

World Sanskrit Day

August 25, 2021

In news- World Sanskrit day was celebrated on August 22nd this year.

About World Sanskrit day-

- World Sanskrit Day was **celebrated for the first time in the year 1969** after the Union ministry of education issued notifications to state and central governments.
- According to the Hindu calendar, on **every Poornima of Shravana month**, Sanskrit day is observed.
- The day **also marks the holy festival of Raksha Bandhan**.
- The Sanskrit organisation **Sanskrita Bharati is involved in promoting the day**.
- On this occasion, Sanskrit Kavi Sammelan, writer's seminar, students' speeches and verse recitation competition etc. are organized, through which Sanskrit students, poets and writers get a proper platform.

About Sanskrit language-

- Sanskrit is believed to be an **Indo-Aryan** language, which is said to have originated around 3500 years ago.
- However, in the scriptures, the Sanskrit language is thought to have originated in the second millennium BCE, when the Rig Veda was composed.
- Being the first spoken and oldest language, Sanskrit holds significance in the ancient history of India.
- It is also considered as the Dev Vani which translates to the **'language of Gods'**.
- It is made of the words sám, meaning together, good, well, perfected, and kṛta, meaning made, formed and work.
- The Sanskrit language was declared as the **second official language of Uttarakhand**.
- The Sanskrit language has the largest vocabulary of

about 102 arab 78 crores 50 lakh words.

Mattur Sanskrit village

Mattur is a village in Shimoga district near the city of Shivamogga in **Karnataka** state, India, known for the usage of Sanskrit for day-to-day communication, although the general language of the state is Kannada.

Sanskrit language during British rule in India

- **Sir William Jones**, an English scholar, arrived in India in 1783 as a judge of the British Supreme Court in Calcutta.
- In 1784 he founded the **Asiatic Society of Bengal** to encourage Oriental studies.
- **He translated the Sanskrit author Kalidasa's Abhijnana Shakuntala and Ritu Samhara** as well as Jayadeva's Gita Govinda into English.
- He also translated Manusmriti into English.