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### **CREATING AWARENESS ABOUT PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM AND PROCEDURES**

#### **BACKGROUND**

The 4th All India Whips' Conference, held at Bombay in 1962, made the following recommendation:

“The Committee recommends that Government should encourage holding of mock Parliaments (now Youth Parliament) in educational institutions and through Panchayats in rural areas.”

In pursuance of the above recommendation and with a view to develop a democratic ethos among the younger generations, the scheme of Youth Parliament competition was introduced in the Higher Secondary Schools of the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in collaboration with the Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi in the year 1966-67. To broaden the base and reach of this activity, the schools run by the NDMC were also brought under the ambit of this scheme in the year 1995.

In the year 1978, Kendriya Vidyalayas located in and around Delhi were inducted into the ongoing Youth Parliament Competitions in the Higher Secondary Schools under the Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi. Gradually, owing to increase in the number of participating schools, a separate scheme was launched in 1983 for the Kendriya Vidyalayas in and around Delhi on the lines similar to those of the scheme for Senior Secondary Schools under the Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi. In the year 1988,

the scheme of Youth Parliament was launched at the national level in the Kendriya Vidyalayas as part of the celebrations of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's birth centenary and forty years of India's Independence.

In the year 1997, the schemes of Youth Parliament were launched at the national level in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas and Universities/Colleges, as part of the celebration of the Golden Jubilee year of India's Independence, on the pattern of the national scheme for Kendriya Vidyalayas.

### **PROCESS**

Youth Parliament competitions under the various schemes are organised as under:

#### **Youth Parliament Competition Scheme for recognised educational institutions in the NCT of Delhi**

- (a) In the first instance, the officers of the Ministry of the Parliamentary Affairs hold a meeting with officers of the Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi and NDMC to finalise the modalities of holding the competition during the year. Thereafter, an Orientation Course for the benefit of the teachers in-charge of the activity in the schools sponsored by the Directorate of Education and the NDMC is conducted. The schedule of the competition is finalised by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in consultation with the officers of the Directorate of Education and the NDMC.
- (b) Youth Parliament competitions in the participating schools are evaluated by a Committee of Judges consisting of a Member of Parliament or an ex-Member of Parliament, an officer of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and an officer of the Directorate of Education, Government of the NCT of Delhi. The committee awards prizes and certificates to select students on the basis of their performance in the competition. Members/ex-Members of Parliament associated with the evaluation of these competitions are paid DA for the day they are associated as one of the judges.

- (c) The school winning first place in the competition is required to give a repeat performance at the Prize Distribution Function organised by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs on a suitable date, time and venue. The prizes are distributed by a high dignitary. All prize winning students and teachers in charge of the activity and the Principals of the schools are invited to the Prize Distribution Function. The expenditure in this regard is borne by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
- (d) A copy of the scheme is at **Annex XV-A** and check list for organising Youth Parliament competition is at **Annex XV-B**.

#### **National Youth Parliament Competition Scheme for Kendriya Vidyalayas**

- (a) In the first instance, the officers of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs hold a meeting with officers of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) to finalise the modalities of holding the competition during the year. Thereafter, to acquaint the teachers in-charge of organising a Youth Parliament in the participating Vidyalayas with the concept and background of the scheme, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, in cooperation with KVS, organises Orientation Courses as per schedule decided at the meeting. All the teachers in-charge of the activity in the schools sponsored by the KVS for participation in the competition take part in the Orientation Course, along with officers of the KVS.
- (b) There are 18 regions of the KVS. The competition is held in two phases - first at the Regional Level and then at the National Level. The competitions at the Regional Level are held among such vidyalayas of the respective regions as are sponsored for the competition by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan from that region. This is conducted under the supervision of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan authorities. The competition at the National Level is held among the Kendriya Vidyalayas which win first position in their respective regions.

- (c) The competitions at the Regional Level are evaluated by a Committee of Judges consisting of :
1. An MP/ex-MP/MLA/MLC/ex-MLA/ex-MLC;
  2. An officer of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan of the respective regions; and
  3. The Principal of a non-participating vidyalaya of the region or some local prominent educationist.
- (d) Competition at the National Level i.e. among all the 18 regional first Kendriya Vidyalayas, is evaluated by a Committee of Judges consisting of :
1. An MP/ex-MP;
  2. An officer of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs; and
  3. An officer of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (HQ).

