

## **Letter From the Prime Minister**

Dear Delegate,

These are troubled times, the nation is in a state of unrest. Fear and rumours are afloat aplenty, while the center in close collaboration with the state governments, has been working effortlessly round the clock to keep our country a step ahead of the pandemic, A rise in cases has become unavoidable.

However a recent development in one of the most vulnerable areas of the country has arisen, with catastrophic potential to wreak havoc to life and property, putting millions of citizens in harm's way.

I have called this meeting at Lex MUN 2020 to ensure that we resolve this issue with utmost urgency and due diligence. Answer the calling of a nation in distress, and do justice to the office(s) we hold.

More updates will follow.

Jai Hind!

-Prime Minister of India

## **1.The Agenda of the AD-HOC Committee of the Prime Minister**

The agenda for this meeting is **\*Classified\***

It is important to note here that participants be thoroughly updated about the history of the pandemic being discussed and recent developments surrounding the same. Delegates are also advised to be well-versed with their political affiliations and their portfolio's role in these circumstances. Delegates will be duly updated in case of any developments outside the committee and shall be expected to respond to such dynamic circumstances while keeping their political and official interests in mind. Therefore keeping oneself updated with the latest changes in the field of the Indian Geo-Political Landscape is a must. The Prime Minister while serving as moderator will hold no political affiliations during the course of the committee. However, unlike the UNA-USA rule of procedure where the role of the moderator is to not actively intervene during the course of the debate, the same shall be open to change contingent on the dynamics of the Committee in session.

## **2. Procedural Construct**

Members have the liberty to speak either in English or Hindi.

However, all documentation will be only in English.

At the beginning of each session, the executive board calls committee member in English alphabetical order to state their attendance with a clear present.

It is mandatory for all committee members to vote.

All the Committee members will be invited to give their Introductory Statements. The default time period, for the same will be 90 seconds. A motion to extend the time period will not be in order. Committee members are expected to list out their current Line of Policy and that of their organisation towards the agenda at hand. The member, granted the right to deliver the Introductory Statement, may yield after his/her speech in one of the three ways:

1. ***Yield to Comments***, Such a yield can be used to invite comments from other fellow members, on the Line of Policy, presented by the speaking member.
2. ***Yield to Points of Information/Questions***, The Executive Board, who has the right to call to order any member whose question is rhetorical and/or not designated to elicit information, may select questioners. Follow-up will be allowed only at the discretion of the Executive Board.

3. ***Yield to the Chair***, such a yield should be made if the Committee member does not wish to yield to questions/comments by other members. The Chair will then invite the next speaker, for delivering the Introductory Statement. Members must declare any yield by the conclusion of his or her speech. If the time runs out, the Chair will simply move to the next speaker

### **3. Subject Discussions**

Once the Introductory Statements have been successfully delivered, the floor shall be made open for motions, leading to Formal Discussions called Subject Discussions. This shall be used by the Committee members to debate/discuss specific subtopics under the broader agenda, subject to stipulated time limits and the strict moderation of the delegate who raised the subject discussion. Every proposal for a subject discussion must be accompanied by the specification of the Topic to be discussed under the slot, framed concisely and holistically. Every speech made during a Subject Discussion will be subject to a specific time limit, which is to be specified by the Member proposing the motion. Speeches made during the Subject Discussions are open to questions or comments by other committee members. Committee members are requested to behave in a parliamentary way, and show of disagreement should be kept at a minimum.

### **4. Establishing the Sessions:**

These sessions can be established by proposing a motion to establish a particular session, which will be followed by a vote. The motion should be able to secure a simple majority.

#### ***Unmoderated:***

A Representative may move for an Unmoderated Session thereby suggesting a change from formal to informal debate. The Representative who makes this motion must suggest a length and justification for the Unmoderated Session. The Executive Board may suggest a more appropriate session length and put it to vote, or may rule the Unmoderated Session out of order without possibility of appeal. Once the Motion has passed, the Committee will depart from the formal discussion and will carry an informal discussion without leaving the conference room.

#### ***Moderated:***

A moderated session will be a formal discussion which is regulated by the Executive Board.

### **5. Points:**

#### ***Point of Personal Privilege:***

A Representative may rise to a Point of Personal Privilege if a matter impairs him/her from participating fully in council activities. The Executive Board persons shall try to effectively address the source of impairment. A Point of Personal Privilege may only interrupt a speaker if the Representative speaking is inaudible. Otherwise, the Representative rising on the Point of Personal Privilege must wait till the end of the speech to raise the Point.

***Point of Order:***

A Representative may raise a Point of Order if he/she believes that the rules are being violated. The Executive Board will then immediately rule on the Point of Order. This point can interrupt a speaker.

