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FRIEDRICH NAUMANN
FOUNDATION For Freedom.
South Asia



Theme:
Inclusive and Participatory
Urban Economies

PRAJATANTRA 2023

National Youth Festival

Model City Government



PRAJATANTRA 2023

OVERVIEW

India's growing urban economy is the key to our sustainable future. Cities are melting pots where ideas and cultures mix and create economic opportunities. Surprisingly, cities contribute a whopping 60% to India's national GDP¹, making them crucial for achieving our goal of becoming the world's third-largest economy.

India is the most populated nation on the planet. We are a nation of young people; 52% of our population is under 30². Youth are the architects of our cities, especially when it comes to the urban economy. They bring a fresh perspective along with innovation, entrepreneurship, and diversity. By empowering them and giving them a voice, we can tap into their immense potential contributing towards the growth of participatory and sustainable urban economies.

To foster this engagement, the Praja Foundation, in collaboration with the Urban Youth Unit of National Institute of Urban Affairs and supported by UN-Habitat and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom South Asia, has introduced Prajatantra 2023. This groundbreaking National Youth Festival is a platform for youth to advocate their beliefs and actively participate in debates and discussions on city governance.

Through Prajatantra, we aim to raise awareness about the urban economy and enhance urban institutions, ultimately creating sustainable and inclusive cities that push economic growth and improve the quality of life for all urban citizens.

BACKGROUND

The Prajatantra 2022-23 National Youth Festival highlighted the diverse and vibrant youth of our nation. With an impressive participation of 216 teams from across India, students from 64 different cities, including both metropolises and emerging towns, came together to be a part of this event. Prajatantra 2022-23 was made possible through the collective effort of over 180 virtual meetings, a dedicated workforce of 200+; and the expertise of 86+ judges. The event saw the active involvement of over 1,000 youth who participated in various competitions. Praja Foundation directly reached out to more than 2,800 individuals and indirectly impacted over 5,000 youth. Encouraged by the resounding success of Prajatantra 2022-23, we are excited to announce the organisation of Prajatantra 2023, the "National Youth Festival."

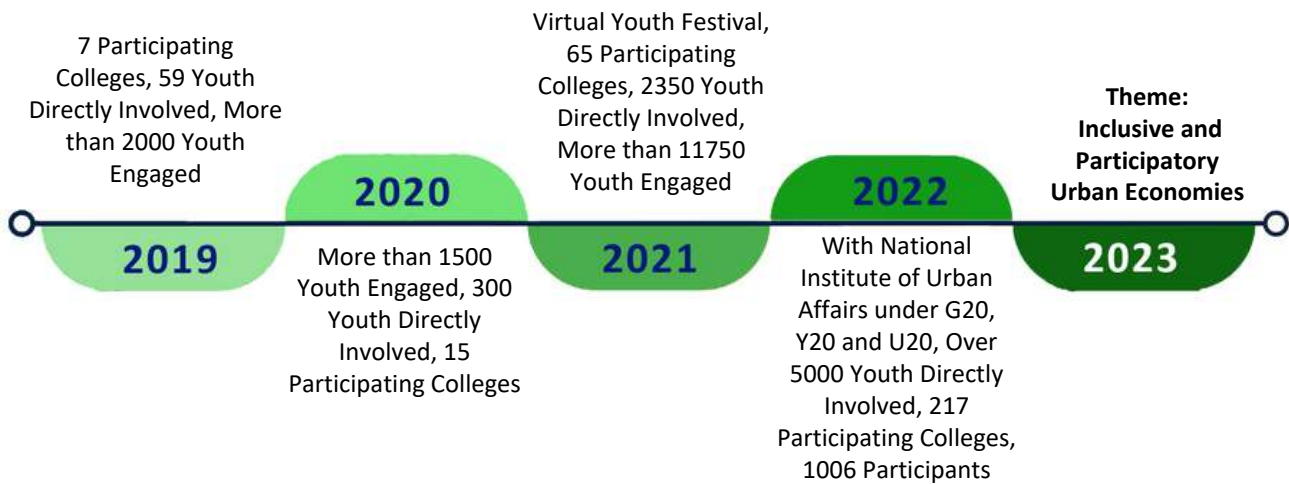


REGISTER AT
tiny.cc/PT2023REG

1. NITI Aayog, Reforms in Urban Planning Capacity in India Final Report, September 2021
2. National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) 2022



