

**A NOTE ON  
PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE  
FOR  
CONDUCTING YOUTH PARLIAMENT COMPETITION**

**1. Seating Arrangements inside the Chamber of Youth Parliament**

The working of Youth Parliament should broadly follow the pattern of the working of Lok Sabha. It would facilitate the task of the teacher-in-charge of this activity, if he/she and Students, selected to participate in the Youth Parliament Competition should first acquaint themselves with the practical working of the real Parliament of the country by witnessing the actual proceedings and make themselves conversant with the arrangement made for the members in the Chamber of the Lok Sabha.

The lay-out of the Chamber of their Youth Parliament should resemble as far as possible the lay-out of the Chamber of Lok Sabha. The dias and chair of the Presiding Officer should be one the straight base of the semi-circle. The seating arrangement for members should be in the shape of a horse-shoe, as it is in the Lok Sabha. The Chamber of Lok Sabha is a semi-circular Hall with the Speaker sitting in a canopied chair, place conspicuously at the Centre of the diameter connecting the two ends of the semi-circle. There is dividing space in front of the Speaker's rostrum. On the left of the rostrum are the seats for the opposition and on the right are the seats for the Government benches. Lightly raised above the Chamber of the Youth Parliament is the gallery for the visitors, the 'Press', the 'diplomats' and the 'distinguished visitors' etc.

**2. The Procedure for Conducting the Youth Parliament.**

The Parliamentary procedures and practices to be followed in the Youth Parliament should correspond as far as possible to the practices and procedures followed in the Lok Sabha.

Before holding a Youth Parliament Session, each participating school should prepare a List of Business. This enables them to prepare themselves for the discussions in the House.

Business transacted by the House falls into two broad categories viz.(1) Government Business and (2)Private Members business. As Government has to get all its legislation, major policies, taxation proposals and estimates of expenditure approved by the House, a Major portion of Parliamentary time is allocated to the transaction of Govt. Business.

In the Lok Sabha, the Parliamentary Business is arranged in the order in which it is shown in the 'Direction by the Speaker'. The order in which various items of business are normally taken up in the House is as follows:-

1. Oath of affirmation
2. Laying on the Table the President's address to both Houses of Parliament
3. Obituary references.
4. Questions (including short notice question)
5. Vote of thanks on President's Address
6. Leave to move motions for adjournment of business of the House
7. Questions involving a Breach of Privilege
8. Papers to be laid on the Table

9. Communication of messages from the President.
10. Communication of message from the Council of States (Rajya Sabha)
11. Intimation regarding President's assent to Bills
12. Communication from Magistrates of other authorities regarding arrest or detention or release of Members of the House.
13. Calling attention notices
14. Announcement by the Speaker regarding leave of absence of Members from the sitting of the House
15. Announcement by the speaker regarding various matters, e.g. resignations of Members of the House, nominations to panel of Chairman, committees etc.
16. Rulings by the Speaker.
17. Presentation of Reports of Committees.
18. Laying of evidence before select/Joint Committees on Bills.
19. Presentation of Petitions.
20. Statements by Ministers.
21. Personal Statements by ex-Ministers in explanation of their resignation.
22. Statements under Direction 115
23. Personal explanation under 357 (if not made during the debate)
24. Motions of election to Committees.
25. Motions for extension of time for presentation of reports of Select/Joint Committees on Bills.
26. Motions for adoption of Report of Business Advisory Committee.
27. Motion for leave to move Resolution for removal of Speaker/Deputy Speaker.
28. Motions for leave to make a motion of No-confidence in the Council of Ministers
29. Bill to be withdrawn
30. Bills to be introduced
31. Introduction of Private Members Bill
32. Consideration of Private Members bill
33. Laying of explanatory statements giving reasons for immediate legislation by ordinances
34. Raising of matters, under rule 377, which are not points of orders.
35. Consideration of Reports of Committee of Privileges.

It is not necessary that all the above items should be included in the List of Business of Youth Parliament. These have been listed above to serve as guide. Only prominent items for which there is enough material should be included.

Generally the following items may be included in the Agenda for a sitting of 'Youth Parliament :-

1. Oath or Affirmation

2. Obituary Reference
3. Questions
4. Adjournment Motion
5. Questions involving a breach of privilege
6. Papers to be laid on the Table
7. Calling Attention Notice
8. Legislative Business
9. Private members Bill & Resolution
10. Short Duration Discussion
11. Motion of No-Confidence in the Council of Ministers.

