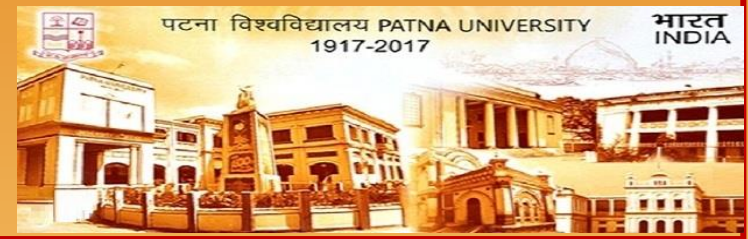




पटना विश्वविद्यालय Patna University

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Over 24,000 students to elect Patna University Students' Union representatives today



PATNA: The stage is set for the Patna University Students' Union (PUSU) polls scheduled for Saturday. More than 24,000 students will exercise their franchise to elect five key office-bearers and 28 council members of the union. Altogether 36 candidates are contesting for five key offices, including those of president, vice-president, general secretary, joint secretary and treasurer. Besides, 74 students are contesting for 28 seats of council membership from different constituencies. Three candidates have already been elected council members unopposed. They are Shalu of

Women's Training College, Mrityunjay Kumar of Patna Law College and Raj Kishor of Patna Training College. The polling would be held at 51 booths located in 14 different constituencies under tight security arrangements. The district administration has deputed adequate police personnel in and around the campus to ensure the safety of the candidates as well as the electorate. At every polling booth, there would be one magistrate accompanied by four police personnel to ensure peaceful polling. Mobile patrolling has also been introduced on the campus, especially around the hostels, said chief returning officer Khagendra Kumar. The polling will be held from 8 am to 2 pm. Students and polling personnel would be allowed to enter the polling booths only after showing their identity cards. Voters would not be allowed to carry their cellphones with them at the booths. Candidates or their authorized representatives would be allowed at the polling booths as well as the counting centres. The ballot boxes would be sealed in the presence of the candidates or their representatives. The counting of votes would start at 4 pm on Saturday itself at College of Arts and Crafts near Patna Museum. The election results are likely to be announced late Saturday night. The ballot papers would be sent to all the polling booths at least two hours before the commencement of voting. More than 200 police personnel would guard the polling and counting centres right from 8 am till the declaration of all results. Meanwhile, candidates contesting for different posts either independently or with the support of organizations affiliated to political parties tried to reach out to their electorate through digital technology, making full use of their mobile phones. There are seven contestants for the post of president. They are Anand Mohan, Pragati Raj, Aditya Ranjan, Manasi Jha, Deepankar Prakash, Saket Kumar and Shashwat Shekhar. As many as eight students are contesting for vice-presidency. They are Munmun Kumari, Shaba Qutub, Manila Phule, Vikramaditya Singh, Pratibha Kumari, Gajendra Kumar Himanshu, Meer Sharfaraz Ali, Basant Kumar Yadav. The number of contestants for the post of general secretary is nine. They are Prince Kumar, Modabbirul Islam, Sakshi Khatri, Kunal Kumar, Sahin Kumar, Bipul Kumar, Samridhi Suman, Kundan Kumar Gupta and Soni Kumari. Six contestants for the post of joint secretary are Sandhya Kumari, Kumari Rachna, Avinash Kumar Mishra, Ravi Karan Singh, Shibli Tabrez and Deo Raj Ram. There are six contestants for the post of treasurer. They are Kalpana Singh, Ravi Kant, Md Ashif Imam, Ravi Kumar, Vaibhav and Amit Kumar.

{ PUSU ELECTIONS } TIGHT SECURITY IN PLACE

24K students set to vote today

Megha

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PATNA: Over 24,000 students of various constituent colleges are set to cast their votes to elect office bearers of Patna University Students Union (PUSU) elections scheduled on Saturday, PU officials said.

According to the officials, 36 candidates are contesting for five key posts, including the president, vice president, general secretary, joint secretary, and treasurer. Besides, 77 are contesting for the post of councillors.

PU's vice chancellor Girish Kumar Choudhary said that at all preparations have been com-



At a polling centre in Patna on Friday.

SANTOSH KUMAR/HT PHOTO

pleted for the elections. "We have encouraged all eligible students to exercise their franchise. Counting of votes and announcement of the results will be done by the evening", Choudhary said.

In view of the PUSU elections, the Patna district administration has made all necessary arrangements at polling booths and adequate police personnel has been deployed to ensure that the elec-

tions are held in a fair and peaceful manner. District magistrate (DM) Chandra Shekhar Singh said voting will be held in 51 polling booths from 8 am to 2 pm. "All necessary arrangements for crowd management, security, and transportation have been completed for the PUSU election. An additional police force will be deployed at 35 spots for tight security. The chief election officer of Patna University has been asked to do videography of the votes casted and the counting process", he said.

Singh said that Section 144 will remain invoked within 200 meters radius of all the polling booths.