

HINDI DIWAS 2023, DATE, HISTORY, AND SIGNIFICANCE

Hindi Diwas 2023



The Hindi language holds a significant place globally and is often considered as a symbol of India's identity. It's not confined to India alone; Hindi is spoken in several other countries as well. Hindi plays a vital role in connecting the Indian diaspora across the world. Its influence and significance run deep. That's why Hindi Day is celebrated twice a year, once in January and again in September. India has designated a specific day to commemorate Hindi Diwas. Hindi Diwas is celebrated twice a year, the first in the month of January and the second in the month of September. A special day is fixed for Hindi Diwas in India. Here in this article candidates can get complete information on Hindi Diwas 2023.

Hindi Diwas 2023: Date

Hindi Diwas is celebrated twice a year. On a global scale, World Hindi Day is observed on 10th January. In India, we celebrate National Hindi Day on 14th September each year.

Hindi Diwas 2023: History

Hindi Diwas, also known as Hindi Day, is celebrated on the 14th of September every year. It was on this day in 1949 that Hindi was adopted as one of the official languages of India. The decision to make Hindi an official language was taken by the Constituent Assembly of India. This day is observed to commemorate the historic significance of adopting Hindi as the official language, and it celebrates the rich cultural and linguistic heritage of the Hindi language in India.

Hindi Diwas 2023: Significance

Hindi Diwas holds great significance in India as it celebrates the adoption of Hindi as the country's official language. This day serves as a reminder of India's linguistic diversity and the

importance of preserving and promoting Hindi, which is not only a language but also a significant part of the country's cultural identity.

By celebrating Hindi Diwas, India acknowledges the role of Hindi in unifying its diverse population and providing a means of communication across different regions. It also highlights the importance of promoting linguistic and cultural harmony in a multilingual country like India. Moreover, Hindi Diwas encourages people to learn and appreciate the Hindi language, fostering a sense of pride in their linguistic heritage. It serves as a platform for various cultural events, competitions, and programs aimed at promoting Hindi literature, art, and culture.

BHOJ WETLAND

Recently, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) ordered Madhya Pradesh government to stop the operation of cruise vessels as well as other motor-propelled boats in the Bhoj wetland.



About the Bhoj wetland:

- It consists of two contiguous **human-made reservoirs**, the upper and lower lakes, located in the city of Bhopal, **Madhya Pradesh**.
- The Upper lake is called **Bhojtal (Bada Talaab)** and the Lower Lake is known as **Chhota Talaab**.
- The lakes are very rich in biodiversity, particularly for **macrophytes, phytoplankton and zooplankton**.
- It has more than 15 kinds of fish and several vulnerable species, including turtles, amphibians and aquatic invertebrates.
- It was designated as **the Ramsar site** in 2002.

Key facts about the National Green Tribunal (NGT)

- The National Green Tribunal has been established under the **National Green Tribunal Act 2010**.
- New Delhi is the Principal Place of Sitting of the Tribunal, and Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai shall be the other four places of sitting of the Tribunal.

- NGT is mandated to make disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of the filing of the same.
- **Composition**
 - It comprises **the Chairperson**, the Judicial Members, and the Expert Members.
 - They shall hold office for **a term of 5 years** and are not eligible for reappointment.
 - The Chairperson is appointed by the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India (CJI).
 - A Selection Committee shall be formed by the central government to appoint the Judicial Members and Expert Members.
 - There are to be at least 10 and a maximum of 20 full-time Judicial members and Expert Members in the tribunal.

What is the Ramsar Convention?

- This convention was signed on 2nd February 1971 to **preserve the ecological character** of their **wetlands of international importance**.
- It is named after **Ramsar, the Iranian city** where the treaty was signed in 1971, and places chosen for conservation under it are given the tag 'Ramsar site'.

WHAT ARE RED FIRE ANTS?

The red fire ant, one of the world's most invasive species, has been recently found in Europe for the first time, according to a new study.



About Red Fire Ants:

- **Red imported fire ants**, commonly known as **fire ants**, are a species of **stinging ants native to South America**.
- **Scientific Name: Solenopsis invicta**
- They are **known for their aggressive behavior, painful stings**, and large colony sizes. The ant can **also damage crops and local ecosystems**.
- **Features:**
 - They are **reddish-brown to reddish-black in color**, with a **characteristic coppery head**.