Like the practice obtaining in the Lok Sabha, the session of Youth Parliament starts with the arrival of the Speaker which is announced by the Marshal who first comes in the House to ascertain whether there is quorum in the House which should be at least 10 per cent of total membership of the House.

As soon as the Speaker arrives in the Chamber, Marshal announces his arrival with the words “Hon. Members, the Hon. Speaker” or (in Hindi):-

**ekuuḥ | Hkkl n] ekuuh v/; {k t h**

Thereafter the entire House stands up. The Speaker before taking his seat first bows to his left, then to his right and then in front of him. The Members from the respective sides also respectfully bow to the chair before taking their seats.

### 1. Oath or Affirmation by Members

The Speaker takes up the business of the House in the order in which it is printed in the list of business. The first item in the agenda is Oath or Affirmation by the new Members. Before taking the seat in the House every new Member is required to make or subscribe an Oath or Affirmation in the following forms:-

“I, A.B. having been elected (or nominated) a member of the Youth Parliament do swear in the name of God (or solemnly affirm) that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India as by law established, that I will uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India and that I will faithfully discharge the duty upon which I am about to enter”

The Hindi version of the above oath or affirmation is as follows:-

**l nL; k } kjk ' ki Fk**

मैं ..... अमुक ..... जो युवा संसद का सदस्य निर्वाचित (या नाम निर्देशित) हुआ है, ईश्वर की शपथ लेता हूँ। सत्यनिष्ठा से प्रतिज्ञान करता हूँ की मैं विधि द्वारा स्थापित भारत के संविधान के प्रति श्रद्धा रखूँगा। देश की प्रभुसत्ता और एकता बनाए रखूँगा तथा जिस पद को मैं ग्रहण करने वाला हूँ, उसके कर्तव्यों का श्रद्धापूर्वक निर्वहन करूँगा।

The member may make oath or affirmation in Hindi or English or in any of the language specified in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Before taking the Oath the member should bring with him the certificate of election granted to him by the Chief Election Commissioner (Returning Officer).

In the House, on the name of the member being called by the Secretary-General, the member proceeds from the place he is occupying to the right hand side of the Secretary-General's table and hands over his certificate of election to the Secretary-General. A copy of the Oath or an Affirmation in the language in which member desires to make the Oath /Affirmation is then handed over to him. The member faces the chair while making the Oath or the Affirmation and then goes up to wish the Speaker or shake hands with him. When he shakes hands with the Speaker or greets him with folded hands, there is generally thumping from the Members. The member then passes behind the Chair to the other side of the Secretary-General's table where he signs the roll of the members. After signing the roll he takes his seat in the House.

## **2. Obituary Reference**

The next item on the agenda may be obituary reference to a deceased member of the House or a distinguished personage of National or International repute or a celebrated personality in the realm of arts and sciences. The general practice in this regard is that the speaker rises in his seat and announces the sad demise of the departed personage. Thereafter the Prime Minister associates himself with the sentiments expressed by the Presiding Officer. The Prime Minister is followed by the Leader of Opposition in the House who pays tributes to the memory of the departed soul. Thereafter, the Speaker announces that the House will observe silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the departed soul. The House then stands to observe silence. After the members have taken their seats, the speaker directs the Secretary-General to convey the condolences of the House to the member of the bereaved family.

Of late in the case of death of Members obituary references are made in the Lok Sabha by the Speaker only. Thereafter, the House stands and observes two minutes silence as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

## **3. Questions**

The first part of a sitting in the Youth parliament should be devoted to oral question commonly known as Starred Questions in the Indian Parliament. It is the most popular hour for the members of Parliament and also for the Public. From the point of view of a Minister it is the most searching test of his grasp on the items or business allocated to him, his ability to lead as well as his ready wit when answering supplementary. The question has been defined as instruments whereby a member can elicit and get information on any aspect of public administration. During the Youth Parliament competition the judges will give credit for the equality of the question asked and the quality of replies given by the Ministers.

The teachers-in-charge of Youth parliament generally experience difficulties in framing questions and replies. The subject matter of questions can be the day- to-day problems faced by the common citizens. For instance it is common experience to witness long queues before D.M.S. milk booths in Delhi. There is often a complaint against the inadequate supply and poor quality of milk supplied at their booths This can form the subject matter of a searching question about the performance of the D.M.S. Perusal of Part I of the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Debates can provide a useful guide to the art of framing questions and supplementaries. They should however be relevant to the items of business allocated to the Ministry concerned.

