



# WORLD INFORMO

A USO MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SINCE 1958  
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Connecting schools nationally for 60+ years!

## Summer Is Here!

BY NINA JAIN, SECRETARY GENERAL - USO

Although it is just the month of May, I am sure you will agree that this time around, the weather has indeed changed. It is getting hotter, and temperatures in some parts of India are as high as 47-48 degrees. Climate change is indeed real, and if we don't take precautions to protect the environment, it shall be detrimental for future generations.

Here at USO, we are gearing up with planning for activities for 2022-2023. Our Membership for schools is now open, and we shall have activities that are being planned specifically for Member Schools. Hence, I would encourage all schools to take USO membership.

Schools in some parts of India are closing for summer vacations, while others are still open. Whatever be the case, I am sure all the schools, teachers and students are more connected now than they had been pre-COVID times. Keeping this mind we have launched Science 101 - a series of 12 webinars conducted for students of Std. 8, 9, 10 on the last Friday of every month, aimed to peak their curiosity in science.

Also being launched is our very successful cartoon competition - ABC2: Any Body Can Cartoon. Details shall be out soon, so stay tuned.

Stay cool!

### USO May Highlights

FELICITATION CEREMONY  
PRIZE WINNERS - NATIONAL  
SCIENCE PAINTING  
COMPETITION FOR  
SPECIALLY ABLED CHILDREN

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

USO GENERAL  
CONFERENCE AND  
SCHOOLS FESTIVAL AND  
USO NATIONAL ONLINE  
TESTS DETAILS

ARTICLES FROM SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL AND STUDENT ON  
WATER CONSERVATION

USO in collaboration with UNESCO - New Delhi and CSIR-NIScPR had organised the National Science Painting Competition for Specially-Abled children. All winners were informed and prizes already sent to all the winners. A felicitation ceremony was organised on April 14, 2022 for prize winning students from Delhi-NCR schools at USO House.

Mr. K. V. S. Rao, former Director, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, GoI was the Chief Guest. The event was attended by nearly 65 students, teachers, and parents. Our valued partners: Ms. Neha Midha - UNESCO-New Delhi and Mr. C. B. Singh - CSIR-NIScPR were also present.

## **- FELICITATION CEREMONY - NATIONAL SCIENCE PAINTING COMPETITION FOR SPECIALLY ABLED CHILDREN**



*LEFT: Mr. K. V. S. Rao, addressing the winners, students and teachers*

*RIGHT: A winner being awarded his medal (L to R) Mr. K. V. S. Rao, Ms. Neha Midha, Mr. C. B. Singh, Ms. Nina Jain*



*LEFT: Group photo of the attendees*

*RIGHT: Ms. Nina Jain welcoming Mr. C. B. Singh*

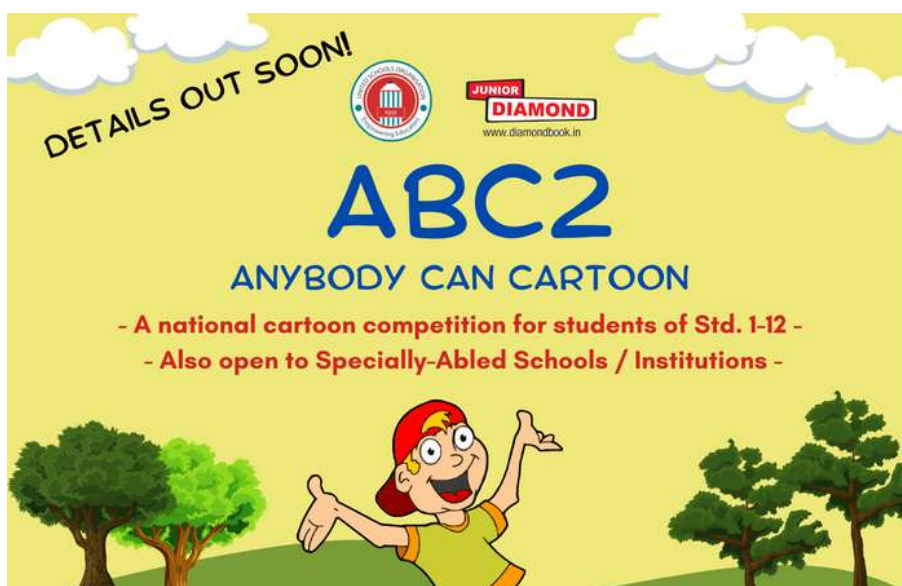
## CURRENT ACTIVITIES



USO in collaboration with CSIR-NIScPR is conducting a series of 12 monthly webinars on 'ALL THINGS SCIENCE'. The webinars are aimed for students of Std. 8, 9, 10 on the last Friday of every month from 4-5 pm.

The first webinar, held on April 29, 2022 at 4pm was titled Opportunities: Science, Technology & Innovation and was chaired by Dr. Ramjee Pallela, COO of Atal Incubation Centre. Microsoft Teams Meeting Link was shared for teachers to join; and YouTube Live Link was shared for students to join.

