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A USO MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SINCE 1958



DHANGYAN FOR SCHOOLS: GRAND FINALE AND FELICITATION CEREMONY

Friday, March 24, 2023 at USO House, New Delhi

DhanGyan for Schools Program finally concluded with teachers and students from 10 schools nationally coming to USO International Centre, USO House, New Delhi for the Grand Finale and Felicitation Ceremony. This 3-phase program was organised by USO in collaboration with IDOBRO Impact Solutions and Tata Capital. The 10 finalists were selected after reviewing project reports from school toppers of the online test from schools all over India.

The 10 finalists had to present their project reports in front of two sets of judges:

- Independent judges were seeing the student reports for the first time.
- Partner judges had already seen the reports during Phase II of the program.

The students presented their reports during the morning session. There were given 10 minutes to present their reports and the judges were given 10 minutes for Q&A, during which the accompanying teacher could assist. Scan the QR code to watch the video of the morning session.



Morning Session

The felicitation ceremony took place in the afternoon. First, Second and Third Prize winners were announced and awarded prizes by Chief Guest, Shri Puskal Upadhyaya, IDAS, Financial Advisor, New Delhi Municipal Council.



Evening Session



Highlights

DhanGyan for Schools:
Grand Finale & Felicitation
Ceremony

National Drawing
Competition for Specially
Abled Children

School in Focus:

- Tapovan School, Karnataka
- Shaurya International School, Punjab
- N L Dalmia High School, Maharashtra
- Zilla Parishad High School, Andhra Pradesh

Know More About:

- World Health Day
- International Mother Earth Day

USO Activities Calendar for
2023-2024

UNITED SCHOOLS
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National Drawing Competition for Specially Abled Children

USO launched this competition on the occasion of International Women's Day which is observed on March 8 each year. The topic for this competition was: 'The Woman Who Makes A Difference In My Life'. It is our aim to create awareness about the importance of this day among specially-abled students.

The competition had two main categories:

- Individual (students are able to draw independently).
- High Support (those requiring the support of parent/teacher).

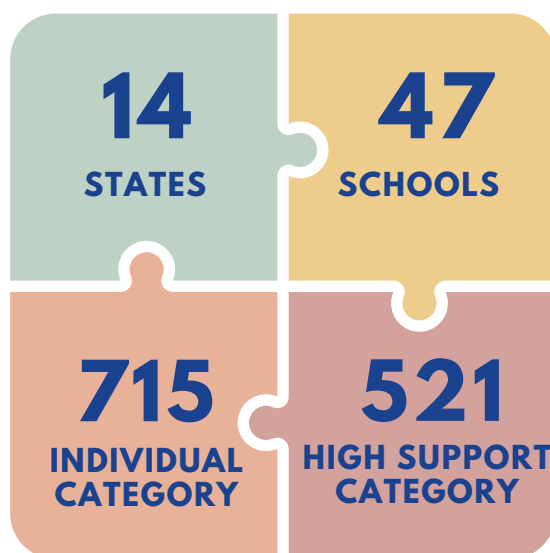
Each category was further divided into four age groups:

- 5 - 10 yrs.
- 11 - 15 yrs.
- 16 - 20 yrs.
- 21+ yrs.

All participating students (and teachers/parents in the High Support category) had been issued Participation e-Certificates. The First, Second, and Third prize winners in each category and age group are to receive Printed Certificates and Trophies. Students whose drawings have been selected for 'Special Mention' shall receive Printed Certificates and Medals.

USO conducts competitions for special schools on a regular basis, with the aim to provide the specially-abled students with a national platform, and also to fuel their creativity.

We are proud of our much success once again for this competition.



A total of 1,236 students participated nationally.

The results have been released

The results of the prize-winning students have been released, and the names of the winners have been published on our website. Scan the QR code to access the page and see the names on our website. In addition to the prize winners, some drawings have also been recognised and a 'Special Mention' prize was given to them.

Congratulations to all the winners, the schools, their teachers and their parents. We are presently in the process of preparing their certificates, medals (Special Mention) and trophies (for prize winners), along with USO goodies and shall be sent to schools for distribution by April 12th, 2023.



Scan the QR Code to access the page of winners

SCHOOL IN FOCUS



TAPOVAN SCHOOL KARNATAKA

As a recent USO Member School, Tapovan School registered for DhanGyan For Schools Program. 53 Std. VIII students participated in the program. Of these, there were 25 boys and 28 girls. Tapovan School is one of the schools in which there were a larger number of girl students than boy students.

The photo (above) features the USO Activities Coordinator receiving her Certificate of Appreciation. The photo (right) shows Krishna Verma with his medal and certificate, along with the School Principal,

On behalf of all the partners, USO extends hearty congratulations to the teachers, the students and the parents for such a wonderful result!

Krishna Verma of Std. VIII was the Top Scoring student in Phase I of the program from Tapovan School. He was invited to Phase II in which he (and school toppers from other schools) were asked to complete a special project:

You receive Rs. 25 lakhs as an inheritance from your grandfather. How will you use the money.

