



**Research Unit**  
Press Information Bureau  
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Government of India



## G20 Series #17

### India's G20 Presidency

#### **Youth 20 Engagement Group - Inception Meeting** (Guwahati – February 06-08, 2023)

(Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)

March 02, 2023

*“This time of the 21<sup>st</sup> century is very important as today India is a young country with a huge young population. Yuva Shakti is the driving force of India’s journey. The dreams and aspirations of Yuva Shakti decide India’s direction and destination and Yuva Shakti’s passion decides India’s path.”*

- [Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#)<sup>1</sup>

#### **Youth-20 group’s Inception Meet**

As part of India’s G20 Presidency, the Youth-20 (Y20) group’s inception meeting was held at Guwahati from February 06-08, 2023 to engage with the youth of the nation on ideas for a better tomorrow and draft an agenda for action on five identified Y20 themes.<sup>2</sup> This was the first of the various summits to be held on the five Y20 themes at different Universities across the Indian States in a run-up to the final Youth-20 Summit in August 2023.<sup>3</sup>

In the [run-up to the event, 10,000 youth in around 36 colleges of Assam participated in seminars, debates, workshops, and quiz competitions on Y20](#). Over 10 lakh students from around 4000 schools also participated.



<sup>1</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1890835>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1897204>

<sup>3</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1888943>

During the inception meeting, 21 foreign delegates and 200 Indian delegates participated in the main events.<sup>4</sup>

### ***Background - Hosting the Youth Summit***

Started in 2012, the [Y20 is the youth version of the G20 Summits and it is the only officially recognized platform for young people to engage with the G20](#). It is one of the most influential international diplomatic forums for young leaders. It is also one of eight official engagement groups under the G-20 umbrella.

The G20 rotating Presidency bears the responsibility of hosting the youth summit, which usually takes place some weeks before the traditional forum to engage with the youth and know their views and vision of the future to incorporate them into the policy proposals. It is an attempt to create a connecting point between G20 governments and their local youth.<sup>5</sup>

Y20 Engagement Group Themes
Peace Building and Reconciliation: Ushering in an Era of No War
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction: Making Sustainability as a Way of Life
Future of Work: Industry 4.0, Innovation and 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Skills
Shared Future: Youth in Democracy and Governance
Health, Wellbeing & Sports: Agenda for Youth

### **Youth 20 Engagement Group - Inception Meeting**

#### ***Day-1***

The Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Thakur welcomed the Y20 family and addressed the gathering at the ***first Inception Meet***. He went on to highlight the significance of holding the Y20 meeting at IIT, Guwahati, Assam.<sup>6</sup> The Minister said:

- [Y20 is a brilliant way to amplify the voices of young people](#). This Summit is significant because it is being held amongst the world's largest youth



<sup>4</sup> <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1897204>

<sup>5</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1896467>

<sup>6</sup> <https://twitter.com/YASMinistry/status/1622963816819724288?s=20&t=4aXVjKL5u0DtLFEfCSltJg>

population and in the world's largest democracy; there can be no better place as unique as this.

- [Youth is the engine that drives the nation toward success](#). Innovation, entrepreneurship, and problem-solving will be the cornerstone for youth-led development anywhere in the world.

## Day-2



The **second day** of the Inception Meeting of Y20 began at the sprawling campus of IIT Guwahati. In the 'Youth Dialogue with Youth Minister' session, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur stated that the Y20 India Summit would exemplify the youth-centric efforts and showcase policy measures ideated by the youth. He stated that India's demographic dividend is uniquely poised to usher in an era of rapid social, economic, environmental, and technological innovation and advancement.<sup>7</sup>

While remarking on the opportunities for youth in the Amrit Kaal of Indian democracy, the Minister stated that Amrit Kaal is *Adhigam Kaal* - an era of leap forward, *Awsar Kaal* - an era of opportunities and *Kartavya Kaal* - an era of duty to the nation.

A series of following Panel Discussions with eminent speakers and leaders were held over the course of the Second Day:

### **Theme 1: Peace-building and Reconciliation: Ushering in an Era of No War**

The Panel consisted of Gen. V K Singh (Retd), MoS, Government of India; Tejasvi Surya, MP; Lt. Gen. Satish Dua (Retd), Indian Army; Gyanendra Pratap Singh, IPS, DGP, Govt of Assam; Shri Hiren Chandra Nath, IPS, ADGP (STF/SB), Assam; Bipul Kalita, and Binal Warry, Surrendered Insurgents and it was moderated by Kanchan Gupta, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.