***Point of Parliamentary Inquiry:***

A Representative may rise to a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry requesting an explanation from the Executive Board on the Rules of Procedure. This point may not interrupt a Speaker.

***Point of Information:***

This is a point which helps to clarify any factual inaccuracy in a representatives' speech. This point can be raised after the completion of any representatives' speech if one finds that the other representative may have misstated a particular fact. This point cannot interrupt a speaker.

***Right of Reply:***

A Representative whose personal integrity has been impugned by another Delegate's comments may rise to a Right of Reply. Disagreement with the content of a Delegate's speech is not grounds for a Right of Reply. The Executive Board will recognize the Right of Reply at his/her discretion as well as decide on how to resolve the motion. This point may not interrupt a speaker but should be addressed the moment he/she has finished his/her speech. Should the Executive Board rule the Right of Reply out of order, his/her decision cannot be appealed. (No Representative may call for a Right of Reply on a Right of Reply. TO BE DISCUSSED)

***Closure of Debate:***

A delegate may at any time move for the closure of debate on the item under discussion, after which debate will end and all draft resolutions and amendments will be put to an immediate vote. Permission to speak on the closure of debate shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be immediately put to a vote. This motion requires a two-thirds majority decision. Upon passage of this motion the Chair shall declare the closure of debate and immediately move into voting procedure on the substantive proposals introduced and pending before the committee. The committee shall also close debate and move into voting procedure when the speakers list has been exhausted.

***Adjournment of Debate:***

During the discussion of any matter, a delegate may move for the adjournment of the meeting. Such a motion shall not be debated but shall be immediately put to a vote. After adjournment, the committee shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time; adjournment of the final meeting shall adjourn the session

***Appeal to Counter the Chair's Decision:***

An appeal is made if a delegate feels that the chair has passed an incorrect ruling. The delegate formally challenges the Chair in writing by sending a note to the dais, moving to appeal the Chair's decision. The appeal will be taken to the Deputy-Secretary General who will decide if the appeal will be considered. Once the motion is acknowledged, the Deputy-Secretary General will hear from both the delegate and the Chair before making a decision.

**6. Committee Documentation*****Resolution:***

A written document, which is a set of Operative Clauses .

***Dissent Notes:***

If any particular member or party is in disagreement with a specific clause of the Resolution, it may issue a 'Dissent Note' in writing, addressed to the Executive Board.

***Communiqué:***

An official declaration or announcement in writing, non-binding in nature, which is drafted in joint consensus of the entire Committee and is passed without a formal vote. A communiqué is a more informal and non-binding alternative to a resolution, intended for common understanding of Committee and press members.

***Written Statements:***

Written statements shall be used to apprise the Executive Board, of any Policy Line, that could not be done through speeches, due to the limited time available. The Executive Board may read out the statement to the Committee, if it deems fit to do so.

***Press Statements:***

Statements, either written or in verbal, directly to the national press.

***Press Conferences:***

Parties can hold their own press conferences during committee breaks but will have to inform the Moderated caucus in order to discuss various sections of the agenda, a separate time frame is allotted for the members to put their views on the floor of the house. A moderated caucus can be of 15-30 minutes.. Everything in a Press Conference is in public domain and is in the presence of the media.

***Memorandums:***

A memorandum (memo) is written communication between a member and the concerned branch of his or her political party ordering certain action to be taken. These shall be strictly confidential in nature. Ironically, the same might be read out aloud in the committee if the Chairs find it strategically or politically important at the given time and circumstances. Memos must be

clear cut and decisively framed. They would be rejected if not found in the stipulated format or if the matter exceeds five lines. They should be used to create favourable circumstances and hence advance one's political interests. It is important to use memos sensibly as they may backfire if not appropriately used. They should not be detrimental to the political party the author belongs to or political parties that are allies of the author's political party. It is important that members understand the internal organization/structure of their political parties to effectively use the same. Please note that for the purpose of this committee, it is recommended that memorandums be routed through the Executive Board.

A sample Memorandum has been enclosed below:

***(Sample Memorandum Memo)***

From: The Bharatiya Janata Party

To: The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (Delhi University Branch)

Objectives:

Initiate a large-scale protest in Delhi against the Government's failure to protect women and against the degrading law and order condition in the National Capital.

Burn effigies of prominent Ministers from the Government in front of Jantar Mantar

Threaten to torch the Public Transportation buses and lay siege to the Metro Stations.

Signed:

Dated:

## **7.Outcome**

The main purpose of this **Ad-Hoc Committee** is to ensure that all the participating members come down to consensual solutions with respect to the issues at hand. For which the final document of this Meeting would be solutions in the form of an action plan. And for such document/s to be passed a 2/3rd majority of all the members present and voting is necessary. Unfortunately, Delegates would not have an option to abstain, thereby requiring them to come up with alternative voting strategies.