

YUVAAM

V O I C E O F T H E Y O U T H

“Dream big, Work hard Never let your
self-confidence weaken”

- PM Narendra Modi



**YOU
SHOULD
NOT LIMIT
YOUR
SUCCESS
ONLY TO
YOURSELF.**

Your goal should be to
make your success the
nation's success



CEO LETTER

Dear Readers,

The 2025 Edition of YUVAAM is here. It captures a defining moment in India's journey, the year of youth-led nation building. Across these pages, you will see how young Indians are not just participants, but partners in shaping a confident, inclusive and future-ready Bharat.

From MyBharat 2.0 redefining digital civic engagement, to PM-YUVA 3.0 nurturing the next generation of authors and thinkers; from the courage remembered on Veer Baal Diwas to the competitive spirit of Khelo India University Games, this edition reflects aspiration in



action. Initiatives like Model Youth Gram Sabha, Young Leaders Forum, and PM SETU showcase governance that listens, learns and evolves with youth at its core.

For Gen Z, this is a reminder: leadership today begins with participation, curiosity and purpose. For all readers, YUVAAM is a window into how India's youth are shaping narratives, policies and progress, not tomorrow, but now.

**Shri Ajit Kumar, IAS,
CEO, MyGov**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2025- Year of Youth led Nation Building	5-7
MyBharat 2.0 - Digital Powerhouse	8
Veer Bal Diwas	9
PM SETU	10-11
International Gita Mahotsav	12
Tribal Youth Embark on 'Bharat Darshan'	13
Khelo India University Games	14-15
India International Science Festival (IISF) 2025	16-17
National Unity Day	18
Young Leaders Forum	19
Kala Utsav 2025	20
PM Yuva 3.0.....	21
Model Youth Gram Sabha	22-23

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INDIA'S YOUTH, INDIA'S FUTURE

How 2025 Became the Year of Youth-Led Nation Building

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India's development narrative has consistently placed its youth at the centre of national progress. In 2025, this vision has translated into decisive action, with young Indians being recognised not merely as beneficiaries of policy but as active contributors to the journey towards Viksit Bharat @2047. Across sectors, the Government of India has reaffirmed its belief that the country's long-term growth will be driven by a confident, skilled, and purpose-driven youth population.

From Education to Experience

A defining focus of youth policy in 2025 has been bridging the gap between academic learning and real-world exposure. Structured internship and experiential learning initiatives have emerged as vital tools in this transition. The Comprehensive Internship Policy in the sports sector reflects this shift, offering young Indians hands-on experience in sports governance, science, event management, and institutional administration. By expanding career pathways beyond conventional roles, the initiative aligns skill development with emerging industry needs.



Democracy Through Participation

Strengthening democratic values among young citizens has been another key priority. The Model Youth Gram Sabha Initiative introduces students to grassroots governance through experiential civic engagement. By simulating decision-making and local governance processes, the initiative helps students understand leadership, accountability, and community participation. In nurturing informed and responsible citizens early on, the Government is investing in the institutional strength of India's democracy.



Health Awareness as Youth Leadership

Youth empowerment in 2025 has also placed strong emphasis on health and well-being. The Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign, now in its third phase, demonstrates a preventive and participatory approach to public health. By encouraging young people to act as ambassadors for addiction-free lifestyles, the initiative transforms awareness into action. It recognises the influential role youth play in shaping social behaviour and promoting healthier communities.

A Global Generation with Indian Roots



Indian youth today are increasingly global in outlook, and government initiatives in 2025 reflect this reality. The Viksit Bharat Run, which witnessed enthusiastic participation from youth and Indian diaspora communities across 150 locations in 91 countries, highlighted a shared commitment to India's development journey. The initiative symbolised how young Indians abroad continue to remain connected to the nation's aspirations, contributing to India's global narrative with pride and purpose.