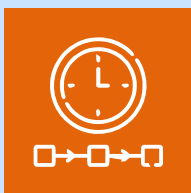
PRAJATANTRA OVER THE YEARS



PRAJATANTRA 2023

Prajatantra has successfully organised five youth festivals from 2019 to 2022-23, firmly believing in engaging and nurturing the next generation of youth to become civic leaders. As the future of the country, they play a crucial role in shaping not only the nation but also the future of their cities.

TIMELINE OF PRAJATANTRA



Qualifying Round (Virtual) : 1st, 2nd, 3rd September 2023

Semi Final (Virtual) : 16th & 17th September 2023

Grand Finale (Delhi) : 30th October to 1st November 2023

OBJECTIVES

- To mobilise young leaders across India to participate in a festival on democracy and help them to understand the importance of democracy & functioning of city government.
- To empower the students to participate in governance by providing knowledge and perspective.
- To make the youth aware of the economic policy frameworks, influencing the functioning of city government so that they can actively participate in the discourse on the urban governance process.

THEME

Inclusive and Participatory Urban Economies



COMPETITIONS & ACTIVITIES IN PRAJATANTRA

(Teams participating in Prajatantra should participate in all events, otherwise it will impact overall team performance)



INDIA'S BEST YOUTH TEAM

CHAMPIONS OF DEMOCRACY

WINNER OF INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION

PARTICIPANT'S CERTIFICATE

COMPETITION & ACTIVITIES



Mayor's Speech



Policy Presentation on Urban Economy and Municipal Finance



Policy Debate



Quiz Competition



Op-Ed Writing



Field Engagement



Knowledge Sessions

Platform



(Virtual)
Qualifying Round
Semi-Final Round

Physical



**Grand Finale
in Delhi**

**Registration starts from:
1st July 2023**

**Last date to register :
9th August 2023**



WHO CAN TAKE PART IN PRAJATANTRA?

A team of four (4) to seven (7) members can participate. Only one team from the college/institution will be recognised to tally the points for the college. Although, competition is open even for members presently not enrolled in any college/institution.

Participating teams are encouraged to name their team and design a symbol for their representation like a political party. While participants should use their creativity and originality, we strictly prohibit the usage of a name or a symbol associated with any existing political party. Plagiarism is also not allowed.

Teams will be eligible for the 'Best Team Award' based on their performance in all competitions. Participating teams are recommended to participate in all events as it will give them an edge. Each competition will have an individual Winner and 2 Runners Up. All participants will get a Certificate of Participation.

A participant can participate in multiple events but must adhere to the following participation guidelines:

- The same participant cannot participate in Mayor's Speech and Policy Presentations.
- There must be 2 different participants for Policy Presentation events. Remember Municipal Committees in a city government are chaired by different persons.

Prajatantra 2023 Theme:

"Inclusive and Participatory Urban Economies" refers to an approach where cities involve all members of the local community in economic activities and decision-making processes.

This concept recognises that a city's economy should not only focus on generating finances but also aim to reduce inequalities and provide equal opportunities for everyone to participate and thrive. In an inclusive and participatory urban economy, everyone has access to economic opportunities, education, healthcare, and basic services.

Recognising that people from diverse backgrounds bring unique perspectives and ideas that contribute to a city's economic growth, inclusive and participatory economy promotes diversity, innovation, and entrepreneurship. With active participation in decision-making processes, such as economic planning and budgeting, cities can address the needs and aspirations of their residents more effectively.