A template was shared with the students to ensure that all students shared details in the same format.



Feedback from Tapovan School, Bangalore, Karnataka



"Our students and teachers were so excited to receive medals. On behalf of the management and staff of Tapovan, we express our gratitude for giving such a wonderful experience to our students. We look forward to many more such events."



SCHOOL IN FOCUS



SHAURYA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUNJAB

A new USO Member School, Mrs. Vijay Sohal, the Principal, has been associated with USO for several years while at various other schools/institutions. Shaurya International School is an active participant in several of our activities and had also participated in DhanGyan for Schools. Their student, Inderjeet Kaur was the school topper in the online test.

The photo above shows Inderjeet with her Certificate of Achievement along with Mrs. Sohal and other teachers. The school also sent us a letter appreciating our efforts.

On behalf of all the partners, USO extends hearty congratulations to the teachers, the students and the parents for such a wonderful result!

Inderjeet Kaur of Std. XII was the Top Scoring student in Phase I of the program from Shaurya International School. She was invited to Phase II in which she submitted a special project:

You receive Rs. 25 lakhs as an inheritance from your grandfather. How will you use the money.

A template was shared with the students to ensure that all students shared details in the same format.



Feedback from Shaurya International School, Punjab



"We are absolutely delighted at Inderjeet's success. Your efforts in promoting financial literacy and education at the school level have been invaluable and we cannot thank you enough for your hard work and dedication. Our student's success is a clear reflection of your commitment and passion towards this cause."



SCHOOL IN FOCUS



N.L. DALMIA HIGH SCHOOL, THANE, MAHARASHTRA

Every action – no matter how small – will make a difference
-by-

Ms. Preeti Thackeray, USO Activities Co-ordinator,
N. L. Dalmia School, Maharashtra

The Primary students of N.L. Dalmia High School celebrated World Water Day with great zeal. The students highlighted different ways of using water mindfully and minimizing the wastage of clean drinking water. They participated in various activities endorsing the conservation of water through fun-filled activities.

Students of Grade II made dazzling water droplets and penned momentous measures to save water. Grade IV and V students created informative posters with edifying messages highlighting the significance of Water in our lives.

Consequently, the main objective of celebrating World Water Day among the students was to create awareness of the sustainable management of water resources.

Let's all unite and contribute to the act of saving water!



USO recommends articles from Member Schools to the National Mission for Clean Ganga, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India for publishing in their newsletter. This article was sent to Namami Gange.

About World Water Day Celebrations at N.L. Dalmia High School, Maharashtra

World Water Day is a United Nations observance day celebrated each year on March 22 to highlight the importance of fresh water and advocate for sustainably managing our water resources. In our school, World Water Day was celebrated on March 22nd, 2023 to spread awareness of the importance of water in our lives. On this occasion, the School engaged students in stimulating activities that illustrate the importance of water, and how to be mindful of ways that they can conserve water every day. Reminded them that their actions make an impact! Students created posters, showcased a short drama and provided facts to understand the importance of water by developing awareness of their own daily consumption.

SCHOOL IN FOCUS



ZILLA PARISHAD HIGH SCHOOL, YSR, ANDHRA PRADESH

A long-standing USO Member School, Z. P. High School from Andhra Pradesh is a very active participant in USO Activities. There are many students from the school that appear for all USO National Tests in all categories.

Study material or practice tests (for Mental Math Test) were shared with the registered students to help them prepare for the test. The study material is also an extremely valuable resource for students who wish to appear in several other competitive examinations.

MCQ are set, and an OMR sheet is provided to the students for answers.

In the photo, the school authorities distributed medals and trophies to the successful students during the Annual School Day Celebrations. The national winner, S. Dineswar Reddy of Std. VIII is seen in the photo accepting his medal, certificate and USO goodies from the Chief Guest of the event.

Two students from Z. P. High School were national winners in USO's 72nd General Knowledge Test held in November 2022:

- S. Dineswar Reddy of Std. VIII secured 1st position in Pre-Senior Category.
- K. Vineela of Std. X secured 2nd position in Senior Category.

The certificates, medals, and USO goodies are sent to schools for distribution to the successful students.

Check USO Activities Calendar for 2023-2024 (on the last page) and enrol your school students to participate in USO National Tests in 2023. All tests shall take place in the month of August.

About USO National Tests - 2022

USO's National Tests 2022 concluded in December 2022. The following tests for students of Std. 1 - 3 (Sub-Junior category) were conducted:

- Mental Math Test
- Mini GK Test
- Mini IT Test

The following tests were conducted for students of Std. 4 - 12:

- UN Information Test
- General Knowledge Test
- Information Technology Test



USO NATIONAL TESTS
SINCE 1951



APRIL 7 WORLD HEALTH DAY

World Health Day is a global health awareness day celebrated every year on 7 April, under the sponsorship of the World Health Organization, as well as other related organizations.

In 1948, the WHO held the First World Health Assembly. The Assembly decided to celebrate 7 April of each year, with effect from 1950, as World Health Day.

About WHO

WHO is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system. It is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends.