- They are **small ants**, typically ranging from 1/8 to 1/4 inch (3-6 mm) in length.
- Their **bodies are segmented**, with a **distinct two-part thorax**.
- **Stinging Behavior:** They are **infamous for their painful stings**. They have a **potent venomous sting** that can **cause intense burning and itching sensations** in humans.
- **Colony Structure:**
 - Fire ant colonies are **organized and highly structured**. They consist of **thousands to hundreds of thousands of ants and multiple queens**.
 - Unlike many ant species that have a single queen, fire ant **colonies are polygynous, meaning they have multiple reproductive queens**.

WHAT IS THE eCOURTS PROJECT?

The Union Cabinet recently approved the third phase of the eCourts Projects with a budget allocation of ₹7,210 crore.



About the eCourts Project:

- The eCourts Project was conceptualised on the basis of the “National Policy and Action Plan for Implementation of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the Indian Judiciary – 2005” submitted by eCommittee, Supreme Court of India, with a vision to transform the Indian Judiciary by ICT enablement of Courts.
- E-committee is a body constituted by the Government of India in pursuance of a proposal received from the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India to constitute an eCommittee to assist him in formulating a National Policy on computerisation of the Indian Judiciary and advise on technological communication and management-related changes.
- It is a **Pan-India Project, monitored and funded by the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India for the District Courts across the country.**
- **The Project envisages:**
 - To provide efficient and **time-bound citizen-centric service delivery**.
 - To develop, **install and implement decision support systems in courts**.
 - To **automate the processes** to provide transparency in accessibility of information.

- To enhance **judicial productivity**, to make the **justice delivery system affordable**, accessible, cost-effective, predictable, reliable and transparent.
- The **Phase I** of eCourts was concluded in 2015, in which **14,249 Court sites** were computerised. Under **Phase II**, **18,735 District and Subordinate courts** have been computerised so far.

Major Initiatives Launched under the Project:

- **Case Information Software (CIS)** based on customised Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS) has been developed.
- **National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)** is a flagship project launched in 2015 for monitoring the pendency and disposal of cases in HCs and Subordinate Courts.
- **Virtual Courts** (as of July 2022, there are 20 Virtual Courts in 16 States/UTs) and using Video Conferencing.
- An **eFiling system** has been rolled out for the electronic filing of legal papers with advanced features like online submission of Vakalatnama, eSigning, online video recording of oath, etc.
- **eSewa Kendras:** To make justice delivery inclusive and to mitigate handicaps caused by digital divide, eSewa Kendras have been rolled out to provide e-filing services to lawyers and litigants.
- **National Service and Tracking of Electronic Processes (NSTEP)** has been developed for technology-enabled process serving and issuing of summons. It has currently been implemented in 28 HCs.
- **Secure, Scalable & Sugamya Website as a Service (S3WAAS) Website:** A new divyang-friendly website in 13 regional languages to enable them to access the information using assistive technologies.
- **IEC and Training:** As part of the IEC campaign, several initiatives have been taken to educate the Judicial Officers, lawyers and public about the facilities available.

Phase III:

- The Phase III of the **centrally sponsored project – to be implemented over four years – will see the digitisation of entire court records**, both legacy and pending cases, at an estimated cost of **₹2,038.40 crore**.

- It seeks to spruce up the digital infrastructure of courts by **setting up 2500 new modern, virtual-friendly courts**, establishment of **1150 virtual courts**, and **4,400 eSewa kendras in all court complexes**.
 - Around **3,108 crore documents will be digitised** as part of the project.
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INDIA'S SUPPLY CHAIN OPPORTUNITY

Why in News?

- The announcement at the G20 Leaders' Summit on the landmark India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) has the potential to make India an Asian hub in global supply chains.
- This is significant amid the efforts to cut dependence on China-centric global supply chains.

What are Supply Chains?

- A **supply chain includes** every step (beginning with the producers of the raw materials) that is involved in getting a finished product or service to the customer.
- It refers to the **geographical location of stages of production** (design, production, assembly, marketing, service activities) **in a cost-effective manner**.
- **Global supply chains** have been the leading model of industrial production since the 1980s, **influencing the pace and nature of globalisation and regionalisation**.
- Global supply chains **can be found in a wide range of simple** (textiles and clothing, food processing and consumer goods, etc.) and **complex industries** (e.g., automotives, aircraft, machinery, electronics and pharmaceuticals).

