

# **THE REGULATIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALLAHABAD STUDENTS' COUNCIL - 2019**

*WHEREAS* subsequent upon the gazette notification of "The University of Allahabad Act, 2005" (hereinafter referred to as the Act) by the Government of India on July 11, 2005, the University started functioning as a Central University (an Institution of National Importance) on July 14, 2005;

*AND WHEREAS* the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Allahabad, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of Section 29 of the Act, made the first Ordinances of the University of Allahabad (hereinafter referred to as the Ordinances), which came into effect on February 9, 2008;

*AND WHEREAS* the ORDINANCE LXVII of the University describes provisions for establishment of a general association, or a representative council of students;

*AND WHEREAS* pursuant to the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, had constituted a Committee under Sri J.M. Lyngdoh to frame the guidelines on Students' Council Elections in Universities, the report of which was submitted on May 23, 2006;

*AND WHEREAS* the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated September 22, 2006 had accepted the recommendation of the report of the Lyngdoh Committee and directed for its implementation in all the Universities;

*NOW THEREFORE* in pursuance of the directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the Government of India, and the UGC, it is considered necessary and appropriate to put in place a new Constitution of the Students' Council of the University of Allahabad, the regulations for which are laid down here under:

## **1. TITLE, COMMENCEMENT AND APPLICABILITY**

- (i) These Regulations may be called the University of Allahabad Students' Council Regulations, 2019
- (ii) These shall come into force with effect from the date of their approval by the Executive Council of the University.
- (iii) These regulations shall supersede any other regulations/constitution/ rules framed in the past regarding the conduct of Students' Union elections of the University.

## **2. NAME**

(a) The Representative Body for Students shall be called in English, 'The University of Allahabad Students' Council ', hereinafter referred to as the Council. The name of the 'Representative Body for Students in Hindi shall be ' इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय छात्र परिषद'.

### **(b) OFFICE**

The office of the Council. shall be in the Lal Padmadhar Bhawan in the Senate House Campus of the University of Allahabad. It shall also be its official address.

### **(c) MOTTO**

The mottos of the Council shall be:

- (i) तमसो मा ज्योतिर्गमय
- (ii) सा विद्या या विमुक्तये
- (iii) 'Quot Rami Tot Arbores'

## **3. DEFINITIONS (FOR THE PURPOSES OF THESE REGULATIONS)**

- (i) The words 'Patron', 'Advisory Committee', 'Chairman', 'Vice Chairman', 'Office Bearers ', 'President', 'Vice President', 'General Secretary', 'Joint Secretary', 'Cultural Secretary', 'Executive Members', 'Standing Committee' shall be qualified by the expression 'of the Student Council'.
- (ii) The words 'Vice-Chancellor', 'Dean Students' Welfare (DSW)', 'Proctor', 'Dean of the Faculties' shall be qualified by the expression 'of the University of Allahabad '.
- (iii) 'Budget' defines the annual net sum of the expenses and revenues of the Council.

- (iv) 'Students' are the regular students of the University as defined in the sub-clause (a) of clause 1 of ORDINANCE LXVII.
- (v) 'Returning Officer' means a teacher of the University appointed by the Vice Chancellor to conduct the free and fair elections.
- (vi) Words and expressions not mentioned above shall have the same meaning as defined in the Act, Statutes, and Ordinances of the University of Allahabad.

