



Student Legislative Council 2024-25  
Indian Institute of Technology,  
Madras



**Students' Ethics and Constitution Commission and Student Election  
Commission Bifurcation and Amendment Bill, 2026**

To,  
Yaswanth Kumar A,  
Speaker, Student Legislative Council,  
Indian Institute of Technology, Madras.

20th March 2026  
Shishya Hall, OHM

**Note:**

The following Bill is submitted to the Student Legislative Council Meeting Scheduled on 20th March 2026.

**Summary:**

This Bill seeks to separate the Student Ethics and Constitution Commission (SECC) and the Student Election Commission (SEC) into two independent bodies to eliminate conflicts of interest and improve institutional efficiency.

It clearly defines SECC as a quasi-judicial authority for constitutional interpretation and dispute resolution, and SEC as the body responsible for conducting and regulating student elections.

The Bill also introduces provisions for membership restrictions, jurisdictional clarity, and transitional mechanisms, aiming to ensure transparency, fairness, and stronger student trust in governance and electoral processes.

**Section I: Introduction**

WHEREAS the Students' Constitution of IIT Madras (herein after "Constitution") establishes a separation of legislative, executive, and regulatory powers and vests quasi-judicial and constitutional review functions in the Student Ethics and Constitution Commission (SECC), and electoral administration functions in the Student Election Commission (SEC);

AND WHEREAS the present institutional design, in which the student members of SECC simultaneously serve as the student members of the SEC, creates structural conflicts of interest and practical contradictions in the enforcement of the Constitution and election laws;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary to recalibrate the architecture of student governance to ensure efficiency, transparency, and enduring wider general student body engagement in the fairness of elections and nominations to the elected SGAO constituted positions and constitutional adjudication;

BE IT ENACTED by the Student Legislative Council of IIT Madras as follows:

## **Section II: Short Title, Commencement, and Extent**

- This Bill, upon passing from the Student Legislative Council (SLC) and Board of Students, and ratified by the Senate, may be called “The SECC–SEC Bifurcation and Amendment Act, 2026.”
- It shall come into force on such date as notified by the Dean (Students), contingent upon the approval by the SLC and ratification by the Senate, which date shall not be later than Institute Day 2026.
- It shall extend to all organs of the IIT Madras Student Government defined as per Chapter I, Article VIII, Clause A, and apply to all student elections and nominations to the elected positions conducted under the Students’ Constitution.

## **Section III: Constitutional Amendments**

- The Bill seeks annulment of Chapter V, Section III, Article VI, ‘Conducting Student Government Elections’ that reads,

### ***VI. Conducting Student Government Elections***

*“The SECC shall be responsible for conducting free and fair Student Government elections. The SECC shall act as the Election Commission during the period of elections. The Chief SECC Commissioner shall be the Senior Student Core of the Election Commission, and the SECC Commissioners shall be the junior student cores.”*

- The bill seeks annulment of Chapter X, Section II, ‘THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE (FAC)’ which reads,

### ***SECTION II - THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE (FAC)***

#### ***I. Introduction***

*The Financial Accountability Committee is envisaged as the primary student body for scrutinizing and maintaining the financial records of student organizations of IIT Madras.*

#### ***II. Composition***

*The Financial Accountability Committee shall be composed of a maximum of 10 students.*

### **III. Term of Office**

*Each member shall have a term of office of one year, which is extendable up to a maximum of two years.*

### **X. Eligibility**

*The eligibility of the members of Financial Accountability Committee shall be as follows:*

- A. No Academic or Hostel disciplinary actions*
- B. A minimum CGPA of 6.50*
- C. On-campus resident*
- D. Should not hold any other post at Hostel, Department, or Institute level, whether elected, selected, or nominated, during the period of membership in the Commission.*