Digital Platforms, Real Opportunities

Technology has played a crucial role in expanding the reach and impact of youth initiatives. The upgraded MY Bharat platform has integrated volunteering, mentorship, experiential learning, and career guidance into a single digital ecosystem. By leveraging digital tools, the Government of India has ensured inclusivity and accessibility, enabling youth from diverse backgrounds to engage meaningfully with opportunities aligned to their aspirations.

Shaping the Future, Starting Now

Together, these initiatives signal a powerful shift in India's approach to youth development. 2025 stands out as a year where policy has moved beyond intent to impact, placing trust in young citizens as nation-builders. As India progresses towards its centenary of Independence, its youth are no longer waiting for change, they are leading it.



Youth at the Heart of the National Vision

This edition of YUVAAM celebrates this defining moment in India's growth story, where energy, innovation, and responsibility converge in the hands of its youth, shaping a future that is confident, inclusive, and unmistakably Indian.

MERA YUVA BHARAT

(MY Bharat 2.0)

The Digital Powerhouse Shaping India's Youth-Led Future

India's biggest strength is its youth, Bharat ki YUVA Shakti, as often quoted by PM Modi in his speeches. With nearly 65% of the population under 35, the country is at a once-in-a-generation moment. Stepping confidently into this space is Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), a bold, tech-driven national platform designed to turn youth energy into real impact.

Launched on 31 October 2023 on Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, MY Bharat marks more than an initiative, it signals a mindset shift. Rooted in the ideals of Sardar Vallabhbhai

Patel, the platform connects aspiration with action, and passion with purpose.

So far, the impact speaks loud and clear:

- » Over 2 crore youth onboarded
- » 1.2 lakh+ organisations connected
- » A growing network of changemakers ready to lead from the front

One Platform. One Generation. Endless Possibilities.

MY Bharat functions as a unified digital ecosystem where young Indians aged 15–29 years and even adolescents from 10–19 years, can explore opportunities across volunteering, skill development, leadership, and nation-building.

From contributing to environmental missions and health campaigns to participating in innovation challenges and social entrepreneurship projects, MY Bharat is where learning meets doing.

MY Bharat 2.0: Smarter. Stronger. Future-Ready.

With strategic MoUs signed with Digital India Corporation and SOUL, MY Bharat 2.0 is stepping into a more advanced phase. Think:

- » AI-powered tools
- » Personalised mentorship
- » Leadership and capacity-building programmes
- » Career counselling and skill mapping
- » Entrepreneurship support for youth innovators

This isn't about preparing youth for the future, it's about empowering them to build it.



VEER BAAL DIWAS 2025: Honouring Courage & Sacrifice

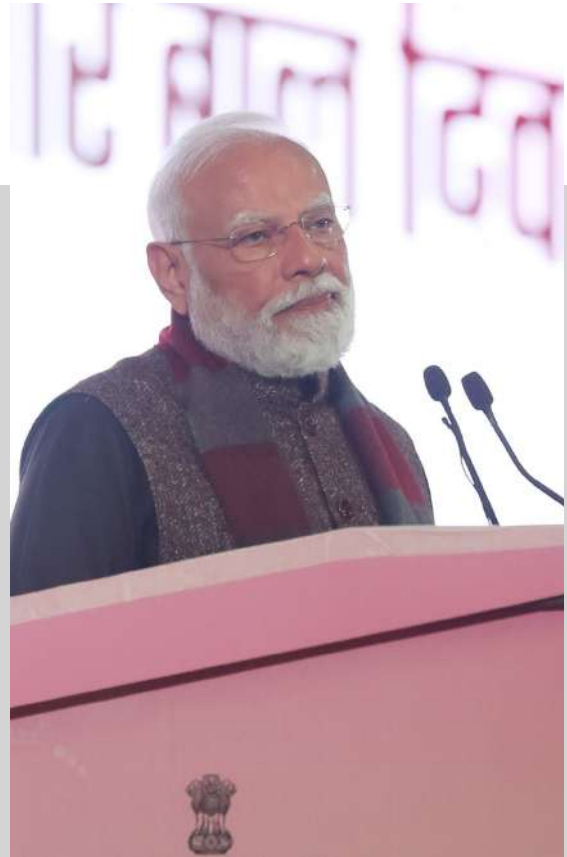
On 26 December 2025, the nation observed Veer Baal Diwas with deep reverence to honour the extraordinary courage and supreme sacrifice of the Sahibzadas, the young sons of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji. The day symbolised India's respect for valour, conviction and righteousness shown by these brave children in the face of immense adversity.

