

Youth Hostels

Youth Hostels are a joint venture of Central and State Government. Youth Hostels have been built to promote youth travel within the country by providing low cost budget accommodation and facilities to students and youth groups travelling on excursions or study tours. The aim of the scheme is to encourage youth travel to enable the youth to know more about the diversity of India's culture and people.

2. Keeping these objectives in view, Youth Hostels are generally established, in locations of historical, cultural and tourist interest and significance. Hostel Management Committee (H.M.C.) is constituted for the management of the Youth Hostels. For the Youth Hostels located in districts other than State capitals, the Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate is the chairperson of the H.M.C. whereas for the Youth Hostels located in State capitals, Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs of the concerned State Govt. is the Chairperson of the H.M.C. The District Youth Officer (DYO) functions as the Member Secretary of the HMC and is responsible for convening meetings, maintaining records, facilitating coordination among stakeholders, and monitoring day-to-day operational aspects of the hostel. Further, MY Bharat (an autonomous body of Department of Youth Affairs) has been designated as the Implementing Agency for the Youth Hostel scheme considering its nationwide presence.

3. Selection and appointment of Managers and Wardens in the Youth Hostels is the responsibility of the Central Govt. while the day to day management/running of the Youth Hostels is the responsibility of the H.M.C. The wife/ lady kin of the selected Manager is appointed as Warden of the Youth Hostel. The appointment is appointed on contract basis initially for a period of three years which is extendable on yearly basis based upon suitability and performance levels, till the age of 65 years, beyond which no further extension is allowed. The contract of the Warden is co-terminus with that of Manager. The remuneration/ honorarium of the Manager and Warden is Rs. 12,000/- p.m. and Rs. 6,000/- per month respectively. The Manager and Warden are to stay together and free accommodation in the hostel premises is given to them. They are compulsorily required to stay in the Hostel, as their presence is required round the clock.

4. A total of 85 Youth Hostels have been constructed across the country. The recently completed Youth Hostel at Kota, Rajasthan, an established educational and coaching hub attracting students from across the country, is expected to witness high demand and significantly enhance access to safe and affordable accommodation for visiting youth.
