

Constitution
of
Students' Association
of
College of
Veterinary & Animal
Science, Bikaner

CONSTITUTION OF THE VETERINARY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY AND ANIMAL SCIENCE
RAJASTHAN UNIVERSITY OF VETERINARY AND ANIMAL SCIENCES
BIKANER

The Veterinary Students Association is an organization of the bonafide students of the College of Veterinary & Animal Science, Bikaner whose main objective is to train the student for holding leadership positions and discharge responsibilities sincerely while in the process of getting them educated and receive the suitable training for the same. It is purely academic, cultural and co-cultural organization which will associate in healthy activities stimulating desirable composition and leadership among the students of the College. It also provides a forum for professional activities and exchange of information in the field of veterinary and Animal Science and maintaining an intimate liaison with other sector associations in the country.

ARTICLE I – NAME, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES, MEMBERSHIP, EXECUTIVE BODY AND STAFF ADVISORY.

NAME: There shall be a Association of all the students of the college “THE VETERINARY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION”, hereinafter referred to as ‘Association’

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

To provide a forum for participative and constructive action for:

- (a) Development of professional leadership qualities among students.
- (b) Inculcating better relationship among students and closer constructive co operation and integration within the college.
- (c) Establishing a forum for the students for organizing and managing co-curricular activities.
- (d) Providing selfless service for socio-economic upliftment at farming community, participation in rural development programme and safeguard the interests of the students.

MEMBERSHIP:

This association is open for the bonafide students of the College of Veterinary and Animal Science, Bikaner who have paid the approved annual subscription. (Foreign, in-service and students enrolled in short term, certificate courses or courses of less than one year shall not be members of the association).

EXECUTIVE BODY:

Executive Body shall be constituted from among the bonafide member through selection consisting of:

a) **Office Bearers**

- (i) President
- (ii) Vice president
- (iii) General Secretary
- (iv) Joint Secretary-cum Treasurer
- (v) Games Secretary
- (vi) Cultural & Literary Secretary

b) **Executive Members** : - Class Representatives (One CR up to 40 students and additional 1 CR for 41 to 80)

STAFF ADVISORY: The Dean, College of Veterinary and Animal Science, Bikaner shall be the Chief Patron of the association and ADSW will be staff advisor to the Association to guide in planning and executing their activities. It is mandatory for the student's executive to invite staff advisor (ADSW) in all their meetings however, it will not be necessary for the ADSW to attend all the meetings. The budget of-course cannot be passed without the presence of ADSW. Further for amendment of constitution his presence is must.

ARTICLE I I

ELECTION

1. Election of the Association will be held by secret ballot.
2. There will be a direct election for the following posts:
 - (i) President
 - (ii) Vice president
 - (iii) General Secretary
 - (iv) Joint Secretary-cum Treasurer
 - (v) Games Secretary
 - (vi) Cultural & Literary Secretary
 - (vii) Class Representatives (One CR up to 40 students and additional 1 CR for 41 to 80)
3. The candidate securing the highest number of valid votes will be declared elected. If two or more candidates secure the same numbers of votes, election of President/Vice-President/General Secretary/Joint Secretary/ Class Representative, as the case may be, will be decided by draw of lots by the Chief Electoral Officer.
4. No act done or proceedings under this Constitution shall be questioned on the ground of the existence of any vacancy in any body like Association/VSA club etc. as recognized by the college.

5. All the members, elected shall be administered oath of office (Article-IX) and of the Constitution, before assuming the charge.
6. Appeal against election results of any candidate of a post in the Association, aggrieved with the result of its election can be filed in writing to the Tribunal through the Returning Officer, against the result up to 5. 00 PM of the second day of the results declared.

The decision of the Grievances Redressal Cell on the appeal shall be final and binding.

TENURE:

The tenure of an office-bearer shall commence from the date of his election and he will cease to hold office on 15th May of that academic year or on the day he/she ceases to be on the rolls of the college, whichever is earlier.

ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION:-

The activities of the Association shall consist of:

- i) Organizing debates, lectures, discussions, study circle, essay competitions, cultural and other contests etc.
- ii) Publication in furtherance of education.
- iii) Social service and activities.
- iv) Organizing and running student's activities.
- v) Such other activities as approved by the Chief Patron or any other officers nominated by him in his behalf.

ARTICLE III

ELIGIBILITY TO CONTEST ELECTION

All the students will be eligible to contest the election provided that they fulfill the following criteria:-

- (a) Age Limit:-
 - (i) For graduate students- 17-24 years
 - (ii) For post-graduate students – up to 25 years
 - (iii) For Ph.D.students – up to 28 years
- (b) There should not be any academic arrear to the student contesting the election. A student stayed beyond the normal stipulated period required for his degree programme is not eligible to contest the election.

- (c) Attendance requirement should be 75% in the class in which a candidate is studying.
- (d) A candidate can contest the election of the office of Association for a particular post of the Association once in his degree programme and can contest election of executive members twice.
- (e) A candidate should not have any criminal records which mean he/she had not been tried for an act of crime or prosecuted by any Court of Law.
- (f) There should not be any instance of disciplinary action against him/her by the college or university administration.
- (g) The candidate should be a full time student of the College.
- (h) A student who is on conduct probation at the time of his nomination will not be eligible for contesting.
- (i) A student who has been convicted of moral turpitude in a criminal case or has been punished by College/University authorities for indiscipline, gross mis-conduct or mis- behaviour can not contest the election.
- (j) A student should not be a defaulter in respect of payment of his college/hostel dues.
- (j) A student should not be expelled or rusticated by the College for any period. This disqualification shall, however, also apply even if the order of his expulsion or rustication has been withdrawn by the College.
- (k) A candidate cannot contest election for more than one post of the Association.
- (l) A student who has ceased to be on the rolls of the College for any other reasons whatsoever will be disqualified for contesting.
- (m) A student pursuing research work in the fourth semester of MVSc (PG) and 3rd and onwards semesters in Ph.D. will not be eligible to be a candidate.
- (n) He/she should have secured at least 65% marks in the previous class or the last class whose result has been declared.

EXPLANATION :-

A student will be guilty of gross misconduct, if he

- i) is expelled from the College
- ii) is accused of a non-bailable offence.
- iii) is disqualified under unfairmeans rules in the university examinations.
- iv) brings a bad name to the College/University by his mis-conduct on or outside the campus.
- v) destroys or mutilates College/University property.
- vi) prevents any College/University officials from performing his normal duties or assaults any official of the College/University.

IDENDITY CARD

The students are required to carry Identity Card for entry to the college premises and issue of ballot papers.

THE FOLLOWING SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO CONTEST ELECTION (one student is eligible to contest on one post only)

1. Only students of 4th and final year BVSc & A.H. and PG classes are eligible to contest election for the post of **President**.
2. Only student of 3rd and 4th year BVSc & AH and 2nd Year AHDP are eligible to contest the election for the post of **Vice President & General secretary**.
3. All the students except I year BVSc & AH and I Year AHDP students are eligible to contest the election for the executive posts of the Association other than President, Vice President and General Secretary.
4. All the students of a given class would be eligible for contesting election of the **Class Reresentative(s)** of that class. The M.V.Sc. and Ph.D. students would constitute a single class for this purpose.

No student shall hold the same office in the association more than twice during his entire stay in the College.

ARTICLE IV

(i) Powers, Functions and Responsibilities of the President:

- (a) The President of the association will be the Principal Executive of the association.
- (b) The President shall, when present, preside over meeting of the Executive Body of the association and also all other college level functions organized by either the Executive Body or the various subcommittees set up by it. He will also have the right to participate in the meeting of a Sub-Committees constituted by the Executive Body and when present he shall preside over the meetings of the Sub-Committee.
- (c) It shall be the duty of the President to ensure the faithful fulfillment of the aims and objectives of the association.
- (d) The president shall have the power to convene meeting after giving notice as prescribed.
- (e) The president shall exercise general control over the affairs of the association and he shall be entitled to exercise this control by having the authority to all for any record of the association and its various sub-committees and make suggestions, which will have to be considered by the relevant sub-committee in its next meeting.
- f) The President shall have the power to take a contingent decision regarding organizing an activity or incurring emergent expenditure, within budgetary limits on behalf of the Executive Body, subject to the same being ratified by Executive Body within' a period of three days.