### **XI. Appointment of Members**

*The Speaker shall call for applications. The Student Legislative Council shall forward the applications to the Nominations and Ratifications Ad-Hoc Committee to study the applications carefully, with due attention given to the past positions of responsibilities of the applicants. The Committee shall table a report on the same in the Student Legislative Council along with its recommendations. The Student Legislative Council shall then select each of the 10 members of the committee by the following condition:*

- A. At least two-thirds of the Student Legislative Council members should vote*
- B. At least two-thirds of the votes should confirm the appointment*

### **XII. Appointment of the Core(s)**

*The Student Legislative Council shall also appoint Core(s) for the Commission from among the ten members. The confirmation of Chair will require:*

- A. At least three-fourth of the Student Legislative Council members to vote*
- B. At least two-thirds of the votes to confirm the appointment*

### **XIII. Term Extension**

*After the end of one year, any member may choose to continue in the Commission for a further period of one year, provided that the next Student Legislative Council confirms the appointment as per the conditions laid out above.*

### **XIV. Vacancy**

*In the event that the ten seats are not filled after exhausting the applications received, Student Legislative Council may suo moto appoint the remaining members*

from eligible members of the General Student Body by the condition required to appoint the Chair.

### **XV. Financial Accountability Committee and Student Legislative Council**

The Financial Accountability Committee is an independent student investigative body. The Commission is only answerable to the Dean (Students). The FAC shall, however, present reports of completed investigations before the Student Legislative Council. The chairperson of the FAC must also submit a report once in every two months to Student Legislative Council which would give a broad overview of the investigations undertaken by the FAC. In carrying out functions related to accounting and keeping track of the expenditure of student organizations, the Financial Accountability Committee is completely independent.

### **XVI. Jurisdiction**

Every student post (elected/selected/nominated) will come under the jurisdiction of the FAC:

- A. Executive Council members
- B. Hostel Council members
- C. Department Council members
- D. Legislators and Speaker of the Student Legislative Council
- E. cores and coordinators and all recognised PoRs of any body
- F. Any student who uses either the Establishment B fund at the Hostel Level or the Gymkhana fund at the Institute level or any sponsored fund and raised fund or money allocated for the welfare of the students by the institute

### **XVII. Impeachment of Members from the FAC**

The procedures for impeachment of any member from the FAC shall be as follows:

- A. Any complaint received against a member of FAC will be investigated by the Student Legislative Council, of which a report has to be submitted within 14 days of receipt of such a complaint
- B. The report has to be forwarded to the Dean (Students) and the member concerned
- C. If the member so wishes, he/she may submit a report within 7 days of receiving the report
- D. Within the next 7 days, Student Legislative Council may decide to impeach the member concerned

To impeach a member:

- At least two-thirds of the Student Legislative Council members should vote
- At least two-thirds of the votes should confirm the impeachment

To impeach the Core(s):

- *At least three-fourths of the Student Legislative Council members should vote*
- *At least two-thirds of the votes should confirm the impeachment*

*Failure of the members of the FAC to perform their duties is a ground for impeachment. On receipt of a complaint, the Dean (Students) may recommend the impeachment of a member to the Speaker.*

- The bill seeks to insert Article VI under Chapter V, Section III which reads,

***VI. Jurisdiction over Financial Matters***

*“All financial cases, including disputes, complaints, or allegations relating to the utilization or misappropriation of funds within student bodies, organizations, or entities governed under this Constitution, shall be taken up and adjudicated by the SECC.”*

- The bill seeks annulment of Chapter III, Section VI, Article XXIII, ‘Nominations and Ratifications Committee’ which reads,

***XXIII. Nominations and Ratifications Committee***

*“The Nominations and Ratifications Committee shall be a mandatory Ad-Hoc Committee formed to collect applications and propose a final list of nominations for all positions which the Student Legislative Council is required to ratify.”*

- The bill seeks to insert Article VII under Chapter V, Section III which reads,

***VII. Verification of Eligibility and Ratification***

*“The process of ratification shall be carried out by the SECC, and shall involve the verification of eligibility criteria of applicants for the entities governed under this constitution.”*

