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AN NSITIAN'S GUIDE TO NSUT

By Manad Gupta

After years of speculation and rumours, the fate of NSIT has finally been decided and on the 26th of September 2018, we'll be re-christened as Netaji Subhas University of Technology, a State University in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. As is with most things in this college, changes come with confusion, chaos and yes, rumours, and this time was no different with fabrications varying from the postponing of Mid-semester exams to mandatory uniforms on campus and even the odd fountain-gazer watching for that first splash of liquid at the central fountain which has been silent since nearly a decade. Keeping aside all these far-fetched stories, our team at The Alliance has gone through the official document that was passed in the Legislative Assembly of the Delhi Government (Bill No. 4 of 2017, 9th August 2017) which mandated this change in order to summarize noteworthy amendments that we can expect to see in the upcoming years. Given below are some of the most important overhauls we can expect on campus:

Rebuilding Reputation & Renamed Degrees

Before September 2018, NSIT was affiliated to the renowned University of Delhi but since now we're a university of our own, future admits into the college won't be receiving the alluring degrees of the University of Delhi, however this has little impact on you dear reader since, you shall be granted a 'DU Degree'. This will prove to be one of the most significant changes as most of us bank upon the aura of the 'DU Stamp' and its stellar reputation while applying for masters in reputed colleges abroad. It could mean undoing the years of hard work done by our notable alumni towards building a

reputation of our college in the larger academic community. The trade-off from this decision is that the administration obtains autonomy and will no longer have to depend on the outdated laws dictated by the University of Delhi.

shall be the principal executive body of the university. Other than the members who're already the part of the court, it'll also include distinguished personalities from academia and industry. It will regulate the finances, pass the annual and



New Authoritative Bodies

New Committees will be formulated, namely the Court, the Board of Management and the Senate which will act as the key decision-making authorities for the university. The Court will be the supreme authority of the university. It will consist of Vice Chancellor, Deans, Minister and Secretaries of Department of Education of Delhi Government (ex-officio), Head of Departments and one distinguished notable alumni, appointed by the Vice Chancellor. The Court will review the broad policies of the university and suggest improvements on a regular basis. The Board of Management

auditing reports and work on the recommendations of the Senate. The Senate, comprising of the board members and two student representatives nominated by the Vice Chancellor, will be the principal academic body and it'll be responsible for maintaining the standards of education, research and examination within the university. The key duties of the Senate will revolve around conducting examinations, prescribing syllabus, recommend scholarships, promoting research and handling academic policies. Finally, a Building and Works Committee shall be constituted to monitor the construction and maintenance of the infrastructure of the university.

Larger Student Intake

Many sources, including officials from the Delhi Government, have already stated that the upgradation to university will result in an increase in intake of students across Undergraduate, Postgraduate and PhD departments over a period of time. Yogesh Singh, an ex-director of NSIT told the Hindustan Times that after becoming a state university, NSIT will expand and increase its strength to a total of 12000 students. This increase in intake outwardly seems extremely advantageous for aspiring Delhi students at first, but will it really be so in the long run? The steady decline in the quality of students admitted in DTU after they increased the intake exponentially over a period of time was quite apparent. The quadrupling of the student population is especially worrisome as we currently lack the infrastructure available to house such a large number of students.

New Academic Activities and Courses

One of the major arguments given for the upgradation to university was the reported increase in the budget allocation for the college. With the increased budget, the university plans to make curriculum at NSIT more oriented towards Research and Development, similar to initiatives implemented at IIITs all over India. The University will also promote global interaction through faculty and student exchange programs with prestigious colleges all over the globe, to widen perspectives and enhance research opportunities for students and teachers. The university also plans to expand and diversify, by providing tailor-made courses

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in humanities, management and social sciences, keeping in mind the societal needs. It will be interesting to note what impact these new-fangled modern educational techniques will have on this extremely traditional institution. All of this revamps happening in tandem with the new CBCS implemented in 2016, the academic landscape in our institution is now unrecognizable to those who've studied here just a few years ago.

New Rules

Becoming a state university would provide complete control of the college to the administration, which is currently in the hands of Faculty of Technology, DU. It is believed that this will lead to resolving many issues such as the delayed compilation of results, clearing of files or bills, and removing the hassles in the administrative processes. This also means that the new college administration has the right to create a new set of rules **Complete Autonomy and** and regulations through new

statutes and ordinances. An **annual report** on the actions taken by the University as well as a detailed description of all expenses will now be submitted by the University to the legislative assembly of Delhi and audited by the CAG. Also, the Board of Management on the recommendations of Senate now has the power to award honorary degrees or academic distinction as well as withdraw diplomas and degrees from any person if found to be guilty of gross misconduct.

