National Voters Day

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance*

Why in News?

Recently, the 16th National Voters' Day (NVD) was celebrated, highlighting voter participation and democratic values across India.

- **Aim** - It celebrates democracy and empowers every citizen to take part in the electoral process.
- It is observed on ***January 25th each year.***
- **Commemoration –** The day marks the establishment of the ***Election Commission of India (ECI) in 1950, under Article 324*** of the Indian Constitution.
- **Launched in –** 2011.
- **Purpose –** To honour voters, encourage youth participation, strengthen democratic values, and promote universal adult suffrage.
- **Key Highlights 2026 –**
  - **Theme –** The Election Commission of India (ECI) has adopted "My India, My Vote" as the theme for 2026.
  - **Tagline –** *Citizen at the Heart of Indian Democracy.*
  - **Venue –** Held in New Delhi.
  - **Event –** The President gave Electors' Photo Identity Cards (EPIC) to a group of newly enrolled young voters.
  - Awards given for excellence in electoral management.
  - Events held nationwide at polling booths, district, and State levels.
- **Activities –**Election Commission of India (ECI) organised *National Electoral Awards*, which are presented on NVD at the National and State levels.
- **Best Election District Awards (2026)** – It is conferred for excellence in
  - Innovative voter awareness initiatives
  - Effective use of technology in elections
  - Training and capacity building of officials
  - Election management and logistics

    - Implementation of Model Code of Conduct
    - Media-led voter education campaigns
- **Significance –** National Voters' Day promotes voter participation and awareness, strengthening the foundation of democracy.
- It *encourages enrolment—especially of young voters*—and helps the ECI fulfil its constitutional mandate.

References

1. PIB | National Voters' Day 2026
2. TH | National Voters Day

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