

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3036
ANSWERED ON- 13/08/2026

MY BHARAT BUDGET QUEST 2026

3036 # SHRI SHAMBHU SHARAN PATEL:
SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE:
SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives of MY Bharat Budget Quest 2026 in strengthening youth participation in policy discourse;
- (b) whether any mechanism ensures representation across States and UTs through the 17 zones under the programme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Nari Shakti Youth Parliament has contributed towards strengthening women's participation in democratic processes;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) the scale of participation achieved in the essay component of the programme, including the languages in which entries were received; and
- (g) the roadmap of MY Bharat Budget Quest and the Nari Shakti Youth Parliament into building financial literacy and civic-leadership among youth?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

- (a) MY Bharat Budget Quest 2026 was organized to foster informed youth engagement with the Union Budget 2026–27 and strengthen their participation in public policy discourse. The programme sought to promote financial literacy, encourage analytical thinking on budgetary priorities, provide a platform for youth to express their views through quizzes, essays and discussions and facilitate direct interaction with national leadership.

(b) & (c) A 17-zone implementation framework was adopted under MY Bharat Budget Quest 2026 to facilitate broad-based geographical representation of youth from across the States and Union Territories. The States/UTs were grouped into 17 zones, and the youth shortlisted through the programme's selection process were mapped to the respective zonal venues. This zonal approach enabled participation from different regions of the country and facilitated wider regional representation in the programme.

The State/UT-wise zonal distribution is as follows

Zone	States/UTs
Zone 1	Jammu and Kashmir & Ladakh
Zone 2	Chandigarh, Punjab & Himachal Pradesh
Zone 3	Uttarakhand & Delhi
Zone 4	Andhra Pradesh
Zone 5	Bihar
Zone 6	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim & Tripura
Zone 7	Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Odisha
Zone 8	Kerala, Lakshadweep & Karnataka
Zone 9	Maharashtra & Goa & Puducherry
Zone 10	Gujarat & The Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu
Zone 11	Haryana
Zone 12	Chhattisgarh
Zone 13	Madhya Pradesh
Zone 14	Rajasthan
Zone 15	Tamil Nadu and Telangana
Zone 16	Uttar Pradesh
Zone 17	Jharkhand & West Bengal

(d) & (e) The MY Bharat Young Women's Mock Parliament was organised as a dedicated component of MY Bharat Budget Quest 2026 for 6,979 shortlisted young women across 17 locations. The programme familiarised participants with democratic institutions, constitutional reforms and the significance of women's political representation through a structured parliamentary simulation. It provided a platform for young women to articulate their views on governance, encouraged public speaking and civic participation, reinforced awareness regarding women's participation in decision-making institutions, and promoted leadership and constitutional awareness among young women, thereby strengthening their engagement in democratic processes.

(f) A total of 46747 participants who qualified the Quiz round of the budget quest wrote the essay in language of their choice. Language wise participation are as follows Assamese-20, Bengali-113, English-39479, Goan Konkani-1, Gujarati-115, Hindi-6742, Kannada-57,

Kashmiri-2, Maithili-4, Malayalam-14, Marathi-69, Odia-24, Punjabi-22, Sanskrit-1, Santhali-2, Tamil-45, Telugu-38 & Urdu-9.

(g) Through MY Bharat Budget Quest 2026, youth were provided with an opportunity to develop a better understanding of the Union Budget, public finance and policy-making through quizzes, essay writing and discussions, thereby promoting financial literacy, analytical thinking and informed participation in public policy discourse. The MY Bharat Young Women's Mock Parliament familiarised young women with democratic institutions, constitutional values and parliamentary procedures through a simulated parliamentary exercise on the Women's Reservation Bill. The initiative encouraged public speaking, leadership, constitutional awareness and civic engagement, while fostering greater participation of young women in democratic processes and nation-building in line with the vision of Viksit Bharat.
