

Youth Parliament: Empowering Young Voices

Youth Parliament is a platform offered to youngsters, providing a mock parliament setup and exposure to parliamentary-style debates. It is significant for the following reasons:

1. To create a set of youngsters familiar with the parliament, it's essential to immerse them in that environment.
2. It offers a platform to discuss national issues on a large scale in a proper forum, moderated by experienced individuals.
3. It brings like-minded youngsters together, enabling the creation of a community to discuss and find possible solutions.

The purposes of Youth Parliament are:

- (i) To develop in students an insight into the working of parliament.
- (ii) To encourage students to consider public issues and form their opinions.
- (iii) To train students in group discussion techniques.
- (iv) To develop in students the ability to arrive at decisions after group discussion.
- (v) To foster respect and tolerance for others' views.
- (vi) To raise awareness among students about various societal and national problems.
- (vii) To cultivate leadership qualities and understand the common man's perspective, articulating it effectively.

Currently, four schemes are running in Youth Parliament:

- (a) Colleges
- (b) Navodaya Vidyalayas
- (c) Kendriya Vidyalayas (conducting Youth Parliament at regional and national levels)
- (d) Delhi Public School

Officers from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs initially train teachers from universities and schools, enabling them to prepare their students for the competition. Subsequent competitions take place at each level, culminating in the final round at the parliamentary library building, where the winning team is awarded by the chief guest.

In essence, Youth Parliament is a scheme run by the Ministry to raise awareness among young Indians about the functioning of the Indian Parliament, providing them with valuable insights and empowering them to share their knowledge with others.