Why was WHO formed?

In 1948, countries of the world came together and founded WHO to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable – so everyone, everywhere can attain the highest level of health and well-being. WHO's 75th anniversary year is an opportunity to look back at public health successes that have improved quality of life during the last seven decades. It is also an opportunity to motivate action to tackle the health challenges of today and tomorrow.

The role of WHO

WHO fulfils its objectives through its core functions:

- providing leadership on matters critical to health and engaging in partnerships where joint action is needed;
- shaping the research agenda and stimulating the generation, translation and dissemination of valuable knowledge;
- setting norms and standards and promoting and monitoring their implementation;
- articulating ethical and evidence-based policy options;
- providing technical support, catalysing change, and building sustainable institutional capacity; and
- monitoring the health situation and assessing health trends.

A Message from the Director General, WHO

"I envision a world in which everyone can live healthy, productive lives, regardless of who they are or where they live. I believe the global commitment to sustainable development – enshrined in the Sustainable Development Goals – offers a unique opportunity to address the social, economic and political determinants of health and improve the health and well-being of people everywhere. Achieving this vision will require a strong, effective WHO that is able to meet emerging challenges and achieve the health objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals. We need a WHO – fit for the 21st century – that belongs to all, equally. We need a WHO that is efficiently managed, adequately resourced and results-driven, with a strong focus on transparency, accountability and value for money."



Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General - WHO



APRIL 22 INTERNATIONAL MOTHER EARTH DAY

International Mother Earth Day was established in 2009, by the United Nations General Assembly under Resolution A/RES/63/278. The Resolution was introduced by The Plurinational State of Bolivia and endorsed by over 50 member states. It recognizes that "the Earth and its ecosystems are our home" and that "it is necessary to promote harmony with nature and the Earth." The term Mother Earth is used because it "reflects the interdependence that exists among human beings, other living species and the planet we all inhabit". It was then decided to designate April 22 as International Mother Earth Day.

Theme for 2023
Invest In Our Planet

More About International Mother Earth Day

- International Mother Earth Day is celebrated to remind each of us that the Earth and its ecosystems provide us with life and sustenance.
- It also recognizes a collective responsibility, as called for in the 1992 Rio Declaration, to promote harmony with nature and the Earth to achieve a just balance among the economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations of humanity.
- International Mother Earth Day provides an opportunity to raise public awareness around the world about the challenges regarding the well-being of the planet and all the life it supports.
- Education is the foundation for progress. We need to build a global citizenry fluent in the concepts of climate change and aware of its unprecedented threat to our planet. We need to empower everyone with the knowledge to inspire action in defence of environmental protection.
- Environmental and climate literacy is the engine not only for creating green voters and advancing environmental and climate laws and policies but also for accelerating green technologies and jobs.

 Happy 
EARTH DAY

Something to think about...

Mother Earth is a common expression for the planet Earth in a number of countries and regions, which reflects the interdependence that exists among human beings, other living species and the planet we all inhabit. Climate change represents the biggest challenge to the future of humanity and the life-support systems that make our world habitable. The Earth and its ecosystems are our home. In order to achieve a just balance among the economic, social, and environmental needs of present and future generations, it is necessary to promote harmony with nature and the Earth.





USO ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

APRIL 1 2023 – MARCH 31, 2024

APRIL	MAY	JUNE
<p>USO MEMBERSHIP USO CLUB REGISTRATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Schools are to apply for USO Membership which runs from April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024.USO Club Registration for USO Member School Opens for USO Member Schools.		<p>USO NATIONAL TEST & CONFERENCE REGISTRATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Test Registration - school or individual - starts June 1 for all USO National Tests61st General Conference & All-India Schools Festival Registration starts
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
<p>USO NATIONAL PROGRAM REGISTRATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">'Budding Scientist' Registration & Phase - I starts	<p>USO NATIONAL TEST MONTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sat, Aug 12: Mental Math/UN TestSat 19, Aug: Mini /GK TestSat 26, Aug: Mini /IT Test'Budding Scientist' Phase - II	<p>USO NATIONAL PROGRAM ENDS USO MINI-FEST REGISTRATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">'Budding Scientist' Phase - IIIUSO Mini-Fest Registration Opens
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<p>USO ANNUAL CONFERENCE & MINI FEST MONTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">USO Mini FestMon-to-Thurs - Oct 16-19: USO 61st General Conference & All-India Schools Festival	<p>USO CELEBRATIONS MONTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Thurs / Fri - Nov 2-3: USO House Diwali MelaFri, Nov 10: 'Budding Scientist' Felicitations	<p>USO FOCUS: SPECIAL SCHOOLS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">National activity for Special Schools. To be launched on World Disabilities Day - Dec 3
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
<p>USO FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sat, Jan 27: Founder's Day Celebrations with USO Co-Action Learning Centre staff and students	<p>USO ACTIVITIES REVIEW & WIND-UP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">USO Activities to be reviewed, and concluded	<p>USO CLUB AWARDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">USO Club in Schools to be awarded prizes based on success of activities undertaken