(ii) Powers, Functions and Responsibilities of the Vice-President:

The vice president shall in the absence of the President perform all the functions and exercise all the powers of the president.

(iii) Powers, Functions and Responsibilities of the General Secretary:

- (a) The General Secretary shall be responsible for the proper functioning of the Association.

- (b) The General Secretary shall have the powers to issue notices to the members of the Executive Body about the agenda, date and time, and Place of the meeting of the Body with the approval of the President.
- (c) The General Secretary shall be responsible for the preparation, proper maintenance and the issue of the minutes and records of all the meetings of the Executive body and the General Body. He should ensure in time supply of copies of agenda, minutes of meeting and other notifications to Chief Patron, staff advisor and other members.

(iv) Powers, functions and responsibilities of the Joint secretary cum-treasurers:

- (a) He shall in the absence of the general secretary perform all the functions and exercise all the powers of the general secretary. He shall be responsible for the Financial Management.
- (b) He shall prepare the annual budget and for the approval of the Executive body. He shall operate the bank account and sign the cheques jointly with the general Secretary, subject to the approval of the budget in the manner proscribed in article VI. He shall also be entitled to draw and incur expenditure on contingent items with the prior approval of the president of the association subject to the overall limit Rs. 1000/-per annum.
- (c) He shall be responsible for proper maintenance, up-keep and submission of the accounts of the association.
- (d) He shall be responsible for proper maintenance and up-keep of all materials and stores of the association.

(v) Culture & literary secretary: He shall be responsible for organizing culture and literary programmes in the college.

(vi) Games secretary: He shall be responsible for all the games and sport activities in the college.

ARTICLE V FINANCE, BUDGET, ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT:

- (d) Finance: the funds of the association shall comprise of :
 - (a) Membership fees paid by registered students.
 - (b) Subscription fees paid by the members.
 - (c) Grant made by the college to the association for various purposes or functions.

NOTE: The association will not be entitled to receive any funds or donation from any political party or its affiliated organizations. Specific purpose donations may

however be accepted from other organizations and individuals provided those are received with the approval of and through the Dean.

(ii) Budget: the budget estimate have to be proposed for the Ist half and IInd half of the year by the Executive Body indicating the estimated expenditure on every item of association activities planned for the year and the same will be submitted to the Chief Patron whose final approval in writing will entitle the office bearers to coprate on the bank account of association.

(iii) Account: The accounts of the Association will be audited annually or as and when ordered by the Dean.

ARTICLE VI: GENERAL BODY MEETING

(i)A general body meeting may be called by issuing a notice in writing at least seven days before the meeting, Agenda items along with detailed agenda notes both duly approved by the executive body shall be required to be circulated along with the notice and the agenda as well as the date, time and place will be notified by the display of notices on the notice boards No general body meeting can be held 15 days prior to start of final examination

(ii)One third of the total strength of the general body will form the quorum.

(iii)All decisions will be taken on the basis of a simple majority; however for changes in constitution two third majority is must.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION OF VETERINARY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

(A)Proposals for amendment to this constitution can be moved by any member at least two weeks before its General Body meeting. The proposal will be first considered in Executive Body provided that the Executive Body adopts it by at least two-third. Majority of members it shall be sent to General Body for referendum. Such an amendment can only be passed if favored by simple majority. It is mandatory that the notification for such meeting be sent to the Chief Patron & Staff advisor. Presence of Staff Advisor in the above meeting is a must. The recommendation for amendment, appeal or abrogation shall be submitted to the Chief Patron.

(B) Proposal for amendment to this Constitution can be moved by only Asstt. Dean Students Welfare. The Chief Patron on the recommendation of staff council may give his consent to the proposed changes in the constitution.

Permission of Chief Patron is mandatory for inviting any dignitary for Association functions.

