

# CHRONICLES

# 2025



AUGUST - EDITION

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# RURAL CITIZENS

# INDIA AT 79:

## A NATION'S JOURNEY

### A TRYST REMEMBERED



**Dr Rahul Mirchandani**

Past National Chairman,  
Yi & Chairman, Aries Agro Limited

**On the midnight of 15 August 1947, Jawaharlal Nehru told a sleepless Parliament:**

“At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom.”

Seventy-nine years on, as the world watches, India is awake not merely to freedom but to the responsibilities and opportunities of being one of the great powers of the 21st century.

But how far have we come? How do we measure our progress not just against our own past, but against the journeys of nations that are now considered “developed”?

One way is to look at where other great nations stood **79 years into their modern nationhood**. What was the United States like in 1855? The United Kingdom in 1786? Japan in 1947? France in 1868?

By comparing their economic and social indicators with India's today, we can place our story in a long historical arc. The picture that emerges is both humbling and inspiring.

## INDIA AND THE WORLD AT 79: THE DATA

Here is a snapshot of five nations at their “**T<sub>0</sub> + 79 years**” mark, where T<sub>0</sub> is the moment of independence, union, restoration, or revolution that shaped their modern national identity.

Country	Founding Moment	Year at T <sub>0</sub> +79	GDP per capita (2011 intl \$)	Population (millions)	Life expectancy (years)	Urbanization (%)	Sector Share (% GDP – Ag/Ind/Serv)
<b>India</b>	1947 (Independence)	2025 (using 2022–23 data)	<b>6,600</b>	<b>1,417</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>18 / 28 / 54</b>
<b>USA</b>	1776 (Independence)	1855	3,330	27.5	39.5	17.6%	n/a
<b>UK</b>	1707 (Union)	1786	2,800	10.5	39.0	20%	n/a
<b>Japan</b>	1868 (Meiji Restoration)	1947	1,950	79.0	53.0	33%	n/a
<b>France</b>	1789 (Revolution)	1868	3,000	37.8	42.0	20%	n/a

Sources: Maddison Project Database (2023), UN World Urbanization Prospects, Our World in Data, World Bank WDI.

## PROSPERITY: A DIFFERENT STARTING LINE

When the United States was 79 years old in 1855, Walt Whitman had just published *Leaves of Grass*. The country was young, brash, expanding westward—but per capita income was just \$3,300 (2011 dollars).

Britain, at 79 years into its 1707 Union, was still in the early stirrings of the Industrial Revolution, its people living on barely \$2,800 per capita. France in 1868 had reached about \$3,000, while Japan in 1947, devastated by war, was at just \$1,950.

India, by contrast, at its 79-year mark, stands at \$6,600 per capita. This means that, on average, an Indian in 2025 will be materially better off than an American in 1855, a Briton in 1786, a French citizen in 1868, or a Japanese in 1947.

The caveat, of course, is that these nations invented the modern industrial economy, while India has inherited it. Yet the fact remains: India today is not behind—it is, in many ways, ahead of where they were.

## LIFE EXPECTANCY: THE GREAT LEAP

If prosperity numbers inspire, life expectancy figures astonish.

Country	India	France	Japan	UK	USA
Year	2026	1868	1947	1786	1855
Life Expectancy	70.5	42	53	39	39.5

## STATISTICS OF COUNTRIES AT THE 79 YEAR MARK

In this single measure, India is generations ahead. The average Indian lives longer than the average citizen of any of these countries did at 79 years of nationhood.

This is the dividend of modern medicine, vaccines, sanitation, and global knowledge transfer. What took other countries centuries of painful trial and error, India could leapfrog in decades.

As Mahatma Gandhi once said, “It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver.” By this measure, India has secured wealth that 19th-century Americans or Britons could not dream of.

## POPULATION: THE SCALE OF THE CHALLENGE

Numbers also tell another story : Scale

Country	India	France	Japan	UK	USA
Year	2026	1868	1947	1786	1855
Peoples	1.4 Billion	37.8 Million	79 Million	10.5 Million	27.5 Million

India is not just larger—it is staggeringly larger. Managing education, health, jobs, and infrastructure for this population is an order of magnitude harder than what any of these other nations faced at 79 years.

