



## Hindi Diwas

---

 [drishtiias.com/printpdf/hindi-diwas](https://drishtiias.com/printpdf/hindi-diwas)

### Why in News

---

Every year, **14<sup>th</sup> September** is celebrated as Hindi Diwas in India.

### Key Points

---

- **National Hindi Day:**
  - **Hindi**, written in the **Devanagari script**, was adopted as the **official language** of the Republic of India on **14<sup>th</sup> September, 1949**.  
**Kaka Kalelkar**, Maithili Sharan Gupta, Hazari Prasad Dwivedi, Seth Govindadas made important contributions to make Hindi the official language.
  - Besides Hindi, English is the other **official language (Article 343)** of the Constitution).
  - Hindi is also an **eighth schedule language**.
  - **Article 351** pertains to '**Directive for development of the Hindi language**'.
- **World Hindi Day:** It is observed on **10<sup>th</sup> January**.
  - The Day commemorates the **anniversary of the first World Hindi Conference** held in **Nagpur on 10<sup>th</sup> January, 1975**, which saw 122 delegates from 30 countries participating in it.
  - It was **first celebrated in 2006** by former Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh with an aim to promote Hindi language across the world.
  - The **World Hindi Secretariat** building was inaugurated in **Mauritius** in 2018.

- **About the Hindi Language:**
  - **Origin:**
    - Hindi got its name from the **Persian word Hind**, meaning 'land of the Indus River'. Turkish invaders in the early **11<sup>th</sup> century** named the language of the region Hindi, 'language of the land of the Indus River'.
    - The **modern Devanagari script** came into existence in the **11<sup>th</sup> century**.
  - **Spoken in Countries outside India:** Hindi is the **fifth most spoken language** among the total languages spoken in the world.

It is spoken in Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, USA, UK, Germany, New Zealand, United Arab Emirates, Uganda, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad, Mauritius, and South Africa.
- **Government Initiatives to Promote Hindi:**
  - The **Central Hindi Directorate** was established in 1960 by the Government of India under the Ministry of Education.
  - **Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR)** has established '**Hindi Chairs**' in various foreign universities/institutions abroad.
  - **LILA-Rajbhasha (Learn Indian Languages through Artificial Intelligence)** is a multimedia based intelligent self-tutoring application for learning Hindi.
  - **E-Saral Hindi Vakya Kosh** and **E-Maha Shabda Kosh Mobile App**, both initiatives of the Department of Official Language, aim to harness information technology for the growth of Hindi.
  - **Rajbhasha Gaurav Puraskar** and **Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar** recognise contributions to Hindi.

**Source: PIB**