ARTICLE VIII- All the new Office Bearers of the Executive Body and the members of the Executive Body will, except for the first Executive Body, take charge from the previous Office Bearers/Members normally within a period not exceeding 48 hours after the results of election have been declared. Any other Office Bearer or the member of Executive Committee will be required to hand over charge of his Office at the time of withdrawal/obtaining degree. This charge will be given to Vice-President in the case of President, to the Joint Secretary, in the case of General Secretary and to any member designated for the purpose by the Executive Body in the case of joint secretary-cum-treasure or any other office bearer. If the Vice-President and joint Secretary (General) are also leaving, the charge of the president and General Secretary will be handed over to a care taker Committee with Care Taker President. Care taker General Secretary to be elected by the remaining members of the Executive body for the rest of the period.

ARTICLE-IX: OATH/AFFIRMATION BY OFFICE BEARERS/EXECUTIVE BODY MEMBERS

All members of the executive Body and all Office Bearers of the Executive Body shall be required to take the Oath or affirm solemnly as follows:

(I) For members -

I having been elected the member of the Executive of the Veterinary Students Association, Bikaner do swear in the name of god/solemnly affirm that I will discharge the duties to the best of my ability perform, protect and defend the honour and will being of the College of Veterinary and animal Science, Bikaner for all times in letter and in accordance with the constitution and the objectives of this College.

(ii) For Office Bearers

I, hereby swear in the name of God/solemnly affirm that I will faithfully discharge the functions of the President/General Secretary/Joint Secretary (General)/Joint secretary (finance management)/vice president of the Veterinary Students Association of the College of Veterinary and Animal Science, Bikaner and will to the best of my ability perform, protect and defend the constitution and the objectives of this Association.

The Oath will be administered by any staff member designated by the Chief Patron.

ARTICLE X: BARING JURISDICTION OF COURT OF LAW-

The decision regarding eligibility, disqualification results and conduct shall not be questioned in the court of law.

ARTICLE XI - FINANCIAL LIABILITY AND ELECTION RELATED

EXPENDITURE

- i) A candidate is restricted to spend up to maximum Rs.5,000/- as election related expenditure.
- ii) Every candidate must submit a Statement of complete Expenditure incurred in the election within two weeks of the declaration of the results to ADSW.
- iii) ADSW will notify the statement of expenditure of the candidates within two days of the receipt of the statement. Members of student's body can examine the expenditure statement of any candidate.
- iv) A candidate's election will be null and void if it is found that his expenditure on elections is more than Rs.5000/-.
- v) Monetary contribution from political parties and other organizations is strictly prohibited except voluntarily contributions from the students.
- vi) Every student entitled to be a member of the Association shall pay Association membership fees, to be determined from time to time by the College, as annual subscription along with his other fees at the time of his/her registration in the academic year.
- vii) The annual budget of the Association shall be prepared by its Joint-Secretary-cum-Treasurer in consultation with the President within one month of its election. The budget shall then be presented to the Association to be passed by majority vote. The budget will become effective after it is approved by the Chief Patron subject to availability of funds accrued out of Association fee etc. The college shall not be able to provide any additional grant except in exigencies subject to satisfaction of

the Chief Patron on the recommendations of ADSW.

viii) The Joint Secretary-cum-Treasurer will present a statement of audited annual expenditure of the Association in its Annual Meeting.

ix) Each candidate for each post has to deposit security money of Rs.500/- while filing his/her nomination. A receipt in this behalf may be given to the candidate mentioning the Receipt No. on the nomination form. This amount shall be refundable to candidates getting 1/6th or more of the total votes casted for that particular post. The candidate getting less than 1/6th of the total votes casted shall forfeit their security. The names of candidates losing security shall be notified by the Chief Electoral Officer. Candidates withdrawing their nomination will get the refund of the security money.