#### **4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

These shall be as per sub-clause (a) of clause 2 of ORDINANCE LXVII of the University and be read for the purpose of these regulations as:

*The Students' Council shall serve as a forum for providing opportunities to students for gaining experience of the culture of democracy and constructive engagement with social concerns, and shall have the following objects, namely –*

- (i) *to foster and inculcate among the members the sense of patriotism, social awareness, commitment to values, broadmindedness and fellow-feeling, the spirit of discipline and the ideals of good citizenship as enshrined in the Fundamental Duties laid down in Part IV-A of the Constitution of India;*
- (ii) *to organize and arrange debates, symposia and lectures on topics and themes of relevance to the academic and social objectives of the institution; and*
- (iii) *to promote academic, literary and cultural activities of the students in general.*

#### **5. PATRON**

- (i) The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Allahabad shall be the Patron of the Council.
- (ii) The Patron shall ensure that the Council functions strictly in accordance with these regulations.
- (iii) The Patron shall have powers to refer, in case he deems it necessary, any decision of the Standing Committee back to it for its reconsideration. In the event of the Standing Committee reiterating the earlier decision, the Patron's decision shall be final and binding.
- (iv) The Patron shall have powers to dissolve the Council while giving valid reason to the Executive Council of the University. However, the Patron may seek the advice of the Advisory Committee in case he deems it necessary before taking the decision of dissolving the Council.

## **6. ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL**

The following shall constitute the Advisory Committee of the Council, namely:

- a) Chairman: One senior professor of the University to be nominated by the Patron.
- b) One teacher from ' each faculty of the University to be nominated by the Patron.

### ***Note:***

- (i) The Patron may seek suggestions or opinions of the Advisory Committee as and when necessary.
- (ii) The Advisory Committee shall be the custodian of the property and assets of the Council and shall ensure proper utilization of the budget of the Council.
- (iii) Subject to the provisions of these regulations the Advisory Committee may give such directions to the office bearers of the Council as it may deem necessary in the discharge of their duties.
- (iv) The Chairman of the Advisory Committee shall maintain and operate the accounts of the Council in accordance with the financial rules of the University of Allahabad and in consultation with the Standing Committee of the Council.
- (v) The Advisory Committee shall participate in the meetings of the Standing Committee of the Council.
- (vi) The tenure of the Advisory Committee shall be co-terminus with the tenure of the Council.
- (vii) The Advisory Committee shall have no voting rights in the Council.

## **7. FORMATION OF STUDENTS' COUNCIL**

(1) The following shall be the office bearers of the Students' Council:

- (i) the President
- (ii) the Vice President
- (iii) the General Secretary
- (iv) the Joint Secretary
- (v) the Cultural Secretary

(2) The regular students of a degree course of the University shall directly elect the class representatives through the mode of secret ballot from each of the five Units. Unit means

(i)Faculty of Arts, (ii)Faculty of Science,(iii)Faculty of Law, (iv)Faculty of Commerce, (v)Institute of Professional Studies/all Centres/ IIDS.

**(2.1) Representatives of research students:** Research students of each of the five Units shall elect from amongst themselves two research students (i.e. one male and one female) as their representatives.

**(2.2) Representatives of Post Graduate students:** Post-graduate students of each of the five units studying in I and III Semester shall elect from amongst themselves two PG students (one male and one female as their class representative from each semester (i.e. I & III semester of each of the five units) as their representatives.

**(2.3) Representatives of Under Graduate students:** Under-graduate students of each of the five units shall elect from amongst themselves two UG students from I, II, III, and IV & V year as their representatives (i.e. one male and one female class representative from each of the four year- groups of each of the five units).

### **(3) Election of office bearers:**

All directly elected class representatives of research (Ph.D.) students; and students of post-graduate and undergraduate classes shall elect office bearers of the Students' Council from amongst themselves.

## **8. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE STUDENTS' COUNCIL**

The following shall be the members of the Executive Committee of the Council, namely:

- (i) All office bearers, class representatives and nominated students shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Student Council. Each member shall have the voting right.
- (ii) ONE cultural representative to be nominated by the Central Cultural Committee.
- (iii) ONE outstanding sportsperson to be nominated by the Sports Board on the basis of norms framed by the Election Committee.
- (iv) ONE discipline and ethics representative to be nominated by the Proctorial Board.
- (v) ONE representative to be nominated by the Deans of respective Faculty from among the students belonging to each of the SC, ST, OBC and Minority Categories from each faculty from PG students in order of merit.
- (vi) ONE representative to be nominated by the Deans of respective Faculty from among the students belonging to each of the SC, ST, OBC and Minority Categories from each faculty from research students in order of merit.
- (vii) ONE representative to be nominated by the Deans of respective Faculty among the students belonging to each of the SC, ST, OBC and Minority Categories from each faculty from UG students in order of merit.

