



# WORLD INFORMO

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

## Last edition of 2022!

BY NINA JAIN, SECRETARY GENERAL - USO

It is the last month of 2022, and it seems like only yesterday that we were welcoming in 2022! As another year draws to a close, I truly hope that each of us has had a better year this year. COVID is now well behind us, and I am certain that things have returned back to normal for all of us.

Here at USO, we are busy with our various programs. DhanGyan for Schools is now ongoing for our member schools. Students of Std. 8-12 can learn about the basics of financial literacy via online modules, expert series webinars, online tests and finally a project. The final winners shall be invited for an in-person presentation and felicitation event. There is no registration fee for USO Member Schools or the students from USO Member Schools who wish to register. Details are on the following pages.

The test team is very busy evaluating the results of the USO National Tests. 2022 was our first year of introducing the OMR Answer Sheets, but with the test now becoming standardized, it is much easier and faster to evaluate the answer sheets. We are now in the process of preparing the certificates and medals which we intend to dispatch in January 2023.

I am also very excited to inform you all about our calendars for 2023, which showcase the paintings of the prize winners from our last painting competition - the National Children's Science Painting Competition for Specially-Abled Students. These have been sent to our Member Schools, the prize winners, and various partners.

The last few pages you shall read about 2022...at a glance. These pages go over the many firsts in 2022. While some are scientific discoveries, others are discoveries relating to our universe, the ones that I was very proud to read about were about Gender Equality. Having adopted the theme for 2022 - 2023, it is great to see the development on this front as well.

See you in the next year!!!

## USO December Highlights

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DHANGYAN FOR SCHOOLS:  
FINANCIAL LITERACY  
PROGRAM FOR USO  
MEMBER SCHOOLS

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AN OVERVIEW OF THE  
USO NATIONAL TESTS

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ARTICLE FROM LAYOLA  
SCHOOL, KERALA

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2022 AT A GLANCE...  
LIST OF FIRSTS

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# DhanGyan for Schools

A free financial literacy program for students of Std. 8-12 from USO Member Schools. Learn the basics of financial management through online modules, expert series webinars, online tests and projects culminating with in-person felicitation of winners.

## Registration

USO Member Schools may register for the program by filling out the online form. Scan the QR code to fill the form, which requires preliminary information. Subsequently, a confirmation email shall be sent along with the student template.



## Online Modules

We shall create login IDs for all students which teachers will share with students. Each student is required to complete 5 online modules - Smart Goals, Budgeting, Insurance, Investments and Banking. The modules are interactive with frequent knowledge checks and can be completed in English and Hindi. The content has been created in a simple and easy-to-understand manner.

## Expert Series Webinars & Online Test

Webinars shall be chaired by high-ranking officials from Tata Capital, who shall be speaking to the students about the topics in the online modules. These webinars shall be conducted on Jan 16, 17, 18, 19, 2023. The online test shall be conducted on January 26, 2023.

## Special Project & Felicitation

The top scorer from each school shall be invited to complete a special project. The in-person felicitation ceremony shall be held with formal presentation by short-listed students.



United Schools Organisation of India logo, idobro logo, TATA CAPITAL Financial Literacy logo.

### DhanGyan for Schools

LEARN THE BASICS OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

ONLINE MODULES    EXPERT WEBINARS    ONLINE TEST

DETAILS TO BE RELEASED ON DEC 5



UNITED SCHOOLS ORGANISATION OF INDIA  
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(011) 4106-8486 / 4165-1103 Mbl: 98100-46619

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### DhanGyan for Schools

ONLINE MODULES, WEBINARS, AND ONLINE TESTS FOR STUDENTS OF STD. 8-12 FROM USO MEMBER SCHOOLS. TOPICS COVERED:



01 SMART GOALS  
02 BUDGETING  
03 INSURANCE  
04 INVESTMENTS  
05 BANKING

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USO is the pioneering organisation to conduct extra-curricular tests nationally. This year USO celebrated **72 years** of conducting tests for students nationally. More than 3.5 Million+ students have participated in our various tests.

