

**Concept Note for conduct of  
Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD), 2026**

# **1. National Youth Festival (NYF): Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD), 2026 – An Introduction**

1.1 The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India commemorates the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, celebrated on January 12th, as National Youth Day, honoring one of India's greatest philosophers, thinkers, and an inspiring patron of youth. In alignment with this significant day, the week beginning January 12th is observed as National Youth Week, marking a time of celebration, unity, and empowerment of young people across the nation.

1.2 Since 1995, the Ministry has organized the National Youth Festival as a flagship event during this week, originally conceptualized under the National Integration Camp (NIC) program. The festival serves as a vibrant platform to bring together youth from diverse cultural and social backgrounds, fostering national integration, communal harmony, brotherhood, and a spirit of adventure. This celebration encourages youth participation at the state and district levels, promoting a shared vision of unity and collective progress.

1.3 In the year 2025, the National Youth Festival was restructured as the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (**VBYLD**) to align with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of engaging youth in the mission of Viksit Bharat @2047. The VBYLD-2025, held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, drew participation from over 28 lakh youth nationwide, with around 2,500 dynamic young leaders selected through a rigorous merit-based process. The event emphasized leadership, innovation, civic participation and cultural exchange—positioning youth as key drivers of India's development.

1.4 Building on this transformation, VBYLD-2026 will continue as a national platform for engaging young minds (aged 15–29) across five major tracks:

1.4.1 The Cultural and Innovation Track will celebrate India's traditional art forms while fostering interest in science and technology through the Science Mela, encouraging youth to creatively connect with both heritage and innovation.

1.4.2 The Viksit Bharat Challenge Track will provide space for young participants to ideate and present actionable solutions to national challenges across themes such as governance, education, energy, climate and digital inclusion.

1.4.3 The Design for Bharat Track aims to foster design thinking among youth by engaging them in a multi-tiered challenge to develop innovative, practical solutions for real-world developmental challenges.

1.4.4 The Hack for a Social Cause Track will mobilize young innovators to build scalable, technology-based solutions addressing pressing social issues, culminating in a national-level hackathon.

1.4.5 The Diaspora Youth Participation will bring together 100 young individuals from the global Indian diaspora, including participants from the Know India Programme (KIP) and BIMSTEC

member countries, fostering international youth exchange and deeper engagement with India's development story.

1.5 Through these thematic tracks, VBYLD-2026 aims to unleash the power of youth as innovators, cultural ambassadors, policy contributors, and global change makers. The Ministry continues to work toward creating a united and empowered youth community, instrumental in realizing the vision of a Developed India by 2047.

## 2. MY Bharat – Empowering Youth for Viksit Bharat

2.1 Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) is an autonomous body under the Government of India that provides equitable access to opportunities for youth to realise their aspirations and actively contribute to building Viksit Bharat. Through a technology-driven platform, it connects young people with experiential learning, volunteering, mentorship, and recognition opportunities.

2.2 Quiz and Essay writing, as described further, will be hosted on MY Bharat portal for which registration is being defined in following steps:

### **Step by Step Procedure for Youth Registration on MY Bharat portal**

#### **Youth Registration**

##### **Step 1: Navigate to the MYB Home Page**

- Visit [mybharat.gov.in](http://mybharat.gov.in)
- Click on “**Register Now**” at the right top of the window.

##### **Step 2: Proceed to the Registration Section**

- Click on the **Register** button

##### **Step 3: Set Credentials & Verify OTP**

- Enter your Mobile Number/ Email ID
- Click the **Get OTP** button
- Enter the OTP received (6-digit numeric value)
- Click the **Verify OTP** button

##### **Step 4: Fill Sign Up Details**

- Enter your basic details in the **Sign up** form:
  - Enter your Full Name
  - Password (Using this password, you will be able to login to your MYB account)
  - Confirm Password
  - Set your Date of Birth (dd-mm-yyyy format)
  - Select Gender i.e. Male/Female/Others
  - Select State
  - Select District
  - Select Area type – Urban or Rural
  - Select Local Body based on area type selected
  - Enter the Pincode
  - Select the Youth Type NSS, NCC, NYKS, BSG (If you don't belong to the mentioned Youth Types, select the “Others” option)
  - Enter your Highest Qualification Details
  - Specify your Sports Talent
  - Tick on the **T&C** checkbox
  - Click on the **Submit** button

- After successful registration, you will be taken to your MY Bharat profile page from where you can view your Profile details, as well as access and download all your MYB certificates.
- **Note:** MYB users will be issued a **MY Bharat ID**, which can be viewed on the left hand side panel of the Profile Page.

Those already registered on portal need not register again.

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### **3. National Youth Festival – Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (NYF-VBYLD) 2026**

**3.1** The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has been celebrating 12<sup>th</sup> January, the birthday of Swami Vivekananda, the great philosopher, thinker and the greatest patron of the youth in India as National Youth Day and the week, commencing from that day, as the National Youth Week. As part of the celebration, holding of **National Youth Festival** began in the year 1995 as a major activity under the programme of National Integration Camp (NIC). The idea behind a Youth Festival is to organize a gathering of the youth and to take up various programmes so that the concept of National Integration, spirit of communal harmony, brotherhood, courage and adventure may be propagated. Like the National Youth Festival, States are also encouraged to hold State level and district level youth festivals in the same line as that of National Youth Festival and the State Governments are assisted for holding State Youth Festivals. The National Youth Festival is a major activity under the Promotion of National Integration component of National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development (NPYAD) Scheme of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

**3.2** The last edition of National Youth Festival was restructured as Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2025 (VBYLD-2025) and held on 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> January, 2025, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The event was formally inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2025. It was graced by the presence of the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2025. The VBYLD-2025 was an effort to break away from the 27-year-old tradition of the National Youth Festival by aligning it with the Prime Minister's Independence Day vision of engaging 1 lakh youth in politics, providing them with a national platform to create a meaningful sphere of national development and leadership for a developed India.