A decision this significant

comes with numerous consequences. The upcoming changes can impact the lives of thousands of students who belong to this 35-year-old institution. Only time will tell how NSUT will fare in the longer run, but for now we sit brimming with optimism, anticipation and confusion, hopeful that at the very least things do not go south in this little pocket of greenery we call home in Dwarka Sector 3.

DEAR SEXUAL ABUSER

By Priya Chugh

I was warned against you, rather infused with a sense of terror, right from the time my body advanced to a stage that triggered a state of acute irresistibility and hormonal dysfunction in your ever-unsatisfied balls. Perhaps, they were late to tell me about you. I had already met you at a very tender age, at a time when you took the phrase age is just a number too seriously (heinously) and went ahead with your 'habitual' routine. You entered my life as my favourite uncle, Mr. Disguised Predator, well-established a comfort level only to eventually make me

uncomfortable. I remember the game, where strangely I was always made the obedient, silent victim and yet, even after adhering to the rules, I lost, not once but twice each time - to you and to myself.

As I grew up, it dawned on me that you were omnipresent - right from my swimming classes where you accidently touched my assets repeatedly to the saree store where your hands elaborately felt every inch of my curves as you draped my body and starkly undraped my soul.

Henceforth, we've met multiple times, each time with a new face, at a new place and I consistently fail to identify you. I find you in people I never expected I could and that is more disturbing than finding you in the first place. Temple priests, my family doctor, my teachers and even my closest of friends couldn't resist becoming a part of your demonic kingdom.

You never fail to surprise me with the infallible opportunist in you. When lights in theatres go dim or when the bus halts with the slightest of jerk or when I walk down an aloof ally or during mass protests, I know you'll be there to find sexual gratification in my mental suffocation.

My mom's all-purpose kaala teeka fails to shield me from your X-raying eyes and so do those seasonally functional helplines. At the same time, I hate how my long neglected self-defence lessons and the traitorous pepper spray dutifully become partners in your crime. The uninvited catcalls, the inadvertently intentional body contacts, the grisly penetrations into my territory, all contaminate me. You demean



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a part of me every time you casually comment on my bra size, drunk call to tell me your wildest fantasies, mansplain things to me or selectively compliment protruding parts of my body.

Every encounter with you lands me in a constant conflict to fight back or to fight myself and stay back. An experienced and long dead fighter in me knows that the former results in a blunt denial or a reverse blame. I am left with no choice, but to ignore. I know my silence gives more power to you, but even a national outrage doesn't stir your cold-blooded conscience, keep aside my inconsequential revolt.

Despite the fact that you are detestable by the entire female population, you deserve to be applauded explicitly for exhibiting an exemplary sense of indiscrimination. It is commendable how your testosterone too believes in your equality and gets incited by the fair and the dark, the tall and the short, the young and the old alike. So do your unbiased balls that get piqued by my fully cladded modesty as much as my liberating skin revelations.

To tell you something, you face a terrible dyslexic interpretational disorder where my inaction is taken for docility and my rightful intolerance wrongs your inapparent mas-

culine ego. A darker shade of my lipstick or a backless attire does not, in any way make my consent a self-assumed presigned agreement.

There are days when I doll-up and then change again, just to ensure that my outfit seems appropriate for your inappropriate eyes. Yes, you play a decisive role in my unreasonable deadlines, infrequent parties, the clothes in my closet, the routes I take and the everyday choices I make. You apparently cannot control your hormones but yes, you dominantly control my life without my consent. My vagina bleeds once a month, but pains when you decide. My days are dreadful nightmares

and my nights are impossible. My existence stands threatened by yours. Despite all this, I am glad I met you for you will always be a bad memory, but a good lesson.

And one thing that you've definitely taught me is that my son needs more protection from you than my daughter 'cause I fear he would grow up to be one of your kind.

Hope to never see you again.

Yours savagely, Your made misandrist/ Every girl who was misfortunate to meet you.

INTERVIEW - SHUBHAM KUMAR

By Devansh Batra

Shubham Kumar is a final year computer science undergraduate at NSUT. He currently heads the entrepreneurship cell and is also building his venture LeanTrack, a youth entrepreneurial ecosystem development initiative with a global network. The Alliance got the chance to interview him about his applaudable journey through the start-up world with his venture LeanTrack.

How did your entrepreneurship journey begin?

It started with joining the E-cell NSIT in my first year. We organised a few basic workshops and later the first ever E-summit, which provided an immense amount of experience and insight into the startup world.