Active involvement of youth is crucial in shaping urban economies. By engaging their voices and their ideas while making policies and plans, city governments will nurture them to be future leaders of their communities. With a sense of belonging and social unity, youth will create better cities and urban lives for tomorrow.



TEAM DETAILS

Competition	No. of Participants per Team
Mayor's Speech	1
Policy Presentation on Municipal Finance	1
Policy Presentation on Urban Governance	1
Debate over proposed policies	1
Quiz competition	2
Op-ed	1

BOOT CAMP



There will be a Boot Camp organised for all teams participating in the Prajatantra event to brief them about the rules and activity plan and, also to build their capacities on the functioning of a city government.

SCHEDULE FOR PRAJATANTRA 2023

Participants' Registration begins: 1st July, 2023 (Saturday)

Deadline of Registration: 9th August 2023 (Wednesday)

Boot Camp: August, 2023

KNOWLEDGE SESSIONS

01	Date :	16th August 2023(Wednesday)	Time :	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
	Knowledge Session 1			
02	Date :	19th August 2023 (Saturday)	Time :	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
	Knowledge Session 2			
03	Date :	25th August 2023 (Friday)	Time :	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
	Knowledge Session 3			
04	Date :	26th August 2023 (Saturday)	Time :	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
	Knowledge Session 4			
05	Date :	September 2023	Time :	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
	Knowledge Session 5			
06	Date :	October 2023	Time :	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
	Knowledge Session 6			



Competition Schedule

QUALIFYING ROUND OF PRAJATANTRA 2023

Day 01	Date	1st September 2023 (Friday)	Time	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Opening Ceremony : Prajatantra 2023
			Time	3:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Mayor's Speech
Day 02	Date	2nd September 2023 (Saturday)	Time	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Policy Presentation - Urban Economy
			Time	12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch Break
			Time	1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Policy Debate
Day 03	Date	3rd September 2023 (Sunday)	Time	10:30 am – 1:30 pm	Policy Presentation - Municipal Finance
			Time	2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Quiz
			Time	4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Closing Ceremony

SEMI-FINAL OF PRAJATANTRA 2023 (TENTATIVE)

Day 01	Date	16th September 2023 (Saturday)	Time	10:00 - 11:00 AM	Opening Ceremony & Knowledge Session
			Time	11:30 AM - 1:30 PM	Mayor's Speech
			Time	2:30 - 4:30 PM	Policy Presentation - Urban Economy
			Time	2:30 - 4:30 PM	Policy Presentation - Municipal Finance
Day 02	Date	17th September 2023 (Sunday)	Time	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Policy Debate
			Time	2:00 - 3:00 PM	Quiz
			Time	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Closing Ceremony

GRAND FINALE OF PRAJATANTRA 2023 (TENTATIVE)

Day 01	Date	30th October 2023 (Monday)	Time	10:00-11:00 AM	Inaugural Speech: Key Note Speaker
			Time	11:00 AM-1:00 PM	Mayor's Speech Competition
			Time	2:30 - 5:00 PM	Policy Presentation Competitions
			Time	5:30 PM-7:30 PM	Quiz Competition
			Time	9:00 - 10:00 PM	Screening of a Documentary
Day 02	Date	31st October 2023 (Tuesday)	Time	9:30 - 12:30 PM	Policy Debate and Op-Ed Writing
			Time	2:00 - 4:00 PM	Share your journey and Feedback
			Time	4:00 - 6:00 PM	Grand Finale of Prajatantra 2023
			Time	7:00 - 9:00 PM	Cultural Event
Day 03	Date	1st November 2023 (Wednesday)	Time	9:30 AM- 1:00 PM	Exposure Visit to Parliament
			Time	6:30 - 9:00 PM	Interactive/lively sessions with CSOs



1. MAYOR'S SPEECH

The Mayor is the first citizen of the city and presides over the Municipal Corporation. Depending on The Mayor is elected directly by the citizens or by the councillors, depending on the state legislation.