Yet scale can be an asset too. The U.S. after its Civil War turned its vast population and resources into an engine of growth. India, with the world's largest working-age population, is poised for a similar demographic dividend—if it can harness it.

## URBANIZATION AND TRANSFORMATION

At 36% urbanization, India lags developed countries but is far ahead of where the U.S. (18%) or U.K. (20%) were at 79 years. The difference lies in how urbanization is happening.

- **Britain's Manchester in 1780s was grimy but became the workshop of the world.**
- **America's 1850s cities like Chicago and New York were bustling with immigrants and railroads.**
- **Japan's Tokyo in 1947 was rubble, yet rebuilt into a global megacity.**

**India's cities are digital-age hubs**—Bengaluru in IT, Hyderabad in pharma, Mumbai in finance. But they also face pollution, congestion, and housing crises that 19th-century cities never imagined.

## SECTORAL STRUCTURE: A SERVICES GIANT

Perhaps the most unique feature of India's economy at 79 years is its sectoral profile:

AGRICULTURE	INDUSTRY	SERVICES
18%	28%	54%

No nation in history has reached this balance so early in its development. Britain, France, and the U.S. were overwhelmingly agrarian at 79 years. Japan in 1947 was still heavily agricultural.

India has leapfrogged into services dominance, a strength in IT, fintech, and digital platforms. But the challenge is clear: Can services alone generate jobs for a billion people? Or must India replicate a manufacturing boom that powered other nations?

## THE HISTORICAL CONTEXTS : WHY COMPARISONS ARE TRICKY

- **The U.K. in 1786 was on the cusp of the Industrial Revolution. Within decades, its coal and steam engines powered global empire.**
- **The U.S. in 1855 was about to enter a Civil War that would redefine it, and then enjoy explosive growth in railroads, steel, and finance.**
- **Japan in 1947 was under U.S. occupation, its economy flattened, but about to enter its famous "economic miracle."**
- **France in 1868 was in the twilight of the Second Empire, about to face defeat in the Franco-Prussian War and then undergo modernization.**

India's context is utterly different. We are a democracy from the beginning, operating in a globalized world, confronting climate change and technology disruptions unknown to those earlier societies.

## THE PLUS SIDE OF THE COMPARISON

- India is ahead on human well-being. Life expectancy and basic prosperity at 79 years are better than they were for now-rich nations.
- India has leapfrogged structurally. Moving into services dominance so early is unprecedented.
- The defining decades lie ahead. Britain's industrial takeoff, America's post-Civil War boom, and Japan's post-war miracle all came after the 79-year mark. India's equivalent moment may be the 2030s.

## THE MINUS SIDE OF THE COMPARISON

- Different yardsticks. Comparing a 21st-century democracy with an 18th-century monarchy is apples and oranges.
- Global constraints. Britain and America industrialized by exploiting colonies and resources; India faces climate limits and a crowded global economy.
- Inequality. India's averages mask disparities—pockets of extreme wealth and deep poverty coexist.

## WHY THIS STILL MATTERS

**Despite caveats, comparisons are valuable. They tell us:**

- India is not "late"—it is uniquely positioned.
- The window of opportunity is now. Others took off after their 79th year.
- India's success will create a new model for development—a democratic, populous, diverse country rising without colonial exploitation.

## A CALL TO THE FUTURE

As Nehru said in 1947, "The achievement we celebrate today is but a step, an opening of opportunity, to the greater triumphs and achievements that await us."

The triumphs of Britain, America, Japan, and France came after their 79th year. For India, the next two decades will define whether we build on our foundations to achieve sustained prosperity.

If we succeed, the world will not just say that India caught up—it will say that India charted a new path.

## CONCLUSION: INDIA'S DEFINING DECADE

History suggests that the decades after the 79-year milestone are decisive. For Britain, it was the Industrial Revolution. For the U.S., it was post-Civil War industrialization. For Japan, it was post-war reconstruction. For India, that moment is now. We stand with a young population, democratic resilience, and global aspirations. Our challenge is unprecedented—but so is our opportunity.

