electoral rolls so that they are able to take part in the Democratic process by exercising their franchise. He enjoyed upon all the concerned officers & field agencies to ensure that every new voter who has attain the age of 18 years get enroll in the electoral rolls each year in the month of January. He said this goal can be achieved by taking up a vigorous exercise to identify all eligible voters attaining the age of 18 years as on January one every year. He said “we have to ensure that not only new eligible voters are registered in voter lists but they are also handed over Electoral Photo Identity Cards (EPICs) instantly. “ This imitative will give the youth a sense of empowerment, pride & also inspire them to exercise their franchise.

It was informed at the function that **14515** new eligible voters have been enrolled in five Assembly Constituencies of District Budgam viz 26-Chadoora, 27-Budgam, 28-Beerwah, 29-Khansahib & 30-Chrarisharief increasing the total no. of Electoral Roll from 450129 Draft Roll 2016 to 456276 as per final Electoral Roll on 01-01-2017 . These include 238439 male voters & 217837 female voters. “Claims of 5718 new eligible male voters & 8797 new eligible female voters were admitted in the final electoral rolls as on 01-01-2017, it was also informed.

Mir Altaf Ahmad asked the Booth Level Officer to undertake vigorous door to door campaign to ensure all new eligible voters get enlisted every year in the electoral rolls besides deleting expired voters, He also asked the officers of the education department to organize competitions in schools to aware people especially youth about the importance of voter enrolment in the democratic process as it enables youth to exercise their franchise. On this occasion DEO/DC Budgam distributed EPICs among the new eligible voters.

Among other, ACR Budgam Ab Hameed Zarger, Chief Education Officer Budgam were also present at the function.