

**Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Youth Affairs**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1555
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2026**

Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2026

1555. Shri Tejasvi Surya:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the total number of youth participated in the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) 2026;**
- (b) the details of the various tracks and themes under VBYLD 2026 along with the number of participants under each track and theme;**
- (c) the details of the number of participants from the North Eastern States, State-wise, Jammu and Kashmir and the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Ladakh;**
- (d) whether the Government has undertaken any assessment of the impact of VBYLD 2026 in promoting social cohesion, cultural understanding and national unity among participating youth and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the details of the steps taken by the Government to improve and enhance VBYLD 2026 in terms of scale, inclusivity, content and outcomes as compared to VBYLD 2025?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
[DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA]**

(a) Youth from all over India participated under five different tracks of National Youth Festival (NYF): Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) 2026. The Viksit Bharat Quiz, first stage of Viksit Bharat Challenge Track was hosted on the MY Bharat and MyGov platforms and witnessed participation from more than 50 lakh youth from all States and Union Territories. Thereafter, 39,463 youth submitted Essays through MY Bharat Portal. Out of which, 3,370

youth participated in the PPT Challenge at the State level and selected youth got an opportunity to participate in the Viskit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) 2026 held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi during 9th -12th January, 2026.

(b) NYF: VBYLD 2026 was structured across multiple tracks aimed at leadership development, innovation, cultural exchange and youth participation. The major tracks and number of participants at National level event of NYF: VBYLD 2026 under each track are as follows:

Name of Track	No. of Participants
Viksit Bharat Challenge Track	1164
Cultural and Innovation Track	970
Design for Bharat Track	38
Hack for a Social Cause Track	57
Diaspora Youth	78
Total	2307

Under Viksit Bharat Challenge track there were 10 themes. Theme wise participation at national level of NYF 2026: VBYLD are as follows:

Theme	No. of Participants
Aatmanirbhar Bharat: Make in India, Make for the World	114
Bharat's Soft Power: Cultural Diplomacy and Global Influence for Viksit Bharat	120
Building a future-ready workforce for Viksit Bharat	120
Building a Sustainable and Green Viksit Bharat	110
Enhancing Productivity through Smart and Sustainable Agriculture	114
Fit Bharat Hit Bharat	100
Innovation with Tradition: Building a Modern Bharat	117
Making India the Start-Up Capital of the World	108
Women Led Development: The Key to Viksit Bharat	124
Youth in Democracy and Government for Viksit Bharat	137
Total	1164

(c) The details of participants from the North Eastern States, Jammu and Kashmir, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Ladakh at national level event of NYF 2026: VBYLD are given below:

Region	State / Union Territory	Total Number of Participants
North Eastern States	Arunachal Pradesh	44
	Assam	66
	Manipur	45
	Meghalaya	51
	Mizoram	33
	Nagaland	34
	Sikkim	54
	Tripura	64
Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu and Kashmir	54
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	48
Ladakh	Ladakh	32

(d) Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) 2026 promotes social cohesion, cultural understanding and national unity among participating youth through its inclusive and participatory design. The programme brings together youth from diverse regions, socio-economic backgrounds and disciplines through a pan-India selection process, enabling meaningful interaction and collaboration. Structured thematic deliberations, group-based activities and innovation tracks encourage collective problem-solving on national priorities, fostering a shared sense of purpose. Cultural exchanges and exposure to diverse perspectives strengthen mutual respect and understanding, while joint engagements with national leaders and experts reinforce a common national vision. Collectively, these elements help build unity in diversity and strengthen the sense of national integration among participating youth. However, no assessment of the impact of VBYLD 2026 has been carried out.

(e) Compared to VBYLD 2025, the Government significantly expanded and recalibrated VBYLD 2026 in terms of scale, inclusivity, content and outcomes. While VBYLD 2025 focused primarily on national-level youth challenges and cultural engagements through a district–State–national competitive framework, VBYLD 2026 retained this structure but enlarged its scope with the addition of three new tracks. The

content framework evolved from being largely challenge- and culture-centric in 2025 to a more solution-oriented and future-ready platform in 2026 through the introduction of dedicated design and technology innovation tracks aligned with national priorities. The Viksit Bharat Quiz which was first stage of Viksit Bharat Challenge Track, hosted on the MY Bharat and MyGov platforms, witnessed participation from more than 50 lakh youth from all States and Union Territories.

Under this expanded framework, Design for Bharat track, Hack for a Social Cause and Diaspora Youth Participation were introduced for the first time in VBYLD 2026.

Design for Bharat track enabled youth to promote design-led innovative solutions through a structured, multi-tier competition involving design institutions across States and Union Territories, culminating in national-level participation. Hack for a Social Cause track enabled youth engagement in developing technology-driven and implementable solutions to critical social challenges, supported by a structured pipeline for mentorship, prototyping, pilot funding and incubation.

Further, Diaspora Youth track was incorporated to systematically engage Indian diaspora youth and leverage their global exposure, innovation and best practices for nation-building under Viksit Bharat@2047.