Leadership at Bharat Mandapam



The national programme was held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, where Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi led the commemorative event attended by children, youth, dignitaries and awardees of the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar.

PM's Inspiring Address



In his address, PM Shri Narendra Modi paid a heartfelt tribute to the Sahibzadas, recalling their indomitable courage and the enduring teachings of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji and Mata Gujri Ji that continue to inspire generations. He described Veer Baal Diwas as a moment of "courage, conviction and righteousness," emphasising that the bravery of young heroes remains a guiding light for the nation.

Empowering India's Youth

The Prime Minister reaffirmed the government's commitment to youth empowerment and nation-building, encouraging Gen Z and Gen Alpha to lead India towards a Viksit Bharat through innovation, resilience and patriotic spirit

INDUSTRY TAK TRANSFORMING IT

In a major reform aimed at future-proofing India's workforce, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), through State/UT governments and the Directorate General of Training (DGT), has formally invited industry leaders to drive the upgradation of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) under the PM-SETU scheme. The move marks a decisive shift from a government-driven skilling framework to an industry-led, employment-oriented model.

Call for Anchor Industry Partners

To operationalize this transformation, MSDE has released an Expression of Interest (EOI) to onboard Anchor Industry Partners (AIPs) for upgrading National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs). Simultaneously, States and Union Territories have begun issuing EOIs to identify industry collaborators for selected ITIs. Early adopters include Karnataka, Gujarat, Assam, and Chandigarh, indicating strong on-ground momentum and industry interest.

PM-SETU: A Landmark Skilling Reform

Approved by the Union Cabinet in May 2025 with a financial outlay of ₹60,000 crore, the PM-SETU (Prime Minister Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs) scheme was launched by the Prime Minister on October 4, 2025. The initiative aims to address long-standing challenges of outdated infrastructure, mismatched curricula, and limited industry linkage within the ITI ecosystem.



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Hub-and-Spoke Model for Nationwide Impact

The scheme envisages the upgradation of 1,000 Government ITIs using a hub-and-spoke model. Under this approach, 200 hub ITIs will anchor approximately four spoke ITIs each, providing access to advanced machinery, high-end equipment, and modern digital learning tools. Additionally, five NSTIs located in Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kanpur, and Ludhiana will be developed as global Centres of Excellence.

Industry-Led Governance and Co-Investment

A defining feature of PM-SETU is its industry-led governance structure. Each upgraded ITI will be managed through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), with industry holding 51% ownership and the government 49%. The model allows industry partners to lead execution while availing up to 83% government co-funding, making participation both strategic and sustainable.

Industry-Led Governance and Co-Investment

Anchor Industry Partners will play a pivotal role in designing job-linked curricula, setting up advanced laboratories, upskilling instructors through industry exposure, and establishing innovation hubs on campuses. In return, companies gain a reliable

pipeline of skilled manpower and apprentices aligned to real-world industry needs, along with CSR-linked benefits.

PM-SETU is set to redefine India's skilling ecosystem by putting industry at the centre of workforce transformation—bridging education, employability, and economic growth.



INTERNATIONAL GITA MAHOTSAV

Ancient Wisdom, Youthful Spirit

Held in Kurukshetra, Haryana, the International Gita Mahotsav (IGM) celebrated the timeless teachings of the Bhagavad Gita, the sacred text that emerged on this very land. It blends spirituality, culture, and modern expression, making India's philosophical heritage relevant for today's generation.

When is it celebrated?

The Mahotsav is celebrated annually during November–December, coinciding with Gita Jayanti, and draws national and international participation.