Our national tests are geared toward school students of Std. 1-12. All students are provided practice tests/study materials/sample question papers to aid with the preparation of the test. This year we introduced OMR answer sheets.



## USO NATIONAL TESTS OVERVIEW

The following **national** tests were conducted during the month of November:

### For Std. 1, 2, 3:

- Mental Math
- Mini GK Test
- Mini IT Test

### For Std. 4 - 12:

- 65th UN Information Test
- 72rd General Knowledge Test
- 6th IT Test

### Categories:

All school students were divided into various categories based on their standards as:

- Std. 1, 2, 3 : Sub-Junior category
- Std. 4, 5, 6 : Junior category
- Std. 7, 8, 9 : Pre-Senior category
- Std. 10, 11, 12 : Senior category

### Accolades:

All successful students with scores of 33% and above shall be awarded a Certificate of Participation, and those scoring 90% shall be awarded a Certificate of Merit and medal. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd national prize winners shall be awarded a Certificate of Excellence, medal and USO goodies.

### Fees:

The fee per test per student was Rs. 175. Schools could retain Rs. 25 to cover test-related expenses.

### Answer Sheets:

This year, we introduced OMR Answer Sheets for students of all standards. The main purpose of implementing OMR methodology was so students get the needed practice for their various other tests.

### Assessment & Evaluation:

Currently, we are evaluating the answer sheets that were received from all schools. Some schools with prior intimation conducted the test a few days earlier/later. Due to this, there was a slight delay in the result evaluation. We ensured post each evaluation that it was double-checked so that the marks of the students were not comprised as we are using technology.

### Results:

The results of the 65th National UN Information Test have been sent to schools. We are presently evaluating the results of the Mini GK Test; the 72nd General Knowledge Test; the Mini IT Test; and the 6th IT Test.

We hope to send the results to the schools in early January 2023. The certificates and medals shall be sent to the schools accordingly.

It was wonderful to welcome several new schools for our tests this time. We hope that more schools are able to take advantage of our national tests the next year.

Loyala School, Kozhikode, Kerala is a USO Member School, and is an active participant in all USO activities. This article has been written by the Principal of the school on a recent cleaning activity undertaken by the school students and teachers.



## CLEANING CAMPAIGN

by  
**Fr. Ramlat Thomas SJ,**  
**Principal,**  
**Loyola School**  
**Kerala**

Students and staff of Loyola School were involved in a cleaning campaign at the beach area. The amount of waste coming out from individuals and groups has multiplied manifold. There is no place to deposit waste material. The new 'use-and-throw' culture becomes a burden to the earth. The overpopulation of cities has to be controlled.

A sustainable environment is a dream of all human societies today. A place to live peacefully with healthy sanitary conditions, fresh air, clean water, green trees and rivers etc. is longed for by all. Healthy living conditions demand unpolluted air and water. In schools, we need to take steps to train students who would be interested to preserve the environment. Avoid littering, reduce plastics, grow plants and trees and create a better earth for the next generation. Protection of the earth and a practical study of the environment has to become a part of the curriculum in the education system. Let us strive for that.



2022 was the first year when all countries lifted COVID-19 restrictions and things around us began to normalize. In tandem, several world events also took place and 2022 became the year of '1st' for many such things. Here is the list of the top 12 things that happened for the first time in 2022.

## 2022 AT A GLANCE 12 events that happened for the first time

### Microplastics were detected in human blood



A study published in *Environment International* found microplastics in human blood. Polyethylene terephthalate — a polymer used in water bottles and food packaging — was found in the bloodstream of participants.

### An ice shelf collapses in East Antarctica



The 450-square mile stretch of the Conger ice shelf collapsed in eastern Antarctica. Occurring sooner than expected, the collapse took place in a part of the continent considered less prone to climate change.

### Largest bacteria discovered



Upto two centimetres long, this bacteria named *Thiomargarita Magnifica* bacterium is nearly 5,000 times bigger than others and boasts of a more complex structure. This is the first bacteria that can be seen with the naked eye.

### South Korea launches a satellite



South Korea's first homemade space rocket, Nuri, launched from the Naro Space Center in the southern coastal village of Goheung. South Korea aims to land a spacecraft on the moon by 2030.

