

12 August

# INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

2016

“Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Production and Consumption”





# About International Youth Day

The International Youth Day is celebrated on August 12 each year to recognize efforts of the world's youth in enhancing global society. It also aims to promote ways to engage them in becoming more actively involved in making positive contributions to their communities. In 1999, in its resolution 54/120, the General Assembly declared August 12 International Youth Day, which gives an opportunity to celebrate young peoples' views and initiatives. Celebrations at the United Nations Headquarters and around the world will recognize the importance of youth efforts, collaboration and participation in the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

## Theme of the International Youth Day 2016

The theme for the 2016 International Youth Day is "The Road to 2030: Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Production and Consumption".

Sustainable consumption entails the use of products and services that meet the basic needs of communities while safeguarding the needs of future generations. The development and promotion of individual choices and actions that increase the eco-efficiency of consumption of all and minimize waste and pollution is critical to achieving equitable socioeconomic development. Yet, many young men and women face barriers to certain green consumption choices. Those barriers to sustainable consumption choices include the high prices of goods and services and a lack of information about the available choices.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is the international community's ambitious response to today's most pressing global development

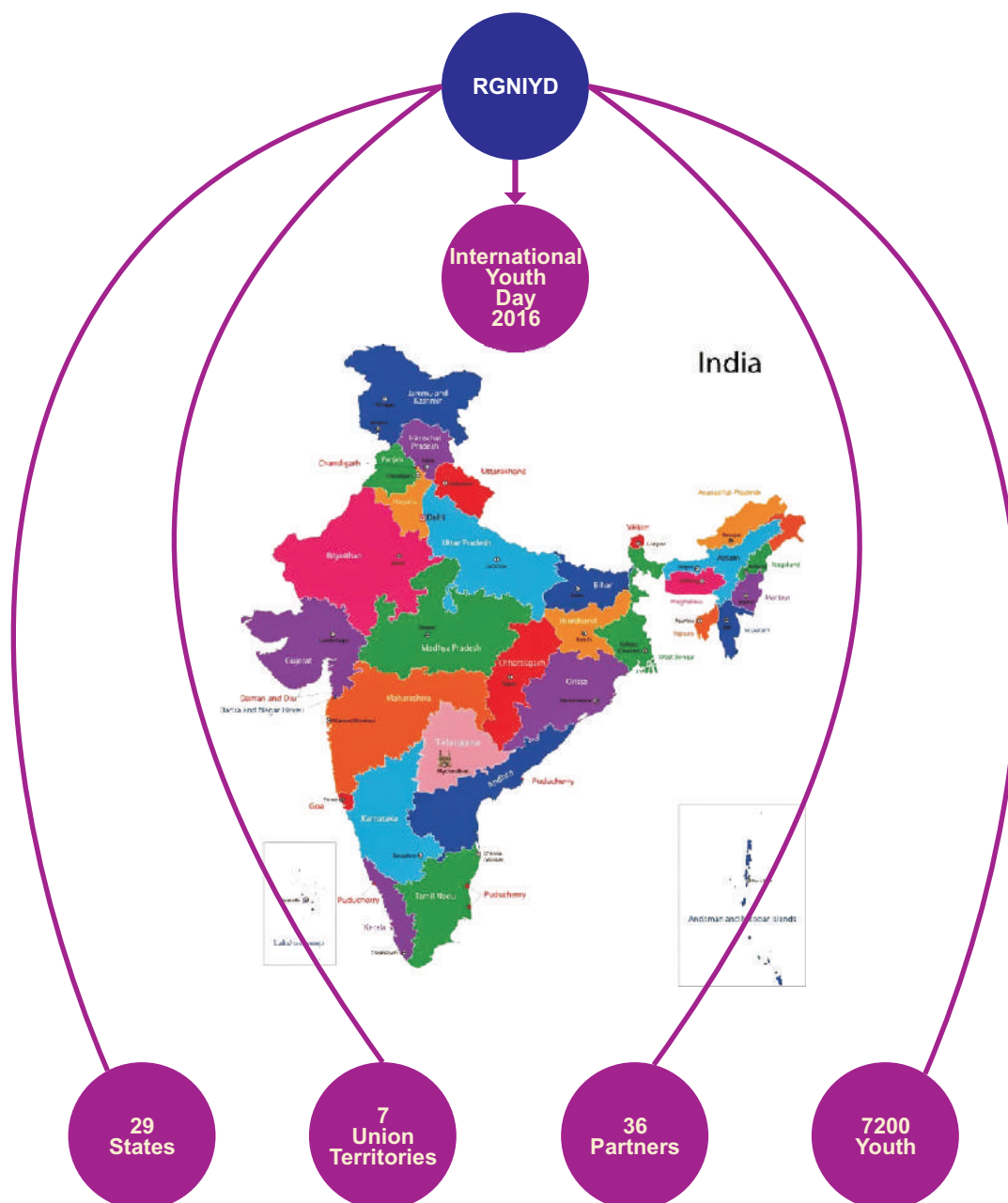
challenges. It will guide our development priorities for an entire generation. Young people play a key role in shaping this agenda and understand the stakes: they experience first-hand many of the issues it seeks to address. Recent decades have witnessed significant advances in terms of human development, but deep challenges remain. Progress has been uneven, with many young people across the country still experiencing interlocked forms of discrimination, high levels of poverty, and limited access to health systems, educational opportunities and decent jobs. The goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda are interconnected, aiming to integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. Explicitly or implicitly, young people are deeply embedded within their fabric. Their knowledge, reach, and innovative solutions are essential if sustainable development is to be realized.

