



DEMOCRACY CLUB

i parliament

"freedom is in peril defend it with all your might"

# Democracy in India

## The Preamble to the Constitution of India says:

*WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC....do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.*

*Article 51A(a) of the Constitution of India provides that "It shall be the duty of every citizen of India... to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem" and Article 51(A)(b) of the Constitution of India provides that "It shall be the duty of every citizen of India... to cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom..."*

**Democracy is a foundational ideal of our country. India is the largest democracy in the world. 33% of India's population is aged less than 35. India is a country of the youth.**



# Democracy Education

“Democracy education” is an educational ideal in which democracy is both a goal and a method of instruction. It brings democratic values to education as such values as justice, respect and trust.



# Why choose Democracy Education?

- To go outside the box of standardised one-size-fits-all education, so that young people are enthusiastic, active learners.
- Democracy education is both a means and an end in itself. In the long-term, it helps develop well-informed citizens who work toward creating a democratic, vibrant, and just society. In the immediate term, it nurtures self-determined and caring individuals who enjoy learning for the sake of it.
- Learning in an engaging and participatory environment is not just for the privileged few. The educational process itself ought to instil young people with the skills and critical thinking they need to build a more equitable and socially just society.

# Democracy Club

The Democracy Club is an I-Parliament initiative that promotes “democracy education” to help strengthen the idea of democracy in schools throughout India. This helps students and youth to better understand their current and future democratic roles and responsibilities by creating a democratic space that emphasizes freedom of expression on ideas and issues relating to democracy and the core values that inform democratic governance in India..



# Role of Democracy Club

1. It shall strive to engage in active democracy education, civic learning and skills development to prepare young minds for their roles and responsibilities citizens.
2. It shall initiate, coordinate, and implement activities that promote democracy education as well as decision-making in the running of the institutions and activities, consistent with democratic values.
3. It shall encourage students to gain knowledge and skills essential for informed, effective citizenship and democratic participation.
4. It shall function as a mini-Election Commission to conduct elections and organise events and activities that promote understanding of the Indian electoral system, democratic governance, and encourage participation in school's policy and regulatory decision-making process.



# Composition of Democracy Club

A Democracy Club in a school or an educational institution shall comprise of:

- Not less than 15 students as active members of the Club;
- An elected student as Club President responsible for implementation of the activities; and
- A teacher/ lecturer/ instructor as the Faculty Advisor who will be responsible to guide, monitor and advise.



# Activities of Democracy Club

Democracy Club shall be responsible to, inter-alia;

- Undertake activities that promote democratic values and civic culture;
- Undertake activities to encourage students to enroll as voters and vote in elections;
- Undertake community-based activities to promote understanding of electoral democracy and participation other than by voting;
- Participate in model student parliaments/legislatures to debate on certain important issues that affect youth;
- Organise literary activities on democracy and elections in India and globally;



# Responsibility of Educational Institution

- The Principal or Director of a school or an educational institution shall be expected to provide necessary support and guidance to the Democracy Club of their school.
- They shall designate a teacher to serve as the Faculty Advisor responsible for implementation of the activities.
- The Club President shall serve as the focal point with the coordinators of I-Parliament.



# Role of I-Parliament

- The Coordinators of I-Parliament shall take responsibility of coordination, monitoring and implementation of overall Democracy Club program.
- They shall, within their capacity, provide support to individual clubs, as needed.
- The Club President shall submit a Comprehensive Report on the activities carried out and its impact on the Club members and students in general to the I-Parliament Secretariat.
- The I-Parliament Secretariat shall conduct an annual monitoring and evaluation of individual Democracy Clubs through Questionnaire Surveys and other means





**Secretariat of the I-Parliament**

**E-mail:** [democracyclub@iparliament.in](mailto:democracyclub@iparliament.in)

**Visit us at:** [www.iparliament.in](http://www.iparliament.in)