

## Insights into the DUTA Elections 2019

### Combination of vitality and competition for betterment

Neelima

The infamous Delhi university teacher's Association elections were held near the iconic faculty of arts building, North campus of the Delhi University on 29th August 2019 for the posts of the president and the members of the Executive Committee. Conducted in every two years, these elections entail the procedure for the selection of teachers that will represent the issues and grievances of the entire teachers community in the University of Delhi.

The final list of shortlisted candidates came on 23 August and the candidates who got into the rolls for the post of president were left-winger Ra-

ajib Ray of National Democratic Teachers' Front of Kirori Mal college and right-winger A.K.Bhagi of Democratic Teachers' Front of Dyal Singh College along with 20 others for the member executive post.

A team of reporters from Bharti college, department of journalism went at the election venue to capture the bustle, amidst the humid and cry, Present working principal of Gargi College, Promila Kumar said, "we are with DUTA, we are for DUTA and we are DUTA" who was pleased with the massive 82.36 percent voters turn up for voting this year. While talking to more faculties, we came

up with the dominating primary issues of the election - the uncertainty of the permanency of Ad-hoc teachers, demands against the government's move of assigning an autonomous status to colleges, and many such vital issues.

It was hours after the voting has seized that Rajib Ray of National Democratic Teachers' Front was nominated at the president post of DUTA. Ray polled 3,750 votes while Bhagi secured 3,481 votes. The left leaning party emerged victorious by a margin of 269 votes and successfully secured a second term in the Delhi University Teachers' Association.

### Bharati college teacher becomes member of Executive Council

Khushboo and Tanu

For the university, it's another council of the Delhi University teachers association (DUTA) that is elected in almost every two years, but this year Bharati college is filled with excitement and euphoria as an Assistant Professor of the Department of Political Science Ms. Looke Kumari Khanna has secured a post in the Delhi University Teachers Executive Council. Here's what she has to say about the elections,

**Ques 1-** What inspired you to contest for the post of Delhi University Teachers Executive Council (DUTEC)?

Ans- Women participation in DUTEC is so rare, and issues related to women are rarely raised in the council. So, we never found women centric agenda, other issues like promotions, pension of retired teachers, vacancies and issues related to permanent faculties are pending since long for which and there have been incessant protests too but these demands are never executed, this inspired me a lot to work for the welfare of the teaching fraternity.

**Ques 2-** What problems did you face to reach towards this post as being a professor of an off campus womens college?

Ans- First of all, we get too far from the center as being a women College and the second thing that it is not easy to travel and reach other colleges because even

during the campaigns you have to take your classes as well and it's also not easy to share our agenda and ideas with other teachers.



**Ques 3-** What are your future plans as you are representing Bharati College as well?

Ans- When it comes to "our college" then the "Mother College" becomes supreme. Today when we are at a position, we are representing all the teachers of Delhi, all of us have to work towards our combined interests and it is obvious that if one teacher's interests are getting served, then the interests of all the teachers will be served. So, when we raise an issue, our larger motive is towards the betterment of the entire teaching fraternity of Delhi University.

**Ques 4-** According to you what benefits can our college get since you are in Delhi University Teachers Executive Council?

Ans- Before this, the issues of teachers of our college could not reach Delhi University Teachers Association (DUTA) so, the biggest advantage is that we can directly raise our issues and our voices in the council.

### Today's Anchor

### "My wheelchair should never be a barrier to my education..."

Samriddhi and Anjali

Over the years, the perceptions towards disability have varied significantly from one community to another. Disability was primarily perceived as a problem among war veterans; public accommodation for disabled people was minimal, and disabled children were deemed to be figures of tragedy. However, In today's world, disability is not considered as a state of inability.

There are people who do not allow their disabling conditions to become a roadblock in their lives. The government of India has put into place some acts for the disabled to make sure that they also form an important part of nation building and to ensure equal opportunities for the people with disabilities.

According to the act "No person or learning institution shall deny admission to a person with a disability to any course of study by reason only of such disability, if the person has the ability to acquire substantial learning in that course". But is this enough?

The learning institutions shall take into account the special needs of persons with disabilities with respect to the en-

try requirements, pass marks, curriculum, examinations, auxiliary services, use of school facilities, class schedules, physical education requirements and other similar considerations.



Isha Mehendiratta, a student of Bharati College with disabilities shared her experience of applying to colleges as a wheelchair user. "I had to look for colleges that are wheelchair accessible, my brother helped me with it".

"College also considers my medical leaves and that helps me maintain my attendance", quite satisfied with the facilities provided by the college, Isha believes "My wheelchair should never have been a barrier to higher education. Nobody's should. If a student has been accepted to a college, their ability to attend should never be in question".

### ON THIS DAY 4 September, 1957 - Change to Law Between Consenting Adults

The British Government said that homosexual behaviour between two consenting adults should be no longer be a criminal offence.

## “We should always try to get better” - Dr Mukti Sanyal

Meghna Rai and Manju Bala

Bharati college took part in the India Today ranking in 2018 where the commerce department bagged a 36th rank with the arts department securing the 74th spot but the year 2019 saw a drop for the commerce department to 41 and the arts ranking skyrocketed to the 61th spot. This development raised concerns of an ambitious principal who wishes to improve the rankings of her off-campus college.



She also mentioned the growing awareness created about the LGBTQ community within the college and remarked, “We did not get any admissions from LGBTQ group, the commerce department and the women development cell had undertaken certain programmes to bring awareness and changes but we still couldn't get any student from the group, it would be an achievement for the college if people belonging to LGBTQ community took admissions as we would have loved to help them complete their graduation from our college”.

