

REPORT

Report of the Committee consisting of the following regarding Students election in Universities and Colleges in the State of Haryana.

Members:

1. Prof. Tankeshwar Kumar, Vice- Chancellor GJUST, Hisar
2. Prof. K.C. Sharma, Vice –Chancellor, Kurukshetra University, Kurukeshtra
3. Prof. B.K. Punia, Vice- Chancellor, M.D.U. Rohtak
4. Dr. Madan Lal, Registrar, IGU Rewari

Following observations/Recommendations are made:

1. The committee has gone through Lyngdoh Committee's report and constitutions of students 'council of other universities including Panjab University and Delhi University. The committee observed that the neighboring States like Punjab and Uttar Pradesh are not holding any students' elections.
2. The committee has gone through the representation from various quarters and kept sentiment of general public as well as reasons for stopping the elections in the state about 22 years back. It is known that many casualties took place during elections of students.
3. The committee is of the view that students' participation in academic-administration is important.
4. The committee also observed that Universities need to incorporate recommendation of the Committee/Government through its Executive Councils.
5. No elections should be held without clearance from the police and district deputy commissioner, for maintaining Law and order in the State.
6. Following recommendations of Lyngdoh Committee, the committee recommends introduction of elections in Universities and colleges in phase manner. It could take two-three years to evolve the system of elections to the full satisfaction of the students and administration.
7. Teachers and non-teacher employees should not involve directly or indirectly into student's elections resulting in favouring or disfavouring any candidate.

The committee proposes followings for the students' union election in Universities and affiliated Colleges which were opened in or before the academic session 2016-17:

I. Disassociation of Student Elections and Student Representation from Political Parties.

During the period of the elections no person, who is not a student on the rolls of the college/university, shall be permitted to take part in the election process in any capacity. Any person, candidate, or member of the student organization, or a member of a registered Political party, violating this rule shall be subject to disciplinary proceedings, in addition to the candidature, as the case may be, being revoked.

II. Eligibility Criteria for Candidates

1. Under graduate students between the ages of 17 and 22 may contest elections. This age range may be appropriately relaxed by one year in the case of professional courses, where courses often range between 4 to 5 years.
2. For Post Graduate Students the maximum age limit to legitimately contest an election would be 25 years.
3. The candidate should have scored atleast passing marks in all papers of previous year for last result declared.
4. The candidate should in no event have any academic arrears in the year of contesting the election.
5. Candidates with gap year(s) be not allowed to participate.
6. The candidate should have attained the minimum percentage of attendance as prescribed by the university or 75% attendance, whichever is higher in its previous year or in the same year of the election for the students of first year in the campus.
7. The candidate shall have one opportunity to contest for the post of office bearer, and two opportunities to contest for the post of an executive member.
8. The candidate shall not have a previous criminal record, that is to say he should not have been tried and/or convicted of any criminal offence or misdemeanour. The candidate shall also not have been subject to any disciplinary action by the University authorities.
9. The candidate must be a regular, full time student of the university and should not be a distance/proximate education student. That is to say that all eligible candidates must be enrolled in a full time course, the course duration being at least one year.

Note: For this purpose, 'student' would mean a whole-time student in any teaching department including M.Phil., LL.M., M.Pharm., M.Tech. and the like but shall not include research students of Ph. D, doing short term courses and diplomas and in-service Teachers

doing M.Phil./Ph.D or a student who as per the record of the department is an employee of Government or Semi Government Organization, Public or Private Sectors undertaking.

III. Election Related Expenditure and Financial Accountability:

1. The maximum permitted expenditure per candidate shall be Rs. 5000/-
2. Each candidate shall, within two weeks of the declaration of the result, submit complete and certified accounts (to be certified by the candidate) to the university authorities. The university shall publish such certified accounts within 2 days of submission of such accounts, through a suitable medium so that any member of the student body may freely examine the same.
3. The election of the candidate will be nullified in the event of any noncompliance or in the event of any excessive expenditure.
4. With the view to prevent the inflow of funds from political parties into the student election process, the candidates are specially barred from utilizing funds from any sources other than voluntary contributions but within maximum limit of Rs. 5000/.