### **Note:**

- (i) All the office bearers and the members of the Executive Committee of the Council shall be responsible to the Standing Committee of the Council and shall function strictly in accordance with the provisions of these regulations.

- (ii) The office bearers and the members of the Executive Committee of the Council shall be responsible for the smooth and orderly functioning of the Council.
- (iii) The office bearers and the members of the Executive Committee of the Council shall submit their financial requests to the Chairman of the Advisory Committee.
- (iv) The tenure of the office bearers and the members of the Executive Committee of the Council shall complete on 15<sup>th</sup> May of the academic session in which they are elected/nominated.
- (v) The quorum for the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Students' Council shall be half of the total strength of the Students' Council.
- (vi) Minutes of the Executive Committee meetings shall be sent by President of the Students' Council to Chairman, Advisory Committee of the Students' Council.
- (vii) Any office bearer of the Students' Council may be removed from the office by a resolution passed by a special majority, i.e. more than 50% of the total strength of the Executive Committee of the Students' Council and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the members present voting.
- (viii) In case any position falls vacant on any grounds whatsoever, in the Students' Council, the remaining office bearers and representatives shall undertake the activities of the Students' Council as if there had been no vacancy.

## **9. FUNCTIONS OF OFFICE BEARERS AND EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

- (i) The office bearers and the members of the Executive Committee of the Council shall work collectively and with the students of the University towards fulfilling the aims and objectives of the Council as described in these regulations.
- (ii) The President of the Council shall be the Chairperson of the meetings of the office bearers and the members of the Executive Committee of the Council. (S)he shall regularly convene such meetings (but not less than 4 times during, his/her tenure) keeping in mind the aims and objectives of the Council. (S)he shall ensure that such meetings are conducted in an orderly and peaceful manner, and their resolutions are duly communicated to the Chairman of the Council.
- (iii) The Vice-President shall assist the President in the discharge of his/her duties and shall work as President in his/her absence.
- (iv) The General Secretary shall be the Secretary of the meeting of the office bearers and the members of the Executive Committee of the Council. (S) he shall issue the notice and agenda for the meetings on the instructions of the President of the Council. (S)he shall also be responsible for preparing the minutes of the meeting and keeping and maintaining the records of the meetings.

- (v) The Joint Secretary shall assist the General Secretary in the discharge of his/her duties and shall work as General Secretary in his/her absence.
- (vi) The Cultural Secretary, Cultural Representative, Sports Representative, Discipline and Ethics Representative and other members of the Executive Committee shall perform their specific functions in the light of the objectives of the Council and in consultation with the General Secretary and the President of the Council.
- (vii) The office bearers and the members of the Executive Committee of the Council shall perform such other functions as may be assigned to them by these regulations.

#### **10. STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL**

The Standing Committee of the Council shall comprise the following members, namely:

- (a) the Advisory Committee of the Council
- (b) the Office Bearers and the Members of the Executive Committee of the Council

