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UNDERSTANDING INDIAN COMMITTEES IN MUN: SPEECHES, CONDUCT & STRATEGY

Indian parliamentary committees in MUN are very different from UN committees. They are louder, faster, more political, more ideology-based and require delegates to think on their feet. For a first-time delegate, these committees may feel chaotic, but once you understand speeches, conduct, and strategy, they become extremely fun and rewarding.

This essay explains every concept in depth, in a simple step by step way.

1. Types of Speeches in Indian Committees

Indian committees, like Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, AIPPM, or state assemblies, focus heavily on speaking, attacking, defending, and political realism.

Here are ALL the speech types you will face:

1. Opening Speech (Your First Impression Matters the Most)

Purpose:

- To introduce:
- your portfolio/personality,
- your ideology,
- your official position,
- and your seriousness.

Typical Time:

45 seconds – 1 minute.



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Why it's important:

- Sets your identity for the entire day.
- Helps the Executive Board (EB) understand your understanding of your portfolio.
- Other delegates decide whether you are a potential ally or enemy.

How to Prepare:

1. Research your portfolio basics

- Party ideology
 - Position on agenda-related issues
 - Voting history
 - Public statements
2. Break the agenda into 2–3 issues
 3. Prepare a structured 45-sec speech:
 - Line 1: Strong introduction
 - Line 2–4: Core problem(s)
 - Line 5–7: Solutions your portfolio stands for
 4. Practice sounding confident, not fast.

Beginner Tip:

- Do **NOT** use heavy vocabulary.
- Use clear points rather than long sentences.

2. Substantive Speech / Agenda Speech (The Main Content)

Purpose:

To discuss the agenda deeply and present policy-oriented arguments.



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How to prepare:

Divide the agenda into subtopics. For example, if the agenda is “Internal Security”, subtopics can be:

- Terrorism
- Cybercrime
- Border infiltration
- Lack of coordination among agencies
- Modernisation of forces

Now prepare:

- 1 fact or statistic per subtopic
- 1 example (incidents, case studies)
- 1 realistic solution

Sample Subtopic Structure:

“Problem → Impact → Example → Solution”

Beginner Tip:

- Do NOT try to cover 10 issues in one speech.
- Cover one issue properly.

3. Rebuttal / Attack Speech (The Heart of Indian Committees)

Purpose:

- To counter or destroy the argument of another delegate.
- When does it happen?
- When your portfolio is attacked
- When someone says something unrealistic
- When someone contradicts their ideology



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How to prepare:

- List common attacks against your portfolio.
- Write short 1–2 line counters.
- Maintain your portfolio ideology.
- Stay **CONFIDENT**, not rude.

Good Rebuttal Qualities:

- Logical
- Sharp
- Direct
- Based on facts or ideology

Beginner Tip:

You don't need to shout. Calm logic is more powerful.

4. Moderated Caucus Speech (Short, Focused Mini-Speeches)

Purpose:

To focus the discussion on one small subtopic.

How to prepare:

- Prepare 3–6 mini speeches, each 20–40 seconds long:
- Identify one sub-issue
- Give one example
- Present one quick solution
- Do NOT repeat the same thing other delegates said.





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5. Crisis Speech (Only for Crisis-Based Committees)

Purpose:

React to sudden events or breaking news.

Examples of crisis events:

- Bomb blast
- Policy failure
- Scandal
- Resignation
- Border attack

What you must do:

- Stay calm
- Stick to your portfolio ideology
- Propose emergency actions
- Mention short-term AND long-term solutions

Beginner Tip:

- Crisis is NOT about shouting—it's about decision-making.

6. Final / Closing Speech (The Last Impression)

Purpose:

- Summarise your contribution and your solutions.



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Structure:

- Recap major issues
- Highlight your points
- Praise meaningful debate
- Present your final stand

Beginner Tip:

Do **NOT** attack anyone in the final speech.
End gracefully.

Conclusion:

Indian committees may look overwhelming at first, but once you understand their flow, they become one of the most exciting styles of MUN. By mastering speeches, following proper conduct, and applying smart strategies, even a first-time delegate can perform like a seasoned participant.

Indian committees are not just about shouting or fighting, they are about thinking politically, responding logically, and speaking confidently.

With the right preparation, you can not only participate, you can lead.