



NAAC Best Practices -IV

Best Practice IV – Inter Collegiate Youth Parliament

Title of the Practice:

“Voices of Democracy: Nurturing Leaders through Youth Parliament”

Objectives:

1. To provide a platform for students to understand the functioning of democratic institutions and parliamentary procedures.
2. To encourage political literacy, civic responsibility, and leadership qualities among youth.
3. To enhance critical thinking, debating, and public speaking skills.
4. To create inter-collegiate collaboration through meaningful intellectual exchange.
5. To sensitize students towards contemporary socio-political and economic issues affecting the nation.

The Context:

India being the largest democracy requires active, informed, and responsible citizens. With growing political apathy among youth, there is a pressing need to create spaces where students can learn, debate, and practice democratic engagement. Traditional teaching methods often fail to inculcate experiential understanding of governance and law-making. Hence, Youth Parliament emerged as an innovative practice at Bakliwal Foundation College of Arts, Commerce &



Science, Vashi, to simulate parliamentary functioning and instill democratic values.

The Practice:

- ✚ The Inter Collegiate Youth Parliament is organized annually, drawing participation from multiple colleges across Navi Mumbai and Mumbai.
- ✚ Students assume roles such as Speaker, Prime Minister, Ministers, and Opposition Leaders.
- ✚ Parliamentary sessions include Question Hour, Zero Hour, Introduction and Debate on Bills, Resolutions, and Voting.
- ✚ Issues debated include education reforms, women empowerment, environmental protection, digital economy, and social justice.
- ✚ Training and orientation sessions are held for participants to understand rules and procedures.
- ✚ Eminent personalities from law, politics, media, and academia are invited as judges and observers.
- ✚ Awards for Best Speaker, Best Team, and Best Parliamentarian are given to encourage excellence.
- ✚ This practice fosters experiential learning, democratic awareness, and youth engagement in governance.

Evidence of Success:

1. Participation from 10+ colleges in the last years.
2. Improvement in communication, analytical, and leadership skills of students.



3. Many participants reported that the Youth Parliament experience helped them in competitive exams like UPSC/MPSC and in career development.
4. Media coverage and positive feedback from judges enhanced the reputation of the college.
5. Alumni have shared that this exposure inspired them to take interest in governance, policy, and public administration.

Problems Encountered:

1. Difficulty in maintaining strict parliamentary discipline and equal participation among all members.
2. Scheduling issues due to examination calendars and academic workload.
3. Limited financial resources for hosting large-scale inter-collegiate events.
4. Requirement of detailed orientation as many students are unfamiliar with parliamentary procedures.

Resources Required:

1. **Human Resources:** Faculty coordinators, student volunteers, invited judges, and trainers.
2. **Financial Resources:** Funds for certificates, prizes, refreshments, stage set-up, and publicity.
3. **Infrastructure:** Auditorium/Seminar Hall with seating, microphones, and AV equipment.
4. **Knowledge Resources:** Reference books on parliamentary procedures, training modules, and orientation sessions.



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Future Plans:

1. To expand the practice into a State-level Youth Parliament.
2. To publish an Annual Youth Parliament Proceedings Report with key debates and resolutions.
3. To establish a Youth Parliament Club for year-round policy discussions and training.
4. To collaborate with government agencies, NGOs, and media for wider outreach and impact.
5. To link the practice with civic engagement projects such as voter awareness and policy research.

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