Increasing resource efficiency and moving toward sustainable production can contribute significantly to meeting the basic needs of all people, including youth, by making food, water and energy more accessible and affordable to those living in poverty. Investing in sustainable production also creates new markets and employment opportunities and helps ensure the social inclusion of all persons in their societies everywhere. Changes in consumption patterns also have the potential to contribute to the eradication of poverty. Sustainable development and the creation of conditions that allow for a transition into a green economy, often provide new impetus for economic growth and a higher proportion of spending allocated to social development, including health care and education. The combined positive impact of sustainable consumption and production on energy use and environmental conservation will greatly benefit those people and places that are more vulnerable to harmful environmental—and industrial—outcomes and climate change. By focusing on the social development dimensions of sustainable consumption and production, this year's theme places an emphasis on a cross-sectoral approach to sustainability and the vast social, political, economic and environmental inter linkages needed to achieve it through meaningful engagement of young people.

# RGNIYD will celebrate International Youth Day across the country

Seeing the significance of the International Youth Day and RGNIYD mandates this year, the Institute will observe the International Youth Day 2016 under the theme “The Road to 2030: Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Production and Consumption” across the country in collaboration with higher educational institutions, civil society organisations and youth organisations. One event in each state and Union Territory will be organized to enhance the visibility of the day and significance of youth participation in achieving the goals of SDGs.

## RGNIYD Strategy to celebrate IYD 2016 across the country



# Why India should celebrate International Youth Day?

India lies on the cusp of a demographic transition, similar to the one that fuelled the spectacular rise in GDP of the East Asian Tigers in the second half of the 20th century. However, in order to capture this demographic dividend, it is essential that the economy has the ability to support the increase in the labour force and the youth have the appropriate education, skills, health awareness and other enablers to productively contribute to the economy.

Youth in the age group of 15-29 years comprise 27.5% of the population. At present, about 34% of India's Gross National Income (GNI) is contributed by the youth, aged 15-29 years. However, there exists a huge potential to increase the contribution of this class of the nation's citizenry by increasing their labour force participation and their productivity.

The Government of India (GoI) currently invests more than Rs 90,000 Crores per annum on youth development programmes or approximately Rs 2,710 per young individual per year, through youth-targeted (higher education, skill development, healthcare etc.) and non-targeted (food subsidies, employment etc.) programmes. In addition, the State Governments and a number of other stakeholders are also working to support youth development and to enable productive youth participation. However, individual organisations in non-Government sector are small and fragmented, and there is little coordination between the various stakeholders working on youth issues.

India is poised to become the world's youngest country by 2020, with an average age of 29 years, and account for around 28% of the world's workforce. In comparison, during the same period, the average age is expected to be 37 years in China and the US and 45 years in Western Europe. While China's demographic dividend would start tapering off by 2015, India is expected to enjoy the benefit until 2040. An increasing proportion of working population will provide a window of opportunity to improve labor productivity, increase

domestic production, enhance revenue from services, increase savings and reduce the burden of old residents on the working population. Empowered with unique demographic advantages and guided efforts, India is poised to position itself among developed economies within the next 10–15 years.

## Suggested Events

International Youth Day event should showcase the diverse ways that young people contribute to sustainable production and consumption. It should highlight how youth continue to provide new ideas and alternatives to development challenges and are active in seeking a renewed vision of consumption and production that is necessary to combat climate change, protect the environment, create decent employment opportunities and build inclusive equitable societies. The event should further explore how their ideas, participation and efforts foster green jobs/employment, create innovative technologies, help reduce poverty and inequalities and generate goods and services that are utilized in their economies. Please find following suggested activities for your reference to observe the International Youth Day under the theme "The Road to 2030: Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Production and Consumption".