Why are Global Supply Chains Moving from China?

- Today, **China is a major actor in global value chains**, accounting for nearly **20% of global manufacturing trade** and an even greater share of many intermediate global value chain inputs that are essential for production.
- However, even before the Covid-19 pandemic, **Western firms had begun to reduce their reliance on China** and its popularity as a sourcing market among Western buyers was diminishing.

- The trend was attributable in part to **rising wages and supply chain bottlenecks within China**, and investor concerns about **tighter regulation of foreign firms**.
- Also, the **country's trade war** with the US is forcing multinational companies to rethink their global sourcing strategies.
- **Some production stages in Chinese supply chains**, particularly the labour-intensive ones, **were moving to lower-cost locations**.
- However, **what makes it difficult to relocate all production from China** is that it is costly to shift supply chains because new plants need to be set up, and workers need to be hired and trained, etc.

Conclusion:

- **India has a historic opportunity to promote industrialisation in South Asia**, which would stabilise the region, increase jobs, and make it less vulnerable to Chinese enticements.
- The Indian government **should consider following policy initiatives to promote regional supply chains** -
 - Upscaling the Make in India Programme into a **Make in South Asia Programme**,
 - Concluding a comprehensive bilateral FTA with Bangladesh, and
 - Upgrading the Indo-Sri Lanka FTA to support regional rules-based trade and investment.
- Unless India creates channels for South Asia, it has no offer for the **Global South**. The fresh supply chains opening up with the US are good for India to start its global integration journey, **Neighbourhood First**.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATION POLO

Why in news?

- India celebrated the 75th anniversary of Operation Polo on September 13, 2023.
- On this day in 1948, Indian Army launched military action to integrate the princely state of Hyderabad.

What was the background against which Operation Polo was launched?

- **Intentions of Nizam of Hyderabad state**

- The Nizam of Hyderabad state, Mir Osman Ali Shah, had the intention of keeping his state as an independent entity and did not join India or Pakistan after Independence.
- The Nizam took advantage of the fact that the Indian government got preoccupied with the Kashmir war soon after Independence.
- **Standstill agreement with India**
- The Nizam signed a standstill agreement with India in November 1947.
- This essentially meant that a status quo would be maintained between the Indian dominion and the Hyderabad state till a solution was found.
- The agreement was signed for a period of one year during which the Indian government would not exercise any authority over Hyderabad.

Why was Operation Polo launched?

- **Location of Hyderabad**
- Situated in the Deccan, Hyderabad was one of the most populous and richest states.
- It had 17 districts including Aurangabad (now in Maharashtra) and Gulbarga (now in Karnataka).
- **Intention to have fraternal relations with Pakistan**
- The landlocked state had a majority Hindu population with the state administration almost entirely run by its Muslim rulers.
- There was no common border with Pakistan but the Nizam had every intention to have fraternal relations with that country.
- **Excesses of the Razakars**
- During this period, the Nizam's administration had taken advantage of the standstill agreement signed with India.
- It started to increase the number of its irregular force called Razakars which was led by Maj Gen SA El Edroos, the Arab commander in chief of the Hyderabad state forces.
- The Razakars were a paramilitary force in the Hyderabad State. It was created to support the Nizam's rule.
- It also resisted the integration of Hyderabad into the newly independent India.

- The Razakars primarily consisted of local radical Muslim volunteers who were loyal to the Nizam's regime.
- The Razakars persecuted Hindus and forced them to become Muslims.
- They killed many Hindus and Hindu sympathizers, forcing them to flee the state. They also raped women.

Operation Polo on the ground

- The Indian forces were led by Maj Gen Jayanto Nath Chaudhuri, the General Officer Commanding of 1 Armoured Division.
 - The Nizam of Hyderabad announced a ceasefire on September 17.
 - On September 18, Maj Gen Chaudhuri entered Hyderabad city with his forces and Maj Gen El Edroos surrendered to him.
 - Maj Gen Chaudhuri was later appointed the Military Governor of Hyderabad.
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