Why It Matters to Gen Z & Youth

IGM is not just about tradition, it's about purpose, clarity, and action. Through cultural performances,

youth festivals, digital exhibitions, marathons, quizzes, and interactive sessions, young people explore how Gita's ideas align with modern life, leadership, and decision-making.

Youth Participation & Opportunities

Students, volunteers, artists, and young professionals actively participate through:

- » Volunteering drives
- » Cultural showcases
- » Knowledge sessions and competitions
- » Digital and on-ground engagement

For today's youth, International Gita Mahotsav is a space where heritage meets hustle, offering inspiration to think deeply, act responsibly, and lead consciously in a fast-changing world.

TRIBAL YOUTH

from Naxal-Affected Kanker Embark on 'Bharat Darshan'

In a meaningful effort to integrate tribal youth from Naxal-affected regions into the national mainstream, the Border Security Force (BSF) and Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) have jointly launched a 'Bharat Darshan' tour under the 17th Tribal Youth Exchange Programme. As part of this initiative, 40 tribal students from Kanker district of Chhattisgarh have embarked on an educational and cultural journey across India, beginning with Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh.

Youth Participation & Opportunities

The participating students have been selected

from some of the most Naxal-affected villages in and around Kanker. The exposure tour is designed to broaden their worldview, instill confidence, and encourage them to engage positively with society. During the tour, the youth will visit historical monuments, cultural institutions, and interact with educational and administrative establishments, helping them witness India's rich heritage and developmental progress.



Building Confidence & National Unity



BSF officials emphasized that tribal youth are the heartbeat of society, and connecting them with the nation's cultural and technological growth is essential. NYKS officials highlighted that such programs nurture a positive outlook and strengthen national unity. Families of the students expressed pride as many participants stepped outside their state for the first time.

Hope for the Future

More than a journey, the initiative represents hope, inspiration, and a pathway toward peace, self-development, and nation-building in regions long affected by conflict.

KHELO INDIA UNIVE

India's Biggest Campus Sports Celebration

The Khelo India University Games (KIUG) 2025 was one of the most exciting sports events of the year for young athletes and sports lovers across India. Held from 24 November to 5 December 2025, this edition marked a landmark moment in university sports by bringing together thousands of student-athletes for fierce competition, skill-building, and unforgettable campus spirit.

Campus Meets Competition

Hosted in the culturally rich state of Rajasthan across seven cities, Jaipur, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Ajmer, Bharatpur and Bikaner, KIUG 2025 turned university sports into a national movement. Over 5,000 athletes from 200+ universities competed in 23 medal sports plus a demonstration sport, Kho-Kho, representing a wide spectrum of disciplines from athletics and hockey to canoeing, kayaking, cycling and beach volleyball, some included for the first time, showing the event's evolving ambition and diversity.

Youth Power in Play

For Gen Z athletes, this wasn't just competition, it was community, identity and opportunity. Young players experienced high-level play, team collaboration, and national visibility, while universities proudly showcased student talent on a grand national platform. The Games also offered exposure to professional coaching, performance analysis, and pathways toward sports careers, empowering students to think bigger than campus boundaries.



RSITY GAMES 2025

More Than Medals

While medals and trophies were the highlight, the real legacy of KIUG 2025 lies in the stories of resilience, teamwork, and dreams in motion. The structured youth sports ecosystem under Khelo India, which integrates school, university, and community sports, aims to build not just athletes but leaders who embody fitness, determination and pride.

The official KIUG portal served as a hub for schedules, results, sports lists, participation details, news updates and live medal tallies, making it easy for students, families and fans to stay connected throughout the event.

Why Does It Matters?

In a nation where youth energy is one of the greatest assets, KIUG 2025 demonstrated how sport transforms lives. It encouraged a generation to stay active, pursue excellence, embrace healthy competition, and celebrate sport as a vital part of India's journey toward becoming a global sporting nation.