I pitched my own concept note, now called Project Adionas, in my second semester at IIFT and won the business plan competition which helped me gain the confidence to start something of my own. While working on my startup and subsequently attending summer school at London School of Economics after my freshman year, I decided to start off with the concept note of LeanTrack, helping more students to start-up.

Please tell us more about LeanTrack. We will be interested to know about the early challenges you faced, your team, your working environment, motivations and objectives.

I, Tanmay Singh (NSIT, BT 4th year) and Vibhu Bhatia (NSIT, BT, 4th year) form the core operating team at LeanTrack. We focus on delivering strategic entrepreneurship support to young entrepreneurs. We create agile offices out of Starbucks, imparting flexibilities to our clients as well.

We have in the past consulted more than 50 youth ventures, primarily in India, with presence in Silicon Valley, Amsterdam, Berlin and Malaysia. In Amsterdam, we have Chris van Diepen as our managing partner for our services.

Acquiring the first 10 customers was the toughest but the most crucial task. We also have had offices in 91Springboard in the past which we later opted out of. Our goal is to establish LeanTrack as a major change agent recognized globally as not just another Indian consultancy establishment offering cheap services.



Would you mind sharing the current happenings at LeanTrack? Things you have achieved recently, things you are looking up to and your immediate goals.

Currently, LeanTrack looks to set up a base in Amsterdam for youth venture consulting and is also attempting to support

companies globally in brand research and design. We are helping entrepreneurs build the stories they want their products to tell. We managed to acquire some global clients a few weeks back and were able to successfully test out our services in foreign markets in addition to delivering some

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skill building workshops in Europe (Amsterdam & Berlin).

I am looking forward to having our student startup consulting service pro bono for students in India and am currently working on this goal by setting up alternative sustainable revenue streams.

How can a budding entrepreneur decide whether his idea is worth investing into, and whether he should invest his own time and money into it?

After working with a large number of young entrepreneurs in the past, I'd say that if you are able to get 10 people invested in your idea within a week, be it through the means of time, money or services, then your idea is worth investing into, because you as an entrepreneur are worth working with.

We at LeanTrack promote

bootstrapping, that is utilising minimum possible resources of your own initially, and work on Lean methodologies, that is making best use of your available resources to start. That being said, if you are able to see the potential in your ideas and are able to validate it by gathering few enthusiastic customers, there is no harm in investing some of your own capital, albeit with caution, making the best use of every penny invested.

What do you believe is the most critical factor that determined your success? Also, kindly share your future plans in regards to your startup and your career.

I feel, what always helped me was my failure resume. I keep a failure resume that I update regularly. It is something which is very private and records my failures but helps me under-

stand what went wrong and decide my next step. Also, I always focus on the right combination of skill set enhancement and gaining work experience, never fully investing into one. Hence, a balanced approach on both ends is what, in my opinion, has really helped me move forward in past years.

As far as the future is concerned, I am juggling between gaining some experience from a top tier management consulting firm and/or continuing to expand LeanTrack's services to a larger section of youth population globally.

How integral has NSIT been to the development of yourself and your startup?

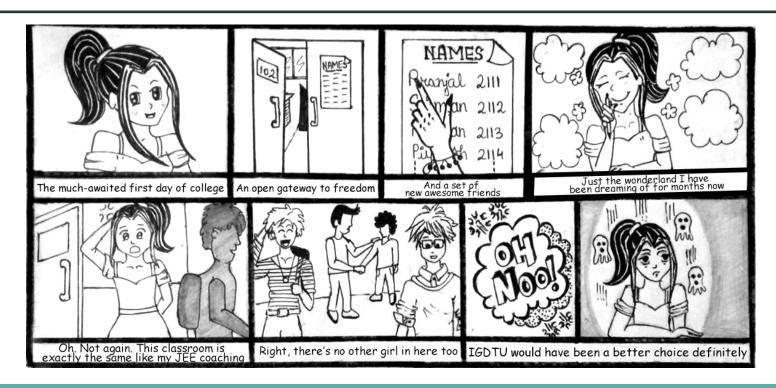
As previously mentioned, E-cell NSIT has been an integral part of my entrepreneurial journey. It's always good to be a part of a premier institute of the coun-

try. In addition to it, having a degree from Delhi University has always backed me up in applying to non technical programmes abroad and to network and connect better. NSIT has some amazing people, who have always encouraged me to be at my best self and my seniors who have always guided me in my explorations and continue to do so.

Is there anything you would like to tell our readers? (Please feel free to rephrase the question in any way you like)

I would like to share a quote which keeps me going during tough times -

"Don't be afraid to fail because when we dare and we don't fail, we change the world"



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