In the Mayor's Speech competition, participants are required to present the speech delivered by the Mayor in the first General Body Meeting of the Corporation following the fresh election. The Mayor presents the policy framework of the city government for their upcoming term, highlighting significant decisions and key changes in the administration structure. The competition aims to enhance participants' leadership skills and provide them with insight into preparing a comprehensive development vision for the city.

1.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the competition are as follows:

- To enhance participants' leadership skills in understanding the governance mechanism at the local level in India.
- To provide participants with a hands-on experience of conducting city corporation meetings and understanding how cities function, including government initiatives for city development.

In this competition, candidates are expected to present their vision as the Mayor of the city, focusing on the government's main goals for city improvement. They should emphasize their preparedness for city policy, good governance, and a forward-thinking approach.

Overall, the competition aims to develop participants' leadership abilities, immerse them in the functioning of local governance, and encourage them to envision a better future for their city.

***Note:** Kindly refer to the Bye-Laws document for Event Guidelines and Rules & Regulation.



2. POLICY PRESENTATION

Important civic conversations often take place in Municipal Corporations during General Body Meetings, which are presided over by the Mayor. However, not all-important topics can be fully covered in these meetings. Consequently, numerous committees are established to deliberate and discuss crucial municipal government topics while offering support and help. The competitors must serve as the Chairperson of the Standing Committee/Finance Committee for the Policy Presentation on Municipal Finance and as the Chairperson of the Subject Committee on Urban Economy for the Policy Presentation on Urban Economy

2.1 POLICY PRESENTATION IN MUNICIPAL FINANCE

The Policy Presentation on Municipal Finance is a significant competition of Prajatantra 2023. It focuses on formulating policies related to Municipal Finance, which is a crucial aspect of contemporary governance. The competition provides a platform for participants to present their vision for budgeting in an urban local body. It aims to enhance participants' conceptual knowledge of policy-making and budgeting at the city level, while also encouraging analytical thinking regarding urban governance issues.

A Municipal Budget encompasses fiscal policies and corresponding financial plans of the Municipality. It includes a 'Revenue Budget' for maintaining existing services and operations, as well as a 'Capital Budget' for creating new assets and infrastructure to improve service quantity and quality.

OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY PRESENTATION ON MUNICIPAL FINANCE

The objectives of the competition are as follows:

- Enhance participants' understanding of the budgeting process in an urban local body.
- Familiarise participants with the allocation of financial resources.
- Encourage participants to think innovatively about budgeting in city governance.
- Develop participants' analytical thinking abilities.

One such noteworthy committee is the Standing Committee/Finance Committee, responsible for finance-related ideas and decisions in a Municipal Corporation.

The Standing Committee/Finance Committee, led by a Chairperson elected from among the municipal councillors, holds the greatest responsibility within the Municipal Corporation. The chairperson plays an active role in conducting committee meetings and acts as a guiding force. This competition offers participants an opportunity to act as the chairperson of the Standing Committee/Finance Committee and present policy briefings.

***Note:** Kindly refer to the Bye-Laws document for Event Guidelines and Rules & Regulation.



2.2 POLICY PRESENTATION ON URBAN ECONOMY

The Policy Presentation on Urban Economy is another remarkable competition of Prajatantra 2023. It aims to enhance participants' conceptualisation of policy-making at the city level and encourage analytical thinking regarding urban economic issues. The competition focuses on formulating policies related to Urban Economy, a crucial aspect of contemporary governance.

Participants will have the platform to present and voice their vision to improve the urban economy and economic planning in an urban local body. The competition will highlight that policies formulated by the local government will lead to job creation and economic development.

OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY PRESENTATION ON URBAN ECONOMY

The objectives of the competition are as follows:

- To enhance participants' understanding of the dynamics and challenges of the urban economy.
- To foster innovative thinking and strategies for sustainable and inclusive economic development in urban areas.
- To motivate participants to contribute to shaping urban economic policies and advocate for decent work in their respective cities.

