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Observation of Viksit Bharat Youth Connect and District Level Youth Parliament at Kalimpong College

Kalimpong, West Bengal:

Kalimpong College successfully organized the **Observation of Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect Programme and District Level Youth Parliament** on 30/12/2025 on its campus from 10:30 am to 5:00 pm, witnessing enthusiastic participation from students and youth volunteers across the district. The programme was sponsored by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, under the guidance of the Regional Directorate, National Service Scheme (NSS), Kolkata.

The programme commenced with the **lighting of the ceremonial lamp** by the esteemed judges and senior faculty members, including **Dr. Jaishree Pradhan**, Head, Department of Botany, **Ms. Anukampa Subba**, Head, Department of English and IQAC Coordinator of Kalimpong College, along with other dignitaries. This was followed by a **welcome address by Mrs. Reshma Pradhan**, Programme Officer, NSS Unit–I, Kalimpong College.

The inaugural session featured Mr. Ali Hossain, the Youth Icon from Murshidabad District, West Bengal, who vividly explained the vision, significance, and objectives of Viksit Bharat, emphasizing the crucial role of youth in nation-building, democratic participation, and social transformation. He, along with the panel of judges, was felicitated by Dr. Jaishree Pradhan and Ms. Anukampa Subba.

The programme also featured interactive "Yuva Samvad" sessions, presentations highlighting India's growth and transformative achievements over the past eleven years, and awareness activities led by Youth Icons, including State Champions of VBYLD 2025, winners of the Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament, NSS Awardees, and National Youth Awardees. To further enhance youth engagement, MY Bharat registration stalls were set up on campus to facilitate on-the-spot youth registration and awareness generation, encouraging digital participation among students.

The Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect Programme is a flagship national initiative aimed at empowering India's youth and connecting them with the country's long-term developmental vision of Viksit Bharat@2047. Conducted in collaboration with universities and colleges across the country, the programme acts as an effective bridge between the government and young citizens—particularly students from rural, urban, and tribal backgrounds—through participatory sessions, youth dialogues, and digital integration. The initiative reflects the vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, who has consistently inspired young citizens to play a pivotal role in nation-building and in realizing the goal of a self-reliant and developed India by 2047. The programme emphasized connecting youth with the national vision of Viksit Bharat@2047, empowering them through dialogue with policymakers and youth icons, promoting digital participation through the MY Bharat portal, and strengthening the spirit of volunteerism among students.



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The second half of the programme witnessed the District Level Youth Parliament, conducted on the theme "50 Years of Emergency: Lessons for Indian Democracy." NSS volunteers from Kalimpong College, Cluny Women's College, Government General Degree College at Pedong, and Gorubathan Government College actively participated, demonstrating critical thinking, parliamentary procedures, and a deep understanding of India's democratic journey.

The Youth Parliament was evaluated by a panel of five esteemed judges:

- 1. **Dr. Komal Kaushik Baral**, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Sonda Degree College, Darjeeling;
- 2. **Mr. John Kapil Chettri**, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Darjeeling Government College;
- 3. **Mr. Pawan Rai**, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Sikkim Manipal University, Sikkim;
- 4. Mr. Rakesh Moktan, Advocate, Kalimpong Court; and
- 5. Mrs. Melody Poudyal, Advocate, Kalimpong Court.

Based on their performances, ten best speakers were selected for the State Level Youth Parliament. The selected speakers are: Mr. Sanjok Rai (Kalimpong College), Mr. Nikanor Thapa (Kalimpong College), Miss Grashi Rai (Gorubathan Government College), Miss Shamiksha Chettri (Cluny Women's College), Miss Nirjhara Sharma (Gorubathan Government College), Shradha Chhetri (Gorubathan Government College), Mr. Omkar Rai (Gorubathan Government College), Miss Choden Bhutia (Kalimpong College), Mr. Kripa Poudyal (Government General Degree College at Pedong), and Miss Dichenla Bhutia (Cluny Women's College).

The **valedictory address** was delivered by **Dr. Rekhmani Sharma**, Assistant Librarian, Kalimpong College. The names of the top ten speakers were announced by **Dr. Pranay Bantawa**, Programme Officer, NSS Unit–II, who also delivered the **vote of thanks**.

The programme was jointly arranged and conducted by the NSS Programme Officers of Kalimpong College, Mrs. Reshma Pradhan (NSS Unit-I) and Dr. Pranay Bantawa (NSS Unit-II). More than 100 student volunteers participated in the event, making it a vibrant platform for youth empowerment, democratic awareness, and meaningful engagement with the national vision of Viksit Bharat@2047.





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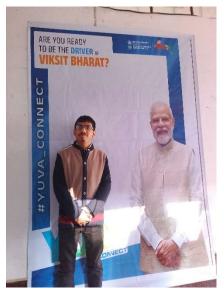
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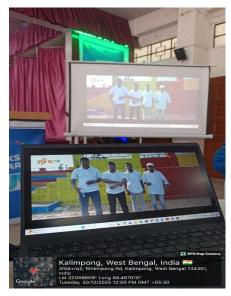
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