

EUCSU polls

BUET Correspondent

The elections of the Engineering University Central Students Union (EUCSU) and hall unions will be held today (Wednesday) after a long seven years. A total of 3232 BUET students will cast their votes to select seven members of EUCSU for which 33 candidates are contesting. All preparations have been made to hold the election peacefully. Casting of votes will start at the common room of residential halls at 8 a.m. and will continue till 1 p.m. The counting of votes will start at 3 p.m. Four panels have been contesting the EUCSU polls which include Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, joint panel of Bangladesh Chhatra Union, and Bangladesh Chhatra League (Sultan), combined panel of CSAC and Islami Chhatra Shibir.

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DUCSU polls today

Staff Correspondent

The Dhaka University Central Students Union (DUCSU) and the hall elections will be held today (Wednesday) after a lapse of about seven years. The last DUCSU polls were held in 1982 but the committee was dissolved following imposition of Martial Law in the country on March 24, 1982.

One hundred and eighty-six candidates are contesting for 20 positions of DUCSU from nine separate panels. The main rivals are the Central Students Action Committee (CSAC) and the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD).

The 14 students organisations constituting CSAC are competing the polls from a combined panel. Four separate panels were earlier submitted from the partners of CSAC on January 25. Eight organisations later withdrew their candidatures and returned to the CSAC.

Following are the major CSAC nominees:— Vice-President: Sultan Mohammed Mansoor Ahmed (Chhatra League S-R), General Secretary: Mostaq Hossain (Chhatra League M-N), Assistant General Secretary: Nasirudduza (Chhatra Union), Students Common Room: Mohiuddin Ahmed (Chhatra Moitri), Science Common Room Secretary: Abu Ali (Chhatra Union), Female Students Common Room Secretary: Aklima Sultana Lopa (Samajtantrik Chhatra Front), Social Welfare Secretary: Kaosar Mollah (Chhatra League S-R), Literary Secretary: Istekbal Hossain (Chhatra League M-N), Sports Secretary: Shafiqul Islam Manik (a general nomination by all), Cultural Secretary: Ashok Taru Karmaker (Chhatra Union) and Transport Secretary: Wahiduzzaman Chand (Jatiya Chhatra League).

JCD is fighting the combined force of CSAC alone. Their nominees are:—Shamsuzzaman Dudu (Vice-

President), Asaduzzaman Ripon (General Secretary), Khairul Kabir Khokan (Assistant General Secretary), Nazimuddin Alam (Student Common Room Secretary), Mesbahuddin Ali (Science Common Room Secretary), Shahina Khan Manji (Female Students Common Room Secretary), Takdir Hossain Jashim (Social Welfare Secretary), Kaisar Hamid (Sports Secretary), Shafiqul Islam (Literary Secretary), Masud Hossain (Cultural Secretary) and Zahangir Alam (Transport Secretary).

According to the administrative source the total number of voters is 26,000. The polling will continue from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the residential halls. The resident and the attached students will cast their votes in their respective halls. After the polling the ballot boxes will be taken to the third floor of the Arts Building where the concerned officials will count the ballot papers.

The varsity authority completed all measures to ensure a peaceful elections. In this connection the authority sought help from the Dhaka Metropolitan Police. Prof. Ahsanul Huq, Treasurer of DUCSU is the Chief Returning Officer of the polls. A huge contingent of police force has been deployed on the campus.

DUCSU was first formed in the academic year of 1953-54. Before this it was known as Dhaka University Students Union (DUSU). The DUSU was formed in the academic year of 1922-23. The first President of DUSU was Prof. W.A. Jenkins, who later became the Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University. Noted historian Dr. R.C. Majumder and Linguist Dr. Mohammed Shahidullah were once the President and General Secretary respectively of DUSU. The main function of DUSU was to take care of students common

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DUCSU

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room where a good number of magazines, books, periodicals and sports goods, were kept for the students.

In 1953 DUCSU replaced DUSU which had failed to attain its objectives. After the formation of DUCSU it was decided that the Vice-Chancellor will be its President and he would nominate a teacher as the Treasurer. The other members will be elected through the direct polls of the general students.

Past recalled

The students of Dhaka University exercised their franchise in DUCSU polls in the academic year 1970-71. Earlier the office-bearers of DUCSU were elected by the members of hall unions.

The DUCSU polls of this year would be the 18th of its kind. The first Vice-President and General Secretary of DUCSU were late S.A. Bari A.T. and Julmat Ali Khan (Advocate) respectively.

The objectives of DUCSU are to help healthy development of intellect and cultural attainment of the students and to resolve various problems related to students. After the new University Ordinance was announced by the Government in 1973, five student representatives were nominated to the Senate, the highest decision-making body of the university.

Records show that DUCSU has had two women Vice-Presidents so far. The first woman Vice-President was Begum Jahanara Akhter in 1960-61. Then in the academic year of 1966-67 Mahfuja Khanam was elected the Vice-President of DUCSU. Present Awami League Leader Begum Matia Chowdhury was the only woman, so far, elected as the General Secretary of DUCSU in the academic year of 1963-64.

The student organisations have already completed their preparations for the elections. The campus wore a festive look. The candidates decorated the campus with colourful banners, fastoons, posters and wall writings. The result of the polls will be announced tomorrow (Thursday).

VC assures free, fair election

Staff Correspondent

Prof. Abdul Mannan, the Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University has assured a peaceful, fair and free DUCSU polls to be held today (Wednesday).

The Vice-Chancellor was addressing a crowded press conference at his residence on Tuesday evening.

Prof. Abdul Mannan said that after long seven years the students of Dhaka University are going to exercise their rights through DUCSU polls for bringing a better atmosphere on the campus. He assured that there would be no favouritism in connection with the polls. "To me everybody is my student, there is no party to me, no political identity", he added.

The Vice-Chancellor informed that 16 buses would ply throughout the day to bring the non-resident students on the campus. He said eight have been hired in this connection. He hailed the students of Dhaka University for maintaining peace on the campus during the campaign and sought further help to ensure a perfect polling.

The Vice-Chancellor remarked that through holding DUCSU polls peacefully students of Dhaka University would set an example of democratic practice. The Press Conference was also addressed by Prof. Ahsanul Huq, the Chief Returning

VC assures

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Officer, Dr. Momin Chowdhury, Chairman of the Management Committee and Mr. Mannan Chowdhury, the Proctor and Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee.

EUCSU polls

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Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, a students wing of BNP brought out a big procession on the campus on Tuesday. Calling upon the students to cast the votes in favour of JCD Mr. Iqbal Kabir Sagar, VP candidate of JCD said that it would work for restoring congenial academic atmosphere on the campus. The projection meeting of joint panel of Chhatra Union and Chhatra League was also held on Tuesday morning. The CSAC and Islami Chhatra Shibir also brought out processions separately on Tuesday.