



**Dear Principal,**

Greetings from **Hindustan Times**.

At a time when the world needs articulate, thoughtful, and confident voices, *Hindustan Times* is proud to launch a nationwide initiative that puts the spotlight on India's young voice.

We are delighted to introduce **HT The Next Voice** — a prestigious platform for students to express their thoughts, hone their communication skills, and find their voice through the power of words.

Launched under the aegis of **HT PACE – Partnerships for Action in Education**, which has engaged thousands of schools since 1998, this competition invites students to participate in one or more of the following categories:

- **Spoken Word** – Original performances that showcase command over language and voice
- **Poetry Recitation** – Classic or contemporary poems delivered with emotion and clarity
- **Storytelling** – Original narratives brought to life with imagination and expressive delivery

To ensure fairness and engagement across age groups, entries are segmented as follows:

- **Classes 3–5** (eligible for Poetry Recitation & Storytelling)
- **Classes 6–8**
- **Classes 9–12**

Students may submit entries in **English or Hindi** and participate in multiple categories and themes.

### **Themes That Matter**

Participants can explore a range of socially relevant and thought-provoking themes:

**Kindness Matters | Save Water, Save Life | Say No to Pollution** and more.

### **How It Works**

- **Step 1:** Register with Hindustan Times — individually via our website or through your school
- **Step 2:** Submit a 1-minute video performance in the category of your choice (₹199 per entry)
- **Step 3:** Shortlisted entries will advance to the semi-finale hosted on HT's website, followed by an on-ground grand finale in Delhi



**Submission Deadline:** 15th August 2025

**Website:** [www.hindustantimes.com/ht-the-next-voice](http://www.hindustantimes.com/ht-the-next-voice)

**Exciting Gratification for Students:**

- **Participation Certificate** - Every participant receives a digital certificate upon successful submission.
- **Popular Choice Award** - The top 3 most-voted entries in each category qualify for the Popular Choice Award.
- **Semi-Finale Certificates** - Total shortlisted entries (by the jury) will receive digital semi-final certificates.
- **Finalists & Winners** - 3 finalists from each category and age group will be selected for the Grand Finale. Winners will receive cash prizes from pool of 12 Lakh and certificates.
  - 1st Prize - Rs. 75,000
  - 2nd Prize - Rs. 50,000
  - 3rd Prize - Rs. 25,000

As *Hindustan Times* marks its centenary year — celebrating 100 years of chronicling India's journey — this initiative is our tribute to the voices that will shape its future. We warmly invite your school to champion this platform and encourage your students to participate.

Our HT PACE coordinator will be in touch with you shortly to share registration details and assist with the process.

We look forward to your support in making *HT The Next Voice* a platform that empowers every young speaker, poet, and storyteller to be heard.

Warm regards,

**Hindustan Times**

*Voice of the Nation. Since 1924.*

