

**The Constitution  
of  
Miranda House Students' Union  
and Societies**

**Amended in 2007-2008**



**MIRANDA HOUSE**

University of Delhi

Delhi 110007

**The Constitution of Miranda House  
Student's Union  
Amended in 1995-1996 and in 2007-2008**

**Preamble**

In an effort to realize our responsibilities to ourselves, to our college, and to our community: to stand up for students' rights within and outside our college, to promote college spirit and discipline, to encourage ideals, to uphold a high standard of scholarship and citizenship and to further our social relationships, we the students of Miranda House do establish this constitution.

**Section A:**

1. There shall be a Students Union in Miranda House.
2. All students of Miranda House on the college rolls shall belong to it.
3. The union shall be managed by the Union Executive Council.
4. Member of the Executive Council shall not go out of office until they have handed over charge to the new office bearers.
5. There shall be a copy of the Constitution with the Principal, Teachers, every member of the Executive Council and one with every student of the college.
6. No one will hold the same office more than once.
7. The Principal of Miranda House shall be the patron of the union.
8. The Executive Council shall be the highest authority of the Union.

**SECTION B:**

1. The Union Executive Council shall consist of 38 Members:  
President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Two Central Councilors who represent the college in DUSIJ.  
Presidents of Cultural societies (Currently 9-list enclosed)  
Sports President  
NSS President  
NCC President  
Hostel President  
One member from each course (Currently 20- list Attached)

2. The President shall be from the M.A.IM.Sc (Previous) or B.A.JB.Sc III year and elected by all the students of the college in an open election. She shall be subject to the disqualification clauses of the DUSU Constitution.

The Vice President shall be from the II Year and elected from the II Year by all the students of the college.

The Secretary shall be from the II Year and elected from the II Year by all the students of the college.

The two Central Councilors shall be from III year and elected by all the students of the college in an open election. They shall be subject to the disqualification clauses of the DUSU Constitution.

The Presidents of the Cultural Societies shall be elected and sworn in thus:

- (i) Students can enroll in the Cultural Societies, recognized by the staff council, till 15th November. The record of registered members shall be maintained.

- (ii) The Presidents of the Cultural societies shall hold office only once.

- (iii) The Presidents of the Cultural societies shall be elected from the land II Year students in the month of February under the supervision of the Staff Advisor to the society, by their registered members. The Presidents will be sworn in as members of the Students Union within a fortnight of the notification of the results.

- (iv) The out going Presidents of the Cultural Societies shall hand over all the records, reports and accounts of the Society by 15th March to the new President under the supervision of the Staff Advisor. This will ensure smooth functioning of the societies through the year, including the summer holidays and when the college begins the admission procedures.

The Course Representative shall be from the III Year. Each Department shall conduct its election in the month of February.

The Course Representatives, the Presidents of the hostel and the co-curricular activities shall be sworn in as members of the Students Union within a fortnight of the notification of the results.

### 3. Eligibility Criteria:

- i. To qualify for election, the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary and the two Central Councilors of the Miranda House student union will follow the DUSU guidelines.

- ii. The Presidents of the nine cultural societies shall be elected on the basis of their active participation in the societies that they represent with a minimum of 67% attendance without medical certificates.
- iii. The member representative from each course shall be elected on the basis of her active participation in her departmental activities with a minimum of 67% attendance without medical certificates.
- iv. Sports, NSS and NCC have their own criteria such as representation at national level etc. The Presidents of these co curricular activities shall be elected on the basis of their active participation in their respective fields with a minimum of 67% attendance without medical certificate.
- v. The Hostel president shall be elected on the basis of active participation in hostel activities with a minimum of 67% attendance without medical certificates.

Students found resorting to unfair means in the University examinations shall be disqualified from any posts they may be holding at the time, and from contesting elections.

If a students contesting or intending to contest the elections resorts to violence or threats to violence against opposing candidates, she shall be disqualified from contesting the election.

If a student contesting or intending to contest the elections organizes a private party/activity to garner votes using the name of the institution (i.e. Miranda House) she shall be disqualified from contesting the election.

In the absence of the President of the Union, the Vice President shall officiate as the acting President.

The Secretary of the Union shall also undertake the duties of Treasurer.

4. The President, Vice President, Secretary and the two councilors of the Union Executive Council shall be sworn in after elections are held as per the DUSU election schedule. They shall remain in office for a period of one year.
5. The Union shall hold at least one General Body Meeting per term.
6. The Union shall not take any decision without consulting the Staff advisors.

7. The Union shall not take any decisions without conducting a meeting of the Executive Council attended by not less than 50% of its members and passed by 2/3 present and voting.
8. The union shall present an annual Calendar of activities and budget before the end of the first term or within a month of its election.

**List of Current Cultural Societies:**

1. Debating Society
2. Anukriti-Hindi Dramatics
3. Ariels-English Dramatics
4. Fine Arts
5. M.H. Vatavaran
6. Music, Dance and Choreography
7. Spic Macay
8. Quiz Society
9. Gandhi Study Circle

**List of Course:**

1. English 11. Sociology
2. Hindi 12. Political Science
3. Sanskrit 13. Physics
4. Bengali 14. Chemistry
5. Economics 15. Botany
6. History 16. Zoology
7. Philosophy 17. B.A. Programme
8. Mathematics (B.A.) 18. B.Sc. (L.S.)
9. Mathematics (B.Sc.) 19. B.SC. (P.A.)
10. Geography 20. B.El. Ed.