IV. Code of Conduct for Candidates and Elections Administrators:

1. No candidate shall indulge in, nor shall abet, any activity, which may aggravate existing differences or create mutual hatred or cause tension between different castes and communities, religions or linguistic, or between any group(s) of students.
2. Criticism of other candidates, when made, shall be confined to their policies and programs, past record and work. Candidates shall refrain from criticism of all aspects of private life, not connected with the public activities of the other candidates or supporters of such other candidates. Criticism of other candidates, or their supporters based on unverified allegations or distortion shall be avoided.
3. There shall be no appeal to caste or communal feelings for securing votes. Places of worship, within or outside the campus shall not be used for election propaganda. No political face can be used for canvassing purpose or other purpose during the election.
4. All candidates shall be prohibited from indulging or abetting in activities which are considered to be "corrupt practices" and offences, such as bribing of voters, intimidation of voters, impersonation of voters, canvassing or the use of propaganda beyond prescribed limit, and holding public meetings.
5. No candidate will be allowed transport and conveyance with or without their banner on it for the purpose of canvassing and for bringing of voters to and from.
6. No candidate shall be permitted to make use of printed posters, printed pamphlets or any other printed material for the purpose of canvassing.

Candidates may only utilize hand-made posters for the purpose of canvassing, provided that such hand-made posters are procured within the expenditure limit set out herein above.

7. Candidates may only utilize hand-made posters at certain places in the campus, which shall be notified in advance by the election commission/ university authority.
8. No candidate will utilize name of any district, state or national level students' organizations/Union/Parishad on the poster or on banner or on the anything which could identify him or her as a candidate of that organization.
9. No candidate shall be permitted to carry out processions, or public meetings, or in any way canvass or distribute propaganda outside the university campus/college campus.
10. No candidate shall, nor shall his/her supporters, deface or cause any destruction of any property of the university/college campus, for any purpose whatsoever, without the prior written permission of the college/university authorities. All candidates shall be held jointly and severally liable for any destruction/defacing of any university/college property.
11. During the election period the candidates may hold one procession and/or public meeting, provided that such procession and/or public meeting do not, in any manner, disturb the classes and other academic and co-curricular activities of the college/university. Further, such procession/public meeting may not be held without the prior written permission of the authority.
12. The use of loudspeakers, vehicles and animals for the purpose of canvassing shall be prohibited.
13. On the day of polling, student organizations and candidates shall:
 - a. co-operate with the officers on election duty to ensure peaceful and orderly polling and complete freedom to the voters to exercise their franchise without being subjected to any annoyance or obstruction;
 - b. not serve or distribute any eatables, or other solid and liquid consumables, except water on polling day;
 - c. not hand out any propaganda on the polling day.
14. Excepting the voters, no one without a valid pass/letters of the authority from the election commission or from the college/university authorities shall enter the polling booths.
15. The election commission/college/university authorities shall appoint impartial observers. In the case of deemed universities and self-financed institutions, government servants may be appointed as observers. If the candidates have any specific complaint or problem regarding the conduct of the elections they may bring the same to the notice of the observer. Observers shall also be appointed to oversee the process of nomination of students in institutions that are following the nomination model of student representation.
16. All candidates shall be jointly responsible for ensuring the cleaning up of the polling area within 48 hours of the conclusion of polling.

17. Any contravention of any of the above recommendations may make the candidate liable to be stripped of his candidature or his elected post, as the case may be. The election commission/ college/ university authorities may also take appropriate disciplinary action against such a violator.
18. In addition to the above-mentioned code of conduct, it is also recommended that certain provisions of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (Section 153-A and Chapter IX-A "Offences Relating to Elections"), may also be made applicable to student elections.

V. Maintaining Law and Order on the Campus during the Election Process:

Any instance of acute lawlessness or the commission of a criminal offence shall be reported to the police by the university/college authorities as soon as possible, but not later than 6 hours after the alleged commission of the offence. Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police will be responsible for maintenance of law and order in the campus.

VI. Council:

1. Functions

- To promote healthy corporate life on the Campus.
- To ensure maintenance of proper academic atmosphere and orderliness on the University Campus.
- To assist in organizing various cultural and sports functions

2. **Name :** The organization(s) shall be called "Name of University/College :CAMPUS GENERAL STUDENTS' COUNCIL" and Name of University/college : CAMPUS EXECUTIVE STUDENTS' COUNCIL

3. Membership :

- a. Enrolment of students in departments/class shall be as on 31st August or the date to be approved by the Vice-Chancellor prior to the election date.
- b. The **General Students Council** shall consist of Four Office Bearers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Joint Secretary, five executive members, all class representatives and five nominated members.
- c. Nomination of the five members can be made by head of institution from the best sport person(s), NSS worker, NCC, Cultural performer or any other outstanding performer.
- d. The election of the office bearers and five executive members shall be held simultaneously on a date to be fixed by the Dean Student Welfare with the consent of Vice-Chancellor and local Police.
- e. Office bearers and five executive members shall be elected by the Class representatives on the same date of election/Nomination of class representatives. **The office bearers and the executive members**

should be amongst the CR's. The exact date of the election shall be fixed by the Dean Student Welfare/Principal. As far as possible, all these elections would ordinarily be completed by the middle of September.

