

BACKGROUND

The first Bagmati Province Youth Conference was held in Hetauda, the provincial capital, on the 11th and 12th of Ashar 2080. The conference aimed to empower and engage the youth of Bagmati Province by discussing and preparing a manifesto on five key issues concerning them. The event was inaugurated by Honorable Minister of Social Development, Government of Bagmati Province, Kumari Muktan, and saw the active participation of 150 young individuals selected from the 13 districts of the province.

Objectives and Topics of Discussion

The conference focused on five main topics:

1. The necessity and justification of youth participation in public and social life.
2. Youth participation and innovative thinking in research and exploration.
3. Planned initiation and effective implementation of enterprise development and business.
4. Information Technology, Social Network Usability, and Effectiveness Orientation.
5. Empowered youth and youth policy.

Opening Session

The opening session was presided over by Mr. Santosh Chaulagain, Executive Vice President of the Province Youth Council, Bagmati, and attended by Honorable Minister Kumari Muktan as the chief guest. The session began with a welcome speech by Ms. Sabba Rani Maharjan, a member of the Provincial Youth Council, highlighting the importance of the conference in developing leadership skills and inspiring youth to bring about positive change.



Concept Paper Presentation

Mr. Chaulagain presented a concept paper outlining the importance of youth empowerment and the role of the Youth Council in addressing the challenges young people face. He emphasized the need for education, skills, and opportunities to ensure the positive development of the province under the leadership of youth.

Main Session

The conference featured discussions and panel sessions on various topics:

1. Quality education, innovation, and revolution.
2. Youth engagement in social and public life.
3. Youth in nation-building.
4. Interaction with Bidhya Chapagain.
5. Planned initiation and effective implementation of enterprising culture and business.
6. Information Technology, Social Networking Usability, and Effectiveness Orientation.

Welcome Speech by Ms. Sabba Rani Maharjan, Member of Province Youth Council, Bagmati

Dear Participants,

With great pleasure, I welcome you all to the inaugural Bagmati Province Youth Conference. This gathering presents a unique opportunity for young individuals like yourselves to expand your relationships and networks, which will undoubtedly lead to rewarding experiences. As you engage in discussions and share your perspectives on various topics, I encourage you to make the most of this platform to develop your leadership skills.



The topics selected for this conference are designed to inspire you to think differently and embrace change. We believe that by addressing these issues, we can empower our youth to become catalysts for positive development in our province.

I am particularly excited about the concept paper presented by Mr. Santosh Chaulagain, the Executive Vice President of the Province Youth Council, Bagmati. His paper highlights the importance of the provincial structure in the context of federalism and emphasizes the youth population's significant role in our province.

The Province Youth Council, Bagmati has been actively working towards empowering our youth since its establishment, and this conference is yet another step in that direction. By discussing topics such as youth participation in public life, innovative thinking, enterprise development, and information technology, we hope to inspire you to take an active role in shaping the future of our province.

In conclusion, I urge you all to actively participate in the conference and make your voices heard. Your ideas and insights are invaluable, and I am confident that together, we can create a brighter future for Bagmati Province.

Congratulatory Speech by Mrs. Meena Kumari Lama, Mayor of Hetauda Sub-Metropolitan City

Dear Participants,

I would like to congratulate every one of you for being a part of this important conference. The youth are the future of our nation, and we must provide them with the necessary tools and opportunities to succeed.

As Mrs. Maharjan mentioned, connecting our youth with production and entrepreneurship is essential for accelerating the country's development. The discussions and declarations that come out of this conference will play a vital role in determining and



implementing programs that specifically target the youth.

I am confident that your participation in this conference will not only benefit you personally but also contribute to the overall development of our province. I encourage you to actively engage in the discussions and take advantage of the knowledge and expertise shared by our experts and dignitaries.

Once again, congratulations to all of you, and I wish you a productive and inspiring conference. Thank you.

Congratulatory Speech by Prof. Dr. Nar Vikram Thapa, Vice President of Bagmati Province Policy and Planning Commission

Empowering Youth through Creativity and Ingenuity

Prof. Dr. Nar Vikram Thapa emphasized the crucial role of creativity and ingenuity in empowering youth. He highlighted that by fostering these qualities, young individuals can become catalysts for positive change and innovation in society. Dr. Thapa stressed the importance of providing platforms and opportunities for youth to express their creativity and contribute to the development of the province.



