

**Permanent Mission of India
New York**

Hindi Diwas - हिंदी दिवस (Hindi Day) - Concept Note

India is home to a wide range of dialects and languages each with their own regional flavour. Post independence, Hindi with its large base of native speakers, together with English, has become the official language of India. To commemorate this recognition, the Govt of India declared 14 September as Hindi Day. This is a celebration of Hindi's cultural and linguistic significance, and its role in national unity and identity. The event is associated with cultural and literary programmes. September being a busy schedule month, PMI plans to organise this on 22 November 2024 during a high level visit by Hon'ble Members of Parliament of India.

On a global scale, Hindi is one of the three most widely spoken languages and is taught in educational institutions, including in the United States. With the advent of technology, learning has come to the door-steps and the Indian diaspora is particularly keen to get their children learn Hindi. The traditional links between India and the Diaspora States are enduring primarily due to the language connection.

In the comity of nations, India has played an active role in promoting multilingualism; each year, over 200 students from 35 countries undertake scholarship studies at Central Hindi Institute, Agra. The World Hindi Secretariat was established in Mauritius to revive and reinvigorate the language connection with the African State. To reflect the spirit at the UN, India has co-sponsored the Resolution on Multilingualism which was renewed and adopted on 06 September 2024.

India has signed an Agreement to voluntarily contribute funds to the [Hindi@UN](#) Project in order that the Indian diaspora worldwide has uninterrupted access to UN news in Hindi. So far, India has contributed USD 6.4M to the said project which goes to consolidate the effort in popularization of Hindi in the UN channels.

For the first time, the Hindi Diwas is being organised in the UN premises. This provides an impetus to our collaborative effort of promoting multilingualism with the UN. Given our multilingual and pluralistic character of society, which coincides with the United Nations, holding the event in the UN also serves the purpose to connect with

the wider audience, to achieve a higher scale of participation, including those from the Hindi-speaking Diaspora Missions such as Trinidad & Tobago, Fiji, Mauritius, Guyana, Suriname etc.

A draft agenda of the event is attached. The event encourages participation by Hindi-enthusiasts/ Diaspora members / Officials & family members of the UN /PMI/ CGI, in four categories of competition viz.

- i) Essay competition on the theme of **Women Empowerment** (महिला सशक्तिकरण)
- ii) Poetry on the **importance of Hindi**,
- iii) Recital / singing of **Hindi poems/songs** and
- iv) Quiz on **India's Civilization**.

Dissemination of the event will be done via website / social media channels of the Mission, and the [Hindi@UN](#) Team. The competition will be held prior to the event, in an electronic format (email / uploading video clips etc). A jury comprising native Hindi-speaking (one male and one female) officers of PMI will screen the incoming applications. Three winners in each category will be chosen by the Jury, and will be announced ahead of the event.

On the Hindi Diwas event, PR of India will distribute the prizes to winners in all categories. Other invited guests will be requested to make short speeches.

Light refreshments will be served.

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**Hindi Diwas / Hindi Day Programme
[followed by Lunch/Refreshments]**

1315-1430 hrs Friday 22 November 2024 CR-8, UNHQ

Time duration	Particulars / Speaker	
3 minutes	Welcome remarks by PR H.E. Amb Parvathaneni Harish	
5 min	Hon'ble MP to address the audience	
3 min	Director, UN Dept of Global Comm Mr. Ian Phillips,	
15 min	PRs of Hindi speaking / Diaspora centric Missions	
15 min	Distribution of prizes [total 12 prizes]	PR & one Hon'ble MP each to distribute prizes for winners in four categories viz Essay, Poetry, Recital and Quiz; and Photo-Opportunity
2 min	Vote of Thanks	Rentala Srinivas, Second Secretary PMI
30 min	Reception	Vienna Cafe, Near CR-8

Master of Ceremony: Mr. Anoop Bhargava