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I AM
#WORLDREADY

The International Award for Young People, India wishes all our readers joy and good health!

On the occasions of International Workers' Day and Buddha Purnima, we extend our warm wishes to all - celebrating the values of dedication, compassion, resilience and harmony that inspire stronger communities and a brighter future for all.



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Annual Gold Award Ceremony 2026

The International Award for Young People, India proudly celebrated the Annual Gold Award Ceremony 2026 on 21st April at the India International Centre, New Delhi.

The ceremony brought together school principals, Award Leaders and Gold Awardees from across the country to honour the dedication, resilience and achievements of young people who have successfully completed their Gold Award journey!

We were honoured to have Mayanti Langer as the Chief Guest, whose inspiring presence and reflections added great value to the occasion.

The event marked a significant milestone for our young people and celebrated the collective efforts of institutions, educators and mentors who continue to support and shape their journeys.











Gold Award Ceremony 2026



















The Award in Action - Seth A.R. Jaipuria School, Lucknow

From Participation to Leadership

In August, when I first learned about the IAYP program, I decided to sign up because I wanted something that would push me to stay consistent, step out of my comfort zone, and grow beyond academics. I was looking for something that would keep me engaged and help me actively work on myself outside the classroom. My school

provided that opportunity on a silver platter, and so I began logging my hours. In November, as part of the voluntary service component of IAYP, my peers and I visited a government NGO school for underprivileged children. I spent time with a group of kids there, playing games, talking to them, and simply being present. What stayed with me was a small moment. As we were leaving, a few children followed me outside just to click a picture together. That simple gesture, those smiles, meant more than I expected. It reminded me of something I had almost lost touch with. Before moving to Lucknow, I was actively involved in volunteering, but after shifting, I got so caught up in everything that I stopped making time for it. Through IAYP, I found my way back to it. In that moment, I realized that this wasn't just an activity for me. It was something I genuinely enjoy and something that had been missing from my life.

After that visit, I had a thought. What if I started a community service club of my own? That's how Alma Joven began, initially just as an idea on my laptop. I'll be honest, it was intimidating. I had always been someone who followed instructions, not someone who led. The idea of building and managing something independently felt overwhelming.

I shared this idea with Nishi ma'am, our IAYP head, and along with my IAYP peers, I received a simple but powerful response: that this was meaningful and worth pursuing. That belief was all I needed. I started recruiting, expecting a small team, but the response was incredible. Word spread quickly, and I saw genuine interest from students across the school. That enthusiasm pushed me forward.

Finally, I presented the initiative to our Principal, Ms. Kochitty, whose encouragement gave me the confidence to take this idea ahead.

I started Alma Joven with a simple belief. As Gen Z, we're often labeled as lazy, but I believe we are actually more aware and empathetic toward the world around us. And right now, we have something incredibly valuable: time. As we move into college and work, that time will only reduce. So why not use it now to do something that truly matters? We see the problems in our society every day. We have the awareness, the access, and the ability to act. Alma Joven is about turning that awareness into impact.

What makes it different is that it works on two fronts. First, uplifting underprivileged communities, even if it's at a small, local level. Second, supporting our own student community. Not everyone can be physically involved in fieldwork, so we also create space for students to contribute through their skills, whether it is writing, ideation, or content creation.

Through our campaigns, especially on Instagram, we address real student issues like exam stress and create a space where students can share, learn, and support each other. At the same time, we raise awareness about topics beyond the classroom. For example, during our Women's Day campaign, we highlighted unsung women from history and movements like the Gulabi Gang. In March 2026, we planned our first donation drive. Unlike earlier experiences where everything was organized for us, this time I had to manage everything myself, from arranging funds and ordering food to finding a location and coordinating a team. It was overwhelming. Plans kept

changing, my food order got cancelled, and even the location had to be shifted at the last minute. At one point, I genuinely felt like giving up. But on the day of the drive, my team showed up with so much enthusiasm and energy that it pushed me to keep going. Together, we managed to raise enough to provide food for around 80 children. When I saw those children smiling, laughing, and simply enjoying a meal, it shifted my perspective. I realized that impact isn't about everything going perfectly. It is about showing up, figuring things out, and doing what you can. That day made me understand two things: that I'm not alone in this, and that we have already begun to make a difference.

Moving forward, Alma Joven aims to conduct more donation drives and fundraisers, followed by visits to orphanages and old age homes, where we not only provide essentials but also spend time, listen, and connect with people.

IAYP was a catalyst of change in my life, something that pushed me out of my comfort zone, helped me rediscover a part of myself I had lost, and ultimately gave me the direction, confidence, and purpose to take initiative and create something that contributes meaningfully to society.

-Report by Satvik Sharma, Silver Award participant, Seth A.R. Jaipuria School, Sushant Golf City, Lucknow







Photo Gallery

Award Orientation Sessions in Lucknow and Barabanki at Seth A.R. Jaipuria School, La Martiniere Girls' College and Vedam World School - 9th & 10th April

*Orientation at **Seth Anandram Jaipuria School** witnessed the enthusiastic participation of over 500 students, along with an engaging interaction session with current IAYP participants who shared their Award journey and experiences.*







*Orientation at **Vedam World School** followed by a productive meeting with the Principal to discuss opportunities for student engagement and holistic development through the Award.*









*Orientation session for **La Martiniere Girls' College** introducing young people to the Award framework and its opportunities for leadership, service, skill development and personal growth.*















Online Orientation for CPS Global School, Anna Nagar - 13 April 2026

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Regards
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