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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

CNR No. DLHC010028872017

+ **W.P.(C) 7824/2017**

PRASHANT MANCHANDA

.....Petitioner

Through: Petitioner in person with Mr.Angad Singh, Mr.Rohan Pratap, Mr.Varun, Ms.Nancy Shah, Advs.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS

.....Respondents

Through: Mr.Chetan Sharma, ASG with Mr.Amit Gupta, Mr.R.V.Prabhat, Mr.Shubham Sharma, Mr.Naman, Advs for UoI.

Mr.Mohinder JS Rupal with Mr.Hardik Rupal, Ms.Aishwarya Malhotra, Ms.Tripta Sharma, Advs for Delhi University.

Mr.Syed Abdul Haseeb, CGSC with Mr.Muhammand Amir Khan, Adv for Delhi Police.

Mr.Adhitya Srinivasan with Mr.Vedansh Anand, Mr.Shivam Kumar, Mr.Rishi Raj Singh, Advs for R-8/ABVP.

Mr.Sanjeev Sabharwal, SC for MCD with Ms.Shweta Singh, Adv.

CORAM:

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TEJAS KARIA

ORDER

17.09.2026

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CM APPL. 64187/2026

1. Heard the petitioner, who appears in person, Mr.Chetan Sharma, learned ASG representing the Union of India, Mr.Mohinder JS Rupal, learned counsel representing the Delhi University, Mr.Syed Abdul Haseeb, learned CGSC representing the Delhi Police, Mr.Adhitya Srinivasan, learned counsel representing the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, Mr.Sanjeev Sabharwal, learned Standing Counsel representing the MCD and perused the averments made in the application as also the photographs and other materials enclosed therewith.

2. Use of violence, association of unruly elements and apparent misconduct on the part of the candidates, other students and even outsiders in the elections of the students' union of the Universities/Colleges in the country has been a cause of concern for all responsible sections of the society, including the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The issue engaged attention of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***University of Kerala v. Council, Principals', Colleges, Kerala & Ors.*** [2010 (1) SCC 353]. A committee was formed known as *Lyngdoh Committee*, which made certain recommendations and based on the said recommendations various directions have been issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Union of India, based on the said recommendations of *Lyngdoh Committee*, issued a letter/circular dated 28.11.2006 extracting the provisions of the recommendations of the *Lyngdoh Committee* with a direction to the authorities concerned to follow and implement the same.

3. Such issues have been cropping up time and again so far as the elections of Delhi University Students Union (DUSU) is concerned and



from time to time various orders have been passed by this Court as well.

4. So as to ensure that elections not only are conducted smoothly, but also without any untoward incidents, the authorities of the Delhi University, as also of Delhi Police, have been assuring the Court on various occasions in the proceedings of this matter that they shall take all appropriate steps, which may be warranted to ensure that such incidents, which have been mentioned in the application filed today, do not occur.

5. However, the material placed before us through this application depicts a picture where there appears to be an almost complete failure on the part of the authorities, students and other responsible sections of the society to ensure smooth elections of the DUSU. The material enclosed with this application, if correct, clearly establishes that there have been frequent violations, not only of the recommendations of the *Lyngdoh Committee*, but also of the orders passed from time to time by this Court as also by Hon'ble Supreme Court.

6. In this matter, though various Student Organisations have been impleaded as party-respondents, however, despite notice of this application having been served by the petitioner through e-mail, it is only the respondent no.8, which is represented.

7. Students' Union in the Universities/Colleges are said to be nursery of democracy and, therefore, a democratic process involving such Students' Union need to be strengthened, which will go a long way in strengthening our own democratic system in the society. However, permitting the elections of Students' Union to take such a colour as is depicted from a perusal of the material appended with this application, is unacceptable in any circumstances.



8. In our earlier orders passed in this matter, we have been issuing various directions and even have been urging the students and their organisations, civil administration and Police authority and all other concerned to ensure proper conduct of the elections, however the kind of conduct which is generally reported and, as a matter of fact, is a matter of common knowledge, tells the story otherwise.

9. We direct that instructions on this application shall be completed by the learned counsel for the parties by tomorrow i.e. 18.09.2026. The learned counsel, who are representing different Students Organisations, will also be present on the next date.

10. The Delhi Police as also the Delhi University shall file status report as to what action has been taken by them once the incidents of unruly conduct and violation of *Lyngdoh Committee* recommendations and orders of the Court, Code of Conduct etc., have been flouted. Depending upon the status report to be filed under our order, necessary directions shall be passed tomorrow.

11. List on 18.09.2026 at 12:00 p.m.

12. We request the learned counsel representing the respective respondents to apprise all the authorities including the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar and Chief Election Officer of Delhi University, Secretary(Home), Union of India and Commissioner of Delhi Police of this order forthwith.

DEVENDRA KUMAR UPADHYAYA, CJ

TEJAS KARIA, J

SEPTEMBER 17, 2026/S.Rawat