Current topic such as unwieldy queues of passengers especially of office- workers and students waiting for the buses, student's problems regarding employment, text-book curriculum and discipline, rise in price increase in crimes, floods and famines can be the subject matter of questions.

The question can be wide-ranging and can cover any aspect of our national life or our day-to-day

existence. In Youth Parliament, students can also ask questions about their school activities and their own problems.

For purposes of answering questions in Parliament, the Ministries of the Government of India have been divided into 5 groups representing the five days in the week when Parliament sits. The classification and grouping are based on past experience and are so arranged that the volume of questions on any given day is spread out more or less evenly. The Youth Parliament can also follow this procedure.

Questions should be printed separately in the 'List of Questions' and the Speaker should call out the name of a Member in whose name the question stands. When the Speaker calls on the name of the member he rises in his place and asks the question mentioned against his name in the printed list of questions.

Thereafter, the Speaker calls the Minister concerned to answer the question. In the Lok Sabha, the Member only asks the questions by referring to its numbers. In the Youth Parliament we have slightly modified this procedure according to which the member should read out the entire question so that the judges may know the subject matter of the questions. After the Minister's reply the member putting the question who is entitled to the first supplementary if he wishes and other questions one by one but not more than 4 with the permission of the Speaker to elucidate any matter of fact regarding the answer given. There should be no discussion on question nor lengthy supplementaries be made by the members.

Short Notice Question --- Where any question relates to a matter of urgent public importance it may be asked for oral answer by a Member with notice shorter than the minimum time of 10 days in the Lok Sabha. If the Speaker accepts the urgency he can admit it at shorter notice after ascertaining the willingness of the Minister to answer it. When it is admitted and placed on the agenda it is called immediately after the question hour. The procedure to be followed for raising and reply to Short Notice Question shall be the same as followed for Starred Question

#### **4. Adjournment Motion**

Adjournment Motion seeks to raise discussion on some sudden or emergent matters of public importance that has arisen in the country or abroad demanding the immediate attention of the Govt. and the House. If the motion is in order and the Speaker is satisfied with regard to the same, he will give his consent and ask the member concerned to seek leave of the House. The member will rise in his seat and seek leave of the House as follows: "Sir, I beg for leave of the House to move the adjournment motion." If at least 1/10th of the members present of the Youth Parliament stand up in favour of leave being granted, the motion is admitted by the Speaker. If less than this number rise in their seats, the Speaker informs the member concerned that he does not have the leave of the House to move the adjournment motion.

When the Speaker is satisfied that the notice of an adjournment motion is inadmissible he will refuse his consent without bringing the matter before the House and member concerned will be informed of the speaker's decision. Some of the grounds on which the Speaker may disallow adjournment Motions are briefly listed as under:-

- (i) It does not relate to definite matter;
- (ii) It does not relate to a matter urgent enough to warrant interruption of the business of the day;
- (iii) It does not relate to a matter of sufficient public importance;
- (iv) It does not relate to a matter of recent occurrence which has arisen suddenly but relates to a continuing matter;

- (v) It is not a matter for adjournment motion; other opportunities can be availed of to raise the matter;
- (vi) It raises more than one issue;
- (vii) It relates to a matter which is likely to be debated in the near future/discussion on which has already been discussed;
- (viii) It relates to a matter which is subjudice;
- (ix) It relates to a State subject;
- (x) It raises a question of privilege;
- (xi) It raises a matter entailing legislation;
- (xii) Conduct of a foreign Government cannot be discussed on an adjournment motion;
- (xiii) It relates to an individual case;
- (xiv) It relates to the affairs of an autonomous corporation/body;
- (xv) Unsatisfactory reply given to a question or refusal by Government cannot be subject matter of an adjournment motion;

In Lok Sabha the motion “that the House do now adjourn” thus admitted is taken up for discussion at 1600 hrs. or earlier if the Speaker after considering the state of business in the House so directs. As the Youth Parliaments of the Schools hold their sessions for short durations they can take up adjournment motions immediately after the Calling Attention Motion or as it suits the convenience of the Speaker.

After the disposal of Calling Attention or as the case may be, Speaker calls the member in whose name the adjournment motion is admitted to move the motion. The member rises in his seat and moves the following motions: “That the House do now adjourn”. The member will then speak on the definite matter which he wants the House to consider. This will be followed by short speeches on the subject matter of the motion by the members from ruling as well as from the opposition benches. The Minister concerned will thereafter intervene in the debate which will be replied to by the mover. The Speaker will then formally place the motion before the House for voting.