INDIA INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL (IISF) 2025

Where Science Meets Samruddhi

The India International Science Festival (IISF) 2025 is set to be one of the largest celebrations of science, innovation, and knowledge exchange in the country. With the powerful mission “Vigyan Se Samruddhi: for Aatmanirbhar Bharat,” IISF 2025 reinforces the idea that science is not just about discovery, it is about national progress, prosperity, and global good. Hosted in Panchkula, Haryana, the festival brought together 40,000+ participants from India and abroad, creating a truly global platform for dialogue, learning, and collaboration.



Innovation. Aatmanirbharta. India for Global Good

Rooted in the national vision of science-led growth, IISF 2025 aims to connect scientists, innovators, educators, students, industry leaders, science communicators, policymakers, and international delegates under one roof. With 150+ sessions spanning science, technology, innovation, and industry, the festival will showcase how ideas transform into impact and research translates into real-world solutions.

Why IISF 2025 Matters to Youth?

For students and young innovators, IISF 2025 is more than a conference — it's a launchpad. The festival focuses strongly on:

- » Inspiring young minds to pursue careers in STEM
- » Encouraging innovation-driven entrepreneurship
- » Exposure to cutting-edge research and emerging technologies
- » Direct interaction with scientists, innovators, and policymakers



From workshops and exhibitions to panel discussions and outreach programmes, youth will experience how science shapes careers, industries, and society.

Bridging Tradition with Tomorrow

A unique highlight of IISF 2025 is its emphasis on integrating traditional knowledge systems with modern scientific research. This approach celebrates India's rich intellectual heritage while pushing boundaries in contemporary science and technology.

Science Without Borders

With participation from international delegates and global institutions, IISF 2025 also aims to build global scientific partnerships to address shared challenges — from climate change and health to sustainable development and technology innovation.

Science as a National Movement

IISF 2025 embodies a clear message for young India: science is central to Aatmanirbhar Bharat. By turning knowledge into innovation and innovation into national strength, the festival invites youth to not just witness India's scientific journey — but to lead it.



NATIONAL UNITY MARCH

UNITY MARCH



The youth of India marched forward with energy and unity on the occasion of The Sardar@150 Padyatra to commemorate 150 years of Sardar Patel, spreading Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's message of togetherness & nation-building.



YOUNG LEADERS FORUM 2025

Veer Yuva: Empowering India's Youth

The Young Leaders Forum (YLF) 2025, titled "Veer Yuva: Empowering Youth for India's National Security and Development," was organised by the Indian Army in collaboration with the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS) on 31 October 2025 at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, marking National Unity Day in honour of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Bridging Youth and National Vision

Held as a curtain-raiser to the third edition of the Chanakya Defence Dialogue (CDD) 2025, themed "Reform to Transform: Sashakt, Surakshit aur Viksit Bharat," the Forum brought together young achievers from defence, academia, research, entrepreneurship and student communities.

Voices of Leadership

The event featured powerful addresses emphasizing the critical role of youth in nation-building, physical fitness, discipline, innovation and patriotism — urging young Indians to internalise values of self-reliance and service to realise Viksit Bharat @2047.

National Impact and Outreach

Conducted in hybrid mode, the Forum was live-streamed to Army institutions, IITs, universities and professional hubs nationwide — enabling broad participation of young

minds. Discussions focused on strategic awareness, defence innovation and leadership, reaffirming India's youth as key drivers of future progress.

A Launchpad for Future Leaders

The Young Leaders Forum 2025 stood as a testament to the Indian Army's commitment to engage, inspire and integrate youth in the national security discourse — shaping a generation ready to contribute to India's strength, unity and global stature.



KALA UTSAV 2025:

A Grand Celebration of Youth Creativity

Kala Utsav 2025, organised under the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India, concluded as a vibrant showcase of artistic talent among school students across the country. The festival has long aimed to integrate arts with education, celebrating India's diverse cultural heritage while nurturing creative expression among youth.