- The Bill seeks to amend all instances in the Constitution where positions are stated to be ratified by the SLC, to instead state that such positions shall be ratified by the SECC.
- The bill seeks to amend Chapter VIII, Section I, Article I, which reads,

***I.Mandate***

*“The Student Judicial Commission, acting as the Student Elections Commission (SEC) will be empowered with the full authority to enforce any and all regulations, rules, policies, and procedures relating to student elections.”*

**To read as follows**

***I.Mandate***

*“The Student Election Commission (SEC) will be empowered with the full authority to enforce any and all regulations, rules, policies, and procedures relating to student elections.”*

- The bill seeks to amend Chapter VIII, Section I, Article III, which reads,

### ***III. Composition***

*The Student Election Commission shall be constituted by:*

- A. Chief Election Officer (CEO)*
- B. Deputy Election Officer (DEO)*
- C. Student Judicial Commission members*

**To read as follows:**

### ***III. Composition***

*The Student Election Commission shall be constituted by:*

- A. Chief Election Officer (CEO)*
- B. Deputy Election Officer (DEO)*
- C. Chief Election Commissioner (1)*
- D. Election Commissioner (2)*

- The bill seeks to amend Chapter VIII, Section I, Article IV, which reads,

### ***IV. Coordinators***

*“In order to facilitate its smooth functioning, the Student Election Commission may select student coordinators to assist it in conducting the elections. These coordinators shall not be members of the commission, but shall work directly under the supervision of the commission. Applications to this post should be open to the entire General Student Body. In case no applications are received, the Student Election Commission can nominate members.”*

**To read as follows:**

### ***IV. Secretariat***

*“The SEC shall have a dedicated Secretariat comprising of Core Members (details of which shall be deliberated later) nominated by the Chief Election Commissioner subject to ratification by the Student Legislative Council SECC. The Core Members shall appoint Election Managers subject to the Chief Election Commissioner’s approval.”*

### ***V. Election Managers***

*“To facilitate its smooth functioning, the Student Election Commission may select student election managers to assist it in conducting the elections. These managers shall not be members of the commission, but shall work directly under its supervision. Applications for this post should be open to the entire General Student Body. In case no applications are received, the Student Election Commission can nominate members.”*

- The bill seeks to amend Chapter VIII, Section I, Article V, which reads,

### ***V. Financial Support***

*“The Student Election Commission shall receive funding from Gymkhana Fees. The Student Legislative Council shall allocate the money requested by the Chief Election Officer in its budget.”*

**To read as follows:**

### ***VI. Finance***

*A. “The Student Election Commission shall receive funding from Extra-Curricular Fees, contingent on the Dean (Students) approval of the Budget proposed by the Chief Election Officer. The detailed account of the budget proposed to the Dean (Students) must be made available to the GSB via the Student Legislative Council prior to its approval by Dean (Students).”*

*B. The Student Legislative Council can send its non-binding suggestions or opinions to the Student Election Commission through the SLC Speaker within a week of receiving the budget.*

- The bill seeks amend Chapter VIII, Section I, Article VI, which reads,

### ***VI. Duties of the Student Election Commission***

*The Student Election Commission shall be responsible for:*

*A. The conduct of all elections prescribed in the Constitution in a free and fair manner*

*B. Issuing and publicizing the Code of Conduct and campaign restrictions*

*C. Arbitration of complaints through the Grievance Committee*

*D. Announcing the dates and times for the following:*

*1. Filing of nominations*

*2. Withdrawal of nominations*

*3. Complaints regarding nominations*

*4. Date of elections*

*5. Declaration of results*

*E. Specifying procedures for filing and withdrawal of nominations*

*F. Announcing the list of valid nominations and the results of the elections to the General Student Body*

