HKM GDC Bandipora Hosts Youth Parliament and District-Level Viksit Bharat Speech Competition on 'One Nation, One Election'

HKM Government Degree College Bandipora hosted Youth Parliament and a district-level Viksit Bharat speech competition on 31 October 2026 on the theme **"One Nation, One Election"**, organised by Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India. The event brought together students from various degree colleges across District Bandipora, providing them with a platform to express their perspectives, engage in meaningful deliberations and contribute to the larger vision of Viksit Bharat.

The programme was attended by Ms. Indu Kanwal Chib, Deputy Commissioner, Bandipora, as the chief guest; Mr. Faisal Ali Dar, Padma Shri awardee; Mr. Mohammad Maqbool Lone, Chief Planning Officer, Bandipora; and Mr. Srijan Singh Patel, District Youth Officer, Bandipora. The event was hosted by HKM Government Degree College Bandipora under the guidance of Principal Prof. Suresh Kumar Dogra.

In his welcome address, Principal Prof. Suresh Kumar Dogra extended a warm welcome to the distinguished guests, members of the jury, faculty members and participating students. He particularly appreciated the positive involvement and continued support of the Deputy Commissioner in the overall development and progress of the district. He also acknowledged the participation of faculty members and students from different colleges of Bandipora, observing that such inter-college initiatives provide valuable opportunities for intellectual exchange, healthy competition and the development of young minds.

Mr. Srijan Singh Patel, District Youth Officer, Bandipora, delivered the opening remarks, highlighting the significance of youth participation in national initiatives and the role of platforms such as MY Bharat in encouraging young people to engage with important issues concerning the country's future. He encouraged students to participate with confidence and present their arguments with clarity, responsibility and intellectual maturity.

In her address, Deputy Commissioner Ms. Indu Kanwal Chib appreciated HKM Government Degree College Bandipora for hosting the event and acknowledged the contributions of the participating colleges towards advancing the vision of Viksit Bharat. She assured the participants that she would listen attentively to their speeches and engage with the ideas they presented. Emphasising the importance of democratic dialogue, she observed that differences of opinion should not become a source of division; rather, they should be embraced and celebrated as an essential feature of a healthy and vibrant democracy. Her remarks encouraged students to approach disagreements with openness, mutual respect and a willingness to understand diverse perspectives.

Mr. Faisal Ali Dar, Padma Shri awardee, also shared his experiences and reflections on connecting the vision of Viksit Bharat with sports activities. Drawing upon his own journey and engagement with sports, he highlighted the transformative potential of sports in building discipline, resilience, teamwork and a sense of collective responsibility among young people. He underscored the

importance of involving youth in constructive activities that contribute to individual development as well as national progress.

The central attraction of the programme was the speech competition on the theme **"One Nation, One Election."** Students from HKM Government Degree College Bandipora and other participating institutions, including Government Degree College Hajin, Government Degree College Sumbal and Government Degree College Ajas, delivered thought-provoking speeches exploring different dimensions of the proposed electoral reform. The participants presented arguments, examined its possible implications for India's democratic and constitutional framework, and articulated their perspectives with considerable confidence and enthusiasm. The competition witnessed spirited participation and reflected the students' growing interest in contemporary political, constitutional and national issues.

The speeches were evaluated by a distinguished jury comprising Mr. Afzal Shahi, writer and artist; Prof. Bilquees Rasool War, Head, Department of English; Dr. Manzoor Ahmad Parray, Head, Department of Education; Prof. Tariq Ahmad Bhat, Head, Department of History and Mr. Gh. Mohammad Lone, former Chief Education Officer, Baramulla. The jury assessed the participants on the basis of their understanding of the subject, quality of arguments, presentation and overall effectiveness of their speeches.

The competition concluded with an encouraging outcome for the host institution, as all three top positions were secured by students of HKM Government Degree College Bandipora. **Mr. Mir Hadi secured the first position, Mr. Tafazul stood second, and Ms. Farkhanda secured the third position.** Their achievement was appreciated as a reflection of the students' preparation, confidence and engagement with the subject.

An important part of the programme was the interaction between the Deputy Commissioner and the participating students. During the interaction, Ms. Chib listened to their views and concerns and encouraged them to cultivate intellectual curiosity and develop a sustained engagement with reading and learning. She also expressed her willingness to extend support towards promoting a reading culture among students, recognising the importance of books and independent thinking in shaping informed, responsible and socially conscious citizens.

The programme concluded on a positive note, reinforcing the importance of youth participation in democratic discourse and providing students with an opportunity to engage critically with issues of national significance. The event also strengthened academic interaction and institutional collaboration among degree colleges of the district.

The successful conduct of the programme reflected the commitment of Mera Yuva Bharat, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, and HKM Government Degree College Bandipora towards encouraging informed youth participation, intellectual engagement and the larger vision of Viksit Bharat.

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