On learning about the progressions of the journalism department, Dr Mukti Sanyal congratulated the reporters from ‘The Bharati Gazette’ and wished good luck to all the departments of the college for a successful and happening new academic session.

While interacting with our reporters, the acting principal of Bharati College, Dr Mukti Sanyal explicitly mentioned her future aspirations and lauded the Arts department of the college for showing improvements.

While talking about her priorities, she mentioned, “We are trying to get systems in place, trying to be around dynamic people because if their involvement is not there, then things die out, we should always try and get better”. She added “Institutions should work consistently and students should consistently involve themselves in the things which have already been started”.

## Dept of Journalism launches ‘The Bharati Gazette’

Shivani

The Department of Journalism, Bharati College on Wednesday launched their very first newspaper ‘The Bharati Gazette’. It is a two page English newspaper that will come up weekly on every Wednesday with effect from 4 September 2019. As its tagline goes ‘News that matters’, it primarily focuses on the relevant events in and around the college campus while addressing the issues and grievances related to students from a journalistic purview.

The newspaper is published and managed by the students of the members of department itself under the guidance of Prof. Namit Hans, Prof. Nazish Khan, Prof. Inderjeet Singh and Prof. Kunal Anand.

“The newspaper is expected to help the students in learning how to design a newspaper and how to pursue the stories. It will also

create a culture of discussion and idea sharing in the college among the teachers as well as students”, said Prof. Namit Hans, who was also the editor for the college E-magazine launched in the year 2018.

The newspaper will be made available for the readers at the college library and copies will be put on the notice boards every week. The department's further plan is to expand the newspaper in terms of size and number of pages and to experiment with different styles of reporting in next 3-4 months.

The department itself was established in 2017 and has shown remarkable growth since then. Prior to the newspaper, the department of journalism successfully started its blog namely ‘Blickwinkel Youth’ in 2018 that is open for submission of content by all the students of Bharati college.

## DUSU ELECTIONS 2019 - The hustle for the posts begin

Utkarsha and Taniya

The Delhi University is gearing up for one of the most important and happening events of the year i.e the Delhi University Students Union (DUSU) elections scheduled on 12th September this month.

This year the DUSU elections will be conducted through Electronic voting machines (EVMs) to ensure fairness in voting. Competition remains tough between two leading parties of the University, ABVP and NSUI. As per our confirmed sources, both the parties have selected 6 candidates each out of which four candidates will be given the nomination tickets, the tentative list of these candidates include Akshit Dahiya, Tushar Dedha, Pradeep Tanvar, Yogit Rathi, Mansi Chauhan, and Shivani Kharwal from the right wing Akhil Bharatiya Vidhyarathi Parishad (ABVP) and Ashish Lamba, Yash Tusheer, Abhishek Chhaprana, Ankit Bharti, Nisha Yadav, and Kirti from the

National Students Union of India (NSUI).

Allegedly, Akshit Dahiya will be standing for the post of president from ABVP and Ashish Lamba will be standing for the same from NSUI. ABVP and NSUI have different reservation methods to give tickets to candidates as from ABVP tickets are given to two Jaat candidates, one Gujjar candidate and one female candidate. However, NSUI will be giving tickets to one Jaat candidate along with one ticket each to a Gujjar, Yadav and female candidate.

There are many criterias which all the candidates have to fulfill to stand for the different union posts. All the candidates are required to be associated with Delhi University while either pursuing graduation or post-graduation. At least, 75% attendance is mandatory for the candidates who wish to stand up for any post. The academic result of at least 60%

marks in the previously studied subject is another criteria.

Akshit Dahiya who will be allegedly standing for the post of president from ABVP was hugely supported during a rally which happened earlier this week at Vishwavidyalaya. He is a gold medalist in powerlifting and a graduate from Ramjas college of Delhi University itself. As of now, he is a student of Delhi University's law faculty. Ashish Lamba who is expected to stand up for the post of president from NSUI is an international hockey player and is also a student of Delhi University law faculty.

Every year DUSU provides 5000 rupees to each party (ABVP and NSUI) for election campaigning and both the parties have already started their election campaigns in full swing and will be continuing the same till the election day.

## Bharati College declares the Students Union election dates and schedules

Varsha and Shilpa

As per a recent notification released by the college, the dates and schedules for the Bharati College Students Union election for the session 2019 - 2020 have been declared and the voting date for all the mentioned posts was sealed for September 12, 2019. The interested candidates have been filling the nominations and excitement and apprehensions was evident amongst the candidates. The notification detailed the last date for minor corrections in the forms to be on September 4 till 12.00 pm with the subsequent release of the list after minor corrections to be released on the same day till 4.00 pm.

The candidates who have filed their nomination for the election can withdraw their names from the selection list before 12:00 pm on



September 5. After this process, the notification of the final list of eligible candidates will be declared in the same day post 1:00 pm.

Keeping the legacy of debates alive, the candidates will have to go through rounds of debates at 2:15 pm on Thursday to keep their agendas and priorities in the student domain.

The polling has been scheduled on September 12, 2019 from 10.00 am to 3.00pm followed with the subsequent counting of votes and result declaration on the same day by 5.00pm.

The posts that will go on polls this session were: President from the 3rd

year, Vice President from the 2nd year, one secretary from the 2nd year, one Joint Secretary from 1st and 2nd year, a Treasurer from 2nd year, one representative each from 1st, 2nd and 3rd year respectively. There was also a post for one representative from post-graduate students.

The candidates may contact the Grievance Redressal Cell of the Election Committee for any grievance regarding the elections and voting. The polling will be done under the surveillance of Dr. Anita Sihmar, convener of the election committee.