**To read as follows:**

***VII. Duties of the Student Election Commission***

*The Student Election Commission shall be responsible for:*

- A. The conduct of all elections prescribed in the Constitution in a free and fair manner*
- B. Framing and enforcing the Election Manual, including the Model Code of Conduct*
- C. Adjudication of election-related complaints and alleged violations of the Election Manual and Model Code of Conduct*
- D. Arbitration of complaints with the help of Grievance Committee*
- E. Announcing the dates and times for the following:*
  - 1. Filing of nominations*
  - 2. Withdrawal of nominations*
  - 3. Valid nominations after scrutiny*
  - 4. Submission of documents*
  - 5. Final nominations*
  - 6. Release of electoral rolls*
  - 7. Date of elections*
- F. Specifying procedures for filing and withdrawal of nominations*
- G. Coordination with Dean Students' office for declaring and publishing election results*
- H. Conducting the recall procedure of the elected members of the hostel and department council, as per the procedure established by the Constitution*
- I. Filling all the elected positions after their vacancy has been duly notified to the Election Commission*

- The Bill seeks to insert a new Article VIII under Chapter VIII, Section I, to read as follows:

***VIII. Prohibitions***

*The SEC shall not:*

- A. Interpret the Constitution in general*
- B. Adjudicate disputes that are purely constitutional or disciplinary in nature and not substantially related to election processes*
- C. Sit as a general grievance redressal or disciplinary body outside the election law*

- The bill seeks to insert a new Article IX under Chapter VIII, Section I, to read as follows:

### ***IX. The Selection Process of SEC Student Members***

*A. In the case of the Chief Election Commissioner, the process shall involve:*

*i The Outgoing Chief Election Commissioner shall nominate his or her successor in consultation with the Chief Election Officer, Deputy Election Officer, and the Student Election Commission, subject to ratification by the Outgoing Student Legislative Council and SECC Commissioners.*

*B. In the event that no Election Commissioner is willing to apply for the post of Chief Election Commissioner, the following procedure shall be followed:*

*i Public notification to the General Student Body by the Outgoing Election Commission*

*ii An application and interview process conducted by a panel recommended by the Chief Election Officer and constituted by the office of the Dean (Students), comprising the Dean (Students), Chief Election Officer, Deputy Election Officer, the outgoing Chief Election Commissioner, the SLC Speaker (non-voting), the SECC Chief Commissioner, and any other individual as deemed fit by the Chief Election Officer*

*iii The selection shall be by consensus within the panel; however, in the event of a deadlock, voting shall be conducted, with the Chief Election Officer exercising the casting vote*

*iv Ratification by Outgoing SECC Commissioners*

*- If ratification is unlikely from the outgoing SECC Commissioners, the incoming SECC Commissioners may undertake the ratification at the earliest.*

*C. In the case of the Election Commissioners, the process shall involve:*

*i Public notification to the General Student Body by the incoming Chief Election Commissioner*

*ii An application and interview process conducted by a panel constituted by the Chief Election Officer on recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner, comprising the Chief Election Officer, Deputy Election Officer, the outgoing Student Election Commission, the incoming Chief Election Commissioner, and any other individual as deemed fit by the Chief Election Officer*

*iii The selection shall be by consensus within the panel; however, in the event of a deadlock, voting shall be conducted, with the Chief Election Commissioner exercising the casting vote*

*iv Ratification by SECC Commissioners*

- The bill seeks to insert a new Article X under Chapter VIII, Section I, to read as follows:

### ***X. The Election Grievance Committee***

*“A separate Election Grievance Committee shall be formed, comprising, but not limited to, the Dean (Students), Chief Election Officer, Deputy Election Officer, Chief Commissioner and Commissioners of the SECC, and such other members as may be deemed necessary by the Election Officers.”*

- The Bill seeks to insert a new Article XI under Chapter VIII, Section I, to read as follows:

### ***”XI. Removal Procedure of Student Election Commissioners***

*If an Election Commissioner is found performing significantly below expectations, the Chief Election Commissioner shall issue a warning. If the performance does not improve within a span of two weeks, the Election Commissioner may be removed from the Student Election Commission by the Chief Election Commissioner in consultation with the Chief Election Officer and the Deputy Election Officer.*