- f. In case no nomination papers from a department are received for CR or all the nomination papers received are rejected, the student with maximum marks/rank in its previously declared result for ongoing students or with top rank in the process of admission for first year student may be recommended by head of department to Dean Student Welfare as Class Representative.
- g. In case no nomination papers from CR's are received for any Office bearer(s) or all the nomination papers received are rejected, the CRs may elect among themselves the office bearer following the procedure laid for executive members for which returning officer will seek nominations and elections will be held along with the executive council.
- h. **There will be 01 CR from each class.**
- i. The term of the Students' Council is from the date of election to the 30th of April.

4. **The Executive Students Council:** The Executive Students Council shall consist of four office bearers and five members elected by the Class Representatives from among themselves. The Executive Committee shall be responsible to the General Council

The Executive Committee shall consist of:

- a. One President
- b. One Vice-President
- c. One Secretary
- d. One Joint Secretary
- e. Five other members
- f. One SC representative by way of nomination by DSW/ College Principal or by draw of amongst (a) to (e) and this is to be notified before the election process.
- g. For co-ed institutions one post amongst (a) to (d) be reserved for girl student representative. This be done by way of draw of lottery every year before calling nomination and **this is to be notified before the election process.**

5. **Roles of Office Bearers**

a. President

The President of the University Students' Council shall be responsible to the students.

b. Vice-President

He will perform all the duties of the President in the latter's absence. He will automatically become Officiating President if the President resigns or is unable to discharge his duties for the rest of the term.

c. Secretary

The Secretary of the University Students' Council will be responsible for executing decisions of Council.

d. Joint Secretary:

He will perform all the duties of the Secretary in the latter's absence. He will automatically become the Officiating Secretary if the Secretary resigns or is unable to discharge his duties for the rest of the term.

6. **Assignments of Executive members:** The head of the institution before announcing general elections may assign different faculties to five vacancies of executive member so that representation made to council is uniformly distributed over different subjects. The faculties are to be defined by DSW prior to the elections

7. **Term of Office for Office Bearers:**

The Office Bearers shall cease to hold office if:

- a. He/she resigns by addressing his resignation to the Dean Student Welfare/Principal. He shall cease to hold office from the date his resignation is accepted by the Dean Student Welfare/Principal.
- b. He/she ceases to be a student of the University on account of non-payment of fee or any other reason.
- c. He/she is held to be guilty of gross misconduct by the University.
- d. He/she ceases to be a student.

VII. Election bye-laws of the State Universities / Colleges Campus Students' Council:

1. Election to the Students' Council in various departments/ colleges will be held generally in the month of September on a date and time as may be fixed by the Dean Student Welfare and to be notified to the affiliated colleges. He may, if contingencies so warrant, alter the date/ schedule of the election.
2. The entire process of elections, commencing from the date of filing of nomination papers to the date of declaration of results, including the campaign period, shall not exceed 3 days.
3. The Dean Student Welfare shall notify the date of election to each department/ college for the information of the students at least three days before the date fixed for the election.
4. (a) The Head of the Department// College Principal shall be the Returning Officer for the election of Class Representatives. However, he shall have the authority to appoint one or more members of his teaching staff as Polling Officer(s).
(b) The Dean Student Welfare/ College Principal shall be the Returning Officer for the election of the Executive Committee. He shall have the authority to appoint one or more Polling Officer(s) to assist him in the conduct of election.
5. The election shall be by simple majority vote.

VIII. Election of Class Representatives:

1. The Head of the Department/ College Principal shall by affixing a notice on the Notice Board of the Department at least 2 days before the date of election, invite nominations for the election of Class Representative(s), and office bearers along with the consent and declaration of each candidate on the prescribed form, so as to reach him by the time fixed by the Dean Student Welfare// College Principal at least one day before the date of election.

Immediately after the closing time for the receipt of nominations, the Head of the Department/ College Principal shall notify the list of persons whose nomination papers have been received by him by affixing it on the Notice Board of his Department/ College Principal.