**Note:**

- (i) The Chairman of the Advisory Committee shall be the Convener and Chairperson of the meeting of the Standing Committee. (S)he shall draw up the agenda of the meeting and ensure that such meetings are conducted in an orderly fashion, and their resolutions are duly communicated to the Patron of the Council.
- (ii) The President shall be the Secretary of the meeting of the Standing Committee. (S)he shall issue the notice and agenda for the meetings on the instructions of the Chairman of the Council. (S)he shall also be responsible for preparing the minutes of the meeting and keeping and maintaining the records of the meetings.
- (iii) All the financial decisions pertaining to the smooth functioning of the Council (and for its day-to-day activities) shall be taken in consultation with the Standing Committee.
- (iv) The decisions of the Standing Committee shall be binding on the Advisory Committee as well as on the office bearers and members of the Executive Committee of the Council.
- (v) The Standing Committee may suggest amendments in these regulations from time to time to the Patron of the Council who, if necessary, shall place them before the Academic Council and Executive Council of the University for their approval.
- (vi) The Standing Committee shall meet at least 3 times a year.
- (vii) Two third of the total membership shall constitute the quorum of the meetings of the Standing Committee.

## **11. DISASSOCIATION OF THE COUNCIL ELECTIONS FROM POLITICAL PARTIES**

During the period of elections the affiliation of the candidates with political parties and political interference of any kind shall be strictly prohibited. Moreover, no person, who is not a student on the rolls of the University and does not possess a valid identity card issued by the Proctor, shall be permitted to take part in the election process of the Council in any capacity. Any candidate violating this rule shall be subject to the disciplinary proceedings, in addition to the candidature being revoked, as the case may be,

## **12. FREQUENCY AND DURATION OF ELECTION PROCESS**

- (i) 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 10 days.
- (ii) The elections shall generally be held on a yearly basis between 6-8 weeks from the date of commencement of the academic session.

## **13. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR CANDIDATES**

- (i) The following shall be the maximum age limit of students to legitimately contest for elections:

**Under-Graduate Students: Up to 22 years.**

*(the age limit is relaxed up to 23 years, and 24 years for the students of professional courses, where courses are of 4 years, and 5 years' duration, respectively. Provided that for the students of LL.B, the age limit is relaxed up to 25 years and for the students of B.Ed up to 24 years)*

**Post-Graduate Students: Up to 25 years**

*(provided that for the students of LL.M. and M.Ed the age limit is relaxed up to 28 years and for the students of M.Tech upto 26 years)*

**Research Students: Up to 30 years**

*(the contestant should not have completed his/her minimum residency period)*

**Note: The cut-off date for the purpose of computing the age of a contestant shall be the last date of filing the nomination form.**

- (ii) The candidate shall in no event have any academic arrears in the year of contesting the election and has not failed in any University examinations.



- (iii) The candidate should have attained the minimum percentage of attendance as prescribed by the University or 75% attendance, whichever is higher.
- (iv) The candidate shall have one opportunity to contest for the post of an office bearer and shall have two opportunities for the post of members of the Executive Committee.
- (v) The candidate shall not have a previous criminal record that is to say he/she shall not have been tried and/or convicted of any criminal offence or misdemeanor. The candidate shall also not have been subjected to any disciplinary action by the University authorities, shall not have been debarred/ rusticated from the University, and shall not have been punished in unfair means during the University examinations.
- (vi) The candidate shall be a regular, full-time student of the whole time course of not less than one year's duration of the University as defined in the sub-clause (a) of clause 1 of **ORDINANCE LXVII**.
- (vii) The candidates seeking to contest election to the post of office bearers and class representatives should have secured at least 55% marks in aggregate or an equivalent grade point average in the examination immediately preceding the election. For students belonging to scheduled caste and scheduled tribe categories, this cut off score shall be 50% or equivalent grade point average.

#### **14. ELECTION-RELATED EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY**

- (i) The maximum permitted expenditure per candidate shall not exceed Rs. 5000/-
- (ii) Each candidate shall, within **two weeks** of the declaration of the result, submit complete and self-certified accounts of his expenditure to the University. The university shall publish such accounts, within 2 days of the submission of such accounts, through a suitable medium so that any member of the student body may freely examine the same.
- (iii) The election of the candidate will be nullified in the event of any non-compliance or in the event of any excessive expenditure.
- (iv) With the view to preventing the inflow of funds from political parties into the student election process, the candidates are specially barred from utilizing funds from any other sources than voluntary contributions from the student body.