*If the Chief Election Commissioner is found performing significantly below expectations, the Chief Election Officer, in consultation with the Deputy Election Officer, shall issue a warning. If the performance does not improve within a span of two weeks, the Chief Election Commissioner may be removed by the Chief Election Officer in consultation with the Deputy Election Officer.*

- *The Bill seeks to amend the title of Chapter VIII of the Constitution to read as “Elections, Impeachment and Recall Procedure”.*
- *The Bill seeks to amend Chapter VIII, Section II, Article X which reads,*

### ***X. Grounds for Impeachment***

*Any student representative may be impeached on grounds of*

- A. Non-performance of duties specified in the Students’ Constitution*
- B. Gross misconduct, as found by the Student Judicial Commission, Institute Disciplinary Committee, Complaint Committee Against Sexual Harassment or any similar competent authority*
- C. Financial misappropriation (Financial Accountability Committee shall intimate the Student Legislative Council about the initiation of enquiry and shall submit the report to the Legislative Council in the designated time period)*

***To read as follows:***

### ***X. Grounds for Impeachment and Recall***

*Any student representative may be impeached or recalled on grounds of:*

- A. Non-performance of duties specified in the Students’ Constitution*
- B. Gross misconduct, as found by the Student Judicial Commission, Institute Disciplinary Committee, Complaint Committee Against Sexual Harassment or any similar competent authority*

*C. Financial misappropriation*

- *The Bill seeks to amend Chapter VIII, Section III, Article XI, which reads,*

***XI. Procedure for Impeachment of Members of Executive Council and Student Judicial Commission***

*The following procedures shall be followed in case of impeachment of EC members:*

- A. An impeachment motion against any member of the Executive Council or Student Judicial Commission can be raised in a regular meeting of Student Legislative Council, or by letter/email to the Speaker by any General Student Body member, provided that it is supported by at least 12 Councilors of the Student Legislative Council. This support must also be intimated to the Speaker in writing or as an e-mail.*
- B. A Legislative Committee shall be formed within 48 hours of the receipt of the letter/e-mail to look into the allegation and the representative shall be presented with the opportunity to defend himself/herself in front of the Committee.*
- C. A special session of Student Legislative Council must be convened for the impeachment vote within two weeks of the Committee being set up. The Committee must present a detailed report on the issue to Student Legislative Council in this meeting. The representative shall be considered impeached only if at least three-fourths of the total number of Legislators vote in favour of the motion.*

***To read as follows:***

***XI. Procedure for Impeachment of Members of Executive Council (Except SLC Speaker) and Student Ethics and Constitution Commission***

*The following procedures shall be followed in case of impeachment of EC members (except SLC Speaker) and SECC Commissioner:*

- A. An impeachment motion against any member of the Executive Council (except SLC Speaker) or Student Ethics and Constitution Commission can be raised in a regular meeting of Student Legislative Council, or by letter/email to the Speaker by any General Student Body member, provided that it is supported by at least 12 Councilors of the Student Legislative Council. This support must also be intimated to the Speaker in writing or as an e-mail.*
- B. A Legislative Committee shall be formed within 48 hours of the receipt of the letter/e-mail to look into the allegation and the representative shall be presented with the opportunity to defend himself/herself in front of the Committee.*
- C. A special session of Student Legislative Council must be convened for the impeachment vote within two weeks of the Committee being set up. The Committee must present a detailed report on the issue to Student Legislative Council in this meeting. The representative shall be considered impeached only if at least three-fourths of the total number of Legislators vote in favour of the motion.*

- *The Bill seeks to insert Article XII under Chapter VIII, Section III, which reads:*

### ***XII. Procedure for Impeachment of SLC Speaker***

*The following procedures shall be followed in case of impeachment of the SLC Speaker:*