A quiz was shared with teachers to conduct with their school students. The students shall receive a Participation E-Certificate upon attending and completing the webinar series.



We are excited to partner again with Junior Diamond and bring ABC2 - Any Body Can Cartoon Competition for all schools - including schools that cater to the needs of specially-abled children. Rules, regulations, registration forms, topics, categories and all other details out soon!



## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

### 60th GENERAL CONFERENCE & ALL-INDIA SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

The General Conference & All-India Schools Festival - a USO flagship event - conducted in a different city each time, is attended by 300+ teachers and students nationally. This 4-day event, held every 2 years, has 2 parts - the Schools Festival and the Conference. Students compete with other schools and competitions such as On-the-Spot Painting, Declamation, One-Act Play, Group Dance etc. are held. The Conference sees students split into various commissions and deliberate on topics of current and global concern. A Peace March, Life Skills Workshop, conclude the event. During these 4-days, all the delegates stay in the same place, eat the same food, make long-lasting friendships with students from other states, and learn a great deal in the process.

We shall be organising the 60th General Conference this year in Chennai. Final details are being worked upon, and we shall share as soon as they are firm. Back after a hiatus of 3 years due to COVID, we are truly looking forward to organising it this year.

### USO NATIONAL ONLINE TESTS

We are pleased to bring our national tests to schools again. Registration shall open in the coming months. All students shall be

#### STD. 1- 3

**Mental Math**  
**OCTOBER 2022**

**Mini GK**  
**NOVEMBER 2022**

**Mini IT**  
**DECEMBER 2022**

#### STD. 4-12

**65th UN**  
**OCTOBER 2022**

**72nd GK**  
**NOVEMBER 2022**

**6th IT**  
**DECEMBER 2022**



Shaurya International School, SBS Nagar, Punjab is a USO Member School. This article has been sent to the National Mission for Clean Ganga, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India (to publish in their newsletter) due to the efforts of Mrs. Vijay Sohal in increasing awareness about water scarcity, its conservation and much more to students of her school.



**Water - The Essence of Life**  
by  
**Mrs. Vijay Sohal, Principal**  
**Shaurya International School**  
**SBS Nagar, Punjab**

History stands witness to India's strong tradition to water harvesting techniques from nearby ponds, streams, rivers and sub-surface water.

In the water stressed times, the solitary option is to rejuvenate these techniques and mandatory initiative to sequential water use-reuse, recovery and recycling of waste waters, through prudent use and sustainable development goals.

The students of Eco-Club of Shaurya International School, participated in water awareness programmes to learn the challenges of water scarcity and how modern techniques clubbed with age-old water harvesting techniques can save earth from weather patterns. They further learnt to implement wise water use pattern in day-to-day activities.



**Students of Shaurya International School with their paintings on water**



**R.M.K. Senior Secondary School, Chennai, Tamil Nadu is a USO Member School. This article has been sent to the National Mission for Clean Ganga, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India (to publish in their newsletter) as the students share their unique perspective.**



**RIVER REJUVENATION**  
by  
**K.M. Sudeepti**  
**R.M.K. Senior Secondary School,**  
**Chennai, Tamil Nadu**  
**Std. VI**

We use rivers for irrigation in agriculture, for drinking water, for transportation, to produce electricity through hydroelectric dams, and for leisure activities like swimming and boating. We humans obstruct the rivers by doing these activities. There are number of rivers which are polluted and dried due to human use. Rivers in the country are polluted mainly due to discharge of untreated sewage from cities and industrial toxic wastes, lack of dilution, dumping of solid waste on river banks.

Rivers Yamuna, Ganges, Gomti, Ghaghara, Chambal, Mahi, Vardha and Godavari, are amongst the other most bacteria polluted water bodies in India. The Damodar River, Yamuna River, Ganges River are the most three polluted rivers in India. The main causes of water pollution in the Ganges River are the disposal of human sewage and animal waste, increasing population density, and disposal of industrial waste into the river.

To protect River Ganges, Mr. Rajiv Ranjan Mishra (former Director-General, National Mission for Clean Ganga,, Ministry of Jal Shakti, GoI) said the steps taken to improve the water quality include abatement and control of source pollution by establishment or upgradation of wastewater treatment plants for the towns located on Ganges main stem and its tributaries, construction of crematoria, surface cleaning activities, solid waste management on the banks. Thus the Ganges is now less polluted.

The first step taken to protect the Yamuna was to control the discharge of raw sewage into the river. Alarmed at the rate at which the Yamuna was deteriorating, the Supreme Court banned industries in Delhi and Haryana from discharging effluents into the river and all drains leading to the river. Thus, reducing some amount of pollution.

Don't throw any solid waste into the water streams as it clogs the flow of water thereby leading to pollution. Avoid releasing construction waste into the river. Use organic gardening techniques and avoid using pesticides and other herbicides. Avoid releasing harmful chemicals and oils into storm drains or rivers.