The Subject Committee on Urban Economy, led by a Chairperson elected by the municipal councillors, plays a significant role. The chairperson leads committee meetings and acts as a guiding force. In this competition, participants will have the opportunity to simulate the work of the chairperson of the Urban Economy committee and present policy briefs on assigned topics.

***Note:** Kindly refer to the Bye-Laws document for Event Guidelines and Rules & Regulation.



3. POLICY DEBATE

The Policy Debate focuses on urban governance and policies through formal and systematic discussions. Debates provide a platform for participants to critically analyse and discuss current events, socially, culturally, politically, and economically relevant topics.

3.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Policy Debate are as follows:

- Promote critical analysis of proposed policies and their potential impact on urban governance.
- Encourage participants to develop persuasive arguments in favour or against proposed policies.
- Enable participants to assume the role of municipal councillors in the city government's legislative body, fostering a realistic and immersive experience.

The topics for Policy Debate will be provided during the Prajatantra 2023 Boot Camp.

The competition follows a specific format replicating a General Body Meeting of a city government and set of instructions for the participants. The Motion of the debate will be decided on the day of competition and participants will be assigned a side (government or opposition) to debate on the spot. Participants can raise questions to the opposing participant during the Q&A session. can raise questions to the opposing participant during the Q&A session.

Overall, the competition provides an opportunity for participants to engage in constructive debates, simulate the roles of policymakers, and develop critical thinking skills on urban governance and policies.

***Note:** Kindly refer to the Bye-Laws document for Event Guidelines and Rules & Regulation.



4. QUIZ COMPETITION

The Quiz Competition tests knowledge and understanding of Urban Governance among participants. It aims to promote healthy competition, a deeper understanding of the system of governance, and amplify the learning experience. The competition serves as a platform to assess participants' knowledge and skills related to the theme and stimulate their political and constitutional awareness. This will improve quick-based decisions and spontaneous and rational thinking among the participants.

4.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the competition are as follows:

- Assessing students' knowledge and understanding of Urban Governance through the quiz.
- Stimulating participants' political and constitutional knowledge through the quiz.

4.2 THEMES FOR THE QUIZ COMPETITION

- Constitution of India
- Urban Governance
- 74th Constitutional Amendment Act
- Municipal Finance
- Inclusive and Participatory Urban Economies.

All the questions of the quiz competition will be prepared on the above themes.

The Qualifying Round and Semi Final of the Quiz Competition will consist of multiple rounds conducted on an online quiz software. The Grand Finale, on the other hand, will be held in person and will feature multiple rounds such as a rapid-fire round, audio-visual round, etc.

***Note:** Kindly refer to the Bye-Laws document for Event Guidelines and Rules & Regulation.



5. OP-ED WRITING

Opinion-Editorial is a platform where individuals can express their views towards a certain issue. It is generally accommodated in the left side of a newspaper called as the 'editor's column',

Op-Ed focused on Inclusive and Participatory Urban Economies, aims to celebrate the skill of writing and the talent required to create well-researched articles on this important topic. Participants will have the opportunity to delve into various aspects of urban governance and express their thoughts and opinions through informative Op-Eds. By engaging in this competition, participants will enhance their cognitive abilities, deepen their understanding of urban governance issues, and improve their communication skills, thereby empowering them to effectively advocate for and contribute to the development of better urban governance practices in the future.

5.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the competition are as follows:

- Enhance participants' cognitive, educational, and communication skills
- Enable participants to express their thoughts with clarity and effectiveness in future writing endeavours

5.2 TOPIC FOR THE OP-ED

"Inclusive and Participatory Urban Economies"

***Note:** Kindly refer to the Bye-Laws document for Event Guidelines and Rules & Regulation.



6. FIELD ACTIVITY

After the declaration of the results of the Semi-Final round, finalists of Prajatantra 2023 will be engaged in a field activity. This activity will span over a period of two weeks and will focus on the theme of Inclusive and Participatory Urban Economies.