ARTICLE XII - CODE OF CONDUCT DURING TENURE OF OFFICE AND ELECTION

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, religions or linguistic, or between any group(s) of students.

ii) 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.

iii) There shall be no appeal on the basis of caste or communal feelings for securing votes. Places of worship, within or out of 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 propaganda means within 100 meters of polling stations, holding public meetings during the period of 24 hours ending with the hour fixed for the close of the poll campaign 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 hand-made posters for the purpose of canvassing, provided that such hand-made posters are procured within the expenditure limit set out herein above (These should not be of bad taste or vulgar)
- vi) Candidates may only utilize hand-made posters at specified places in the campus, which shall be notified in advance by Chief Electoral Officer / college authority.
- vii) No candidate shall be permitted to carry out processions, or public meetings, or in any way canvass or distribute propaganda items outside the university/college campus.
- viii) No candidate shall, nor shall his/her supporters, deface or cause any destruction to any property of the university / college campus including hostels, for any purpose whatsoever. All candidates shall be held jointly and severally liable for any destruction / defacing of any university /college property, and shall be accordingly liable for punishment and/or penalty and also FIR can be lodged for defacement of property under relevant Act (s).
- 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 college / university. Further, such procession / public meeting may not be held without the prior written permission of the college / university authority and shall be restricted to the campus only.

- x) The use of loudspeakers, vehicles (three and four wheelers) and animals for the purpose of canvassing shall be prohibited.
- xi) The Association or any of its bodies or any office bearers shall have no contact with any political party or organization so far as the activities of the Association and other College bodies are concerned.
- xii) The Association shall not be authorized to take up the issues/ cases of individual students. The Association shall not be authorized to take up issues related to conduct rules, attendance, unfair means or other such cases which are decidable on the basis of rules and regulations of the College.
- xiii) The Association or any of its bodies shall not act on a call given by any political party or agency.
- xiv) If a member of the Association indulges in an act of indiscipline or misbehaves towards either a staff member or any member of his family, the concerned Students Association shall condemn this activity.
- xv) The Association or any of its bodies shall not organize any procession or demonstration against any individual employee. No procession or demonstration or any type shall be taken to the residential areas in the campus.
- xvi) The Association and its various bodies and office-bearers shall be responsible to extend cooperation to the college authorities in maintaining discipline and peaceful atmosphere in the College. The Association and

its members shall endeavor to maintain a good name and reputation of the College.

- xvii) The members of the Association shall not organize or participate in any strike, demonstration, dharna gherao etc. on any issue that has not been referred to and considered by the appropriate authority in accordance with the procedure laid down.
- xviii) The Association, its various bodies of office-bearers shall not misinterpret or indulge in false propaganda against College policies/ decisions.

ARTICLE XIII - POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF CHIEF PATRON

- i) The Chief Patron shall ensure that the Association and its various bodies function in accordance with provisions of this Constitution.
- ii) The Chief Patron or any other person nominated by him/her, on his behalf, shall have the right to attend any meeting, when he shall also chair it.
- iii) If, at any time, the Chief Patron finds that a situation has arisen whereunder the Association cannot function according to the provisions of this Constitution, he may suspend the Association. The period of suspension shall not exceed one month and at the end thereof, he shall have the discretion either to revoke the order of suspension or dissolve the Association.
- iv) The Chief Patron can amend the Constitution and election procedure whenever necessary.
- v) The Chief Patron may delegate any or all his powers to any officer of the College.

ARTICLE XIV - GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL MECHANISM

1. A Grievances Redressal Cell will be formed by the Dean with a teacher in charge of student affairs as its chairman. In addition, one senior faculty member, one senior administrative officer and two final year or Post graduate 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 institution.

2. 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 institutional head 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 institutional head may revoke or modify the sanctions imposed by the grievance cell

3. 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 they shall have the authority: (i) 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 (ii) to inspect the financial reports of any candidate and make these records available for public scrutiny upon request.

4. 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.

5. The Grievance cell may dismiss a complaint if:

(i) the complaint was not filed within the time frame prescribed in Recommendation No. 4 above;

(ii) the complaint fails to state a cause of action for which relief may be granted;

(iii) the complainant has not and / or likely will not suffer injury or damage.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. All Grievance cell hearings, proceedings, and meetings must be open to the public.

10. All Parties of the Grievance cell hearing shall present themselves at the hearing, may be accompanied by any other student from which they can receive counsel, and have the option to be represented by that counsel.

