

## ITIHAAS SUMMER HERITAGE PROGRAMME AT THE ELECTION MUSEUM 2019

It was rightly put forth by John F. Kennedy that the ignorance of even one voter in a democracy, impairs the security of all. With the same thought process, **ITIHAAS**, in collaboration with the **Election Museum in Delhi**, started the Election Museum Summer Program to understand the heritage of elections in India as well as to inculcate the spirit of being informed voters and understanding their responsibilities as a citizen.

Conducting the third wave of this Programme from 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019, a number of students from 18 different schools were selected from grades 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> to experience and explore the legacy of Elections and Democracy in India.

The internship started with the students being oriented about this **5 day program**, being introduced to their Sherpas, who guide them through the various activities that the programme includes to ensure quality learning.

Students worked at 2 levels... individually and as group members. As a group they formed a political party to understand the dynamics of Indian politics in the context of a democracy. As an individual they worked on contemporary political leaders, from all across the country to understand the electoral wins and failures of the 2019 Lok Sabha Elections.



**Learning to Campaign – At Election Museum**

The race to form the government was intense and exciting, as the students named their party, created and explained their symbol, developed a manifesto, campaigned, addressed the masses and finally voted to form a coalition government which on the last day, passed a bill with a sweeping 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority of the house.

What made these activities even more interesting and informative were the guest speakers, from various fields who interacted with the students on the importance of various aspects of the election process, be it the Role of the Booth Workers, Responsibility of the Media, Job of the Election Commission etc.

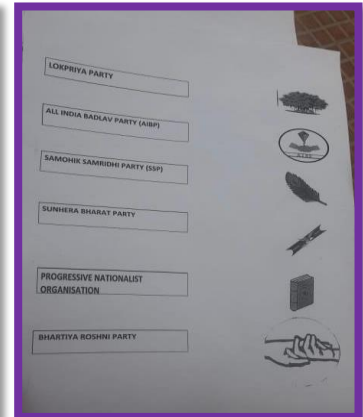


Dr. Ranbir Singh, CEO Election Museum, Ms Mitali Mukherjee a journalist from Editorji and Shri Chiranjit Singh, Election Officer SVEEP were a few of the guest speakers.

The students also got an opportunity to see the ITIHAAS copy of the original Constitution. On this, the mock P.M & her party took oath.



Voter Ink on her finger



Student Party Symbols



ITIHAAS is proud to say, that this program directs the students towards informed citizenship and fosters the importance of debates and discussions in any democracy. Team work and individual growth are the two basic fundamentals on which all the activities were based.



Certification