

26 August 2024

Postal Dept launches Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana to encourage Philately



### Key Points:

- ❖ The Department of Post under the Union Ministry of Communication has launched the Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana to promote research and scholarship in stamps amongst the country's students.
  - ❖ Announcing the Yojana, the Postmaster General of North Gujarat Region, Ahmedabad, Krishna Kumar Yadav, said that this scholarship aims to inculcate the hobby of Philately among the children from a young age.
  - ❖ Krishna Kumar Yadav was speaking at the closing ceremony of the 'The Ideal and Great Stamps' Paintings exhibition, which was held in Ahmedabad from 21 to 23 August 2024.
  - ❖ *Philately refers to the collection and study of postage stamps and related products. As a hobby, Philately includes collecting stamps, acquiring, organising, cataloguing, storing, displaying, and maintaining them or related products in thematic areas.*
- ❖ The Deen Dayal SPARSH (Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude & Research in Stamps as a Hobby) Yojana is an all-India scheme open to class VI, VII, VIII & IX students of a recognised school.
  - ❖ Only students who are members of a philately club or have a Philately Deposit Account will be selected for the scholarship. 920 scholarships will be awarded at all India levels to students who are pursuing Philately as a hobby.
  - ❖ Every postal circle in the country can award a maximum of 40 scholarships to 10 students each from Standard VI, VII, VIII, and IX.
  - ❖ The scholarship amount is Rs 6000 per year and will be paid quarterly. Selections for the scholarship will be made for one year, and students can apply next year, subject to fulfilling the terms and conditions of the Yojana.
  - ❖ A Philately Mentor will be assigned to the school to guide every selected student. The Philately Mentor's other role will be to form a school-level Philately Club, provide guidance to young and aspiring Philatelists on how to pursue the hobby and encourage the aspiring students.

## PM Modi's Historic Visit to Ukraine, four MoU/Agreement signed



### Key Points:

- ❖ During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's historic visit to Ukraine, both countries signed four Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)/agreements to strengthen their bilateral relations.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on a two-nation visit to Poland and Ukraine from 21-23 August 2024.
- ❖ Prime Minister Modi's visit to Ukraine is the first by any Indian Prime Minister since establishing diplomatic relations with Ukraine in January 1992.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived for a short seven-hour stay in Ukraine on 23 December after visiting Poland on a special Train 'Rail Force One'.

### About Rail Force One

- ❖ Rail Force One is a special train run by the government-owned Ukrainian Railways.

- ❖ It was built to carry tourists to Crimea before Russia annexed the region in 2014.
- ❖ Since the start of the Russia-Ukraine war in February 2022, the train has emerged as the preferred mode of travel for foreign dignitaries as the Ukrainian air space is closed due to war.
- ❖ Since the Russia-Ukraine war, American President Joe Biden, French President Emmanuel Macron, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, and other world leaders have used the train to visit Kyiv. The Train was named Rail Force One after Joe Biden visited Ukraine in February 2023.
- ❖ The American President travels in a special aircraft called Air Force One, and since he visited Ukraine on the train in February 2023, it was renamed Rail Force One.
- ❖ The train starts from Przemyśl Główny station in Poland and travels 700 km to Kyiv, covering the journey in 10 hours.

### Four MoU/Agreement Signed

- ❖ During Modi's Visit Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy during his seven-hour brief visit to Ukraine in Kyiv.

- ❖ The leaders discussed the war situation and bilateral relations and later issued a Joint Statement. Four agreements/MoUs were signed during PM Modi's visit.
- ❖ These are
- ❖ Cooperation in Agriculture and Food Industry;
- ❖ Cooperation in Medical Products Regulation;
- ❖ India to provide Humanitarian Grant Assistance to Ukraine for Implementation of High Impact Community Development Projects and
- ❖ Cultural Cooperation for the 2024-2028 period

#### Four BHISHM Cubes Gifted to Ukraine



#### Key Points:

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi gifted four BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita & Maitri) Cubes to Ukraine.
- ❖ The BHISHM Cubes, known as the Arogya Maitri Aid Cube, is the world's first portable hospital. It was first unveiled in Gurugram(Haryana) on 2 December 2023.

- ❖ The BHISHM project is a joint effort of the Union Ministry of Defence and the Health and Family Welfare. The portable hospitable can be deployed anywhere through airdrop or ground transportation and can start treating patients within eight minutes of its deployment.
- ❖ The Cube has the necessary medical equipment, an operation theatre, a mini ICU, etc.
- ❖ It is capable of handling gunshot wounds, head, spinal cord and chest injuries, burns, minor surgeries, fractures and major bleeding. It can treat more than 200 patients. Indian experts will provide training to the Ukrainians on operating the BHISHM cubes.

#### PM Modi visits Mahatma Gandhi Statue



- ❖ Prime Minister Modi also visited the Mahatma Gandhi statue in Kyiv's Oasis of Peace park.
- ❖ He paid homage to Mahatma Gandhi and said his teaching offered solutions to present-day global challenges.

- ❖ About Ukraine
- ❖ Ukraine is the second largest country in Europe after Russia in terms of area.
- ❖ It was part of the Soviet Union and gained independence in 1991 after the collapse of the Soviet Union.
- ❖ Capital: Kyiv
- ❖ Currency: hryvnya
- ❖ President : Volodymyr Zelensky

### SIKHAR DHAWAN RETIRES



#### Key Points:

- ❖ One of the finest One Day Internationals (ODI) batsmen in the world, Shikhar Dhawan, has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.
- ❖ In a post on the social media 'X', Shikhar Dhawan announced his retirement from international and domestic cricket on 24 August 2024.
- ❖ His last competitive match was for Punjab Kings in the Indian Premier League (IPL) in April 2024.
- ❖ Shikhar Dhawan played 269 international matches in his cricketing career and scored 24

hundreds-17 in ODIs and 7 in test matches.

