



**PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH AND
TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACIES**



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Lok Sabha Secretariat has been providing institutionalized opportunities for systematic study and training in various disciplines of parliamentary institutions, processes and procedures to the Legislators, officers and other stakeholders of Parliamentary democracy through its premier training body, Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST). Set up in 1976, BPST has since been renamed as Parliamentary Research and Training Institute for Democracies (PRIDE) in 2019 after its merger with the Speaker's Research Initiative (SRI).

The PRIDE has been organizing various Training Programmes in parliamentary and legislative fields, with a view to imparting professionalism, expertise and orientation to those who are involved in the working of the parliamentary system.

The PRIDE's activities include holding of Orientation Programmes and Seminars for Members of Parliament and State Legislatures; Lecture Series for Members of Parliament; Round Table Discussions on topical issues; Hindi Learning Classes for members of non-Hindi-speaking States; Computer Awareness Programmes for Members; Familiarization Programmes/Seminars for Media Persons; Training and Refresher Courses for Officers of the Secretariats of Parliament and State legislatures; and Appreciation Courses for Probationers of All India and Central Services and for Senior and Middle Level Officers of the Government of India. PRIDE has also been providing assistance to Foreign Parliaments on their request.

The PRIDE also conducts two International Training Programmes of one month duration for foreign parliamentary officials, viz. (i) 'Parliamentary Internship Programme' and (ii) 'International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting'.

In addition, the PRIDE organizes short duration Study Visits for Members of foreign Parliaments, government officials, scholars, students and others. It also conducts Attachment Programmes for parliamentarians and parliamentary/government officials of foreign countries. The PRIDE has also been entrusted with the task of conducting the 'Lok Sabha Internship Programme' which was launched in January 2008.

The PRIDE functions under the overall control and supervision of the Secretary General of Lok Sabha. Housed in the Parliament Library Building, the PRIDE has state-of-the-art infrastructure and training equipment.

Orientation Programmes for Members of Parliament/State Legislatures

With a view to familiarizing the newly-elected Members of Parliament and State Legislatures with the intricacies of the parliamentary practices and procedures, conventions, etiquette and traditions, the PRIDE organizes

Orientation Programmes for them in New Delhi or in the State capitals on request. These Programmes seek to promote a proper appreciation of the constitutional role and position of the Parliament and the State Legislatures as representative institutions in our democratic framework. It is expected that this Programme will help the Members of Parliament in making the best and most effective use of the precious time of the House for more informed and fruitful discussions. During the Programme, members are addressed by eminent parliamentarians, senior parliamentary officials and experts are invited to hold discussions on various aspects of parliamentary practices and procedures.

Lecture Series for Members

The PRIDE has been organizing Lectures by experts and specialists on subjects of topical interest for members of Parliament since 2005. These Lectures help them in gaining valuable insights into the subjects under discussion and help the members to share their views with the subject specialists. Domain experts from different fields, including from various international bodies, have shared their views with members of Parliament through these lectures.

Seminars/Workshops/Round Table Discussions for Members of Parliament/ State Legislatures

To enable the elected representatives to have a thorough insight in to various issues before the Parliament and other topical issues before the nation, PRIDE organizes Seminars and specialized Workshops on various topics of parliamentary and current importance, to help them acquire a thorough understanding of such issues.

Computer Awareness Programmes

PRIDE periodically organizes Computer Awareness Programmes for Members of Parliament to assist them in discharging effectively their duties such as constituency management functions, office automation activities, personal information management, etc. Computer Awareness Programmes are also organized for officials of Lok Sabha Secretariat as well as the personal staff of the Members.

Hindi Learning Classes for Members of non-Hindi speaking States

On demand of Members of Parliament of non-Hindi speaking States, the PRIDE periodically organizes Hindi Learning Classes for them to assist them in discharging their duties effectively in the House.

Programmes for Personal Staff of Members of Parliament

The PRIDE periodically organizes the Programmes for personal staff of Members of Parliament to help them improve their skills to assist the Members more efficiently and effectively. Various training Programmes like Computer Training Programme, Training Programme on Parliamentary Practice

and Procedures, Training Programme on 'E-Parliament and Access to Information', Training Programme on Members' Portal and Research/Reference Support to Members are organised for them.

