

World Accreditation Day 2020 | UPSC

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HEADLINES:

QCI Celebrates the World Accreditation Day 2020;

WHY IN NEWS:

Role of credible, competent accreditation for improving food safety highlighted

MINISTRY? :-Ministry of Commerce & Industry

SYLLABUS COVERED: GS 3:Commerce : UN : World Accreditation Day 2020

LEARNING:

For PRELIMS understand the meaning of accreditation – the action or process of officially recognizing someone . Now let us dive into both national and international celebrations separately.

For MAINS try to sort out a necessary assessment infrastructure for quality measures and the tools required from this article !

ISSUE:

The World Accreditation Day (WAD) is celebrated on 9th June every year to highlight as well as **promote the role of accreditation in trade & economy**.

- **National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB) and National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL)**, the two accreditation boards of the **Quality Council of India (QCI)**.
- This is because **NABCB and NABL have worked closely** to support Government and Regulators .
- Thus ensuring that the **data provided** by accredited conformity assessment bodies is **robust, reliable, trustworthy in decision making, compliance testing and standards setting**.

The theme for WAD 2020 is “**Accreditation: Improving Food Safety**”, as decided by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC).

- “**FSSAI** has recognized the role of credible, competent accreditation for inputs in **decision making**.”
- Accreditation also facilitates **world trade and economic growth**”.

THERE IS A NEED TO INSTITUTIONALISE ACCREDITATION IN FIELDS LIKE :

- The accreditation of **state food testing laboratories**,
- Encouraging accredited laboratories to undertake **Proficiency Testing (PT)**,
- Increasing the number of accredited **Reference Materials Producers (RMPs)**,
- Developing **Rapid Test Kits for food analysis**,
- **Accreditation scheme** for its certification,
- Integrated System for **information exchange** as relevant to the food sector.

WORLD ACCREDITATION DAY HIGHLIGHTS:

PRIME FOCUS ON FOOD SAFETY:

- Competent and **impartial inspection**,
- **Certification and testing services** in all parts of **local, National and international food chains**.

In doing so, accreditation supports the United Nations' **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, particularly **Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3)**.

IASbhai WINDUP:

- Accreditation has a very important role to play in the **quality ecosystem**.
- There is a need for development of **conformity assessment infrastructure** and **consumer empowerment** in the country.