

SIKKIM EXPRESS

SINCE 1976

OF THIS LAND, FOR ITS PEOPLE

■ Good Morning Sikkim, today is TUESDAY, 04 AUGUST 2026 ■ REGD NO. WB/SKM/02/2021-2023 VOL. L NO. 212 ■ RNI No. RN 40962/1990 ■ www.sikkimexpress.com ■ ₹ 5.00

Nasha Mukh Yuva for Viksit Bharat Competitions 2026 held at ICFAI University

SE Report

GANGTOK, August 3: MY Bharat Sikkim, under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in collaboration with The ICFAI University Sikkim, organised the "Nasha Mukh Yuva for Viksit Bharat Competitions 2026" at the university campus here on Sunday to promote the message of a drug-free and empowered youth.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students representing various schools and colleges across Gangtok district, informs a press release.

Competitions in singing, dance, painting, speech, poetry recitation and other cultural and literary events provided a platform for participants to showcase their talents while spreading awareness about the importance of leading healthy and addiction-free lives.

The programme was graced by Sikkim Scheduled Caste Welfare Board chairperson Shekhar Sewa, and Sena Medal (Gallantry) colonel Ajay Ramakrishnan as

the special guests. The ICFAI University Sikkim registrar Dr. Rohit Rathi, Joint Registrar Sandhya R. Pant, faculty members and non-teaching staff were also present.

The inaugural session began with the felicitation of the dignitaries and addresses highlighting the objectives of the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan and the role of youth in building a healthy, progressive and developed India.

MY Bharat Sikkim deputy director Shamsher Subhedar highlighted the vision of the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan and stressed the need for collective efforts by educational institutions, families, communities and youth organisations to eliminate substance abuse. He urged young people to become ambassadors of positive change by promoting healthy lifestyles and responsible choices.

Addressing the gathering, Colonel Ajay Ramakrishnan shared inspiring experiences from his distinguished military career, emphasising the importance of discipline,



resilience and strong character in overcoming challenges. His motivational and interactive address received an enthusiastic response from the participants.

In his address, Shekhar Sewa lauded MY Bharat Sikkim and The ICFAI University Sikkim for organising a meaningful youth-centric programme. He described substance abuse as one of the greatest challenges facing society and encouraged students to become role models by upholding the values of discipline, integrity

and compassion while making informed life choices.

The competitions transformed the campus into a vibrant celebration of creativity and social awareness, with participants presenting thought-provoking speeches, poetry, dance performances, musical renditions and paintings centred on the theme of a drug-free India.

The organisers stated that the initiative was conducted in line with the vision of Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Jagannath Patnaik to promote holistic student development,

social responsibility and community engagement.

The event reaffirmed the university's commitment to nurturing socially responsible youth capable of contributing to the vision of a Nasha Mukh Bharat and Viksit Bharat.

The programme concluded with the announcement of winners, distribution of certificates and prizes, and a vote of thanks to the guests, participating institutions, volunteers and organisers for the successful conduct of the event, the release mentions.