2. Thereafter, objection(s), if any, regarding the eligibility of candidate(s) shall be made, in writing, to the Head of the Department/ College Principal within the time limit notified by the Dean Student Welfare for the purpose.
3. The scrutiny of nomination papers will start on the date and time fixed by the Dean Student Welfare / College Principal for the purpose. Any objection(s) duly received by the Head of Department/ College Principal shall be disposed of during scrutiny. The candidate(s) must produce original documents (Degree/Diploma/Matriculation or Higher Secondary Certificate/and other relevant papers required in relation to eligibility) at the time of scrutiny. Nomination papers not supported by original documents shall be treated as invalid. The decision of the Returning Officer shall be final.
4. Each Head of the Department/ College Principal shall, after personal verification and scrutiny of original degree/diploma/other documents, certify on prescribed form about the eligibility of the candidate(s). Immediately after the scrutiny, a list of the names of candidates whose nomination papers have been found valid shall be notified by the Head of the Department / College Principal by affixing it on the Notice Board of the department.
5. A candidate may withdraw his name from the contest by personally delivering the prescribed form of withdrawal duly filled in and signed, so as to reach the Returning Officer by the date and time fixed by the Dean Student Welfare/ College Principal. The Returning Officer shall, immediately thereafter, notify the withdrawals if any.
6. The election in each department / colleges shall take place on the date and time fixed by the Dean Student Welfare. If there is a tie among the candidates for the election of Class Representative(s), or office bearers the matter shall be decided by the draw of lots by the Returning Officer.
7. In all the departments, the election of Class Representative(s) shall be direct.
8. The results of the election of the Class Representatives shall be communicated on the prescribed form by all the Heads of the Departments/ College Principal

to the Dean Student Welfare by the date and time fixed by the Dean Student Welfare.

9. Immediately after the election the class representative be taken to DSW / College Principal office/ venue of voting for office bearers/executive members by the head of department's representatives under protection.

IX. Election of the office bearers and Executive Committee of the Students' Council

1. No voter (Class representatives) shall be allowed to leave the Voting Hall after he/she has been handed over to DSW/ College Principal as class representative.
2. The Dean Student Welfare/ College Principal shall notify by affixing a notice on the Notice Board of his office the date and time for the receipt of nomination papers. The date of the election of office bearers be the same as the date of election of Class representatives.

Immediately after the election of all class representatives on the aforesaid date, the Dean Student Welfare/ College Principal shall seek nomination papers for various offices of the office bearers and Executive Committee. Dean Student Welfare/ College Principal will notify the nominations which have been duly received by him by affixing a notice on the Notice Board of his office/venue of election. .

3. Objection(s), if any, against the candidature(s) of a person(s), but not pertaining to the eligibility conditions, shall be made, in writing, by the Class Representative(s) to the Dean Student Welfare/ College Principal on the timing fixed for the receipt of nomination papers and by the time as may be notified by the Dean Student Welfare/ College Principal. These objections will be disposed of by the Dean Student Welfare/ College Principal at the time of scrutiny.
4. The scrutiny of the nomination papers will start at the time fixed for the purpose by the Dean Student Welfare/ College Principal, on time notified by the Dean Student Welfare/ College Principal.
5. Immediately after the scrutiny, the list of the names of persons whose nomination papers have been found valid, shall be notified by the Dean Student Welfare/ College Principal by affixing a notice on the Notice Board of his office/Venue of election.
6. A candidate may withdraw his name from the contest by personally delivering the prescribed form of withdrawal duly filled in and signed, so as to reach the Returning Officer by the time fixed by the Dean Student Welfare/ College Principal. The Returning Officer shall, immediately thereafter, notify the withdrawals, if any.
7. Election to the Office bearers (if any) and Executive Committee shall be held on the date and time fixed by the Dean Student Welfare.
8. Objection(s), if any, regarding the conduct of elections to the Executive Committee will be disposed of by the Returning Officer on the spot.

9. The counting of votes will start immediately after the voters have cast their votes.
10. The Returning Officer shall thereafter announce the results. If there is a tie among the candidates for the election of office bearers or member(s) of the Executive Committee, the matter shall be decided by draw of lots by the Returning Officer.

X. Law and Order:

University will announce elections by taking written permission from the Superintendent of Police and/or deputy commissioner who will be responsible for maintaining law and order in association with university administration.

Recommendations for the year 2018-19

The above recommendations can be considered by the Government which after its approval need to be adopted by Executive council of the University in the year 2018. Since the universities are going for elections after 22 years there is no or little mechanism/experience already existing. It is recommended, as per Lyngdoh committee report, that elections be held in the year 2018-19 for Class representatives and council be made from among the class representatives following the procedure laid above. It is also recommended that elections be held on same date in the whole of the state. After successful 2018 elections and making any other modification required, direct elections of Office bearers may be held 2019 after review.