**3.3** VBYLD-2025 attracted 28,31,200 motivated youth nationwide; a total of around 2500 dynamic youth participated in the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2025, through a merit-based, multi-stage process, representing India's most vibrant demographic of youth aged 15-29. The VBYLD-2025 emerged as a landmark event, fostering the next generation of leaders, innovators, and thinkers who will drive India's growth.

#### **3.4 Objectives:**

- i. Promote National Integration and Unity: To bring together young people from diverse cultural, regional, and social backgrounds to foster a sense of national unity and integration.
- ii. The festival serves as a platform for youth from different parts of the country to interact, understand different cultures, and appreciate the diversity of their nation.
- iii. To inspire and motivate youth to become active participants in the socio-economic development of the country.
- iv. To provide a platform for showcasing the leadership abilities and diverse talents of young individuals in various fields, such as folk song, folk dance, story writing, painting, declamation,

poetry writing, etc.

- v. To foster youth-led solutions for a Developed India – Viksit Bharat.

3.5 Competitions will be held under the following 4 tracks for selection of contingents of States and UTs for participation in the NYF-VBYLD-2026 to be held in January, 2026 at New Delhi:

- i. Cultural and Innovation Track
- ii. Viksit Bharat Challenge Track
- iii. Design for Bharat
- iv. Hack for social cause

For the 5<sup>th</sup> Track of youth from Diaspora and BIMSTEC countries, selection will be as per methodology adopted / indicated by MEA.

**3.6 Target Group and Eligibility for participation VBYLD-2026:** Youth in the age group of **15-29 years (as on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2025)** would be eligible for participation in various tracks of VBYLD-2026.

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## 4. Cultural and Innovation Track

4.1 In order to facilitate youth to understand and appreciate the art and cultural aspects of our country and to explore the fraternal links with one another's cultures, provision of Cultural Festival has been made under the Youth Festival.

### 4.2 Objectives:

- i. To promote the traditional art forms and save them for posterity.
- ii. To inculcate appreciation for the cultural diversity among youth.
- iii. To provide a platform for young traditional artists to showcase their talent.

4.3 The details of activities at District level and State level along with timelines for conduct of Cultural and Innovation Track is as under:

Activity level	Segment	Brief	Timeline	Next level
District level	Viksit Bharat District level – Cultural & Innovation Track	i)Declamation ii) Story writing; iii) Painting iv) Folk dance; v) Folk Song vi)Poetry Writing vii) Innovation (Exhibition of Science Mela)	1 <sup>st</sup> Sept. to 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct. 2025	State level
State level	Viksit Bharat State level – Cultural & Innovation Track	i)Declamation ii) Story writing; iii) Painting iv) Folk dance; v) Folk Song vi) Poetry Writing vii) Innovation (Exhibition of Science Mela) *	10 <sup>th</sup> Nov. to 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec. 2025.	National level  <b>*The Exhibition of Science Mela will culminate at the State level.</b>

4.4 The Cultural Track events at District and State level shall be held at a Venue to be decided by the State Government.

4.5 The State Governments shall ensure wide participation in all these activities, along with a balanced representation across all districts.

4.6 Participants to be restricted to youth aged 15-29 years.

4.7 All participants are to be registered on the MY Bharat portal.



4.8 Participants may compete in one event category only.

4.9 Winners from all participating districts will compete in the State round.

4.10 Winners at the district level shall be awarded a certificate of merit / prize money.

4.11 From each State / UT, the best team in every category will be selected for the National round.

4.12 As a mark of recognition and encouragement, a Certificate will be awarded to the winners of VBYLD by their respective State / UT Government authorities.

## 4.12 SOPs for conducting Cultural Track events

### 4.12.1 Folk Dance (Group)

- i. Maximum number of participants allowed per team is ten. The team may consist of all boys, all girls or a mixture of both.
- ii. The dance shall be a folk dance (Indian style).
- iii. Duration of the dance should not be more than 15 minutes.
- iv. For the setting of the stage, extra five minutes will be given.
- v. The participating team will be responsible for removal of their sets, properties, etc. immediately after the completion of their performance.
- vi. Jury will be constituted by the State Government.
- vii. Judgment will be based on the basis of rhythm, choreography, costumes, make up, sets and overall effects.
- viii. Pre-recorded music (tape, cassette etc.) shall not be permitted under this item.

#### 4.12.1.1 Marking system

Item	Marks
Real Depiction of the Original form of Folk Dance	15
Expression and Movement	15
Costume & Make-up	15
Music & Rhythm Effect	20
Energy & Audience Response	25
Message of the Folk Dance	10
Total	100

### 4.12.2. Folk Song (Group)

- i. Maximum number of participants allowed per team is ten. The team may consist of all boys, all girls or a mixture of both.
- ii. The folk song should be taken from Indian songs which can be in any regional language.
- iii. No film songs should be presented.
- iv. Maximum time allowed for the folk song is 7 minutes. The setting time for the participant shall not exceed 5 minutes.
- v. Medley of songs is not allowed.
- vi. Jury will be constituted by the State Government.