- 1. An impeachment proceeding against the SLC Speaker can be initiated by one-tenth of the total strength of the electorate. The impeachment motion must be submitted by writing a letter/email to the Student Election Commission (SEC).*
- 2. The SEC shall call for a meeting of the electorate within 5 days of the receipt of the letter/email, where the accusers shall be allowed to present their case and the accused representative shall be allowed to defend himself.*
- 3. The SEC shall conduct the impeachment proceedings in a fair and balanced manner.*
- 4. The impeachment vote must be held by the SEC within 72 hours of the meeting.*
- 5. The representative shall be considered impeached if the number of votes cast in the impeachment vote is equal to or greater than the number of votes that were cast in the representative's election to the post, and at least two-thirds of the votes support impeachment. If the candidate had an unopposed election, then at least two-thirds of the electorate must vote in the impeachment motion, and at least half of the votes must support impeachment.*

- *The Bill seeks to amend Chapter VIII, Section III, Article XII, which reads:*

### ***XII. Procedure for Impeachment of Other Elected Representatives***

*The following procedures shall be followed in case of impeachment of elected Hostel and Department Council members:*

- A. An impeachment proceeding against any elected hostel or department representative can be initiated by one-tenth of the total strength of the electorate for a particular post. The impeachment motion must be initiated by writing a letter/email to the SEC and the Warden/HoD (except in the case of the Speaker).*
- B. The SEC, along with the Warden/HoD (except in the case of the Speaker), shall call for a meeting of the electorate within 5 days of the receipt of the letter/e-mail, where the accusers shall be allowed to present their case and the accused representative shall be allowed to defend himself. The Student Election Commission must ensure that this session is conducted in a fair and balanced manner.*
- C. If the impeachment motion is against the Speaker, the Student Legislative Council shall nominate a Legislator to conduct the impeachment proceedings.*
- D. The impeachment vote must be held by the Student Election Commission within 72 hours of the meeting.*

*E. The representative shall be considered impeached if the number of votes cast in the impeachment vote is equal to or greater than the number of votes that were cast in the representative's election to the post, and at least two-thirds of the votes support impeachment. If the candidate had an unopposed election, then at least two-thirds of the electorate must vote in the impeachment motion, and at least half of the votes must support impeachment.*

*In addition to the above, a Legislator of the Student Legislative Council can be impeached by the Student Legislative Council on grounds given in this chapter, following the procedure established in this chapter by a two-thirds majority of the total members of the Student Legislative Council.*

**To read as follows:**

## **XII. Procedure for Recall of Other Elected Representatives**

*The following procedures shall be followed in case of recall of elected Hostel and Department Council members:*

- A. A recall proceeding against any elected hostel or department representative can be initiated by one-tenth of the total strength of the electorate for a particular post. The recall motion must be initiated by writing a letter/email to the SEC and the Warden/HoD.*
- B. The SEC, along with the Warden/HoD, shall call for a meeting of the electorate within 5 days of the receipt of the letter/e-mail, where the accusers shall be allowed to present their case and the accused representative shall be allowed to defend himself. The Student Election Commission must ensure that this session is conducted in a fair and balanced manner.*
- C. The recall vote must be held by the Student Election Commission within 72 hours of the meeting.*
- D. The representative shall be considered recalled if the number of votes cast in the recall vote is equal or greater to the number of votes that were cast in the representative's election to the post, and at least two-thirds of the votes support recall. If the candidate had an unopposed election, then at least two-thirds of the electorate must vote in the recall motion, and at least half of the votes must support recall.*

*In addition to the above, a Legislator of the Student Legislative Council can be impeached by the Student Legislative Council on grounds given in this chapter, following the procedure established in this chapter by a two-thirds majority of the total members of the Student Legislative Council.*

## **Section IV: Principle of Institutional Separation**

- It is hereby declared that:

- SECC shall function as an independent quasi-judicial and constitutional review body with no role in the day-to-day administration and conduct of elections, except as explicitly provided by this Bill.
- SEC shall function as an independent electoral administration and regulatory body for elections with no role in constitutional interpretation or general disciplinary adjudication, except as explicitly provided for in this Bill.
- No provision of the Constitution or any regulation shall be interpreted to require that the student members of SECC and SEC be identical or overlapping.