Youth Participation in Transformation

Dr. Thapa underscored the significance of youth participation in the ongoing transformation process. He acknowledged that the youth play a vital role in shaping the future of the province and emphasized the need to focus on their achievements and contributions. Dr. Thapa encouraged the youth to actively engage in the development agenda of Bagmati Province and strive for excellence in their endeavors.

Best Wishes by Honorable Ek Lal Shrestha, Member, Bagmati Province Assembly and Former Minister of Labor, Employment and Transport

Concerns about Youth Migration and Future Prospects

Hon. Ek Lal Shrestha expressed concerns about the impact of political instability on the youth. He noted that many young people are migrating abroad for jobs and education due to a lack of opportunities and uncertainty about the future in Nepal. Shrestha highlighted the challenges faced by young people who choose to stay in the country, including depression and disillusionment.



Connecting Youth with Employment and Entrepreneurship

Shrestha emphasized the importance of connecting youth with meaningful employment and entrepreneurship opportunities. He criticized the government for not taking adequate steps to utilize the skills and potential of young people, urging policymakers to prioritize youth development and job creation.

Critique of Government Priorities

Shrestha criticized the government's allocation of funds, suggesting that resources are being directed towards monasteries and temples instead of addressing the needs of the youth. He called for a more balanced approach that prioritizes youth-centric programs and initiatives.

Remarks by Prem Bd. Pulami, Honorable Province Assembly Member

Encouragement to Persist Despite Budgetary Constraints

Prem Bd. Pulami encouraged the youth not to be discouraged by the lack of budgetary provisions. He urged them to persevere in their efforts and continue striving for excellence, emphasizing that challenges should not deter their aspirations.

Empowering Youth for Nation-Building

Pulami highlighted the importance of empowering youth as a means of nation-building. He emphasized that youth power should not be seen as a mere tool for gaining political power but as a force for positive change and development in the country.



Encouragement for Education Abroad and Return for Self-Employment

Pulami encouraged young people to pursue education abroad, acquire skills, and then return to Nepal to contribute to the country's development. He emphasized the importance of self-employment and job creation for both individual growth and national prosperity.

Optimism for Job Creation and Economic Development

Pulami expressed optimism that programs like the Provincial Youth Conference would successfully develop plans for job creation without relying heavily on subsidies. He expressed his best wishes for the success of such initiatives in empowering youth and driving economic growth in Bagmati Province.

Speech by Honorable Kumari Muktan, Minister, Province Social Development, Bagmati

Constructive Dialogue over Conflict

Minister Kumari Muktan emphasized the importance of maintaining a constructive atmosphere during the conference. She encouraged participants to engage in discussions that promote understanding and collaboration, rather than leading to anger or conflict. Muktan highlighted the need for open-mindedness and respectful dialogue to achieve meaningful outcomes.



Manifesto Preparation and Discussion

Muktan stressed the significance of the manifesto preparation process. She emphasized that the manifesto should reflect the purpose and essence of the conference, and should be the result of thorough and thoughtful discussions. Muktan expressed hope that the manifesto would serve as a valuable document, capturing the essence of the conference deliberations.

Role of Youth in Constitution Building

Minister Muktan acknowledged the pivotal role played by the youth in the drafting of the 2072 Constitution. She noted that a significant number of elected representatives are young, indicating a promising future. Muktan highlighted the importance of youth participation in the construction and implementation of policies, underscoring their potential for driving positive change in society.

Government Ownership of Conference Declaration

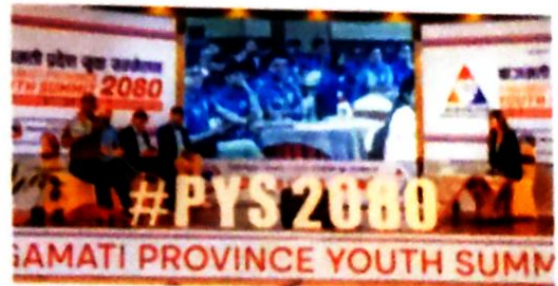
Muktan expressed her belief that the provincial government would take ownership of the declaration prepared by the conference. She hoped that the government would not only endorse the conclusions but also take the necessary political initiatives to implement them. Muktan emphasized that the outcomes of the conference would serve as valuable capital for the government, guiding its policies and actions towards youth development and empowerment.