As the adjournment motion is given notice of and admitted on the same day, due to urgency and importance of its subject matter entry with regard to it is not shown in the Agenda of the House for the day. However, the question regarding admission of the Adjournment Motion is raised immediately after Question Hour.

## **5. Questions Involving a Breach of Privilege**

The Members of Parliament have come to enjoy certain amenities, exemptions and privileges to protest their functional freedom, individually and the dignity and the authority of the House of Parliament collectively. “Privileges exist chiefly for protection and maintenance of the independence and dignity of Parliament. Particular Privilege is concerned with the right of Parliament to obtain expressed views of each of its members given without fear of any act or threat or proceedings by anyone outside the House even by the Crown itself”. (Law of Parliamentary Privileges – by Viscount Kilmuit).

Any statement on action, that is anything said or done which tantamounts to disobedience of its orders or authority or which damages, derogates or detracts from its dignity or which holds it up to contempt or ridicule, constitutes “contempt of the House” and is censurable and in extreme case

punishable with imprisonment or detention.

Briefly the procedures for dealing with questions of privilege are as under:-

A member wishing to raise a question of privilege is required to give notice to the Speaker of his intention to do so. If it is a specific matter of recent occurrence and if the Speaker feels that it requires the intervention of the House he gives his consent. The member then moves for leave to raise a question and may make a short statement concerning it if objection to leave being granted is taken then the Speaker requests those members who are in favour of leave being granted to rise in their places and if not less than 10 per cent of the members present of the Youth Parliament rise, the Speaker declares that leave is granted. If the Speaker refuses leave, he mentions it in the House and the matter rests there. Questions of privilege deserve priority and are taken up immediately after question hour. When leave is granted, the House may consider a question and come to a decision or it may refer the matter to the committee of Privileges on a motion made to that effect by a member. The Speaker on his own may refer any question of privilege to the Committee for examination, investigation or report.

## **6. Papers to be Laid on the Table of the House**

It means the papers or documents laid on the Table of the House for the purpose of bringing them in the record of the House by a Minister or by a private member or by the Secretary-General of the House with the permission of the Speaker in pursuance of the provisions of the Constitution or the Rules of Procedure or Directions by the Speaker or an Act by Parliament and the rules and regulations made there under. All papers, so laid on the Table, are either printed as part of the proceedings of the House or placed in the library. A member who wants to seek information from Ministries regarding papers mentioned in the list of business to be laid on the table of the House should give advance intimation to the Speaker stating the specific points on which information is required so that the Minister concerned should come prepared with the information.

## **7. Calling Attention Motions**

A member may with the prior permission of the Speaker call the attention of a Minister to a matter of urgent public importance and request him to make a statement thereon. This is a purely Indian innovation fulfilling the needs felt by members to bring to the notice of the House the matters of urgent public importance without taking recourse to an Adjournment Motion. The test of admissibility decided by the Speaker is urgency and public importance of the subject matter. Its notice should be given preferably on the same day on which the subject matter of the motion has arisen. The procedure is that when the member is called by the Speaker, he rises in his place and calls attention of the Minister concerned to the matter and requests him to make a statement. The Minister reads out the statement or in case the statement is a lengthy one he may lay the same on the table of the House. In the latter case the members are given time to study the statement and ask questions which the Minister replies on the spot. There is no debate on the statement but members may ask questions to seek clarification.

The Calling Attention Motion is an important item in the Agenda of a Youth Parliament and it should be seen that it does not degenerate into a long winding debate. After the Minister has read out his statement, the first opportunity to seek clarification or elucidation of a point is given to the Member who tables the notice of the Calling Attention Motion. Thereafter other members in whose names the item stands in the list of business may, with the permission of the Speaker ask questions or seek clarification one by one. When all the members have made their points the concerned Minister is called by the Speaker to reply to the points raised by the Members.

The entry with regard to this item is given in the List of Business in the following manner:-

### **Calling Attention**

Shri Anand Kumar;

Shri George Mathew;

Shri Suresh Singh;

Shri Mohammed Khan

To call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the situation arising out of the continued strike by lawyers in various parts of the country; and the steps taken by the Govt. to settle the matter.

Some of the subjects on which the Calling Attention Motions were recently admitted in the Parliament are as under:-

1. Situation arising out of the D.T.C strike by employees of the Delhi Transport Corporation;
2. Need to ensure remunerative prices to the sugar cane growers for their product
3. Crisis in the textile industry affecting cotton growers and handloom and powerloom weavers and the action taken by the Government in the matter.