11. 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 Grievance cell member designated by the Chair.

12. 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:

- 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 the Grievance cell Chair for the purpose of testifying by proxy.
- All questions and discussions by the parties in dispute shall be directed to the Grievance cell.
- There shall be no direct or cross-examination of any party or witness by complaining or responding parties during hearings.
- Reasonable time limits may be set by the Grievance cell, provided they give fair and equal treatment to both sides.
- The complaining party shall bear the burden of proof.
- 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.

- If the decision of the Grievance cell is appealed to the institutional head , the Grievance cell must immediately submit its ruling to the commission.
- 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
- Any fine or total amount of fines against a candidate in an election cycle may not exceed the spending limit as defined herein above.
- 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 candidates 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.
- 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.
- Any party adversely affected by a decision of the Grievance cell may file an appeal with the institutional head within twenty-four (24) hours after the adverse

decision is announced. The institutional head shall have discretionary appellate jurisdiction over the Grievance cell in all cases in which error on the part of the Grievance cell is charged.

- The decision of the Grievance cell shall stand and shall have full effect until the appeal is heard and decided by the institutional head.
- The institutional head 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 institutional head 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 institutional head agrees to accept the waiver.
- The institutional head can issue suitable orders to suspend or halt the operation of the ruling issued by the Grievance cell until the appeals are decided.
- The institutional head shall review findings of the Grievance cell when appealed. The institutional head may affirm or overturn the decision of the Grievance cell, or modify the sanctions imposed.

ARTICLE XV - MAINTAINING LAW AND ORDER ON THE CAMPUS DURING THE ELECTION PROCESS

(i) 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, within 12 hours after the alleged commission of the offence.

ARTICLE XVI - INTERPRETATION OF CONSTITUTION

Any doubt or dispute regarding the interpretation of any provision of this Constitution or any other matter not covered explicitly/implicitly by this Constitution, shall be referred to the Chief Patron whose decision in this respect shall be final and binding.

AMMENDMENTS

The Chief Patron has approved the following amendments in the constitution by using his power given to him in the Article **XIII, para (iv)** of the VSA Constitution.

1. **In Article II**, Election, Para No. 3 it is written as under:

“The candidate securing the highest number of valid votes will be declared elected. If two or more candidates secure the same numbers of votes, election of President/Vice-President/General Secretary/Joint Secretary/ Class Representative, as the case may be, will be decided by draw of lots by the Chief Electoral Officer.”

It is amended as under:

“The candidate securing the highest number of valid votes will be declared elected. If two or more candidates secure the same numbers of votes, election will be decided by draw of lots by the Chief Electoral Officer.”

2. **In Article II, Election**, Para No. 6, second line shows the word “Tribunal”.

The word tribunal is replaced with “Grievances Redressal Cell”.

3. **In Article XI**, Election, Para No. ix) it reads as under:

“Each candidate for each post has to deposit security money of Rs.500/- while filing his/her nomination. A receipt in this behalf may be given to the candidate mentioning the Receipt No. on the nomination form. This amount shall be refundable to candidates getting 1/6th or more of the total votes casted for that particular post. The candidate getting less than 1/6th of the total votes casted shall forfeit their security. The names of candidates loosing security shall be notified by the Chief Electoral Officer. Candidates withdrawing their nomination will get the refund of the security money.”

It is amended as under:

“Each candidate for each post has to deposit security money of Rs.500/- while filing his/her nomination. A receipt in this behalf may be given to the candidate mentioning the Receipt No. on the nomination form. This amount shall be refundable to candidates getting 1/6th or more of the total votes casted for that particular post. The candidate getting less than 1/6th of the total votes casted shall forfeit their security. The names of candidates loosing security shall be notified by the Chief Electoral Officer. Candidates withdrawing their nomination will get the refund of the security money. For refund of security money, the candidate fulfilling the above requirements can apply within one month of the declaration of results, along with the original receipt, to the Returning Officer. Applications received after one month of declaration of result will not be entertained and security money of such students will be forfeited.