MAIN SESSIONS

Session 1:

Quality Education, Innovation, and Revolution

The first session of the conference focused on the crucial topics of quality education, innovation, and revolution. The session was moderated by Former Miss Nepal Ms. Sugarika K. C and Mr. Pavitra Bahadur Gautam, Chief Executive Officer of Karkhana Group, who brought his business expertise to the discussion.



Presentation on Skills Development

During the session, Mr. Gautam emphasized the importance of developing skills such as cooperation and communication. He highlighted the need for education to focus on fostering creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving abilities among students. This approach, he argued, is essential for preparing youth for the challenges of the modern world.

Scientific Perspectives on Creativity and Critical Thinking

Professor Dr. Giriraj Tripathi from Tribhuvan World University delved into the scientific aspects of creativity and critical thinking development. He provided examples of how these skills can lead to innovation on an international scale, emphasizing the need for Nepal to nurture such talents among its youth.

Panel Discussion Insights

Following the presentations, a panel discussion was held with experts Bishnu Prasad Acharya, Rajiv Timalina, and the Chief Forest Officer of the District Forest Office, Makwanpur. The panel highlighted several key points:

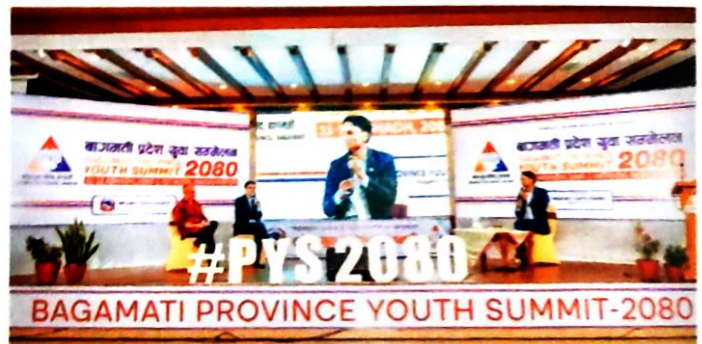
- **Declining Creativity:** There is a perceived decline in creativity among Nepalese youth. Emphasizing skill development can enhance creativity.
- **Educational System Reform:** The current educational system is criticized for only teaching students to follow instructions. There is a call for comprehensive reform to encourage critical thinking and creativity.
- **Benefits of Learning:** Teaching should focus on demonstrating the benefits of learning rather than imposing subjects on students.
- **Promoting Scientific Culture:** Education policies should emphasize patient explanation of scientific concepts from the basic level to promote a scientific culture.
- **Startup Policy:** There is a lack of encouragement and policy support for youth startups. Policies should instill confidence in young entrepreneurs to take risks and start new ventures.

Overall, the session highlighted the importance of education reform and skill development in fostering innovation and empowering the youth to drive positive change in Nepal.

Session 2:

Youth Engagement in Social and Public Life

The session on youth engagement in social and public life was moderated by Mr. Suresh Shrestha, a journalist, teacher and social campaigner. Journalists Tika Ram Yatri and Keshav Dahal shared their experiences and insights on the topic, leading to a fruitful discussion on the role of youth in society.



Social Media Awareness

One of the key points raised in the session was the importance of social media literacy among youth. It was noted that many young people do not pay attention to what they write or how they comment on social media platforms. This lack of awareness underscores the need for educational programs and initiatives by the government and relevant stakeholders to promote responsible use of social media.

Balancing Personal and Professional Life

The discussion also touched upon the increasing incidents affecting personal lives due to busy social and public engagements. Participants emphasized the need for young people to prioritize and balance their personal and professional lives. They suggested that managing time effectively is crucial for success in everyday life, highlighting it as a key mantra for achieving a harmonious balance.



Key Takeaways

- **Social Media Literacy:** There is a need for educational programs to promote responsible use of social media among youth.
- **Balancing Priorities:** Young people should prioritize and balance their personal and professional lives to succeed in various aspects of life.
- **Time Management:** Effective time management is essential for maintaining a healthy balance between personal and professional commitments.