#### 4.12.2.1 Marking system

Item	Marks
Sur	35
Tal	35
Real Depiction of the Original form of Folk Song	10
Costume & Make-up	10
Message of the Folk Song	10
Total	100

#### 4.12.3 Story Writing:

- i. Each youth may submit only one entry;
- ii. The entry should be original, in Hindi, English or regional language.
- iii. Maximum time-limit for story-writing would be 60 minutes. The word limit should not be more than 1000 words;
- iv. The story must not contain offensive, explicit or inappropriate content. It should also not offend any caste/creed/religion/color/race. Participating youth must fill in their name, complete postal address, mobile number and email.
- v. The jury will be constituted by the State Government.

#### 4.12.4 Painting

- i. The themes for Painting shall be **Nasha Mukh Yuva** or **Youth for healthy lifestyle**.
- ii. Each youth may submit one entry;
- iii. The medium of painting may be Pencil colour / Acrylic / Water colour / crayon etc. as per their choice.
- iv. The entry should be original;
- v. The maximum time-limit for painting would be 90 minutes. The painting must be made on A3 Size i.e., 11.7" \* 16.5"
- vi. The painting must not represent any particular organization or any brand name. However, participating youth must fill in their name, complete postal address, mobile number and email.
- vii. Youth submitting their painting in the competition will require to mention caption of the painting in 20-30 words;
- viii. The jury will be constituted by the State Government.

#### 4.12.5 Declamation :

- i. The topic of Declamation is '**Emergency period and violation of Constitution in India**' and '**Safeguarding Democracy and Democratic values**'
- ii. The language would be Hindi or English.
- iii. Each participant will be given a maximum of 7 minutes for presentation.
- iv. The participant will speak on the topic and deliver a prepared speech.
- v. **Jury & Evaluation:** The jury will be constituted by the State Government.
- vi. Evaluation will be based on the clarity of speech, flow, relevance to the topic, non-repetition of words and sentences, confidence, awareness about the topic, etc.

03 Judges having the field expertise (Professors/ orators etc.) would judge the participants on the criteria as below:

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Marking Criteria</b>	<b>Marks</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Content and Substance</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amount of Factual Data Presented</li> <li>Historical and authentic references</li> <li>Analysis of current situation</li> <li>Suggestions/recommendations for improvement</li> <li>New ideas brought out</li> </ol>	<b>30</b>
<b>2.</b>	Communication/Oratory skills	<b>20</b>
<b>3.</b>	Presentation skills	<b>20</b>
<b>4.</b>	Clarity of ideas and thoughts	<b>20</b>
<b>5.</b>	Confidence level	<b>10</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

### Poetry writing

- Each youth may submit only one entry;
- The entry should be original, in Hindi, English or regional language.
- Maximum time-limit for poetry-writing would be 90 minutes.
- The poetry must not contain offensive, explicit or inappropriate content. It should also not offend any caste/creed/religion/color/race. Participating youth must fill in their name, complete postal address, mobile number and email.
- The jury will be constituted by the State Government.
- 3 participant per state reach at National Level

03 Judges having the field expertise (professors/leading writers/journalists/ poets, etc.) Official Language of State/Hindi/English would judge the participants on the criteria as below:

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Marking Criteria</b>	<b>Marks</b>
<b>1.</b>	Adherence to theme	<b>25</b>
<b>2.</b>	Marks of Creativity and Originality	<b>25</b>
<b>3.</b>	Coherence of form and structure (harmony of words, presentation)	<b>25</b>
<b>4.</b>	Clarity of imagery/ facts and language	<b>25</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

## 4.12.6 Innovation Track (Exhibition of Science Mela)

### A. Background:

- i. Science and technology encourages logical thinking, problem-solving, and innovation, essential for addressing modern-day challenges such as Environment and climate change, health crises etc.
- ii. The Exhibition of Science Mela is a dynamic event aimed at fostering interest of youth in science and technology by showcasing innovative projects developed by young minds. This event will provide an interactive platform where youth and students, educators, and the public can engage with breakthrough ideas and technological advancements that address both local and global challenges. By spotlighting the importance of innovation in science and technology in everyday life, the Exhibition of Science Mela seeks to inspire the next generation of innovators and encourage their active participation in the field of Science and Technology.

### B. Objectives:

- i. To provide a platform for youth and students to present their innovative science and technology projects.
- ii. To spark curiosity and interest in science and technology among youth
- iii. build a community of young innovators who are passionate about using science for societal development.

**C. Participation:** Participation of minimum 10 teams (maximum 05 persons allowed in a team). The 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Winner Team at the district level will advance to the state level competition.

### D. Event Highlights:

- i. **Exhibition of Science & Technology Project:** Youth and students from schools, colleges, and technical institutions will present their innovative projects. These projects will focus on various fields including biotechnology, robotics, artificial intelligence, renewable energy, environmental conservation, healthcare technology, digital solutions etc.
- ii. **Awards and Recognition:** Awards will be given to the team showcasing outstanding projects, recognizing creativity, innovation, and practical application.

### E. Implementation Strategy:

- i. Science Mela will be organized in collaboration with Science and Technology Councils. The youth will participate in the Mela by showcasing their projects reflecting Innovation in Science and Technology. The Competition in this category will be for teams.
- ii. The competitions shall be based on practical applications, frugal innovations, Presentation and Impact. To the extent possible, passive models/craftwork of existing systems (dams, solar system etc.) should be discouraged. Innovation shall occupy the center stage of the exhibition item. These are only indicative guidelines, and each district is free to expand on this theme.
- iii. Wide publicity of the Science Mela exhibition may be ensured through social media posts, letters to institutions, Organizations and applications may be invited specifying the details of competition fixed for the district level Yuva Utsav.