#### **15. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CANDIDATES AND ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATORS**

- (i) 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, religious or linguistic, or between any group(s) of students.
- (ii) Criticism of other candidates, when made, shall be confined to their policies and programmes, 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.
- (iii) There shall be no appeal to caste or communal feelings for securing votes. Places of worship, within or without the campus shall not be used for election propaganda.
- (iv) All candidates shall be prohibited from indulging or abetting, all 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 propa ganda within the University campus and near polling stations, holding public meetings during the period of 24 hours ending with the hour fixed for the close of the poll, and the transport and conveyance of voters to and from polling station.
- (v) 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 handmade posters for the purpose of canvassing, provided that such hand-made posters are procured within the expenditure limit set out herein above.
- (vi) Candidates may only utilize hand-made posters at certain places in the campus, which shall be notified in advance by the uni versity authorities.
- (vii) No candidate shall be permitted to carry out processions, or public meetings, or in any way canvass or distribute propa ganda outside the uni versity campus.
- (viii) No candidate shall, nor shall his/her supporters, deface or cause any destruction to any property of the university campus, for any purpose whatsoever, without the prior written permission of the university authorities. All candidates shall be held jointly and severally liable for any destruction / defacing of any university property.
- (ix) During the election period the candidates may hold processions and / or public meetings, provided that such processions and / or public meetings do not, in any manner, disturb the classes and other academic and co-curricular activities of the university. Further, such procession / public meeting may not be held without the prior written permission of the uni versity authority.
- (x) The use of loudspeakers, vehicles and animals for the purpose of canvassing shall be prohibited.
- (xi) On the day of polling, s tudent organizations and candida tes 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 the polling day;
  - (c) not hand out any propaganda on the polling day.
- (xii) Excepting the voters, no one without a valid pass / letter of authority from the university authorities shall enter the polling booths.
  - (xiii) The Vice-Chancellor shall appoint impartial 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.
  - (xiv) All candidates shall be jointly responsible for ensuring the cleaning up of the polling area within 48 hours of the conclusion of polling.
  - (xv) 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 university authorities may also take appropriate disciplinary action against such a violator.
  - (xvi) xvi. In addition to the above-mentioned code of conduct, it is also recommended that certain provisions of the Indian Penal Code 1860 (**Section 153A and Chapter IXA - "Offences Relating to Election"**), may also be made applicable to student elections.

## **16. GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL MECHANISM**

- (i) There should be a Grievance Redressal Cell, constituted by the Vice-Chancellor with the Dean Students' Welfare as its chairman. In addition, one senior faculty member, one senior administrative officer and two final year students - one boy and one girl (till the election results declared, students can be nominated on the basis of merit and/or participation in the co-curricular activities in the previous year}. The Grievance Cell shall be mandated with the Redressal of election-related Grievances, including, but not limited to, breaches of the code of conduct of elections and complaints relating to election related expenditure. This Cell would be the regular unit of the University.
- (ii) In pursuit of its duties, the Grievance Cell may prosecute violators of any aspect of the code of conduct or the rulings of the Grievance Cell. The Grievance Cell shall serve as the court of original jurisdiction. The Vice Chancellor shall have appellate jurisdiction over issues of law and fact in all cases or controversies arising out of the conduct of the elections in which the Grievance Cell has issued a final decision. Upon

review, the Vice Chancellor may revoke or modify the sanctions imposed by the Grievance Cell.