On this 79th Independence Day, let us celebrate not just how far we have come, but how uniquely positioned we are for what lies ahead.

"The future depends on what you do today." – **Mahatma Gandhi**

**The future, at 79, is India's to shape.**

# LEADERSHIP

ACADEMY FOR CO-CHAIRS 2025

14 - 17 AUGUST 2025

MAHABALIPURAM, TAMIL NADU



A journey of reflection, connection & leadership - set against the timeless backdrop of Mahabalipuram.

## WHAT IT WAS

A 4-day immersive leadership experience designed to nurture the next generation of Yi Chapter Co-Chairs from 72 chapters across India.

- Deep dive into Yi's founding vision and legacy
- Learning from Past National Chairs (PNCs)
- Real-time collaboration and role clarity
- Self-reflection & team alignment exercises



## HOW IT WORKED

- Morning energizers and thematic sessions
- Team building challenges and fireside conversations
- Vision alignment + Co-Chair responsibilities workshops
- Space for laughter, introspection, and lifelong friendships



## IMPACT

- Strengthened clarity on Yi's mission
- Reignited purpose for local leadership
- Built a high-trust peer network across India
- Reinforced the joy of leading with empathy and vision



# LEADERSHIP

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## PEOPLE & PATHBREAKERS

- “I vision myself to become a better leader and person.” – **SK Irfan Ali, Yi Balasore**
- “From laughter to deep bonding... friendships I'll cherish for life.” – **Sameer Mangalwade, Yi Hubballi**
- “This wasn't just an event. It was a pathbreaking movement.” – **Anubhuti Jain, Yi Guwahati**
- “Clarity, structure, empowerment — exactly what we needed.” – **Darshan Parikh, Yi Ahmedabad**
- “It taught me to lead with empathy, not just authority.” – **Altaf Hussain, Yi Vellore**



### A Journey to Remember

Mahabalipuram now stands as the landmark where India's next generation of young leaders found not only their vision — but each other.



# Yi HEALTH WEEK

## AUGUST 2025



### Building Healthy Bharat: Yi Health Vertical Drives Momentum During Health Week

August 2025 marked a transformative chapter for the Yi Health Vertical, led by the flagship Yi Health Week (18th – 24th August). From mental health to menstrual hygiene and substance abuse to nutrition, Young Indians made health everyone's mission. Through awareness, collaboration, and action, Yi chapters across regions united to promote holistic well-being across India.

## REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

### NORTHERN REGION

- Lucknow: Signed MoU with Medanta Hospitals to create a Yi Platinum Health Desk – premium access to healthcare. Hosted sessions on ragging, drug abuse, and mental health.
- Dehradun: Youth sessions on substance abuse and peer resilience.
- Noida: Campus-based student engagements for future-ready youth.

### SRTN REGION

- Sivakasi: Public drug abuse rallies and signature campaign engaging Thalir & Yuva.
- Vellore: Initiatives on menstrual hygiene & rural health check-ups.
- Karur: Rural medical camp for essential health services.

### SRTKKA REGION

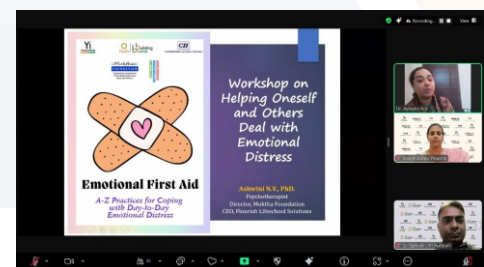
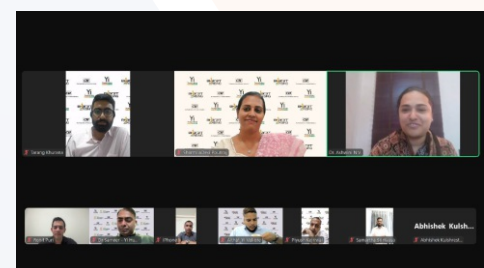
- Vizag: Youth Talks for Thalir students on emotional wellbeing.
- Hubballi: Focused on active living and lifestyle wellness.