## **8. Legislative Business**

In this connection it would be necessary to give to the participants in Youth Parliament Competitions some idea about the term “Legislation”. It has three meanings (a) it may mean the process by which rules of law are enacted and the authority which enacts them; (b) it may refer to the result or product of this process; and (c) it may refer also, to the vast body of rules and regulations enacted by the administrative agencies – regional or local, under powers delegated to them by the present statutes.

Laws are in essence rules or norms of conduct. They are a series of prohibitions, prescriptions and permissions. They tell us what must be done, what cannot be done, or what may be prohibited or proscribed situation. For the infringement of what may be prohibited or proscribed, the law may impose penalty. Laws essentially serve social needs they would otherwise be meaningless and unnecessary.

Laws are by their very nature abstract formulation. Law making in the modern state is very complex and complicated task. It calls for research, collection, collaboration and analysis of a mass of data, drafting skill, wise consultation and discussion with interested groups likely to be affected by the law or insisting on the law and a good deal of compromise is required to ensure cooperation and avoid conflict. All laws affect in one way or other, the life, liberty or property of the citizens. Professional, Occupational and Special interests/groups like business, labour, agriculture industry have conflicting interests. They have, therefore, organized themselves into associations, unions etc. in order to strengthen themselves in their dealings with other groups or Government.

A piece of legislation may thus have its roots in administrative problems and experience or technical appraisal of political and social philosophy. Whatever the source, once it comes up as a proposal it is proceeded by discussion, deliberations or consultations with many groups. The proposal then comes to the Cabinet which decides its necessary content, form and timing. Government draftsmen, assisted by departmental experts and officials, then give it shape as a Bill which is introduced in Parliament.

Parliament has exclusive powers to make laws with respect to matters enumerated in List-I of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution which is known as the Union List. Similarly State Legislatures have exclusive powers to make laws in respect to matters enumerated in List-II which is known as

the State List. List-III is called the Concurrent List comprising subjects over which Parliament and the State Legislatures have concurred Powers to make laws.

**(i) Classification of Bills**

Bills are broadly divisible into (i) Govt. Bills which have to be sponsored by Ministers and (ii) Private Members Bills which are sponsored by individual members other than Ministers. Bill can be classified on the basis of their content as under:-

- (a) Original Bills i.e. Bills which embody a new proposal, idea or policy;
- (b) Amending Bills; i.e. Bills which seek amendment in existing enactments.
- (c) Consolidating Bills; i.e. Bills which seek together in one enactment provisions scattered in many enactment;
- (d) Bills to continue or keep alive the enactments which are about to expire;
- (e) Bills to replace Ordinances passed;
- (f) Constitution Amendment Bills.

**(ii) Stage of a Bill**

A Bill has to pass through three stages called the three readings of the Bill.

**First Reading of the Bill**

On the day appointed for the introduction of the Bill the Speaker calls the Minister-in-charge to move the motion for leave to introduce the Bill. The Motion will be “I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill ..... (the title of the Bill)”.

The Speaker then puts the question to the vote of the House in these words: “The question is that leave be granted to the Minister of ..... to introduce the ..... Bill, (Year). Those in favour will say ‘Aye’, those against will say ‘No’.

After the verdict of the House has been assessed, the Speaker will say thrice: “the Ayes (or Noes) have it , the Ayes (or Noes) have it, the Ayes (or Noes) have it”. He will then declare that “leave is granted (or is not granted)” as the case may be. If the leave is granted, he asks the Minister concerned to introduce the Bill. The Minister then stands in his seat and says : “ I Introduce the .....Bill”.

The form in which it should appear in the daily list of business should be as per illustration given below:-

“Legislative Business

Bill for Introduction

Industrial Development Bank of India (Amendment) Bill.

Shri .....(Minister of Finance) to move the leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Industrial Development Bank of India Act.1964

“Also to introduce the Bill”.

When the motion is adopted, the Bill is considered as introduced by the Minister.

By convention such a motion is not opposed unless one or more members contend that it is outside the competence of the House in which case they have to inform the Secretary General of the House of their intention in writing before the commencement of the sitting for the day.

## **Second Reading of the Bill**

The Second Reading of the Bill consists of two stages. In the first stage any one of the following motions may be made, followed by discussion on the principle of the Bill. The motion may be ... (i) that it be taken into consideration (ii) that it be referred to a Select Committee of the House (iii) that it be referred to a Joint Committee of both the House of Parliament and (iv) that it be circulated for eliciting public opinion.

