



HIV-AIDS Awareness on International Youth Day

Why in News?

On **International Youth Day (12th Aug 2025)**, the **Rajasthan State AIDS Control Society** organized a state-level program in Jaipur, launching an **intensified Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaign to promote [HIV-AIDS](#) awareness** among youth across the state.

International Youth Day (IYD)

- **Established by: UN General Assembly in 1999**
 - **Initial Proposal:** 1991 by young participants at World Youth Forum, Vienna
 - **Official Resolution:** World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, Lisbon (1998)
- **First Celebrated:** 12th August 2000
- **2025 Theme: "Local Youth Actions for the SDGs and Beyond"**
 - With over **65% of [SDG](#) targets linked to local governance**, youth engagement is a necessity.
- **Objectives:**
 - Draw attention to youth issues worldwide
 - Promote youth engagement in sustainable development
 - Celebrate youth contributions to society.

AIDS

- **[AIDS](#)** is a **chronic, life-threatening condition caused by Human Immunodeficiency Virus ([HIV](#))**, which attacks the immune system, **targeting CD4 cells** (white blood cells, vital for the immune system).
 - It spreads through **unprotected sex, infected blood, and sharing needles**.
 - While there is **no cure**, **antiretroviral therapy (ART)** can **suppress** the virus and help restore CD4 cells.
- The **[Global AIDS Update 2023](#)** highlights a **decline in new infections, aiming to eliminate AIDS by 2030**.
 - In India, over 2.5 million people live with HIV, with a 44% reduction in new infections since 2010.

National Youth Day

- India celebrates the **[National Youth Day](#)** on **12th January** every year on the occasion of **[Swami Vivekananda's](#) birth anniversary**.
 - Since 1984, the nation has marked the day by urging the youth **to live up to the values, principles and beliefs that Vivekananda embraced**.
 - **Swami Vivekananda's** born on **12th January 1863, Kolkata**.
- **Swami Vivekananda is considered one of the great Indian monks** who enlightened the **Western world about Hinduism**.
 - As a **disciple of [Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa](#)**, he pushed for national integration in colonial India and is credited with reviving Hinduism in the nation.

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/hiv-aids-awareness-on-international-youth-day>