Familiarization Programmes for Media Persons

The PRIDE periodically organizes Familiarization Programmes for media persons covering the proceedings of Parliament and State legislatures.

Programmes for Foreign Parliamentarians/Officials

Customized Attachment Programmes and Study Visits for Presiding Officers, parliamentarians and parliamentary officials from abroad are organized by the PRIDE on request. The Programmes are *ad hoc* in nature and are especially tailor-made to suit the special requirements of the visiting delegates enabling them to have a first-hand knowledge of the working of parliamentary institutions in India.

International Training Programmes

The two International Training Programmes, *i.e.* the Parliamentary Internship Programme and the International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting for foreign parliamentary/government officials are month-long programmes organized every year since 1985. Participants are drawn from countries covered under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) which is funded by the Ministry of External Affairs. The Programmes are open to others also in case the sponsoring authority or the participants are prepared to meet the expenses on boarding, lodging, travel, etc.

The aim of the Parliamentary Internship Programme is to provide the participants an opportunity to exchange ideas in the context of their own experiences in their Legislatures and to make them aware of the environment, traditions, culture and working of parliamentary institutions in India.

The International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting is designed to equip parliamentary officials with the basic concepts, skills and techniques required for drafting legislation.

In 2013, two Specialized Training Programmes in Arabic and Spanish languages were organized by the PRIDE for Parliamentary Officials from Arabic and Spanish speaking countries.

Providing Assistance to Foreign Parliaments

The PRIDE also provides assistance to Foreign Parliaments to train their Parliamentarians or staff of Parliaments. Such trainings were provided to Myanmar in 2014 and Bhutan and Maldives in 2019 on their request in their country or in India.

Appreciation Courses for Probationers of All India and Central Services and Government Officials

The PRIDE regularly organizes Appreciation Courses in Parliamentary Processes and Procedures of 3-5 days' duration for Probationers of All India and Central Services and middle and senior level officials of the Government of India.

These Courses provide to the participants the much needed direct exposure to the environment, culture and traditions of parliamentary institutions so as to enable them to appreciate better the nature of their role and place in the overall context of the parliamentary system, leading to a more informed response to their work in relation to Parliament.

Courses for Parliamentary and State Legislature Officials

To sharpen the functional skills of the officials working in the Secretariats of Parliament and State Legislatures, Foundation Courses, Refresher Courses and Specialised Courses are organized by the PRIDE. These Courses, apart from specific themes, seek to develop the right perspective and qualities essential in parliamentary officials, like a sense of dedication in service, precision and promptness, objectivity of approach, highest respect for the representatives of the people and unfailing courtesy.

The PRIDE also facilitates customized programmes for officers and staff of the Secretariat in various training institutions in India and abroad, and Study Visits to foreign Parliaments.

Programmes for Officials of Ministries

Since 2019, the PRIDE has also started to organize a Training Programme in Parliamentary Practice and Procedure for Officials of various Ministries.

Study Visits

The PRIDE organizes short-duration Study Visits for officers of the Government and Legislature Secretariats as well as scholars and students, both from India and abroad. During such Study Visits, participants are given the requisite orientation to enable them to understand notable aspects of parliamentary institutions, followed by a visit to the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Chambers, the Central Hall and the Parliament Museum. They are also enabled to witness the proceedings of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, if the Houses are in session. Meetings of various stakeholders including academicians/schools/colleges students with the Speaker of Lok Sabha are also being organized regularly by the PRIDE.

Online Training Programmes

Since May 2020, the PRIDE has also started to organise online training Programmes. First such programme was successfully organised for officials of

Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislatures dealing with Questions, Legislative and Budgetary Processes from 11 to 13 May, 2020.

The PRIDE functions under the overall control and supervision of the Secretary General of Lok Sabha. Housed in the Parliament Library Building, the PRIDE is equipped with modern infrastructure and training facilities.

For further information, please visit PRIDE website at www.bpst.nic.in.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
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