



Hindi Diwas

Why in News?

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath extended greetings on Hindi Diwas, emphasizing **Hindi as a symbol of unity**, culture, and identity.

Key Points

▪ About:

- Hindi Diwas commemorates the Constituent Assembly's 1949 decision designating Hindi in the **Devanagari script** as the official language of the Union of India.
- This decision was shaped by the Munshi-Ayyangar formula, which led to [Article 343](#) adopting Hindi while allowing English to continue for official purposes for 15 years.
- After the 15-year period ended, protests against Hindi imposition resulted in the [Official Languages Act, 1963](#), which ensured English continued as an official language alongside Hindi.

▪ Constitutional Status:

- Hindi is listed in the [8th Schedule](#), which includes 22 languages recognized for official use.
 - The language is named after the **Persian word 'Hind'**, meaning 'land of the Indus River', and is a descendant of Sanskrit.
- **Article 210 states that the language to be used in the legislature can be the official language of the state, Hindi, or English.**
- [Article 351](#) states that it shall be the **duty of the Union to promote the spread of the Hindi language**, to develop it so that it may serve as a medium of expression for all the elements of the composite culture of India.

- **Significance: Hindi**, with over **600 million speakers**, is the third most spoken language globally, and the **most spoken language in India**.

Note: [Vishwa Hindi Divas](#) or **World Hindi Day** is celebrated annually on 10th **January** to expand **Hindi's presence** on the international stage. This date commemorates the historic moment in **1949**, when Hindi was first spoken at the [United Nations General Assembly \(UNGA\)](#).