- iv. Representation from all Blocks of the District should be ensured as far as possible.
- v. **Interested youth shall have to register on My Bharat portal and apply for their participation in the event-Innovation Track (Exhibition of Science Mela) under the Mega Event of NYF-VBYLD-2026 on My Bharat portal.**
- vi. Coordination with School, Colleges and University and educational institutions offering courses like science and technology shall be established so that maximum youth participation and a diverse projects of science and technology are showcased at the Science Mela during VBYLD-2026.
- vii. Coordination should be established with School, Colleges and University to encourage participation of youth and students having interest in technology driven innovative projects.
- viii. **Judges & Evaluation:** 03 Judges having the field expertise (Professors/ Innovators/experts etc.) would judge the participants on the criteria agreed upon by the panel so as to ensure that the best science-tech project that showcase the unique & distinct innovation and its relevance in dealing societal and environmental challenges should be selected for being sent to the state level program. The Projects will be assessed on following parameters:
  - a) Innovation in approach- 50 marks
  - b) Quality of presentation- 20 marks
  - c) Impact- 30 marks

**Total- 100 marks**

**F. Additional Guidelines:**

- i. The State / UT shall identify adequate space for effective organization of Science Mela.
- ii. Coordination should be established with District Administration, Department of Science and Technology, Education Department, Science and Technology Councils and other line Departments.
- iii. The State Government to give wide publicity of the Science Mela on social media platforms.
- iv. Winners at district level shall be awarded a certificate of Merit/prize money. 02 Winner Teams (1st and 2nd) will participate in the State level event.
- v. The State level competition shall be held in a venue, preferably in the State capital.

**The Innovation Track (Exhibition of Science Mela) will culminate at the State level.**

#### **4.12.7 Size of Cultural Track contingent to the National Youth Festival**

Each State / UT will send a contingent of Youth to the National Youth Festival as indicated below:

<b>Component</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Indicative number of participants per State / UT</b>
Cultural track	Group Folk Dance (1 team State/UT)	10
	Group Folk Song (1 team per State/UT)	10
	Story Writing	3
	Painting	2
	Declamation	2
	Poetry	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>

A total contingent of around 1000 participants from Cultural Track across all States / UTs will participate in the National Youth Festival. States / UTs wise break-up will be provided separately.

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## 5. Viksit Bharat Challenge Track

**5.1** The objective of the Viksit Bharat Challenge Track is to provide a platform to the youth to articulate their innovative ideas on various sector-specific themes such as agriculture, skill development, governance, space technology etc., suggest solutions to emerging challenges in these sectors etc. This challenge gives an opportunity to the youth to display various attributes such as knowledge, clarity of vision, innovation, creativity, presentation, communication and leadership skills. The ideas put-forth by the youth also provide useful insight to policy-makers for policy-level interventions.

### 5.2 Themes for Viksit Bharat Challenge Track:

The Themes selected for Viksit Bharat Challenge Round are as under:

- i. Youth for healthy lifestyle
- ii. Nasha Mukh Yuva
- iii. Making Bharat Atmanirbhar in Every Sector
- iv. Women in Leadership: Catalysts for Change
- v. Skilling Youth for the Jobs of Tomorrow
- vi. Youth-Led Governance and Participatory Democracy
- vii. India @ 100: A Roadmap to Inclusive Growth
- viii. Climate-Resilient India: Youth as Change Agents

### 5.3 Selection process:

The process of selection of youth and timelines for various stages of Viksit Bharat Challenge Track is indicated below:

- a. **Stage I (Digital) : The Viksit Bharat Quiz (1<sup>st</sup> Sept. – 15<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2025)**, a nationwide online quiz in multiple languages will be conducted through MY Bharat / MY Gov portal. Individual participants will take part in the online quiz on topics such as general knowledge, India's achievements, anti-obesity drive, de-addiction from substance abuse, Atma Nirbhar Bharat, vocal for local etc. This will be a general quiz. Evaluation and selection of winners will be done during 16<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> Oct. 2025. Representatives from all States / UTs to be ensured in the selection. **The winners of Quiz will be announced on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2025.** 10% of the Participants (not more than 3 lakh) selected from Quiz round will proceed to stage II Essay round.
- b. **Stage II (Digital) : The Viksit Bharat Essay Challenge (23<sup>rd</sup> Oct. – 5<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2025)** - Participants selected in stage-I will submit a 500-word essay on the selected themes on the MY Bharat portal. The Essay evaluation will be done during 7<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2025 at a venue determined by the



State / UT Government. **The result will be announced on 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2025.** 10% of the Participants (not more than 30,000 overall) selected through Essay challenge round will proceed to stage III i.e. Viksit Bharat PPT Challenge.