- (iii) In carrying out the duties of the office, the Grievance Cell shall conduct proceedings and hearings necessary to fulfill those duties. In executing those duties the members of the Cell shall have the authority: (a) to issue a writ of subpoena to compel candidates, agents, and workers, and to request students to appear and give testimony, as well as produce necessary records; and (b) to inspect the financial reports of any candidate and make these records available for public scrutiny upon request.
- (iv) Members of the Grievance Cell are prohibited from filing complaints. Any other student may file a complaint with the Grievance Cell, within a period of 3 weeks from the date of declaration of results. All complaints must be filed under the name of the student filing the complaint. The Grievance Cell shall act on all complaints within 24 hours after they are received by either dismissing them or calling a hearing.
- (v) The Grievance Cell may dismiss a complaint if: (a) the complaint was not filed within the time frame prescribed above; (b) the complaint fails to state a cause of action for which relief may be granted; (c) the complainant has not and / or likely will not suffer injury or damage.
- (vi) If a complaint is not dismissed, then a hearing must be held. The Grievance Cell shall inform, in writing, or via e-mail, the complaining party and all individuals or groups named in the complaint of the time and place of the hearing. The parties are not considered notified until they have received a copy of the complaint.
- (vii) The hearing shall be held at the earliest possible time, but not within twenty-four (24) hours after receipt of the notice described above, unless all parties agree to waive the 24-hour time constraint.
- (viii) At the time notice of a hearing is issued, the Grievance Cell, by majority vote, may issue a temporary restraining order, if it determines that such action is necessary to prevent undue or adverse effects on any individual or entity. Any restraining order, once issued, will remain in effect until a decision of the Grievance Cell is announced after the hearing or until rescinded by the Grievance Cell.
- (ix) All Grievance Cell hearings, proceedings, and meetings shall be open to the public.
- (x) All Parties to the grievance shall present themselves before the Grievance Cell at the hearing. They may be accompanied by any other student, from whom they can receive counsel, and have the option to be represented by that counsel.
- (xi) For any hearing, a majority of sitting Grievance Cell members must be in attendance with the Chair of the Grievance Cell presiding. In the absence of the Chair, the responsibility to preside shall fall to a member of the Grievance Cell designated by the Chair.

- (xii) The Grievance Cell shall determine the format for the hearing, but must require that both the complaining and responding parties appear physically before the board to discuss the issues through a complaint, answered, rebuttal, and rejoinder format. The purpose of the hearing is to gather the information necessary to make a decision, order, or ruling that will resolve an election dispute. To effectuate this purpose, the following rules should prevail at all hearings:
- (a) Complaining parties shall be allowed no more than two witnesses. However, the Grievance Cell may call witnesses as required. If said witnesses are unable to appear at the hearing, signed affidavits may be submitted to the Grievance Cell Chair for the purpose of testifying by proxy.
  - (b) All questions and discussions by the parties in dispute shall be directed to the Grievance Cell.
  - (c) There shall be no direct or cross-examination of any party or witness by complaining or responding parties during hearings.
  - (d) Reasonable time limits may be set by the Grievance Cell, provided they give fair and equal treatment to both sides.
  - (e) The complaining party shall bear the burden of proof.
  - (f) Decisions, orders, and rulings of the Grievance Cell must be concurred to by a majority of the Grievance Cell present and shall be announced as soon as possible after the hearing. The Grievance Cell shall issue a written opinion of the ruling within 12 hours of announcement of the decision. The written opinion must set forth the findings of fact by the Grievance Cell and the conclusions of law in support of it. Written opinions shall set a precedent for a time period of three election cycles for Grievance Cell rulings, and shall guide the Grievance Cell in its proceedings. Upon consideration of prior written opinions, the Grievance Cell may negate the decision, but must provide written documentation of reasons for doing so.
  - (g) If the decision of the Grievance Cell is appealed to the Vice-Chancellor, the Grievance Cell must immediately submit its ruling to the commission/ tribunal set up by the Patron for advice if found necessary.
  - (h) The Grievance Cell shall select the remedy or sanction most appropriate to both the type and severity of the infraction, as well as the state of mind *or* intent of the violator as determined by the Grievance Cell. Possible remedies and sanctions include, but are not limited to, fines, suspension of campaigning privileges, and disqualification from the election.