6.1 OBJECTIVES

- To enhance participants' awareness about urban governance and enable them to actively participate in the same by engaging themselves in the field.
- To enable participants to gain a hands-on experience about city governance and be more aware of the components and functions of the existing plans and missions.

6.2 ACTIVITY

Finalists will be required to participate in activities using two methodologies.

- Firstly, they will conduct a literature review of the urban policies in their respective cities and then meet with the administration to validate their findings. This will involve assessing the status of the policies in the city.
- Secondly, the finalists will conduct qualitative research in the field by surveying communities, street vendors, self-help groups, elected representatives and citizens to analyse the actual implementation of urban economic policies and the service delivery of the urban local body. The finalists will be responsible for mapping the service delivery of the urban local body, evaluating the impact of policies on the citizens and presenting the findings and experiences to a team of experts during the Grand Finale.

***Note:** Kindly refer to the Bye-Laws document for Event Guidelines and Rules & Regulation.



7. CHAMPIONS OF DEMOCRACY

The CHAMPIONS OF DEMOCRACY is a special award that is awarded to the participants who have been actively participating with vigour and enthusiasm and who stood out from the rest. This will be decided over the course of all the competitions after analyzing the performance of every participant.

7.1 OBJECTIVES

- To recognize the best performer throughout the event.
- To acknowledge their active participation in the Prajatantra

7.2 RULES

- The performance of every participant from their respective teams will be assessed based on their active participation, passion, enthusiasm, and knowledge about city governance.
- Experienced judges will carefully assess the performance of all the participants across all events and honour the best performers as the Champions of Democracy.
- The results of the competition will be announced during the Grand Finale, marking the culmination of the Prajatantra 2023.



8. KNOWLEDGE SESSIONS

The Knowledge Sessions of Prajatantra 2023 are designed to provide participants with a foundational understanding of policy-making for the competition. During these sessions, experts in the field will impart valuable information and insights related to the subject matter, equipping participants with the knowledge they need to formulate well-informed and effective policies. These sessions serve to enhance the capacity of participants by broadening their understanding of the topic and enabling them to delve into the intricacies of policy development. With the knowledge gained from these sessions, participants will be empowered to present their policies in a comprehensive and detailed manner, highlighting their expertise and contributing to meaningful discussions on urban governance and related issues.

8.1 KNOWLEDGE SESSIONS SCHEDULE

KNOWLEDGE SESSIONS				
01	Date :	16th August 2023 (Wednesday)	Time :	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
	Knowledge Session 1			
02	Date :	19th August 2023 (Saturday)	Time :	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
	Knowledge Session 2			
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	Knowledge Session 4			
05	Date :	September 2023	Time :	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
	Knowledge Session 5			
06	Date :	October 2023	Time :	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
	Knowledge Session 6			

*Dates of Knowledge Sessions 5 and 6 will be shared closure to the event.



DISCLAIMER

The views and opinions expressed by students, teachers, and other faculty during or after the event are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or views of Praja Foundation or supporting organisations.

PARTICIPATION DISCLAIMER

By participating in Prajatantra 2023, you agree to the following terms:

- The use of inappropriate language or references to real-life political parties or ideologies will result in immediate disqualification.
- Any form of cheating or dishonest behaviour during the competitions will result in immediate disqualification and a ban from future events.
- Colleges/Institutions will be responsible for their students, and it is mandatory to have cameras switched on during certain events such as the Quiz competition.
- By participating, you consent and authorise Praja Foundation to use and post any photographs, videos, recordings, or other records of the event, including full names of participants, for promotional purposes, media reporting, and publication on the organisation's website or blog. You will not be entitled to any compensation for the use of your name, image, or video by Praja Foundation.
- Praja Foundation reserves the right to exclude any individual from the competition at any time, providing appropriate reasoning to college/institution authorities.



Supported by



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South Asia



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National Institute of Urban Affairs

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MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

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