*In order to encourage participation of youth from rural and remote areas, the participants shall be encouraged to utilize the facility of Common Services Centre under Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) for taking part in Viksit Bharat Quiz (Stage I) and Viksit Bharat Essay (Stage II).*

- c. **Stage III (in person): The Viksit Bharat PPT Challenge – State level (24<sup>th</sup> Nov.-8<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2025)-** The State Championship round will consist of **Presentation Round and Leadership Assessment Round**, which will be held at a venue designated by the State / UT. Top 40 participants in States and top 25 participants in the case of UTs will be selected per thematic track based on their essay submissions for Stage-III. Youth will participate and present their ideas through Power Point presentations, which will be evaluated by leadership moderators for their ability to lead and collaborate. **The result of the Stage-III will be declared on 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2025.**
- d. **Stage-IV (in person): Viksit Bharat Championship at National Youth Festival at New Delhi (10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2026)-** The selected teams from States and UTs will make theme-wise presentations before mentors on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2026. Based on their performance, finalists shortlisted on each theme will get an opportunity to present their ideas before Hon'ble Prime Minister on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2026.

#### **Event Flow for Stage-IV**

- i. **Day Zero:** Draft presentations presented by the winners from the state round; top 5 presentation teams per theme will be shortlisted by domain area experts.
- ii. **Day One:** Shortlisted 5 teams present before HMYAS, Hon'ble MoS, YAS, Secretary (YA), PMO officials, etc. Two Speakers to be identified to represent the theme.
- iii. **Day Two (Finale):** 2 finalists per theme will present before the Hon'ble Prime Minister at Bharat Mandapam.

## **5.4 SOPs for conduct of Viksit Bharat Challenge Track**

### **5.4.1 Structure of the State-Level Competition**

- i. Individual participants will take part in a nation-wide online Viksit Bharat Quiz which will be available in multiple languages through MY Bharat / MY Gov portal.
- ii. After qualifying through the Viksit Bharat quiz, participants will submit a 500-word essay on one of the 8 key themes of the Viksit Bharat Challenge.
- iii. Evaluation of Essays will be done by domain experts at a venue determined by the State / UT Government. The Assessment Matrix for Essay evaluation is at Annexure-A

- iv. The top 40 participants in States and top 25 participants in the case of UTs will be selected per thematic track based on their essay submissions.
- v. Each state will host its championship round as a part of the Viksit Bharat Challenge. The states shall conduct the championship from **24<sup>th</sup> Nov.-8<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2025**.
- vi. Selected participants will present their ideas and vision individually, within a time limit of 5 minutes. The scoring criteria for the same is provided in **Annexure B**.
- vii. The participants will be tasked with creating a vision deck under their respective thematic track for which they submit essays.
- viii. A standardized template is being provided to ensure consistency and quality in submissions from participants. It guides response structure while allowing creativity, ensuring uniformity and clarity for fair, streamlined evaluation. The template for the presentation is provided in **Annexure C**.
- ix. Top 8 shortlisted participants from each State per theme and top 5 shortlisted participants from UTs per theme will be invited for the leadership assessment round. (On the basis of scores achieved in ppt round)
- x. A leadership assessor will be sent from the Ministry to assess the leadership skills and communication skills via a personal interview.
- xi. On the basis of the sum of scores achieved in PPT round (maximum marks- 100) and leadership assessment (maximum marks- 100), **upto 5 participants will be shortlisted per theme to form the team of the State per theme. In case of UTs, upto 3 participants will be shortlisted per theme to form the team of the UT per theme.**
- xii. The championship may be organised at a venue as decided by State Authorities.

#### **5.4.2 Formation of State Level Teams**

- i. State-level teams will be formed **after the State Championship**.
- ii. Each team will consist of **5 members (in the case of States) and 3 members (in case of UTs)**, selected based on their individual performances.
- iii. Each State can send 8 teams (40 participants, one team per theme) and UTs can send a maximum of 8 teams (24 participants, one team per theme), ensuring proportional representation while maintaining quality.

#### **5.4.3 Selection and Composition of Jury for State level PPT Presentations**

- i. To ensure a balanced and credible evaluation process, the **jury for state-level PPT presentations should comprise experts from diverse fields** relevant to the themes of the Viksit Bharat Challenge.
- ii. The composition of the jury should reflect **a mix of academic, professional, and policymaking expertise to ensure a holistic evaluation.**
  - a. **Industry Leaders**  
CEOs, entrepreneurs, or executives from sectors like technology, manufacturing, or renewable energy.  
Representatives from start-up incubators or innovation hubs.

b. **Academic Experts**

Professors from technical, management, or social science disciplines with expertise in innovation and developmental policy.

c. **Policy and Development Experts**

d. Senior Government officials, members from renowned think tanks, renowned persons with experience in governance and policy evaluation.

e. **Youth Leaders and Mentors**

Previous National Youth Award winners or accomplished young leaders. Representatives from leadership development programs like Teach for India or Global Shapers.

f. **Social and Cultural Experts**

Professionals with a background in social sciences, rural development, or community engagement. Representatives from cultural bodies promoting heritage and identity under Vikas Bhi Virasat Bhi.

iii. **Composition of Jury Per Track**

a. Each track will have a **2- member jury**, the jury will be formed by the State Government by selecting members from diverse fields as indicated above.

b. For **8 themes**, there will be a total of **16 jury members** per State / UT (2 judges per track).

iv. **Leadership Assessment Round:** A leadership assessor will be sent from the Ministry to assess the leadership skills and communication skills via a personal interview.

**5.4.4 Communication to be sent to participants for the State Championship:**

1. States/UTs need to send official communication to participants who qualify for the state championship.
2. Communication should be done through calling, email, SMS channels etc.
3. A detailed itinerary should be prepared and shared with the participants of the State Championship.

**5.4.5 Certificate / Recognition:**

As a mark of recognition and encouragement, a Certificate will be awarded to the winners of VBYLD by their respective State / UT Government authorities.

