

World Hindi Day, 2022

January 13, 2022

In news– World Hindi Day is celebrated every year on January 10.

About World Hindi Day-

- The day is observed to **commemorate the anniversary of the first World Hindi Conference held in Nagpur on January 10, 1975.**
- The conference was inaugurated by the then Prime minister Indira Gandhi.
- The aim of the conference was to promote the Hindi language worldwide.
- The day is observed in India from the year 2003.
- The **Ministry of External Affairs began the tradition of celebrating World Hindi Day** in other nations in 2006 with an aim to promote this language across the world.

Note: The National Hindi Diwas is celebrated on September 14.

About Hindi language-

- The **word Hindi originated from the Persian word Hind,** meaning the land of the Indus River.
- Literary Hindi, **written in the Devanagari script,** has been strongly influenced by Sanskrit.
- **Its standard form is based on the Khari Boli dialect, found to the north and east of Delhi.**
- The language has other variants as well, like Awadhi, Braj and Khadi Boli.
- It is one of the 22 scheduled languages of the Republic of India.
- However, India has two official languages: English and Hindi.
- In 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India had recognised and adopted Hindi, an Indo-Aryan language written in the Devanagari script as the official

language of the country.

- According to the 2011 census, in India, there are roughly about 43.6 percent speakers, who identify Hindi as their mother tongue.
- Apart from India, the language is also spoken in Nepal, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname, Fiji, and Mauritius.
- As a linguistic variety, Hindi is the fourth most-spoken first language in the world, after Mandarin, Spanish and English.

Constitutional provisions related to Hindi

- **Article 343-** It mentions that the official language of the Union shall be Hindi in Devanagari script. The form of numerals to be used for the official purposes of the Union shall be the international form of Indian numerals.
- **Article 344 provides for a** Commission and Committee of Parliament on official language.
- It says that President shall, at the expiration of five years from the commencement of the Constitution and thereafter at the expiration of ten years from such commencement, by order constitute a Commission which shall consist of a Chairman and such other members representing the different languages specified in the 8th Schedule as the President may appoint, and the order shall define the procedure to be followed by the Commission.
- **Article 351** says that it shall be the duty of the Union to promote the spread of the Hindi language.