In case second motion viz “the Bill may be taken into consideration” is moved, then if the House agrees, it proceeds to discuss its general principles and provisions. Details of the Bill except those necessary to illustrate the principles, are not usually discussed at this stage.

The second stage of the second reading is a clause by clause consideration of the Bills as introduced or as reported by Joint or Select Committee. Notices of amendment can be given any time after introduction of a Bill but all amendments must be given at least a day ahead of the consideration of the Bill. The Speaker may with the approval of the House waive any notice short of a day. To be admissible, an amendment must be within the scope of the bill, not be consistent with any previous decision of the House, nor be frivolous or meaningless or dilatory in nature.

## **Third Reading of the Bill**

When a Bill is considered clause by clause and all its schedules and other parts have been considered and voted, the Minister-in-charge can move that the Bill be passed. Once a motion has been made, no amendments, except those of a formal verbal or inconsequential nature, can be considered. The discussion at this stage is that the Bill as it has emerged may be passed or rejected. In passing an ordinary Bill a simple majority of members present and voting is necessary. In the case of a Bill to amend the Constitution, a majority of the total membership of the House and a majority of not less than 2/3 of the members present and voting is required. The form in which a Bill should appear for a second and third reading should appear in the list of Business should be as per illustration given below:

### **LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

#### **BILL FOR CONSIDERATION AND PASSING**

Shri ..... (Name) ..... Minister of Railways to move that the Bill further to amend the Indian Railways (Amendment) Act, 1919 be taken into consideration. Also to move that the Bill be passed.

#### **Private Members Bills**

The general procedure to be followed by private members in regard to their bills is similar to that for Government Bills except that:-

- (a) The period of notice is one month;
- (b) no member can give notice of more than 4 Bills during a session; and
- (c) relative precedence after introduction is determined by ballot.

## **9. Motions**

The House will not consider any matter except on a motion made to that effect. The House expresses its will in the form of orders and its opinion in the form of Resolution but both have their origin in a motion. A motion has been defined as a proposal submitted to the House for its consideration and decision “A motion is simply an expression of the opinion or the will of the Member of the House

which he puts before the House so that if the House wants it, it will become the opinion or the will of the whole Assembly”( Erio Taylor in his book the House of Commons at Work).

A matter requiring the decision of the House is decided by means of a question put by the speaker on a motion made by a member. A debate on a motion passes through the following four stages:

- (a) moving the motion;
- (b) proposing the question by Speaker;
- (c) the debate on discussion where permissible; and
- (d) the vote of decision of the House after the Speaker has put the question. A member shall not speak after the Speaker has collected the voices of Ayes and Noes on the Question.

Motions can be of different types moved by different persons for different purposes. They may be moved by Ministers of Govt. or by private members. Generally speaking, Government motions are confined to occasions when they desire some policy or action of the Government to be endorsed by the House. Even a Government Bill has to proceed by a series of motions. As against this Private members motions are generally to the concerned proposals, Bills and Resolutions.

### **Example of some Important Motions**

There are some special type of Motions which, if included by the participating schools in the Youth Parliament Competitions in their list of business will add variety to their deliberations. The following are the examples of these types of motions:-

- (1) Adjournment Motions
- (2) Motions of No-Confidence in the Council of Minister; and
- (3) Motions of thanks on the Address delivered by the President under article 87(1) of the Constitution to both Houses of Parliament as assembled together.

#### **(1) Adjournment Motions**

This type of motion have already been explained at length at 4 above.

#### **(2) Motions of No-Confidence in the Council of Ministers**

Members of opposition sometimes bring forward motion of No-confidence in the council of Ministers in the following words “that this House expresses its want of confidence in the council of Ministers”. This provides wide scope to Members to criticise the entire policies and practices of the Government.

For moving this motion in the House, the member has to give before commencement of the sitting for that day, a written notice of his motion to the Secretary General. If the Speaker is of the opinion that the motion is in order, he calls upon the member to seek leave of the House. The member then moves the following motion”. “I beg for leave of the House to move the No-Confidence Motion”. The speaker reads the motion to the House and requests those members who are in favour of leave being granted to rise in their places and if not less than ten percent of the total membership of the house stands, the leave is granted by the House. However, in case less than 10 percent rise in their place, the leave is not granted by the House and the motion is not taken up for discussion. Where, however, leave has been granted for moving of the no-confidence motion the Speaker will announce the time at which the motion will be taken up for discussion. On the appointed time the Speaker will call the member who will move the motion in the following words:

“That this House expresses its want of confidence in the council of Ministers”.

