



## EDITORIAL: THE HINDU

**GENERAL STUDIES 2: GOVERNANCE**

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### National Youth Festival and Its Significance

- Every year on January 12, India celebrates the **National Youth Festival**, coinciding with the birth anniversary of **Swami Vivekananda**. This event emphasizes the importance of youth in India's development.
- A key initiative under this festival is the **Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue**, aimed at engaging the youth in the nation's developmental progress. The program leverages the energy, creativity, and leadership of young minds to shape the vision of a **Viksit Bharat** or a Developed India.

### Vision and Objectives of the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue

- Aligned with Prime Minister **Narendra Modi's** belief that India's youth are central to the nation's growth, the dialogue serves as a platform for young leaders to engage in discussions, exchange ideas, and collaborate on solutions.
- The competition encourages critical thinking and proactive contributions to India's progress, designed to inspire young minds to act toward achieving national goals.

### The Competitive Nature of the Dialogue

The Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue is a **multi-stage competition** with the following phases:

1. **Stage 1: Viksit Bharat Quiz** - Held digitally on the **My Bharat platform**, this quiz tests participants on India's achievements, challenges, and development vision.
2. **Stage 2: Essay and Blog Writing** - Participants write essays or blogs on themes like "Tech for Viksit Bharat" and "Empowering Youth for Viksit Bharat", evaluated for originality.
3. **Stage 3: Vision Pitch Deck** - State-level participants present innovative development ideas through a pitch deck, with top teams advancing.
4. **Stage 4: National Championship** - The final stage at **Bharat Mandapam** in New Delhi on January 11-12, 2025, where selected teams pitch their ideas to the **Prime Minister**, offering a unique opportunity to influence national policy.

### Features of the 2025 National Youth Festival

This year's National Youth Festival stands out with several unique features:



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- **Theme: Youth for Sustainable Development**, emphasizing the role of youth in achieving global change aligned with the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.
- **Virtual Participation**: Expanded digital platforms allow youth from remote corners of India to engage in the festival, increasing inclusivity.
- **Workshops and Panels**: Topics like **youth leadership**, **digital entrepreneurship**, and **sustainable living** will equip participants with necessary skills to drive change.
- **Cultural Programs**: Celebrating India's diverse culture through music, dance, theater, and folk art performances.
- **Tech and Innovation Showcases**: Focused on **Tech for Viksit Bharat**, young innovators will showcase solutions in sectors such as health, education, agriculture, and urban development.
- **Engagement with Leaders**: Direct interactions with leaders from government, business, and academia will provide valuable insights into leadership and governance.
- **Recognition of Contributions**: Young individuals and organizations demonstrating exceptional leadership and innovation will be awarded, motivating others to contribute to India's future.

## Role of MY Bharat in the Festival

- The **Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)**, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, plays a critical role in organizing and guiding the National Youth Festival. It facilitates **digital integration**, ensuring participation from across the country, and supports youth-led initiatives. MY Bharat aids in addressing the challenges faced by young people, guiding them to find innovative solutions for a better India.

## Conclusion: Empowering the Youth for a Viksit Bharat

- India's youth is undoubtedly its most valuable asset. As the country progresses towards becoming a **Viksit Bharat**, it is the **energy**, **ideas**, and **ambition** of young people that will power the nation's transformation. The **Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue** and National Youth Festival are significant steps in channeling this energy towards positive change. Reflecting Swami Vivekananda's belief in the unlimited potential of youth, these initiatives aim to transform India into the **world's leading nation**.