

SCHEME FOR CONDUCTING YOUTH PARLIAMENT PROGRAMME

(IN THE STATE OF MEGHALAYA)

1. Aims and Object of the Scheme:- With the view to strengthen the roots of democracy, inculcate healthy habits of discipline and tolerance of views of others and also to enable the students community to know something about the working of the Parliamentary System, the Government have decided to introduce a scheme for holding Youth Parliaments in the State. As a means to encourage students, prizes will be awarded according to the merit of their performance.

The purpose of Youth Parliament is as follows:-

- (1) to make students understand the Parliamentary procedure,
- (2) to develop the students an in-sight into the working of Parliament and State Legislatures,
- (3) to make students consider/public issues and form their opinion on them,
- (4) to train students in the technique of group discussion,
- (5) to develop in the students an ability to arrive at a decision after group discussion,
- (6) to develop in them respect tolerance for the views of others,
- (7) to develop in them an understanding that respect for rules is essential for conducting any discussion systematically and effectively,
- (8) to train students in group behaviour,
- (9) to make students aware of various problems facing *the* our society and the country,
- (10) to develop in students the quality of leadership and
- (11) to make students understand the common man's point of view and express it in an articulated manner.

2. Eligibility for taking part in Youth Parliament Programme:-

All High Schools and colleges and other Educational Institutions of corresponding standard can organise Youth Parliament Sessions in their respective institutions. They shall intimate the dates of the programmes to the Director of Public Instruction and to

Contd.....2/-.....



the Secretary, Parliamentary Affairs Department of the Government at least one month in advance to enable officers of the Government to give ~~all~~ necessary guidance. More than one programme can be held in any institution during the course of any year.

3. Operation of the scheme. Education Department will take all steps to implement the scheme. It will keep itself in contact with the educational institutions and chalk out a detailed programme for each year and keep Parliamentary Affairs Department informed of the programmes and other activities connected with Youth Parliament and Parliamentary Affairs Department will also actively co-ordinate in all matters.

4. Number of participants in Youth Parliament Programme. No strict limit is laid down on the number of students who may take part in the programme but about 20 of them may be sufficient for both the groups—the ruling and the opposition. Over and above that the rest may have a sitting role to play without having to take part in the discussion. The choice of the students is left to the discretion of the school or college authorities.

5. Duration of the programme. The duration of each programme can be about an hour, and about 20 minutes may be earmarked for question hour. The rest may be devoted to taking of oaths, call attention motions, legislation, no-confidence motion and other business.

6. Subject for discussion at the Youth Parliament:-

No particular subjects for questions and answer or other discussion need be prescribed and institutions are free to make their own selection. It would, however, be desirable that the matters raised in the Youth Parliament relate to subjects of welfare activities, defence of the country, social justice and reforms, economic development, communal harmony, health, student discipline and other current matters of public importance.

7. Language :- The participants can speak in English or *any* other language.
8. Trainings:- It may be necessary that an orientation course is organised by the Education Department in collaboration with the Parliamentary Affairs Department to impart training and guidance to teachers of all participating schools about the Scheme ^{and} the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Parliament to enable them to help their students to take part in all such programme; successfully.
9. Panel of Judges:- The performance of the students participating and also of the school in each session will be evaluated by a Panel of Judges consisting of sitting or Ex-Member of Parliament/Member of Legislative Assembly, one officer each from the Education Department and the Parliamentary Affairs Department and any other officer that may be selected by those Departments.
10. Holding of Youth Parliament:- Each institution shall hold the Youth Parliament in its own building or such other place of its choice. The institution shall intimate the venue, date and details of the programme along with the information regarding subjects for discussion etc. to the Education and Parliamentary Affairs Departments well in advance. The names of the participants and the role assigned to each should be written down in sheets and made available to the panel Judges on the day the session is held. To the Youth Parliament the School/College authorities can ^{Parents of the wards &} invite members of the public. Education and Parliamentary Affairs Departments will arrange attendance of Officers to assess performance of the students. Prizes and certificates will be awarded to them according to the merit of their performance.

Contd.

11. Prizes:- The following prizes and Certificates will be awarded.

(i) Shield (running). One shield will be given to the best school and college performing in a year in the whole state

(ii) Other prizes. Four to give prizes and certificates will also be given to the participating students of each school or college according to the merit of their performance *in each stage*

(iii) Certificates. Certificate as in Annexure I will be given to all the students who take part in the programme.

iv Certificate as in Annexure II will be given to all the students who win individual merit prizes in the programme.

12. Consideration for drawing up the merit list.

The Committee of Judges shall keep in view the following points while assessing the performance of any institution.

	<u>Marks</u>
(i) Discipline and Decorum	10
(ii) Observance of Parliamentary Procedure	20
(iii) Selection of subjects for questions and supplementaries and quality of answers thereto.	20
(iv) Selection of subjects for Debates.	10
(v) Delivery or quality of speeches delivered, standard of Debates	30
(vi) General Assessment of the performance as a whole.	10
	<u>Total - 100</u>

13. Repeat performance:- After judging the performance of all Schools and colleges taking part in a year the best of them will be required to give a repeat performance at a place to be fixed. *with the approval* Such repeat performance for the schools and colleges ~~will be separate~~, Programme for the repeat performances will be drawn up by ~~the~~ Education and Parliamentary Affairs Department and the Shield and prizes will be awarded thereat.

Guide lines. :-5-:

14. Necessary guide-lines for preparation for the Youth Parliament Programme are as per Annexures III, IV, and V.

15. State Co-ordination Committee. A State Co-ordination Committee consisting of Minister, Parliamentary Affairs and Minister, Education shall meet as often as required of being about a more effective implementation of the Scheme in the State.