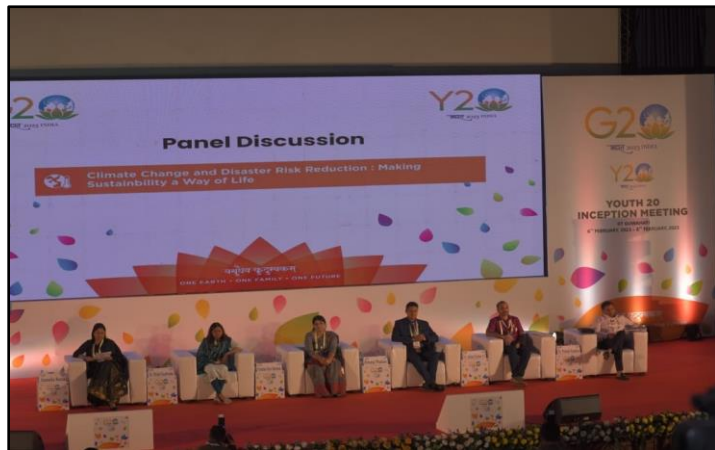
<sup>7</sup> <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1897111>



### **Theme 2: Future of Work: Industry 4.0, Innovation and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills**

The panel comprised of Dr. GD Dhanuka, Industrialist; D. Uma Maheshwar, Chief Consulting Engineer at GE Aviation; Prem Kumar, Founder and Chief Innovator at Marut Dronetech and Dr. P. Muthukumar, Professor at IIT, Tirupati Hydrogen Energy Lab. The session was moderated by Dr. Rakhi Chaturvedi, Professor & Head, Department of Biosciences & Bioengineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati.

### **Theme 3: Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction: Making Sustainability a Way of Life**



The panel comprised of Dr. Shilpi Kushwaha, Scientist; Purnima Devi Burman, Founder of the Hargila Army; Rituraj Phukan, Social Entrepreneur; Dr. Akshai Kumar AS, Professor, IIT Guwahati; and Dr. Prateek Kanakia, Entrepreneur. The Panel had a threadbare discussion on climate change and the strategy to maintain biodiversity through community participation. The session was moderated by Anamika

Barua, Professor at IIT Guwahati.

### **Theme 4: Shared Future: Youth in Democracy and Governance**

The panel comprised of Mita Nath Bora, a Member of the Assam Youth Commission; Ankur Jyoti Bhuyan, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science; Kumar Bhaskar Varma, Sanskrit and Ancient Studies University; Dr. Vikas Tripathi, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Guwahati University; and Abhinav Prakash, Assistant Professor, University of Delhi. The Panel was moderated by Prof. Pahi Saikia, Associate Professor (Political Science), at IIT Guwahati.

### **Theme 5: Health, Wellbeing & Sports: Agenda for Youth**

The panel comprised of Laishram Sarita Devi, Sports person; Dr. Asheema Haobijam, Senior Doctor; Shreyasi Singh, MLA; and Dr. Ujjval Maske, HoD, Yogic Science & Naturopathy, Mahapurush Srimanta Sankardeva University, Guwahati. Dr. Bithiah Grace Jaganathan, Professor, Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering at IIT Guwahati, moderated the session.



**Day-3**

The Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Thakur launched Youth20 White Paper, outlining the vision of G20India. The White Paper will form the basis of deliberations among global youth at @IndiaY20.<sup>8</sup> Talking about the five key themes of the Y20 under India's presidency, the Union Minister said that these themes have been carefully chosen to be deliberated upon for a shared future for the global community. These five themes present an extraordinary opportunity for the youth to create, contribute and collaborate to the development agenda of G20.<sup>9</sup>

The closing ceremony of the three-day inception meeting of the Y20 engagement group concluded in Guwahati on February 08, 2023. While addressing the closing ceremony of the Youth20 Inception Meet, Anurag Singh Thakur wished a bright future to all the Delegates and Participants. He said that these three days saw invigorating ideation and spirited dialogues and deliberations on some of the most crucial issues humanity is facing.<sup>10</sup>

**References:**

- PIB Press Release on [Y20 Inception Meeting 2023 concludes in Guwahati](#) dated February 08, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on [Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports participates in 'Youth Dialogue' at IIT Guwahati](#) dated February 08, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on the [Second Day of the Youth20 Inception Meeting held in IIT Guwahati](#) dated February 07, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on [First Youth20 \(Y20\) Inception Meeting 2023 begins in Guwahati](#) dated February 06, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on [Assam to host the first Youth20 \(Y20\) Inception Meeting 2023 from 6th-8th Feb 2023 in Guwahati](#) dated February 05, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on Union Minister Shri Anurag Singh Thakur reviews the preparation of the first meeting of the Y20 group in Guwahati dated January 05, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on [The future of the world economy and humanity rests in the hands of the youth: Shri Anurag Singh Thakur](#) dated January 06, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on the [First meeting of the Youth20 Group to be held in Guwahati from 6th to 8th February](#) dated January 22, 2023.
- [https://twitter.com/PIB\\_Guwahati/status/1622498321171644417?t=jm57XlB6Koz9jtCa\\_D7QTA&s=08](https://twitter.com/PIB_Guwahati/status/1622498321171644417?t=jm57XlB6Koz9jtCa_D7QTA&s=08)
- <https://twitter.com/PIBBengaluru>

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<sup>8</sup> [https://twitter.com/g20org/status/1623240783750119424?s=20&t=qZiK0idbQiKLt\\_f19NkGEg](https://twitter.com/g20org/status/1623240783750119424?s=20&t=qZiK0idbQiKLt_f19NkGEg)

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1897332>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1897332>