**5.4.6 Notification of State / UT Teams:**

1. All States / UTs are to notify to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports the composition of the State/UT Contingent for the National Youth Festival and give their details **by 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2025**.
2. All States are encouraged to host meetings of their State / UT contingents with the Hon'ble CM, Hon'ble Governor / LG and Hon'ble Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports of the respective State / UT for the sending-off the participants to Delhi.

#### 5.4.6 Size of Viksit Bharat Challenge Track contingent to the National Youth Festival

Each State / UT will send a contingent of Youth selected through the Viksit Bharat Challenge Track to the National Youth Festival as indicated below:

Component	Contingent	Teams	Indicative number of participants per State / UT	Total no. of participants (indicative)
Viksit Bharat Challenge track	State	8 teams (5 participants per team per theme)	40	1120
	UT	8 teams (3 participants per team per theme)	24	192
		<b>Total</b>		<b>1312</b>

A total contingent of around 1300 participants from Viksit Bharat Challenge Track across all States / UTs will participate in the National Youth Festival.

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**Assessment Matrix for Essay evaluation**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Marks</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
Innovation & Originality	25	Freshness of thought, creativity in framing arguments.
Relevance & Alignment	20	Direct connection with the chosen theme and Viksit Bharat vision.
Content Depth & Knowledge	25	Evidence, examples, facts, and logical reasoning.
Structure & Coherence	15	Flow, organisation, clarity of writing.
Language & Presentation	15	Grammar, articulation, readability.

## Assessment Criteria for Presentations

Criteria	Marks	Indicators
Alignment with National Goals	25	Reflection of Viksit Bharat 2047 priorities.
Innovation	20	Novelty and uniqueness of the idea.
Presentation & Clarity	20	Structure, communication, engagement.
Feasibility & Impact	15	Practical application, measurable outcomes, national scalability.
Content Depth & Knowledge	10	Strong evidence, clarity of thought, and National relevance.
Time Adherence	10	Presentation within 5 minutes.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	

## Criteria for Leadership Assessment

Criteria	Marks	Indicators
Alignment with the Goals of Viksit Bharat	40	Creativity of idea, practicality of implementation.
Leadership Potential	30	Scale, reach, and contribution to national goals.
General Awareness & Knowledge	10	Research, facts, evidence, logical backing.
Communication Skills and Articulation	10	Presentation style, ability to explain clearly within time.
Problem Solving and Decision Making	10	Completion within 5 minutes, concise messaging.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	

### Qualitative Feedback:

Jury members provide comments for high/low scores in the score sheet.

# Template for Vision Deck To be Presented by Participants

Slide 1

**Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue, 2026**



- Title
- Theme/Track
- Name of the team
- Name of the participants

Slide 2

**Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue, 2026**



- Understanding Of The Topic

- Describe the Vision For the Theme - Long term goal





## Problem Statement

- Identification and definition of the problem



## Way Forward

- Means to resolve it



## Conclusion



## **6. Financial Assistance to States / UTs for conduct of VBYLD-2026**

Financial Assistance to States / UTs for conduct of VBYLD-2026 will be met from National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development (NPYAD) Scheme of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

The extent of financial assistance for various tracks of VBYLD-2026 is indicated below:

### **6.1 State Youth Festival (Cultural and Innovation Track):**

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports will provide Central assistance to States and UTs for conducting their respective State Youth Festivals as run up to the National Youth Festival. The assistance for State Youth Festival (Cultural Track) will be limited to Rs. 10.00 lakh per State / UT for this purpose.

### **6.2 Viksit Bharat Challenge Track – State Challenge**

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports will provide a maximum of Rs. 15 lakh to each State and Rs.10 lakh to each UT, for organizing the Viksit Bharat State Challenge of VBYLD-2026, to incur expenditure on the following heads (illustrative, not exhaustive):

- a) Expenditure on venue
- b) Honorarium and TA to evaluators and Jury Members
- c) Incidental expenditures to support staff.
- d) Food and refreshments
- e) Certificates
- f) Stationery
- g) Lodging and accommodation
- h) Photography and videography
- i) TA & DA to participants
- j) Event branding and publicity
- k) Miscellaneous expenses

### **6.3 Fund Release Mechanism**

Funds will be released in four instalments, as per Central Nodal Agency (CNA) guidelines of Department of Expenditure, Government of India. The States/UTs shall identify an agency/body under it for opening a Zero Balance Subsidiary Account (ZBSA) under CNA and map the account on Public Financial Management System (PFMS) portal accordingly. The CNA details of National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development (NPYAD) Scheme along with relevant communications of Department of Expenditure, Government of India will be shared separately.

#### **6.4 Conditions for release of instalments:**

1. First instalment will be released immediately after mapping of ZBSA under CNA in PFMS portal.
2. Subsequent instalments will be released only after expenditure is reflected on the PFMS portal and will be based on the demand received from the States and UTs.
3. A minimum of 75% utilisation of the previously released amounts is required for release of subsequent instalment.
4. For release of the fourth instalment, States/UTs are required to submit all relevant original documents, including Utilisation certificate, Statement of expenditure, Report of the event, Category-wise and gender-wise list of participants and winners.