### EASTERN REGION

- Siliguri: Multiple impactful sessions on mental health with Thalir students + Youth Talk series.
- Durg: Sessions on nutrition & wellbeing for Thalir & rural families.

### WESTERN REGION

- Bhopal: Mental health awareness & emotional resilience building.
- Indore: Wellness initiatives for special groups, bridging inclusion gaps.



# Yi HEALTH WEEK

## AUGUST 2025



- A powerful Mental Health Masterclass with Dr. Ashwini on her book Emotional Bandid.
- Frameworks for emotional healing and resilience were shared with chapters nationwide.



## WHY AUGUST STOOD OUT

- **Scale:** Nationwide Health Week participation across dozens of chapters.
- **Diversity:** Covered key verticals – mental health, menstrual hygiene, fitness, nutrition & addiction.
- **Partnership:** Medanta MoU marks strategic leap in health access.
- **Community Mobilization:** Youth Talks, signature campaigns, and rallies activated mass engagement.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** Health Week was not the finish line – it was a spark. The success of August fuels our vision for the upcoming National Health & Disability Summit, where we take lessons from Health Week to create a nationwide, measurable health impact.

# Yi RAIPUR

## ROAD SAFETY MARQUEE EVENT

15 AUGUST 2025 | API ISPAT, RAIPUR

**FARISHTHEY AWARENESS SESSION | 1,200 ATTENDEES**



### What it Was

On Independence Day, Yi Raipur hosted a powerful **Farishtey Awareness Session** — its marquee Road Safety event under the Yi Farishtey module. The session aimed to promote life-saving emergency response awareness and a culture of collective road responsibility.

### How it Worked

- Conducted at API Ispat with 1,200+ participants
- Led by Senior Traffic Trainer & Inspector, TK BOI
- Focus on first responder mindset and accident protocol
- Included interactive demonstrations, real-life scenarios, and hands-on safety tips

### Impact

- Reached 1,200 citizens across age groups
- Enhanced preparedness for emergency response
- Marked Independence Day with civic responsibility in action
- Strengthened the bridge between law enforcement and public awareness



### People & Collaboration

- Reinforced by the Raipur Traffic Department
- Mobilized by Yi Raipur's Road Safety Vertical Team
- Supported by Industry Leaders, Traffic Authorities, and Yi Members

### A Day of Freedom, Safety & Purpose

This Independence Day, Yi Raipur redefined patriotism — not just by celebrating freedom, but by protecting lives on the road.

# Yi CLIMATE CHANGE

## JULY–AUGUST 2025 IMPACT SUMMARY

26<sup>TH</sup> JULY – 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025

### Yi HEALTH CARD DATA



### What it Was

A focused phase of climate-positive actions under the Yi Climate Change vertical—spanning tree plantations, water body rejuvenation, and e-waste recovery—towards building a greener, more resilient Bharat.

### How It Happened

- Tree Plantation Drive | **Total Trees Planted: 3,940** | ■ E-Waste Collection | **Total Collected: 2,315 kg**
- Water Body Rejuvenation | **Volume Rejuvenated: 720,000 cubic meters**
- Stakeholder Engagement | **Members: 169 | Thalir: 1,188 | YUVA: 3,070 | Rural: 369**

### High-Impact Activities

- **Yi Siliguri | CRPF Camp**  
On July 25, a community pond – ‘Shaurya Sarovar’ was constructed within the CRPF camp. Developed in collaboration with jawans, this water body supports a nearby Miyawaki forest, contributing to ecosystem restoration and water security.
- **Yi Madurai | “Sow with the Season, Harvest with Hope”**  
On August 2, Yi Madurai launched a high-scale palm tree plantation initiative in Kokkulam, Thirumangalam.  
**Trees Planted: 2,025 | Participants: 65**  
The program emphasized climate-resilient agriculture and community engagement in safeguarding environmental resources.

### People & Collaborations

- CRPF Jawans, Yi Siliguri
- Farmers & Youth Volunteers, Yi Madurai
- Local Panchayat & Forest Teams

### Impact

- This period marked a powerful leap in environmental stewardship—rejuvenating land, reducing toxic waste, and activating young citizens in climate action at the grassroots.



