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DUCSU Polls: Tempo picks up

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Partial view of Chhatra Sangram Parishad's procession on the occasion of ensuing DUCSU Election.

Only four days are left. DU would be adding a new chapter to its history by holding DUCSU election next Wednesday.

DUCSU's HISTORY

DUCSU stands for Dhaka University Central Students Union. Soon after the establishment of DU in 1921, the students community and varsity authority felt the need of having a students union like the then Calcutta-based different students unions.

In 1923, just after two years of DU's inception DUCSU came into being and began functioning.

According to the rules and regulations of DUCSU, its election is to be held every year. But it was not held all these years due to political reasons mainly.

It is learnt that DUCSU is 65 years old but election were held only 39 times. And this time is the 40th DUCSU election.

From 1923 to 1947 during British rule DUCSU election was held 14 times while in Pakistan period i. e. from 1947 to 1970, it was held twenty times.

It may be noted that from the very birth of Bangladesh in 1971 till now election of DUCSU had been held only five times.

After the Promulgation of Martial Law in 1982 by the

present govt. all the students unions of the country's colleges and varsities had been dissolved by an ML order.

After long seven years DUCSU is again going to hold an election next Wednesday Feb 8.

40TH DUCSU ELECTION

Preparation and arrangements for holding the polls of the 40th DUCSU and 13 Halls unions of DU on Wednesday next have been almost finalised. Casting of votes will begin at 8 am and continue till 2 p.m. Every Hall has a vote-centre. Only the resident students will be allowed to cast votes in their respective Hall centres.

Meanwhile, the authority announced certain norms and regulations for both the candidates and voters which include equal right for holding meetings, procession, poster, gathering, wall-writing and campaigning by all candidates.

The authority also instructed the voters to carry their identity cards issued by Hall authority 24 hours prior to the election. It also put restrictions on using mike and bringing out processions in corridors during class time.

No outsiders, non-students and guests will be allowed to stay at the Halls during the elections and if any one is found in the halls during this period, then he/she/they will

be handed over to the police. All sorts of campaign must be stopped by Feb 7 at 8 a.m.

PARTICIPANTS IN DUCSU POLLS

The major participants and powerful students organisations are contesting either individually or unitedly in the polls. Eleven panels are there. The key-panel are according to the voters, Sultan-Mustaque Parishad of Chhatra Sangram which is followed by Dudu-Ripon parishad of Chhatra Dal. The remaining panels are of not so significant students organisations.

The main battle for the polls will be between the above mentioned two panels. The position and fate of Sultan-Mustaque panel is better than others as it has representations of six major students parties—Awami Chhatra League, Bakshal Chhatra League, Communist Chhatra Union, JSD (Inu) Chhatra League, Chhatra Maitri and Chhatra Okya.

Among these six parties Awami Chhatra League and Bangladesh Chhatra Union have been dominating on the campus both during the Pakistan period and after the independence of Bangladesh because both the parties are older than the others and played an important role in the liberation war in late 60's.

From this point of view there is cent percent possibility

of their winning the DUCSU polls.

The much-talked of Islami Chhatra Shibir of Jamaat-Islami is also in the field and is determined to win the polls, said some of its supporters.

BNP backed Chhatra Dal's strength on the campus is divided into two fractions—fraction of Khaleda group and fraction of Obaid group. However, some Hall union polls results may go in their favour.

CAMPAIGN

Meanwhile all the participating panels are in the election campaign race. After long seven years DU has turned into a successful democratic higher educational and political institution as meetings, processions, slogans, leaflets, posterings and wall writings by respective panels or individual candidates are smoothly going on round the clock on the campus.

Besides the usual campaign, some humorists are bringing out comic processions with satirical slogans. It is really enjoyable to all and some consider it as an integral part of the polls.

NEW POST

The Syndicate in a meeting on Jan 4 last changed partially the DUCSU constitution and added a new executive post—Transport Secretary-to it.