#### **6.5 Tentative Schedule of Fund Release to States and UTs:**

<b>Event</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> instalment</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> instalment</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> instalment</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> instalment</b>
Cultural & Innovation Track	10 <sup>th</sup> Sept. 2025	1 <sup>st</sup> Oct., 2025	1 <sup>st</sup> Nov. 2025	10 <sup>th</sup> Dec. 2025
Viksit Bharat Challenge Track	27 <sup>th</sup> Oct. 2025	17 <sup>th</sup> Nov., 2025	5 <sup>th</sup> Dec., 2025	20 <sup>th</sup> Dec., 2025

States are advised to plan their expenditure and prepare & submit the requisite documents in alignment with the above schedule.

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## **7. Design for Bharat**

7.1 The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports shall organize a multi-tier design challenge titled ‘Design for Bharat’ under the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders’ Dialogue (VBYLD), aligned with the Viksit Bharat @2047.

7.2 This competition will be held at selected design institutions across States and UTs. The selected individuals / teams will compete at State-level in a Nodal institution identified for the purpose. A three-member team from each State and UT will participate at the National Youth Festival-Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2026 in New Delhi in the month of January, 2026. The total size of contingent for National Youth Festival under this track selected from all States and UTs will be around 100.

7.3 Detailed guidelines and the list of designated institutions for conduct of ‘Design for Bharat’ Challenge will be circulated separately.

## 8. Hack for a social cause

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports shall organize a multi-tier national Hackathon titled "Hack for a Social cause" under the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders' Dialogue (VBYLD), aligned with the Viksit Bharat @2047.

### 8.1 Objectives:

- i. Engage and empower youth to develop technology-driven solutions for social challenges aligned to Viksit Bharat 2047.
- ii. Provide a structured pathway from campus ideation to national-level prototypes and pilot implementations.
- iii. Build mentorship and industry-government linkages that persist beyond the hackathon.
- iv. Identify implementable solutions and create a pipeline for pilot funding and incubation.

8.2 This initiative will mobilize young digital innovators from institutions across the country, empowering them to ideate, design, and prototype technology-driven solutions to pressing societal challenges in sectors such as agriculture, healthcare, environment, governance, education, clean energy, accessibility, disaster resilience, and urban mobility.

8.3 The hackathon will be held at designated institutions having computer science /IT streams. The selected teams will compete at State-level in a Nodal institution identified for the purpose. A three-member team from each State and UT will participate at the National Youth Festival-Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2026 in New Delhi in the month of January, 2026. The total size of contingent for National Youth Festival under Hackathon selected from all States and UTs will be around 100.

8.4 Detailed guidelines and the list of designated institutions for conduct of Hackathon will be circulated separately.

## 9. Diaspora Youth

### 9.1 Background:

**Know India Programme (KIP)** is an initiative by the **Ministry of External Affairs** for the Indian Diaspora youth between the age group of 21-35 years. The primary objective of the KIP is to foster a closer connection between Indian Diaspora youth and their ancestral homeland by augmenting their understanding of India. The Programme provides a platform for the Person of Indian Origin (PIO) youth to familiarize themselves with contemporary India, through an about three-week ‘knowledge tourism’ programme providing them an exposure to different aspects of the growth and development of India. The programme is open to youth of Indian origin (excluding Non-Resident Indians) with preference given to PIOs from Girmitya countries (Fiji, Mauritius, South Africa, Suriname, Jamaica, Guyana, and Trinidad & Tobago). A maximum of 40 Indian Diaspora youth are selected for each programme and provided full hospitality in India.

### 9.2 Participation of Diaspora Youth in NYF-VBYLD-2026:

Building on the vision of Indian Diaspora youth, the edition of VBYLD-2026 will provide an opportunity for participation of 100 youth in the National Youth Festival. This includes 80 Indian Diaspora youth selected from the Know India Programme (KIP) and 20 youth from BIMSTEC (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand) member countries. The VBYLD-2026 platform will enable Diaspora youth to connect deeply with India’s developmental journey, contribute their global perspectives, and strengthen their engagement with the Viksit Bharat vision, fostering enduring bonds with India while equipping them to become ambassadors of India’s growth story in their respective countries.

The Know India Programme (KIP) remains an independent initiative of MEA, with its own established eligibility norms, and does not imply a permanent merging of the two programmes’ eligibility criteria. In 2026, KIP is being leveraged as a feeder programme to integrate Diaspora youth into VBYLD, purely to maximize convergence and value addition.

### 9.3 Selection Criteria for VBYLD:

- i. 80 Participants will be chosen from the Know India Programme (KIP) by increasing its delegation size.
- ii. Participants under the Know India Programme (KIP) will have an opportunity to participate in the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) as an integral part of their excursion.
- iii. Participants must be a PIO youth with **graduation complete** from a recognized institute/university.

## 9.4 Participation in VBYLD:

- i. A total of **100 Diaspora youth** will be selected for VBYLD:
  - a. A group of **80 Indian Diaspora youth** will participate in the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) as part of their excursion itinerary under the Know India Programme.
  - b. **20 youth** (5 from Nepal and 3 each from other BIMSTEC countries) will be nominated by **BIMSTEC** member countries.
- ii. During this participation, they will have the opportunity to present their ideas aligned with the Viksit Bharat vision in front of domain experts and engage in direct interactions with Indian policymakers and senior officials.
- iii. This platform will allow them to share their perspectives on India's developmental priorities, gain insights into India's policy ecosystem, and network with young leaders from across India.
- iv. By making VBYLD a structured component of their excursion itinerary, the programme will not only enrich their KIP experience but also strengthen their connection with India's growth journey, enabling them to actively contribute as ambassadors of India's development narrative globally.

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## 10. Tentative track-wise size of contingents for participation in NYF-VBYLD-2026 at New Delhi.