After moving the motion, the mover will make a short speech followed by speeches by the other members of the House belonging to opposition as well as ruling parties. Discussion on No-Confidence Motion is not confined to any particular subject. It is open to any member to raise any matter or comment upon any policy and action of the Government during the course of discussion. Members from ruling as well as opposition parties participate in the discussion.

After the members have spoken on the motion, the Prime Minister gives a reply to the charges levelled against his Government. Thereafter the mover of the motion is given a chance to reply.

The Speaker then puts the motion before the House and obtains the decision of the House by voice –vote.

### **(3) Motion of thanks on President’s Address**

It is a formal motion moved in the House expressing its gratitude for the address delivered by the President under article 87(1) of the Constitution to both Houses of Parliament assembled together. It provides an opportunity for the discussion of the matters referred in the address. It is moved by a senior member of the ruling party in the following form:

“That an address be presented to the President in the following terms:

That the members of Youth Parliament assembled in this session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the .....(date)”

Another member of the ruling seconds the motion.

The Speaker in consultation with the leader of the House allots time for the discussion of the matter referred to in the President’s address to the House under article 87(1) of the Constitution. On such a day the House shall be at liberty to discuss the matter referred to in the address on a motion of thanks moved by a member and seconded by other member as explained above.

## **10. Resolutions**

Resolution may be in the form of opinion or recommendations or may be in a form so as to record either approval or disapproval by the House of an Act or policy of the Government or convey a message or amend, urge or request action or call attention to a matter or situation for consideration of the Government.

Accordingly if a resolution is to be admissible, it shall satisfy the following conditions:

- (i) It must be clearly and precisely expressed;
- (ii) It must raise substantially one definite issue;
- (iii) It must not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions, imputations or defamatory statements;
- (iv) It must not refer to character or conduct of person except in their official or public capacity; and
- (v) It shall not relate to any matter which is under adjudication by a court of law having jurisdiction in part of India.

A member in whose name a resolution stands on the list of business shall except when he wishes to withdraw it, when called upon, move the resolution, and shall appear in the list of business.

After a resolution has been moved, any member may, subject to the rules relating to resolutions move an amendment to the resolution.

After the member has moved the resolution, other members both from the opposition as well as ruling benches shall speak one by one as and when Speaker calls them to speak on the subject matter of the Resolution. Thereafter, the concerned Minister will intervene in the debate which will finally be replied to by the mover.

In case the mover in his reply presses for a decision on the resolution the Speaker will then take the decision of the House by voice vote.

Certain statutes provide that any rules or notification made under powers delegated to the executive by them must be approved by a resolution of Parliament within a specified period and these rules have effect in such modified form or cease to have effect as the resolution may direct.

The following types of Resolutions are generally moved and adopted in Parliament:-

1. Resolution seeking approval of a notification
2. Resolution seeking approval of the proclamation of Emergency.
3. Resolution regarding firm resolve of Indians to drive out the aggressors.
4. Resolution regarding power to make laws by Parliament in respect of subjects falling under the 'State List'.
5. Resolution regarding creation of certain new all India services.
6. Resolution seeking approval of the Five Year Plan.
7. Resolution regarding proclamation issued by President under Article 356 assuming to himself all functions of a State.
8. Resolution regarding approval of a proclamation varying the earlier proclamation.

### **Short Duration Discussion under Rule 193**

As per rule for raising short duration discussion under the rule 193 of the Lok Sabha Rules, any member desirous of raising discussion on a matter of urgent public importance may give notice in writing to the Secretary-General specify clearly and precisely the matter to be raised. The notice supported by the signatures of at least two other members shall be accompanied by an explanatory note stating reasons for raising discussion on the matter in question.

The member whose name stands first against this item in the list of business being called by the Speaker shall make a short speech on the subject matter or the discussion. Thereafter, other members whose names are mentioned against this item or other members whom Speaker may call speak, shall speak briefly. Lastly, the concerned Minister replies to the Debate.

The mover of the motion has no right of reply. There is no formal motion nor is it put to the vote of the House.

The manner in which it is put down in the List of Business is indicated below:-

Short Duration Discussion Under rules 193 or Discussion on Matters of Urgent Public Importance under Rule 193.

1. Shri \_\_\_\_\_
2. Shri \_\_\_\_\_

3. Shri \_\_\_\_\_

to raise a discussion on the.....