Members/ex-Members of Parliament associated with the evaluation of these competitions are paid DA for the day they are associated as one of the judges.

- (e) The institution standing first at the National Level is required to give a repeat performance at the Prize Distribution Function organised by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs at a suitable date, time and venue. The prizes are distributed by a high dignitary. All prize winning students of the schools winning first position in their respective regions are invited to the function in which escort teachers and principals of the schools also participate. Officers of KVS are also invited to the function. The expenditure in this regard is borne by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
- (f) A copy of the scheme is at **Annex XV-C** and check list for organizing the Youth Parliament Competition under this scheme is at **Annex XV-D**.

**National Youth Parliament Competition Scheme for Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs)**

- (a) In the first instance, the officers of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs hold a meeting with officers of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) to finalise the modalities of holding the competition during the year. Thereafter, to acquaint the teachers in-charge of organising the Youth Parliament in the participating vidyalayas with the concept and background of the scheme, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, in cooperation with NVS, organises Orientation Courses as per the schedule decided in the meeting.
- (b) There are eight regions of the NVS. The competition is held in two stages - first at the Regional Level and then at the National Level. The competitions at the Regional Level are held among such vidyalayas of the respective regions as are sponsored for the competition by the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti from that region. This is conducted under the supervision of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti authorities. The competition at the National Level is held among the Navodaya Vidyalayas which stand first in their respective regions.
- (c) The competitions at the Regional Level are conducted by the NVS and are evaluated by a Committee of Judges consisting of:
  - 1. An MP/ex-MP/MLA/MLC/ex-MLA/ex-MLC;
  - 2. An officer of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti of the respective regions; and
  - 3. Principal of a non-participating vidyalaya of the region or some prominent local educationist.
- (d) The competitions at the National Level are evaluated by a Committee of Judges which consists of:
  - 1. An MP/ex-MP;
  - 2. An officer of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs; and

3. An officer of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (HQ).

Members/ex-Members of Parliament associated with the evaluation of these competitions are paid DA for the day they are associated as one of the judges.

- (e) The institution winning first place at the National Level is required to give a repeat performance at the Prize Distribution Function to be held at a venue to be decided by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The Ministry fixes a date, time and venue for the function. The prizes are distributed by a high dignitary. Invitations to the prize winners, participating institutions and such of the other institutions, etc. as are considered necessary are sent by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The expenditure in this regard is borne by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in accordance with the rules and regulations applicable to them.
- (f) A copy of the scheme is at **Annex XV-E** and check list for organising the Youth Parliament Competition is at **Annex XV-F**.

#### **National Youth Parliament Competition Scheme for Universities/Colleges**

- (a) All the universities recognised by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, who sponsor their nominees for attending the Orientation Course to be conducted by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs prior to the start of the competition, are eligible for participation. The participating institutions are divided into different groups. The competition is held in two stages - firstly, at the Group Level and secondly, at the National Level among the winners (Group Level first) of various groups. The schedules of the Group and National Level Competitions are finalised by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. For the purpose of organizing the Group Level competition, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs nominates a coordinator from

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amongst the participating institutions to coordinate and conduct the competition in respect of the group allotted to him/her and submit a report thereon to the Ministry.

- (b) The Group Level competitions are evaluated by a panel of Judges consisting of:
1. An MP/ex-MP/MLA/ex-MLA/MLC/ex-MLC;
  2. A coordinator appointed from amongst the institutions participating in that group; and

[*Note:* For evaluating the performance of the coordinator's own institution, another nominee from amongst the other participating institutions of that group will sit on the panel of Judges instead of the coordinator.]

3. An academician of repute from a non-participating institution.
- (c) At the National Level competition, the performances of the teams are evaluated by a panel of Judges consisting of :
1. An MP/ex-MP/MLA/ex-MLA/MLC/ex-MLC;
  2. An officer of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs; and
  3. An academician of repute from a non-participating institution.

Members/ex-Members of Parliament associated with the evaluation of these competitions are paid DA for the day they are associated as one of the judges.