- ❖ His last game for India was an ODI against Bangladesh in December 2022.
- ❖ Shikhar Dhawan, nicknamed 'Gabbar' by his teammate, is a left-handed batsman who made his debut for India in an ODI Match against Australia in Visakhapatnam in 2010.
- ❖ He created a world record by scoring the fastest century by a debutant in a Test match, an 85-ball hundred against Australia in Mohali in the 2013 Test match.

### PM Modi Participate in Lakhpati Didi Sammellan in Jalgaon, Maharashtra



#### Key Points:

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Maharashtra and Rajasthan on 25 August 2024 to participate in the Lakhpati Didi Sammellan in Jalgaon, Maharashtra, and the closing ceremony of the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the Rajasthan High Court in Jodhpur
- ❖ During his visit to Jalagaon, Prime Minister Modi will participate in the Lakhpati Didi

Sammelan, distribute certificates, and facilitate the 11 lakh new Lakhpati Didis.

- ❖ According to the Government of India, since the inception of the Lakhpati Didi Yojana in 2023, one crore women have already been made Lakhpati Didis. In the Jalgaon event, those women who became Lakhpati during the third term of the Modi government will be facilitated.
- ❖ The Modi government was sworn in for the third consecutive time on 9 June 2024. In Jalgaon, PM Modi will release a Rs 2,500 crore revolving fund, which will benefit about 48 lakh members of 4.3 lakh Self-Help Groups (SHGs).
- ❖ He will also disburse bank loans worth Rs 5,000 crore, which is likely to benefit around 25.8 lakh members of 2.35 lakh SHGs.

#### Lakhpati Didi Scheme

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the Lakhpati Didi scheme in his address to the nation on 15 August 2023 from Red Fort.
- ❖ The scheme aims to create three crore 'Lakhpati Didis' in villages through the collective power of Women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs). Self-Help Group (SHG) members with household incomes of Rs one lakh or more per year are considered Lakhpati Didi.

- ❖ The Lakhpati Didi scheme aims to financially empower poor women and lift them from the vicious cycle of poverty.

#### Nodal Ministry of the Lakhpati Didi Scheme

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Lakhpati Didi scheme, which is the outcome of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana—National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) scheme of the Ministry of Rural Development.

#### Aims of the Lakhpati Didi Scheme

- ❖ The main aim of the Lakhpati Didi scheme includes:
  - ❑ Providing access to formal banking services, including savings and loan facilities, to the identified women beneficiaries.
- ❖ Encouraging financial literacy and awareness among women.
- ❖ Supporting entrepreneurship and income-generating activities among women.

#### Eligibility criteria

- ❖ Women must be permanent residents of the state where she is applying for the scheme..
- ❖ The annual income of the woman's family shall not be more than Rs 3 lakh.
- ❖ None of the women's family members shall be government employees.

Ministry of Education launches second cycle of Capacity Building Program on Specific Learning Disability



शिक्षा मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
EDUCATION

सत्यमेव जयते

**Key Points:**

- ❖ The Ministry of Education has launched the second cycle of its Capacity Building Program on Specific Learning Disability (SLD) under the Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme (MMTTP).
- ❖ Building on the success of the first cycle, this programme is designed to empower Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) with the skills and knowledge necessary, to support students with specific learning disabilities.
- ❖ Ministry of Education launches second cycle of Capacity Building Program on Specific Learning Disability The first round of the 'Capacity Building Program on Specific Learning Disabilities' was conducted from January to July 2024 partnered with Changeinkk Foundation.
- ❖ In the first round, a cohort of 27 HEIs participated in the programme including Central Universities, IITs, IIITs, IIMs, IISERs, SPAs, and NITs

Actor Vijay launches his political party Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam's flag



**Key Points:**

- ❖ Tamil cinema's leading actor and Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam president Vijay launched his party's flag and flag song at the party headquarters at Panaiyur in Chennai.
- ❖ Vijay introduced the two-coloured flag with red on top and bottom; yellow in the middle; and a flower resembling Vaagai surrounded by 28 stars at the centre with two trumpeting tuskers facing each other on either side.

Union FM Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurates GST Bhawan at Udaipur



**Key Points:**

- ❖ Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated the GST Bhawan, an Official complex of CGST, Udaipur Commissionerate under the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), at Udaipur, Rajasthan.

- ❖ The Union Finance Minister also launched ICETAB 2.0, a handheld device for customs operations, and expressed hope that it will help in uploading real-time examination reports and in quicker clearance of cargoes.
- ❖ The complex is located at one of the most preferred locations in Udaipur

### SUBHADRA YOJANA



#### Key Points:

- ❖ The Odisha Cabinet has approved the SOP for implementation of Subhadra Yojana for women in the state. Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi today announced this in the Assembly.
- ❖ The scheme will be implemented within 2024-25 and 2028-29 financial years.
- ❖ The state government has made an outlay of Rs 55, 825 crore for this

purpose, said the Chief Minister. Subhadra scheme will transform the lives of over 1 crore women in Odisha. All women in the age group of 21 to 60 will be included under the scheme.

- ❖ The beneficiaries will receive Rs 10,000 in their bank accounts in two installments in a year under the scheme.
- ❖ The money will be credited to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries on the occasion of Rakshya Bandhan and on International Women's Day (March 8).
- ❖ They will get Rs 50,000 in five years under Subhadra Yojana, revealed the Chief Minister. The financial assistance under the scheme will be directly credited to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries, added the CM.
- ❖ The Women and Child Development Department will establish a Subhadra Society for the implementation and monitoring of the scheme, said the Chief Minister.