- (i) Any fine or total amount of fines against a candidate in an election cycle may not exceed the spending limit as defined herein above.
- (j) If, after a hearing, the Grievance Cell finds that provisions of this Code were violated by a candidate, or a candidate's agents or workers, the Grievance Cell may restrict the candidate, or the candidate's agents or workers, from engaging in some or all campaign activities for some or all of the remainder of the campaign. If an order is issued covering only part of the remaining campaign period, it shall take effect immediately so that after its termination, the candidate will have an opportunity to resume campaigning during the days immediately prior to and including the election days.
- (k) If, after a hearing, the Grievance Cell finds that provisions of either this Code or decisions, opinions, orders, or rulings of the Grievance Cell have been willfully and blatantly violated by a candidate, or a candidate's agents or workers, the Grievance Cell may disqualify the candidate.
- (l) Any party adversely affected by a decision of the Grievance Cell may file an appeal with the Vice Chancellor within twenty-four (24) hours after the adverse decision is announced. The Vice-Chancellor shall have discretionary appellate jurisdiction over the Grievance Cell in all cases in which error on the part of the Grievance Cell is charged.
- (m) The decision of the Grievance Cell shall stand and shall have full effect until the appeal is heard and decided by the Vice-Chancellor.
- (n) The Vice-Chancellor shall hear appeals of Grievance Cell rulings as soon as possible, but not within twenty-four (24) hours after the Grievance Cell delivers to the Appellant and the Vice Chancellor a copy of its written opinion in the case. Appeal may be heard prior to this time, but only if the Appellant waives the right to a written opinion and the Vice-Chancellor agrees to accept the waiver.
- (o) The Vice Chancellor can issue suitable orders to suspend or halt the operation of the ruling issued by the Grievance Cell until the appeals are decided.
- (p) The Vice Chancellor shall review findings of the Grievance Cell when appealed. The Vice-Chancellor may affirm or overturn the decision of the Grievance Cell, or modify the sanctions imposed.

## **17. 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 authorities as soon as possible, but not later than 06 hours after the alleged commission of the offence.

## **18. INTERPRETATION OF THIS REGULATION, AND SUGGESTIONS**

Suggestions/Queries/Comments regarding the interpretation of this regulation, and any rules framed there under, may be referred to the Chairman of the Advisory Committee

who shall forward them to the Patron after proper scrutiny. The Chairman may seek the advice of the Standing Committee, in any such matter(s), if (s)he thinks it necessary. The decision of the Patron on any such matter(s) shall be final.

#### **19. APPOINTMENT OF A TRIBUNAL**

The Patron may, if necessary, constitute a Tribunal consisting of one or more persons to be appointed by the Executive Council of the University to resolve matter(s) of larger interest relating to rules (and their interpretation) framed under these Regulations and their impact on overall working of the Council. The decision of the Tribunal on any such matter(s) shall be final.

#### **20. RETURNING OFFICER AND ELECTION PROCESS**

- (i) The Returning Officer (RO) shall be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor from amongst the teachers of the University. The RO shall conduct the Council elections with the help of the staff of the University.
- (ii) The Election Observers shall be appointed by the Vice Chancellor in consultation with the RO and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Council.
- (iii) After the declaration of the results of the Council elections, the RO shall seal the ballot papers and other relevant papers and hand over the same to the Chairman of the Advisory Committee, and the same shall not be destroyed as long as any proceeding in respect thereof remains pending before a Competent Authority/Tribunal/Court.
- (iv) The Vice-Chancellor shall form a committee of the teachers of the University to lay down the norms and other details governing the programme and procedures of the Council elections within the purview of these Regulations. The committee shall submit these details to the Vice Chancellor within a week. The date and time of the entire election process (filing of nomination papers, campaign period, voting, date of declaration of results etc.) shall be notified by the Returning Officer of the University on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor.
- (v) The Constituent Colleges of the University of Allahabad shall have separate STUDENTS' COUNCIL as per the provisions laid down in this regulation.