**SECTION C:**

1. A Court of Honour shall be established consisting of the President, Secretary and three members of the Executive Council and address violation of rules and student grievances. The findings shall then be communicated to the Principal for final decision and action.
2. The Union Executive Council shall perform all necessary functions in connection with:

- a. Library
  - b. Cafeteria
  - c. Sanitation
  - d. General behaviour and tone
3. Responsibility for general behaviour and tone shall be given to a special body to be known as the Proctorial Board. Membership of this Board shall be as follows:
- a. President, Vice President and the General Secretary.
  - b. Hostel, Sports, NSS and NCC Presidents.
  - c. Two representatives each from Humanities and the Sciences from among the union executive Council

#### **4. Vote of No-Confidence**

- a. The General Body of students can move a no- confidence motion against the President, Vice- President or Secretary of Executive Council, by moving a written resolution supported by the signatures of at least one-fifth the total number of students on the rolls.
- b. Such a resolution in order to be effective shall have to be passed at a General Body meeting by two-thirds of those present and voting (given quorum of one-fourth the total number of students on the college rolls).
- c. Not less than one-third members of the Union Executive Council may move a resolution of no-confidence against any of the elected office-bearers.
- d. A no-confidence resolution moved in the Union Executive Council, in order to be effective will be required to have been passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the Union Executive Council. The resolution shall then have to be passed at a General Body meeting by two-thirds of those present and voting (given quorum of one-fourth the total number of students on the college rolls).
- e. In case of any no-confidence motion, the Staff advisors to the Union shall be present at the Executive Council as well as the General Body meeting.

- f. A no-confidence resolution against any of the elected office-bearers cannot be moved before the first week of December of the year.
- g. A notice of minimum of fifteen days will be required for any no-confidence motion to be moved.

**5. Amendment of the Constitution**

- a. Any proposed amendment to the Constitution must have the signatures of at least one-fifth of the total students on the rolls supporting it, and can then be moved through any member of the Union Executive Council.
- b. Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be put to the Executive Council for thorough discussion.
- c. Two-thirds of the members of the Union Executive Council, shall than call a meeting of the General Body having given fifteen days notice of the text of the amendment. At the meeting the amendment shall be deliberated upon by an open debate.
- d. Voting on the amendment shall take place at the same or a subsequent meeting of the General body (subject to the majority decision of the Executive Council).
- e. If the proposed amendment is passed by fifty-one percent (fractions to be rounded off to the nearest whole number) of those present and voting (given quorum of one-fourth of the total number of students on the rolls), it shall be put to the staff and Principal for consideration and on approval, it will be adopted.

or

If necessary, a joint meeting of the Principal, Staff. Advisors to the Union and Executive Council may be called to discuss the amendment, and find a solution acceptable to all parties.

- 6. The Union President, or two-thirds members of the Executive Council, or one-fourth of the students of the General Body (through a petition supported by all their signatures) shall have the right to call a meeting of the General Body of students. The minimum quorum for any general body shall be one-fourth of the total number of students on the rolls (fractions rounded off to the nearest whole number). A general body without the consent of the President can be called with the pennission of the Principal over and above the authority of the President, only if at least two thirds

of the Union Executive Council or one-fourth of the students of the General Body through their petition, agree to it.

**7. Election duties:**

- a. Elections shall be conducted by election officers nominated by the Principal. The Executive Council shall plan in accordance with the Constitution each new election in good time.
- b. Each candidate may have an observer who is present during the polling and counting of votes.
- c. The Returning Officers for election of Presidents and Secretaries to all societies shall be the Staff Advisors to those societies.

**8. Nominations and Voting:**

- a. Each nomination should have attached an attendance certificate (signed by Teacher-in-charge and stating attendance or by all four teachers in the case of B.A. Programme and B.Sc General) and certificate stating active membership of at least one cultural and co-curricular activity (signed by staff advisor to that Society)
  - b. Notice inviting nominations shall be put up on the Election Board.
  - c. The election officers nominated by the Principal shall be responsible for the collecting and counting of votes.
  - d. Withdrawal of a name already nominated must be made.
  - e. The General Body meeting shall be conducted impartially by the outgoing General Secretary before the election.
  - f. Rules for the electoral procedure shall be read out at the General Body meeting, to create awareness.
  - g. No student shall hold more than one office (but may be an ordinary member of another society in addition to holding one office).
9. College functions to be organized by the Executive Council.
- a. Founders Day
  - b. National festivals.
  - c. Social functions, internal functions (or farewells etc)
  - d. College representation on Delhi University of all India or International Student bodies.
  - e. College Festival.



## **10. Union Funds**

Union funds shall be operated by the president vice- President and Secretary of the Union through a separate account operated by the principal of the College and a minimum sum of Rs. 1000/- shall be kept permanently with the President in case of emergencies.

### **SECTION D:**

1. Interpretation of this Constitution, removal of doubts and difficulties:

If any question arises relating to the interpretation of this Constitution or any rules framed there under, it shall be referred to the Patron in consultation with StaffAdvisors to the Union, whose decision thereon shall be final.

2. Commencement of the Constitution:

This Constitution or any amendment thereof, shall come into force with effect from a date to be notified by the Patron, after due procedure has been followed.

April 2008