Conclusion

The session highlighted the importance of youth engagement in social and public life, while also emphasizing the need for responsible behavior and time management. It underscored the role of education and awareness programs in equipping young people with the skills to navigate the complexities of modern society.

Session 3:

Youth in Nation Building

The session on “Youth in Nation Building” was moderated by Former Miss Nepal Ms. Sugarika K. C. whereas Mr. Madhav Dhungel, the first Executive Vice President of the National Youth Council, and Mr. Surendra Basnet, the current Executive Vice President of the National Youth Council, along with Mr. Mahesh Dahal, former chairman of Nepal Jaycees and



former ambassador of Nepal to Australia, shared their experiences and opinions to kickstart the session.

Key Points

- **Earning Alongside Education:** There is a need to develop the concept of earning alongside education to empower youth. By linking land use policies with youth self-employment, young people can be directly involved in the country's development.
- **Youth-Friendly Policies:** Policymakers need to make policy decisions that remove obstacles and create a youth-friendly environment conducive to mobilizing youth for nation-building.
- **Skill Development:** Educational institutions should start imparting entrepreneurial skills from the school level. This will prepare youth for self-employment and contribute to national development.
- **Media Literacy Programs:** Youth-targeted media literacy programs should be conducted at the school level to educate young people on the proper use of social media.

- **Corruption Control:** Youth should be mobilized to control corruption, which is a significant obstacle to the country's development.
- **Political Arrangements:** There is a need for political arrangements to instill dignity, discipline, and responsibility in youth, encouraging them to behave as volunteers for the nation's betterment.

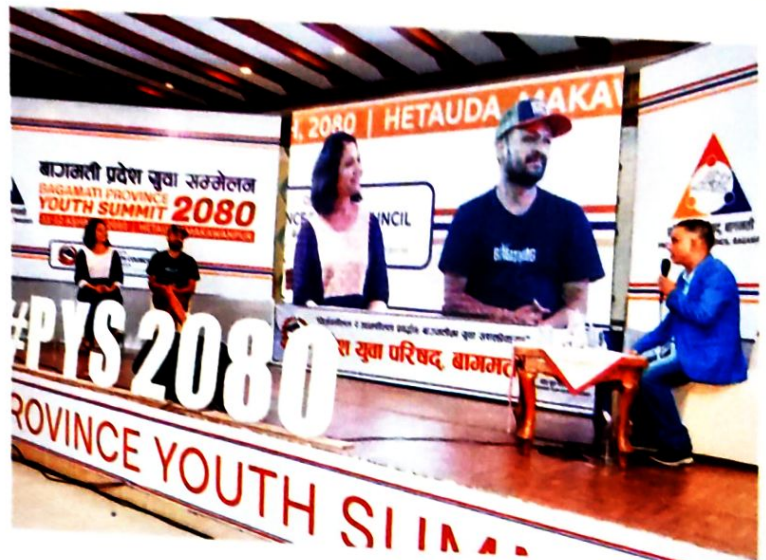
Conclusion

The session emphasized the crucial role of youth in nation-building and highlighted the importance of policy reforms, skill development, and ethical behavior among young people. It underscored the need for a comprehensive approach to empower youth and harness their potential for the country's development.

Session 4:

Interaction with Bidhya Chapagai

This session on "Interaction with Bidhya Chapagai" provided participants with the opportunity to learn from the experiences of Mr. Bidhya Chapagai, a renowned journalist and director of the popular television program "Herne Katha." Facilitated by the intellectual Mr. Jiwan Sharma, the session featured the team behind "Herne Katha," which serves as an exemplary case of achieving success through persistence.



Key Points

- **Learning from Experience:** Participants gained insights from Ms. Chapagai's experiences and the success story of "Herne Katha." The session highlighted the importance of perseverance and dedication in achieving one's goals.
- **Success through Persistence:** The team emphasized that success can be achieved by maintaining a persistent attitude, continually updating knowledge, and adopting new ways of thinking.

Conclusion

The session with Bidhya Chapagai underscored the significance of persistence, continuous learning, and innovative thinking in the journey to success. It served as an inspiration for participants to approach their endeavors with a determined mindset, constantly seeking to improve and adapt to new challenges.