State and District Celebrations

Throughout 2025, district and state level Kala Utsav events took place in places like Kargil and Leh, where hundreds of students performed drama, music, dance and visual arts before expert juries and dignitaries.

These events offered platforms for young artists to celebrate tradition, creativity and teamwork.

National Level Finale in Pune



The National Level Kala Utsav 2025 was held from 20–22 December at the Yashwantrao Chavan Academy of Development Administration (YASHADA), Pune, where students competed in 12 categories. Assam's Tezpur Government Higher Secondary School team won the second prize in instrumental music (orchestra), and other schools received special awards in theatre, visual arts and vocal music.

Celebrating India's Cultural Spirit

Kala Utsav 2025 was more than a competition — it was a national celebration of heritage, talent and youthful expression, bridging tradition with learning and inspiring students to cherish India's artistic legacy



Inspired by the National Education Policy

Launched in 2025, PM-YUVA 3.0 reflected the vision of the National Education Policy 2020, which emphasises nurturing young minds and building leadership capacities through creativity, research and critical thinking. The scheme focused on empowering authors below 30 years of age to become voices of India's evolving narrative.



PM-YUVA 3.0

Shaping India's Literary Future

A Platform for Young Writers

With participation in 22 Indian languages and English, PM-YUVA 3.0 became a truly inclusive national platform. Young writers from diverse regions brought forward fresh perspectives rooted in India's social, cultural and intellectual ethos.

Themes that Shaped Thought

The three themes: Contribution of Indian Diaspora in Nation-Building, Indian Knowledge System, and Makers of Modern India (1950–2025) — enabled participants to explore India's global impact, ancient wisdom and modern achievements through well-researched non-fiction writing.

Mentorship and Meaningful Support

Selected authors received mentoring by established writers, a monthly scholarship of ₹50,000 for six months, lifetime royalties, and exposure through the New Delhi World Book Fair, strengthening their journey in the literary world.

Beyond a Competition

PM-YUVA 3.0 stood out as a powerful nation-building initiative, nurturing confident storytellers ready to take India's knowledge and ideas to the global stage

MODEL YOUTH GRAM SABHA

Empowering Young Voices at the Grassroots

The Model Youth Gram Sabha (MYGS) emerged as a transformative initiative of the Government of India to strengthen youth participation in democratic processes at the grassroots level. Implemented under the aegis of the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, the initiative aimed to institutionalise the voice of young citizens in village-level governance and development planning.

A Platform for Participatory Democracy

The Model Youth Gram Sabha was designed to provide a structured forum where young people aged 15–29 could directly engage with local governance institutions. By mirroring the format of a traditional Gram Sabha, MYGS familiarised youth with democratic procedures, decision-making processes and the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions. This hands-on exposure strengthened civic awareness and encouraged responsible citizenship among rural youth.



Youth-Centric Development Agenda

Discussions during the Model Youth Gram Sabha focused on issues critical to rural transformation and youth empowerment, including education, skill development, employment, health, sports, digital literacy, social inclusion and environmental sustainability. Young participants were encouraged to identify local challenges and propose practical, community-driven solutions aligned with national development goals.



Bridging Governance and Youth Aspirations

One of the key strengths of MYGS was its ability to bridge the gap between policy frameworks and grassroots realities. Recommendations emerging from the youth deliberations were formally documented and shared with Panchayats, district administrations and relevant government agencies. This ensured that youth perspectives were integrated into local development plans and implementation strategies.

Building Leadership and Social Responsibility



Beyond dialogue, the Model Youth Gram Sabha played a significant role in nurturing leadership qualities such as communication, teamwork, accountability and problem-solving. It empowered young individuals, including women and marginalised youth, to actively participate in shaping their communities while fostering a sense of ownership and social responsibility.

A Step Towards Future-Ready Villages

The Model Youth Gram Sabha stood as a powerful example of inclusive governance, demonstrating how youth energy can be channelled into meaningful nation-building efforts. By embedding young voices into grassroots decision-making, the initiative contributed to creating informed, confident and engaged citizens—key to achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat.



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