## **Section V: Prohibition of Dual Membership and Holding Multiple Positions of Responsibility (PoRs)**

1. No student shall simultaneously hold:
  - Any position as Chief Commissioner or Commissioner of SECC, or Chief Election Commissioner or Election Commissioner in SEC, and any elected Position of Responsibility in the Executive Council; or
  - Any position as Chief Commissioner or Commissioner in SECC, or Chief Commissioner or Commissioner in SEC, and positions affiliated with SGAO as outlined in Chapter I, Article VIII, Clause A.
2. Any student elected or appointed in contravention of sub-section (1) of this section shall:
  - Within seven (7) days of election or appointment, intimate in writing to the Dean (Students), faculty advisors of the respective organisation, and the Student Legislative Council via the SLC Speaker, about the office that they choose to retain;
  - Be deemed to have vacated all other prohibited offices with effect from the date of such choice.
2. a. Within seven (7) days of election or appointment, intimate in writing to the Dean (Students), faculty advisors of the respective organisation, and the Student Legislative Council via the SLC Speaker, about the office that they choose to retain;
- b. Be deemed to have vacated all other prohibited offices with effect from the date of such choice.
3. In the absence of such intimation within the prescribed period, the student shall be deemed to have vacated the later-acquired office, and the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the Constitution or this Bill.

## **Section VI: Confirmation of SECC's Quasi-Judicial Role**

All the relevant sections of the Constitution and the SECC Rules of Procedure shall be functional except those mentioned in this Bill.

SECC shall remain the primary regulatory (quasi-judicial) body of the Student Government and shall:

1. Exercise powers of constitutional interpretation and judicial review over legislation and executive actions, including, where appropriate, actions of the SEC;
2. Adjudicate disputes arising under the Constitution, the Honor Code, and laws enacted by the SLC, including disputes with an election dimension where a constitutional question is clearly raised;
3. Issue binding orders and sanctions within the scope of powers recognized in the Constitution and SECC Rules of Procedure.

SECC shall not:

1. Administer or manage the day-to-day conduct of elections; or
2. Draft or issue the Election Manual, except by way of constitutional review and recommendations.

Nothing in this Act shall derogate from SECC's existing ex officio membership on disciplinary committees as provided by the Constitution; however, such ex officio status shall not be construed to make SECC members part of the SEC.

## **Section VII: Constitutional Review of Election-Related Matters**

- Any student, candidate, or recognized student organisation aggrieved by an action, order, or omission of the SEC on the ground that it violates the Basic Structure and Spirit of the Constitution may petition SECC for constitutional review.
- SECC shall, within ten (10) working days: *(To be added to Rules and Procedures and not in the constitution)*
  - a. Summarily dismiss the petition with brief written reasons if no substantial constitutional question is disclosed; or
  - b. Admit the petition and schedule a constitutional hearing within fifteen (15) working days.
- Upon such hearing, SECC may:
  - a. Declare that the impugned SEC action is consistent with the Constitution; or
  - b. Declare that the impugned SEC action is unconstitutional, and direct the SEC to modify, annul, or redo the underlying decision or procedure in accordance with SECC's constitutional interpretation.
- However, such review petitions can only be filed in matters pertaining to the conduct of the SEC or the rules framed by the SEC, but do not cover the decisions taken by the election grievance committee.

- SECC shall not, in the exercise of this jurisdiction:
  - a. Substitute its own factual findings for those of the SEC, except where the factual finding itself is alleged to violate constitutional due process; or
  - b. Act as a general appellate body for all election disputes.
- SEC shall be bound by SECC’s constitutional interpretations issued under this Section.