Session 5:

Planned Initiation and Effective Implementation of Enterprising Culture and Business

The session on "Planned Initiation and Effective Implementation of Enterprising Culture and Business" was moderated by Professor and Businessman Mr. Niraj Khanal, with facilitation by Mr. Swagat Raj Pyakurel, President of the Makwanpur Industry and Commerce Association. Five young entrepreneurs, Prathana Shakha, Subas Sapkota, Suhrid Chapagain, Suresh Karki, and Noorani Dhungel, who are successful in various fields, participated as speakers.



Key Discussions and Conclusions

- **Opportunities and Challenges:** The session discussed the various opportunities and challenges faced by young entrepreneurs in Nepal. They highlighted the importance of overcoming political obstacles and utilizing resources effectively.
- **Importance of Vision:** The speakers emphasized that having a big and long-term vision is more critical than having a large amount of initial capital. They suggested that starting a business with a small investment but with a grand vision can lead to significant success.
- **Business Planning:** Participants were advised to focus on creating a comprehensive business plan that identifies the gap between market needs and available resources. Success, it was noted, hinges on the proper utilization of this plan.

Insights from Young Entrepreneurs

- **Prathana Shakha:** Shared insights on overcoming challenges and seizing opportunities in the business landscape.
- **Subas Sapkota:** Discussed strategies for successful business initiation and growth.
- **Suhrid Chapagain:** Shared experiences on navigating political and regulatory challenges in entrepreneurship.
- **Suyesh Karki:** Highlighted the importance of innovative thinking and adaptability in business.
- **Noorani Dhungel:** Provided insights on effective resource management and business sustainability.

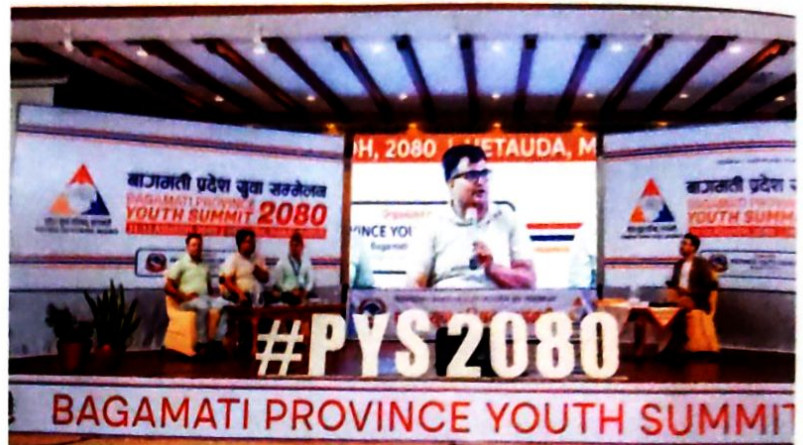
Conclusion

The session concluded that a strong vision, effective business planning, and innovative thinking are crucial for the successful initiation and implementation of entrepreneurial ventures. Participants were encouraged to focus on building a business that aligns with market needs and utilizes resources efficiently, rather than solely relying on initial capital.

Session 6:

Information Technology, Social Networking Usability, and Effectiveness Orientation

The session on "Information Technology, Social Networking Usability, and Effectiveness Orientation" was moderated by popular journalist Mr. Rupesh Shrestha, with legal practitioner Mr. Santosh Sigdel, Media Researcher Ujjwal Acharya and experts from the Cyber Crime Investigation Bureau of Nepal Police. The session



aimed to shed light on the nature of crimes committed through electronic and digital media, the legal system surrounding such crimes, prevention measures, and examples of such crimes. An open session was conducted for further discussion.

Key Discussions and Conclusions

- **Nature of Digital Crimes:** The session highlighted the various types of crimes that can occur in the digital sphere, including cyberbullying, hacking, identity theft, and online fraud.
- **Legal Framework:** Participants were informed about the legal framework governing digital crimes and the penalties associated with such offenses. The importance of understanding and adhering to cyber laws was emphasized.
- **Prevention Measures:** The session provided insights into preventive measures individuals can take to protect themselves from falling victim to digital crimes. This included using strong passwords, being cautious of phishing attempts, and staying informed about the latest cybersecurity threats.
- **Social Media Usage:** Participants were educated on the proper and safe use of social media platforms. The session emphasized the importance of privacy settings and being mindful of the information shared online.