1. Seminar
2. Panel Discussion
3. Poster and Essay Competition
4. Campaign
5. Youth Rally & Youth Dialogue
6. Quiz competition on SDG
7. Drama and Theatre
8. Music and Songs
9. Photo Exhibition

## Visibility Guidelines

The partner institute should use the standard banner template with RGNIYD and partner institute's logo. Please ensure to mention in the press release "RGNIYD in collaboration with partner institute". On completion of the programme partner institute are requested to submit a report with pictures and press clippings to RGNIYD.

# Roles and responsibilities of RGNIYD and partner institutions

## Role of RGNIYD

- Provide technical support to the partner institute
- Sharing of resources on IYD and its themes
- Letter of appreciation to partner institutions

## Role of the partner

- Submit a brief proposal to the RGNIYD.
- Organize the programme to commemorate the International Youth Day under the theme mentioned above.
- Strong commitment to youth development
- Ensure involvement of young people and relevant stakeholders.
- Appoint a nodal officer to plan, implement and coordinate the event.
- Ensure to give wide publicity through electronic, print and social media.
- Prepare a comprehensive report and submit to the RGNIYD.

## About us

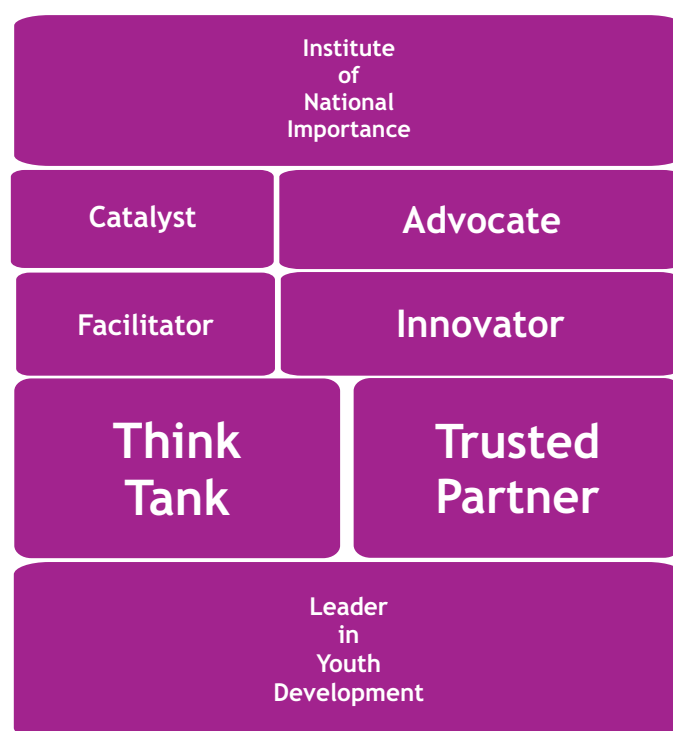
The Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), is an Institute of National Importance by an Act of Parliament No. 35/2012 under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India. The RGNIYD was set up in 1993 under the Societies Registration Act, XXVII of 1975. The RGNIYD functions as a vital resource centre with its multi-faceted functions of offering academic programmes at Post Graduate level encompassing various dimensions of youth development, engaging in seminal research in the vital areas of youth development and coordinating Training Programmes for state agencies and the officials of youth organisation, besides the Extension and Outreach initiatives across the country.

The Institute functions as a think-tank of the Ministry and premier organization of youth-related activities in the country. As the apex institute at the national level, it works in close cooperation with the NSS, NYKS and other youth organizations in the implementation of training programmes. The Institute is a nodal agency for training youth as a facilitator of youth development activities in rural, urban as also tribal areas. The RGNIYD serves as a youth observatory and depositary in the country thereby embarking on youth surveillance on youth-related issues. It has a wide network with various organizations working for the welfare and development of young people and serves as a mentor.

## Vision

As the apex national agency for youth development, the Institute strives to develop into a globally recognised and acclaimed centre of academic excellence in the field of youth development, fully responsive to the national agenda for inclusive growth, and the needs and aspirations of young people of the country to realise their potentials to create a just society.

## RGNIYD is a







**RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**  
Institute of National Importance by the Act of Parliament No. 35/2012  
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India

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