



World Humanitarian Day

Why in News?

On August 19th, **World Humanitarian Day** is observed to recognize the dedicated efforts of those who risk their lives to assist others in times of crisis. It also serves as a day to show support for the millions of people whose lives are endangered due to **conflict and disasters**.

Key Points

- **About:** World Humanitarian Day, led by the **United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)**, advocates for the well-being, dignity, and survival of people affected by crises, as well as the safety of humanitarian workers.
- **History:** On 19th August 2003, a bomb attack on the **Canal Hotel in Baghdad** killed **22 humanitarian aid workers**, including **Sergio Vieira de Mello**, the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq.
 - In his honor, the [United Nations General Assembly](#) adopted a resolution to designate this day as **World Humanitarian Day (WHD)**.
- **Theme:** This year's theme calls for ending attacks on humanitarians and civilians and ending impunity under International Humanitarian Law, urging those in power to **#ActForHumanity**.
 - The **#ActForHumanity** campaign with a call for:
 - **Protection** of humanitarian workers and the civilians they serve
 - **Upholding international humanitarian law**
 - **Funding** the vital lifelines that humanitarian aid provides

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