Some of the Subjects on which the discussion under the above rule have been raised in the Lok Sabha are indicated below:-

1. Increase in the administration prices of the Petroleum Coal, Postal articles, before the presentation of the Budget;
2. Increase in price of essential commodities or price rise;
3. Law and Order situation in the country;
4. Increasing incidents of crime against the women in the country;
5. Large scale loss of ammunition due to fire at the Central Ordnance Depot. Jabalpur on 23-3- 1998 and the steps taken by the Govt. to prevent recurrence of such mishaps;
6. Brutal repression of Palestinian people by Israeli Army in the occupied Arab Territories of West Bank and Gaza Strip.

### **Do's and Don'ts for the participants in the Youth Parliament Competitions**

1. The institutions and students participating in the Youth Parliament Competitions should bear in mind that this scheme is a unique one. It is aimed to make these Youth Parliaments as the nurseries of future parliamentarians. If rightly implemented and its organisers are imbued with a sense of duty and dedication, it is likely to pay rich dividends in the shape of all round improvement in our national character and outlook. The aspect should always be kept in view while the institutions volunteer themselves for participation in these competitions.
2. It should not be forgotten that democracy offers political methods by which every citizen has the opportunity of participating through discussion and debates in an attempt to reach a voluntary agreement as to what should be done for the good of the community as a whole. It precludes the method of arriving at a decision on social policy in the streets as these are the ways of mobocracy and not of democracy. Thus the scheme of Youth Parliament would help to start a movement amongst students to channelise their energy into healthy and constructive activities so that they may become useful citizens of tomorrow.
3. The subject to be selected for discussions in these Youth Parliaments should be as far as possible non-controversial. They should largely deal with the problems confronting the educational institutions and their day-to- day problems. The subject should relate to welfare activities, defence of the country, social justice and social reforms, economic development, communal harmony, discipline, health of the students, Human Rights etc.
4. These Youth Parliaments have been prepared as a model and not the imperfect copy of the modern legislatures
5. Two most important parts of the list of business of a 'Youth Parliament' are the 'Questions' and the 'Debate' or 'Discussion'. During Question Hour, the judges are likely to be impressed by quality of questions asked and the quality of replies given by the Ministers. During the Debate or Discussions, they particularly look for the standard of Debate and the quality of expression.
6. The participants should scrupulously avoid mention of the existing political parties and political personalities in the country. They should give imaginary or fictitious names to their parties and personalities. They should not give any impression that they have any leanings or bias for or against

any political party or philosophy.

7. It would be in the interest of the participating institutions if they were to have their own “Permanent Parliaments” which should serve as the “debating societies” for promoting debating talents in their students. Thus, at the time of selecting the names of participants they can draw upon the talent from these “Parliaments”.
8. The participants should show utmost respect to the Chair. They should abide by the decisions of the Chair and should have faith in his impartiality and judgement.
9. Every member while coming to the House for its sitting should bow to the Chair and similarly while leaving the chamber bow to the Chair.
10. The members should not say or do anything on the floor of the House that is not warranted by rules of procedures or by the ruling or precedence or by the accepted and established customs and conventions of the House.
11. There should be no discussion on sensitive policy matters affecting the relations of our country with foreign friendly Governments or which will prove embarrassing for the country and its present day Government.
12. A member should never cross the floor while the House is sitting i.e. he should never pass between the Chair and any member who is speaking. Violation of this rule is regarded as a breach of Parliamentary etiquette.
13. Members should not sit with their backs to the Chair. When a member wants to speak he should raise hands to attract the attention of the chair. No member should speak unless he or she has ‘Caught’ the eye of the Speaker and has been permitted by the Chair by name or by a sign, to speak.
14. Every member should resume his seat as the Speaker rises to speak or calls out “order” and also when any other member is in possession of the floor. Two or more members should not keep standing at the same time.
15. No member should rise or leave the House when the Speaker is addressing the House. “The Speaker is always to be heard in silence”.
16. No member should read out a written speech. However, a member may feel free to consult his notes whenever he loses track of his prepared speech or text.
17. Personal references by way of imputations or questions against the bona fides of any member should not be resorted to. A member must not address individual members of the House. He should always address the Chair and make all remarks to other members through the Chair.
18. Members should not distribute within the precincts of the House or inside the legislature questionnaires or pamphlets not connected with the business of the House.
19. The member during participation in the discussion can use either English or Hindi. However, if a member wants to speak in any other language, he is supposed to do so with the permission of the Speaker, but before speaking he is supposed to furnish in advance a copy of the translation of his speech.
20. In short all participants in these Youth Parliaments should so conduct themselves as to inspire respect for Parliament and Parliamentary Institutions.