### Women referee at men's World Cup



Stéphanie Frappart of France was the lead referee at a men's World Cup match between Costa Rica and Germany in Qatar, with an all-woman referee team: Ms. Neuza Back of Brazil and Ms. Karen Diaz Medina of Mexico.

### Women appointed to Vatican high-level positions



Sister Raffaella Petrini, an Italian nun is the first woman to be appointed to the No. 2 position in the governorship of Vatican City. Three women were also appointed to a Committee that advise Pope Francis on candidates for bishops.



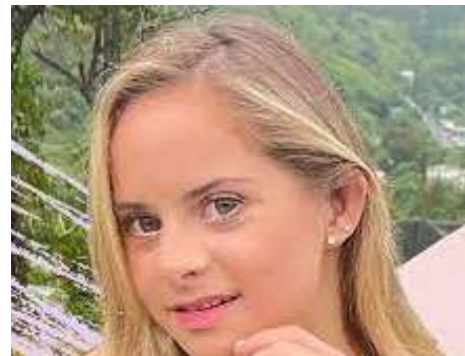
## These events in 2022 promoted SDG 5: Gender Equality

### First female advisor to grand Imam in Egypt



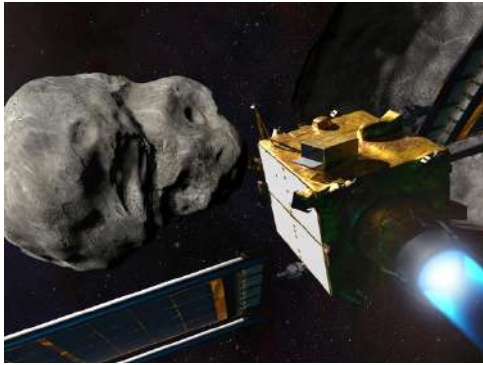
Al Azhar Mosque named Dr Nahla Al Saeedy as adviser to the grand imam, Sheikh Ahmed El-Tayeb, a first in the Islamic institution's 1,000-year history. The Grand Imam of Al Azhar is Egypt's highest authority on Sunni Islam.

### Victoria's Secret features a model with Down Syndrome



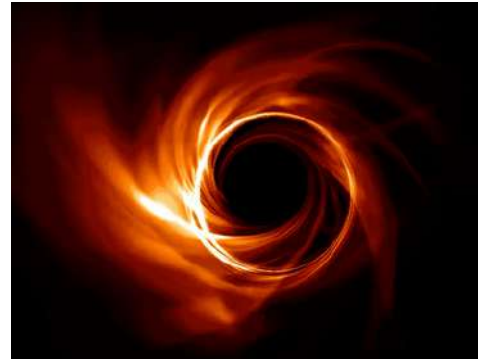
The Puerto Rican model Sofía Jirau is the first woman with Down syndrome to become Victoria's Secret model. She appears in the fashion company's Love Cloud ad campaign, which emphasizes diversity and inclusivity.

### NASA mission to move asteroid



NASA's Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) – the world's first planetary defense technology demonstration – successfully impacted its asteroid target. This was NASA's first attempt to move an asteroid in space.

### First image of 'Black Hole' released



Scientists unveiled the first image of Sagittarius A\*, a black hole at the centre of our galaxy. It was the result of an international effort known as the Event Horizon Telescope project.

These events in 2022 took a peep into our history, while others are creating history!

### Neanderthal family remains found in a Russian cave



Scientists have uncovered for the first time the remains of a closely related Neanderthal clan, including a family — a father and his daughter — in a Russian cave, offering a rare window into ancient times.

### Person of colour heads the British government



Rishi Sunak, born in southern England, to parents who emigrated from British colonial East Africa. His grandparents were originally from Punjab. He is the first person of colour to become Prime Minister of Britain.



# HAPPY — NEW YEAR

# 2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY! HOPE THE NEW YEAR BRINGS A GREAT DEAL OF HAPPINESS, SUCCESS, PEACE & MUCH MORE TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US.