



Three Sanchar Mitras Selected as ITU Generation Connect Youth Envoys for the period 2026–2030

Recognition highlights growing role of Indian youth in shaping the global digital future

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With an objective of creating opportunities for India's youth to learn, participate, lead and contribute to the evolving digital future at the international level, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India, has facilitated the selection of three Sanchar Mitras (youth volunteers) from India as Generation Connect Youth Envoys (GCYE) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). This comes as the global community celebrates International Youth Day 2026 under the theme “***Different Contexts, Common Aspirations***”. The Generation Connect community marked the occasion through the virtual “Passing the Torch: Connecting Generations of Digital Leaders” event today, bringing together the outgoing and incoming cohorts of Generation Connect Youth Envoys.

Ankit Kumar Pal from Delhi, Manish Kumar Mandal from Bengaluru and Susmita Sain from Guwahati have been selected as part of the third cohort of ITU Generation Connect Youth Envoys for the period 2026–2030 in recognition of their contribution under the Sanchar Mitra scheme of DoT. Their selection marks an important recognition of the growing role of Indian youth in shaping the global digital future.

The Generation Connect Youth Envoys programme provides young people with opportunities to contribute to national, regional and global discussions and initiatives related to Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), digital transformation and inclusive digital development.

The initiative aligns closely with the objectives of the Sanchar Mitra Scheme, which seeks to engage young people in telecom and digital initiatives and provide them exposure to national and international platforms. The scheme also envisages opportunities for selected Sanchar Mitras to participate in global telecom platforms such as the ITU.

Following ITU's invitation for nominations to the third cohort of Generation Connect Youth Envoys, the Department of Telecommunications initiated a process to identify suitable candidates from among Sanchar Mitras. The process sought candidates with demonstrated engagement in areas including youth-led initiatives, digital inclusion, ICT education and skills, research and technical activities, entrepreneurship and innovation, and community-level ICT initiatives.

The recognition also reflects India's commitment to empowering young people as active contributors to the country's digital transformation journey and strengthening youth participation in global conversations on technology, connectivity and inclusive digital development.

Through initiatives such as Sanchar Mitra and its engagement with global platforms including the ITU Generation Connect programme, the Department of Telecommunications continues to create opportunities for India's youth to learn, participate, lead and contribute to the evolving digital future.

About Sanchar Mitra

The Sanchar Mitra Scheme envisions to engage the Yuva Shakti- India's youth, as catalysts for digital empowerment and societal outreach. The students nominated as Sanchar Mitra actively conduct awareness drives in communities, educational institutions, public spaces, etc., focusing on key telecom-related issues, like citizen-centric telecom services, prevention of telecom frauds and mobile security - promoting digital safety, and foster responsible telecom usage.

This scheme is open to students from those technical institutes that have active telecom, electronics, computers, cybersecurity or similar programs and have agreed to participate in the scheme.

The scheme has been implemented across all states/ UTs through the LSA field offices of DoT. More than 200 institutions are currently participating in it.

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