- (d) The institution winning first at the National Level is required to give a repeat performance at the Prize Distribution Function to be held at a venue to be decided by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The Ministry fixes a date, time and venue for the function. The prizes are distributed by a high dignitary. Invitations to the prize winners, participating institutions and such of the other institutions, etc. as are considered necessary are sent by the Ministry of

Parliamentary Affairs. The expenditure in this regard is borne by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in accordance with the rules and regulations applicable to them.

- (e) A copy of the scheme is at **Annex XV-G** and check list for organizing the Youth Parliament competition under this scheme is at **Annex XV-H**.

### **Financial Assistance to State/UT Governments for conducting Youth Parliament**

In view of the laudable objectives of the scheme, the 7th All India Whips' Conference, held at Madras in 1969, recommended that the scheme should be extended to all the States/Uts of the country and the Ministry should give all possible help to encourage its implementation by offering financial assistance to the States and Union territories which organise the Youth Parliament competitions. Consequently, a scheme of financial assistance was evolved by the Ministry in 1972-73, according to which financial assistance up to a ceiling of Rs.1,000 was given to the States/Uts implementing the scheme. This amount was raised to Rs. 3,000 in 1982, Rs. 5,000 in 1987 and Rs. 10,000 in 1993. As per the recommendations of the 11th All India Whips, Conference held at Bangalore in 1994, the ceiling of the financial assistance to the States/Uts was raised to Rs. 25,000 with effect from 16 August, 1994. Thereafter, the 12th All India Whips, Conference held at Srinagar in 1997, recommended for enhancing the financial assistance to rupees two lakh which was taken up with the Ministry of Finance, which agreed to raise the ceiling of financial assistance to rupees one lakh per annum only and the amount was accordingly raised to rupees one lakh per annum with effect from 21 January, 1999.

This Ministry also provides financial assistance to different institutions as per the details given below:

<b>S.No. Institutions</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1. Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas	up to Rs.5,000 per participating school



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2. Universities/Colleges up to Rs.5,000 per participating institution at both Group as well as National Levels.

The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs reimburses the transportation expenditure up to a maximum of Rs.30,000 to the first prize winning vidyalaya in the competition, attending the prize distribution function to stage their repeat performance, through the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti.

In regard to the National Youth Parliament competition in Universities/Colleges, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs also reimburses, within permissible limits, actual TA/DA expenses incurred in connection with journeys undertaken by the group coordinators nominated for coordinating the Group Level competitions in respect of each group during the first stage of the competition. Escort teacher and students of prize winning institutions securing first position at the Group Level competitions, attending the Prize Distribution Function are also reimbursed train fare restricted to II-AC class for escort teacher and IInd Sleeper class for students from their actual place of residence to Delhi and back. Similarly, an amount up to Rs. 30,000 is reimbursed to the team winning first place at the National Level in the competition, towards TA expenses for travelling to give their repeat performance at the Prize Distribution Function. A copy of the scheme of financial assistance is at **Annex XV-I**.

## **DECISIONS**

### **Payment of D.A. to MP/ex-MP for acting as a Judge in the Youth Parliament Competition**

MP/ex-MP who acts as a judge in the Youth Parliament competition will be paid Daily Allowance @ Rs. 500 and Rs. 300 respectively for the day he is associated as a judge. In case, however, an ex-MP stays in a hotel on the day he is associated as a judge, he will be paid D.A. @ Rs. 350 per day. These orders take effect from 14 September, 2001 in case of MPs and from 13 October, 1998 in the case of ex-MPs.

**Award of Certificates to the Teachers/Professors who Participate in the Orientation Courses on 'Youth Parliament'**

It was decided to award certificates of participation to the teachers/professors of the Government of NCT of Delhi and NDMC schools, Kendriya Vidyalayas, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas and the universities/colleges who participate in the Orientation Courses organised by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for the Youth Parliament competitions.

**Whether Honorarium be Paid to the Officers of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and the Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi and the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan who are Associated as Judges in the Youth Parliament Competition**

On a proposal received from the Directorate of Education in this connection, the matter was referred to the Ministry of Finance for their concurrence. However, that Ministry did not agree to the proposal.