## **Section VIII: Jurisdictional Clarification and Referral**

- Election-related disputes concerning:
  - Candidate eligibility as defined by election regulations;
  - Campaign conduct, expenditure, or publicity;
  - Polling and counting irregularities;

shall ordinarily lie within the primary jurisdiction of the SEC.
- Disputes concerning:
  - Whether the Operational Procedures and Guidelines issued by the SEC in the Election Manual and Model Code of Conduct violate the Basic Structure or the Spirit of the Constitution shall lie within the constitutional review jurisdiction of the SECC, subject to the mechanism outlined in Section VI.
- Where a dispute appears to fall in a “border area”:
  - SEC may refer the constitutional component to SECC while proceeding with the remainder of the case; or
  - SECC may, upon receiving a petition, refer non-constitutional aspects back to the SEC for factual determination.
- In case of an unresolved jurisdictional conflict between the SEC and SECC, the Dean (Students), Election officers, and SECC Faculty Advisor may, by simple majority, issue a clarificatory resolution, which shall be binding unless inconsistent with the Constitution. The SLC can further amend the constitution of the relevant rules of procedure to account for the resolution thus enforced.

## **Section IX: Transitional Provisions**

- All actions validly taken by SECC acting in its previous dual capacity as SECC and SEC prior to the commencement of this Act shall remain valid and shall not be open to challenge merely on the ground of bifurcation.
- Ongoing election processes at the date of commencement shall be completed under the pre-existing structure, with this Act taking full effect from the next academic session, 2026–27.

## Section X: Power to Make Regulations; Special Provisions during the Transitional Period

The Transitional Period referred to in this Section shall correspond only to the Academic Year 2026–27.

1. The SEC may, with prior consultation with SECC and approval by the SLC, make or amend an Election Manual consistent with this Act and the Constitution.
2. The SECC may, with approval by the SLC as per the procedure established by law, amend its Rules of Procedure to reflect the bifurcated structure, provided that such Rules:
  - a. Do not conflict with the Constitution or this Act; and
  - b. Ensure due process and reasoned proposals.

### 3. Transitional Provision: Appointment of Student Advisor

A Commissioner of the SECC and SEC (2025–26 term) who applies for the post of Chief Commissioner, SECC, or Chief Election Commissioner, SEC, shall, during the transitional period, be designated as a Student Advisor to the body for which they have not applied.

This appointment is made in recognition of the individual’s experience and institutional knowledge, with the objective of ensuring guidance, continuity, and procedural consistency during the transitional period.

The Student Advisor shall function in a purely advisory and facilitative capacity, consistent with the Rules and Procedures of the SECC and the Students’ Constitution. The role shall include:

- a. Providing procedural guidance and institutional memory to the SECC and SEC;
- b. Assisting in the interpretation of past practices and precedents;
- c. Supporting the conduct of elections and related proceedings through consultation and advice;
- d. Facilitating discussions and consensus-building, where necessary.

The advisory role shall be non-statutory and non-binding in nature. All statutory powers, authority, and responsibilities shall remain vested solely with the duly appointed members of the SECC and SEC.

4. Any regulation made under this Section shall be laid before the SLC and may be modified or annulled by resolution of the SLC as per the procedure established by the law, without prejudice to anything previously done under such regulation.

## Section XI: Savings and Review

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to:

1. Limit the right of the General Student Body to seek constitutional amendments under Chapter XI of the Constitution; or
2. Curtail the power of the Senate or the Institute authorities where expressly reserved to them.

The SLC shall, within one (1) year of the commencement of this Act, review its operation and may recommend further amendments to improve clarity, efficiency, or fairness.

**Drafted and reviewed By,**

Atharv Joshi - SLC Speaker, SLC 2024-25

Yaswanth Kumar A - SLC Speaker, SLC 2025-26

Ad-Hoc Committee on SECC-SEC Bifurcation