eminent alumni Judges' timely directives to ensure clean, aesthetic Campus /Maurice Nagar 20.02.2018

Poll defacement: Warrants against DUSU candidates

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NEW DELHI: On a plea seeking a complete ban on defacement of public propertiesallegedly by Delhi University Students Union (DUSU) poll candidates, the Delhi High Court on Tuesday 20.2.2018 issued bailable warrants against those students who failed to appear before the court despite repeated summons.

The petitioner in the case, advocate Prashant Manchanda, said that previously **Acting Chief Justice Gita Mittal** and **Justice C Hari Shankar** *had taken serious note* of the absence of 22 participating candidates allegedly involved in defacement of public properties, *who failed to make any contribution towards the cleaning drive.*

As a result, he said, the *HC issued a showcause* notice asking *why punitive action may not be taken against them* for failing to participate in the cleanliness drive directed to be carried out by them.

The Court also **directed** the **petitioner, DMRC and DU to prepare formal guidelines with a view to prevent future defacement of public properties during DUSU elections.**

On Tuesday 20.02.2018, the Court noted that as the student candidates had failed to participate in cleaning the defacement and also abstained from appearing in Court proceedings despite repeated directions, they would have *to pay a fine of Rs 5,000* to be collected by the SHO of Maurice Nagar Police Station.

In addition, the HC also stated that *the entire city has been defaced — even churches and other religious institutions were not spared — yet the matter was trivialised by the participating candidates.*

The Court *also expressed concern over the properties permanently damaged by spray paints* stating that the *DUSU President, along with some candidates — who were present in the Court must take concrete steps to beautify the defaced properties preserving their aesthetic value after obtaining permission from the DMRC.*