Insights from Experts

- **Cyber Crime Investigation Bureau:** Shared real-life examples of digital crimes and discussed the challenges faced in investigating and prosecuting such offenses.

Conclusion

The session successfully increased participants' knowledge regarding digital crimes, the legal framework surrounding them, and preventive measures. It also highlighted the importance of responsible social media usage and staying informed about cybersecurity threats. Overall, the session aimed to empower participants to navigate the digital world safely and securely.

YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARD

On the occasion of the conclusion of the conference, the council recognized and awarded five outstanding young individuals who have made significant contributions in various fields. The recipients of the Youth of the Year Award were:



1. **Sujal Bam:** An artist with different abilities, recognized for his exceptional talent and creativity.
2. **Birkhe Anjan:** Hailing from Thaha Municipality of Makwanpur, honored for his contributions to language, culture, and literature.
3. **Abhay Pariyar:** Recognized for his innovative initiatives, particularly in the field of technology and entrepreneurship, from Chitwan.
4. **Amma Chori Achar Industry:** A successful entrepreneurial venture from Lalitpur, recognized for its innovation and impact in the local community.
5. **Anshu Karki:** Acknowledged for her remarkable contributions to social service, particularly in Lalitpur.

Honorable Chief Minister of Bagmati Province, Shalikram Jamkattel, presented each awardee with a certificate of completion and a cash prize of Rs. 25,000. These awards aim to celebrate and encourage the outstanding efforts and achievements of young individuals who are making a positive difference in their communities and beyond.

Achievements and Conclusions of the Conference

The Bagmati Province Youth Conference, held over two days, concluded with the issuance of the Hetauda Manifesto consisting of 11 points. The conference, led by the Provincial Youth Council, aimed to equip young individuals with the necessary knowledge, skills, and competence. The manifesto was handed over to Chief Minister Shalikram Jamkattel by Santosh Chaulagain, the executive vice president of the council. Chief Minister Jamkattel expressed his commitment to incorporating the issues outlined in the manifesto into the provincial government's policies and plans.

Key Points from the Manifesto:



1. **Empowering Youth for Employment:** Establish skill development training centers in 119 municipalities of 13 districts of Bagmati Province to connect youth with income generation.
2. **Youth Market Development:** Develop and implement the concept of a youth market to inform about youth-produced materials, employment opportunities, and related issues.
3. **Educational Curriculum Reform:** Create a curriculum that emphasizes moral development and teaches life skills, along with age-targeted skills and job programs.
4. **Youth Entrepreneurship:** Connect educational institutions with production by initiating a program in all 7031 public schools in the province to promote entrepreneurship.
5. **Youth Skills Development:** Teach life skills and formulate policies for age-targeted skills and jobs through the provincial youth council and relevant ministries.
6. **Youth-Friendly Business Environment:** Create a business-friendly environment for youth by ensuring easy access to loans, market assurance, and sustainable entrepreneurship.
7. **Volunteerism:** Encourage youth to work as volunteers for at least 3 months in their interest area after formal study to develop a sense of responsible citizenship.
8. **Youth Participation in Planning:** Ensure youth participation and involvement in development projects by making the planning process youth-friendly.
9. **Information Technology Literacy:** Conduct campaigns on safe and appropriate use of information technology and social media in all districts of the province.
10. **Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship:** Support youth innovation and entrepreneurship by simplifying legal processes and providing state support.
11. **Environmental Protection:** Increase youth participation in environmental protection by advocating for discussions on climate change and pollution.

Commitment to Implementation:

Minister of Social Development of Bagmati Province, Kumari Muktan, expressed full commitment to implementing the points of the manifesto, ensuring that the issues raised by the youth conference are addressed effectively. She highlighted the importance of organizing such conferences before the next financial year's budget is made to incorporate youth suggestions and advice.

Future Plans:

The conference emphasized the importance of developing a prosperous Nepal by empowering skilled youth. Chief Minister Jamkattel highlighted the government's focus on youth and sports, promising to work towards mobilizing youth in new and innovative ways for the overall development of the province. The conference concluded with a sense of optimism and determination to implement the manifesto's points for the benefit of the youth and the province as a whole.



District Youth Committee Presidents with Executive Vice President of the Province Youth Council, Bagmati Mr. Santosh Chaulagain