OnePlus Nord 4  
25 July 2025 at 17:46

# Yi SILIGURI

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONCLAVE 2025

IGNITING IDEAS, INSPIRING ACTION



Yi Siliguri hosted its flagship Entrepreneurship Conclave — a full-day learning experience curated to spark mindset shifts in young entrepreneurs and changemakers across the region.

### A Power-Packed Line-up of Speakers:

- Sandeep Pandit, Visual Storyteller: Shared compelling narratives on creativity, resilience, and storytelling in business.
- Alina Alam, Founder of Mitti Café, highlighted the power of inclusion and impact-driven entrepreneurship.
- Peepal Baba, Environmentalist: Advocated for sustainable entrepreneurship and environmental consciousness.
- Ravi Kant, Former MD, Tata Motors: Delivered insights on growth mindset and strategic leadership.
- CA Sarthak Ahuja, Business Strategist: Provided clarity on finance, structuring, and scaling startups.

### Leadership Presence & Motivation:

The event was graced by Mr. Pritam Bansal, Regional Chair – East, and Mr. Raunak Goyal, Past National Chair – Young Indians, whose guidance reinforced the importance of purpose-led leadership and building future-ready enterprises.

### The Impact:

With 185+ members and entrepreneurs in attendance, the conclave created an energizing atmosphere for:

- Knowledge exchange
- Peer-to-peer learning
- Purposeful networking

### The Outcome:

Attendees walked away with:

- Clarity on building scalable, sustainable ventures
- Fresh motivation to drive impact
- Strategic insights from real-world changemakers



Yi Siliguri continues to lead the way in fostering an ecosystem of innovation, inclusion, and inspired action.



# STORIES OF IMPACT

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**YI**  
—  
**D U R G**

**YI**  
—  
**AHEMDABAD**

# #STORIESOFIMPACT

**Yi DURG – FIRST-EVER MASOOM MODEL SCHOOL COMPLETED**  
LEADING THE MASOOM MOVEMENT, BUILDING SAFER TOMORROWS



## WHAT

- Young Indians (Yi) Durg has proudly inaugurated the city's first Masoom Model School under the Bharat Rising Masoom initiative.
- This milestone marks a significant step in creating structured, safe, and aware educational environments for children.



## HOW

- The transformation of Shri Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya into a **Masoom Model School** was achieved by integrating all seven pillars of the Masoom framework:

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>1 Spreading Awareness</b>  | <b>5 Emphasizing Protection</b>                         |
| <b>2 Training Educators</b>   | <b>6 Institutional Partnerships</b>                     |
| <b>3 Sensitizing Students</b> | <b>7 Professional Support &amp; Resilience Building</b> |
| <b>4 Empowering Parents</b>   |   |



## IMPACT

- First-ever fully implemented Masoom Model School in Durg
- A template for replication across other schools in the region
- Elevated community-wide awareness on child safety and protection
- A strengthened culture of trust, safety, and preparedness in schools

## PEOPLE & COLLABORATIONS

- Yi Durg Core Team:** Led by Prakriti, Harsha, and Gaurav
- School Leadership:** Shri Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya
- Teachers, Parents & Students:** Actively participated in co-creating this safe environment



# #STORIESOFIMPACT

Yi AHMEDABAD | MASOOM CSA DISCLOSURE AT THALIR SCHOOL



## WHAT

- Yi Ahmedabad's child safety sessions under Project Masoom led to a critical disclosure at one of our Thalir schools in July 2025. Several girls from Grade 6 spoke up about inappropriate behavior by an elderly male teacher (aged 60+), including physical misconduct and lewd comments.



## HOW

- After attending CSA awareness sessions conducted by Yi Ahmedabad, the students reported the abuse to their PT teacher and parents.
- Despite initial resistance from other teachers, the girls continued voicing their concerns until one teacher finally escalated the matter to the principal.
- Upon independent investigation, the principal discovered similar cases involving girls from Grades 7 and 10.
- Yi Ahmedabad was present when the issue was raised to the school trustees.
- We consulted two Child Protection Specialists who have been guiding Yi Ahmedabad's Masoom work for over 9 years.
- After further internal inquiry, the teacher was officially terminated on 19th August.
- Yi Ahmedabad will now organize counselling and sensitization sessions for remaining faculty members to strengthen response mechanisms and ensure future escalation of such incidents.