Sl. No.	Name of the Track	Total no. of participants (indicative)
1.	Cultural Track	1000
2.	Viksit Bharat Challenge	1300
3.	Design for Bharat	100
4.	Hack for a social cause	100
5.	Diaspore youth	100
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2600</b>

Apart from above, around 500 Pathbreakers consisting of youth icons, young achievers etc. selected by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports shall also participate in the National Youth Festival. Pathbreakers will support participants in content, structure, and presentation skills. They will act as continuous guides until the final presentation.

Additionally, Mentors will supervise performance, consolidates improvements, and ensures coordination across teams & Experts will shortlist the top 5 presentations, share structured improvement feedback to strengthen project feasibility and impact.

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## 11. Roles of various Departments / organizations for conduct of VBYLD-2026

### 11.1 Role of Central Government

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MoYAS) will be responsible for:

#### A. Strategic & Financial Oversight

- i. Overall funding, conceptualization, and national coordination
- ii. Disbursal of central assistance to States/UTs

#### B. National Championship (Showdown)

- i. **Booking of Bharat Mandapam** and all associated venues
- ii. Engagement of agencies for:
- iii. Stage setup, backdrop & AV equipment
- iv. Floral decoration and signage
- v. Fire safety clearance and personnel
- vi. Medical booth, standby ambulances, and first aid
- vii. Security and crowd management
- viii. Coordination with **Delhi Police, Fire Services, and Health Department**
- ix. Management of:
  - x. Youth interaction with Hon'ble PM
  - xi. Logistics for national contingents
- xii. **Media coverage** via CBC, MyGov, MY Bharat, and digital platforms
- xiii. Operation of **MY Bharat Portal** for registration of participants, conducting online Quiz, submission of essays through the portal, promotion of VBYLD, documentation etc.
- xiv. Arrangements for lodging and food for participants and officials from the States and UTs from 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2026 to 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2026 for attending the National Youth Festival-VBYLD 2026 in Delhi.
- xv. Arrangements for Excursion visit of participants in Delhi.
- xvi. Arrangements for Diaspora Youth.
- xvii. Arrangements for participants of Design for Bharat and Hackathon.

### 11.2 Role of State / UT Governments

The State/UT Governments will be responsible for the planning and implementation of District and State-level events, including:

#### A. Event Execution (1<sup>st</sup> Sept – 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2025)

- i. Organize all competitions District level (1<sup>st</sup> Sept. – 31<sup>st</sup> Oct. 2025) and State level (10<sup>th</sup> Nov. – 1st December, 2025) under Cultural Track and Innovation Track (Exhibition of Science Mela) as per guidelines, within the given timelines.

- ii. Evaluation of essays in Stage-II by domain experts at a venue selected by the State Government.
- iii. Conduct Stage-III of Viksit Bharat Challenge Track as per the schedule.
- iv. Wide promotion of District and State festivals through print and social media, to attract maximum youth participation in the events.
- v. Identifying Evaluators for evaluation of essays, constitution of Jury for various cultural competitive events and Viksit Bharat PPT challenge
- vi. Encourage maximum participation via MY Bharat, NSS, youth clubs, and academic institutions
- vii. Ensure timely and transparent selection of winners at each level.
- viii. Timely opening of ZBSA account under CNA and their mapping on PFMS for disbursement of funds by the Ministry to States and UTs.
- ix. Timely submission of all documents, expenditure statement, utilization certificate, report etc. in connection with VBYLD.
- x. Notify to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports the details of State and UT contingents for the National Youth Festival-VBYLD 2026, by 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2025.

## **B. Operational Arrangements**

- i. **Venue Booking** for district and state festivals and Viksit Bharat Challenge
- ii. **TA/DA and hospitality** for participants, jury, and officials
- iii. Deployment of staff, stage setup, sound system, first aid, refreshments etc.
- iv. Proper documentation with photographs, videos, and attendance
- v. Travelling cost / Booking of tickets of participants and officials of States and UTs (to and from Delhi) for attending the National Youth Festival in Delhi.

## **C. Coordination & Communication**

- i. Nominate a **State Nodal Officer** to coordinate with MoYAS
- ii. Update participant data, competition results, and media on MY Bharat Portal
- iii. Submit reports, expense statements, and impact assessments post-event
- iv. Coordination with NSS, DYO-MY Bharat for smooth conduct of VBYLD-2026.

## **D. Documentation and Impact Assessment:**

- i. Document the event through reports, videos, and surveys, and evaluate its cultural, economic, and social impact by taking feedback at District and State level.

## **E. Organisational Committee for VBYLD (Indicative only)**

An Organisation Committee shall be formed for the District and State. Among other duties, the Organisation Committee shall shortlist the panel of judges selected for each of the events.

- i. State-level Organisation Committee: Chief Secretary of the State/ Secretary of Youth Empowerment or representative of Secretaries - Chairperson, MY BHARAT State Director, Nodal Officers of NSS, BSG, Department of Education, Skill, Culture, Youth Welfare departments.

- ii. District level Organisation Committee: DM/DC- Chairperson, DYO MY BHARAT, Nodal Officers of NSS, Navodaya Vidyalaya, Kendriya Vidyalaya, other leading Govt. Schools, BSG, Host Institutions, Skill, Culture, Youth Welfare and other Line departments.

### **11.3 Responsibilities of DYO, MY Bharat and Regional Directors of NSS:**

- i. Coordinate with Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and institutions for smooth conduct of District, State and National level of VBYLD 2026.

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