## IMPACT

- A serial offender was identified and removed before further damage could occur.
- The girls found the courage to speak up — empowered by Yi's Masoom sessions.
- A culture of silence in the school was challenged.
- The intervention demonstrated the real-world impact of structured CSA awareness and the trust it builds with students.

# #STORIESOFIMPACT

Yi AHMEDABAD | MASOOM CSA DISCLOSURE AT THALIR SCHOOL



## PEOPLE / COLLABORATIONS

- Students of Grade 6, 7 & 10
- Principal of the school who took swift, independent action
- Yi Ahmedabad Masoom Team
- School Trustees
- Teachers who ultimately supported the escalation
- Two long-term Child Protection Specialists supporting Yi Ahmedabad for 9+ years



# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**Yi**  
Young Indians  
WE CAN WE WILL

**BHARAT**  
—RISING

**CII**  
Confederation of Indian Industry

ONE BHARAT. ONE VOICE.

**TAKE PRIDE '25**  
A SYMPHONY

**19 – 20 December 2025** New Delhi

Registrations Open

youngindians.yi young.indians young indians yitweets yionline youngindians.net

# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**YOUNG INDIANS**  
DELEGATION TO  
G20 YEA SUMMIT AT  
**SOUTH AFRICA**

DATE  
**16 - 20 SEPTEMBER 2025**

Logos: Yi, Bharat Rising, CII, G20 YEA

Social media links: youngindians.yi, young.indians, young.indians, yitweets, yionline, youngindians.net

**BENGALURU**  
NATIONAL ROUND OF  
FUTURE S.0

BLOCK YOUR CALENDAR  
**05 SEP '25**

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Logos: Yi, Bharat Rising, CII, YUVA, CLIMATE CHANGE

**7 DAYS. ENDLESS RIPPLES**

DAY	ACTIVITY	DAY
SUN 07 SEPTEMBER	<b>Kick-off &amp; Awareness Drive</b> • Inauguration + keynote • "One Week - One Mission" pledge	DAY 01
MON 08 SEPTEMBER	<b>Afforestation with Schools</b> • Miyawaki/native plantation • Classes adopt & care for trees	DAY 02
TUE 09 SEPTEMBER	<b>Water Body Rejuvenation</b> • Pond/lake cleaning + signage • "Adopt a Water Body" campaign	DAY 03
WED 10 SEPTEMBER	<b>E-Waste Collection</b> • Drop boxes in colleges/IT parks • Recycler demo sessions	DAY 04
THU 11 SEPTEMBER	<b>Urban Afforestation</b> • Public parks + roadside plantations • "Tree Guardianship" boards	DAY 05
FRI 12 SEPTEMBER	<b>Water Awareness in Schools</b> • Workshops + science clubs • Family water-audit challenge	DAY 06
SAT-SUN 13 SEPTEMBER	<b>Grand Finale - Sustainability Fair</b> • E-waste drop-off + green expo • Impact showcase + recognition	DAY 07

Logos: Yi, Bharat Rising, CII, CLIMATE CHANGE

Social media links: youngindians.yi, young.indians, young.indians, yitweets, yionline, youngindians.net

**ABHAYAM**  
Masoom Summit '25

Where Awareness Becomes Armour  
Empowering Every Child Against Sexual Abuse  
In the Real and Digital World

**13th September**  
Hyderabad

Logos: Yi, Bharat Rising, CII, MASOOM

# AUGUST

## STIRRED THE SPIRIT

### SEPTEMBER WILL SHAPE THE STORY

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From pledges to policy, from training  
grounds to temples of learning

### YI MARCHED AHEAD WITH PURPOSE

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## NOW, WITH BHARAT RISING, WE DON'T JUST CONTINUE

# WE ACCELERATE

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