

Deen Dayal

Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude & Research in Stamps as a Hobby (SPARSH)

Yojana 2024-25

Objective

Reinforcing the efforts aimed towards increasing the reach of Philately, a novel idea being proposed is to award Scholarships to children in the class category of Standard VI to IX. Under the Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana (Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude & Research in Stamps as a Hobby or SPARSH) it is proposed to award annual scholarships to those students who have good academic record and also pursue Philately as a hobby. Considering that Philately reinforces and supplements the academic knowledge imparted through regular school curriculum it is proposed to give weightage to both, academic performance and philately, for awarding the scholarship. It is expected that such a scholarship would provide fillip not only to Philately but also project a positive image of DOP & would create ambassadors for Philately & DOP. The objective of the scholarship is to

- Promote Philately among children at a young age in a sustainable manner that can reinforce and supplement the academic curriculum in addition to providing a hobby that can help them relax and de-stress.
- Encourage Philatelic activities in School,
- Involvement of School administration in Philately,
- Giving greater visibility to Philately across the spectrum,
- Create awareness about Philately among parents, academicians, children and public at large,
- Mainstreaming of Philately in School & educational curriculum,
- Creation of linkages between younger generation and Philatelists,

Key Features of the Scheme

- Every Postal Circle has to provide a maximum total of 40 scholarships having maximum of 10 students each from Standard VI, VII, VIII & IX.
- These scholarships will be provided quarterly to the students studying as regular students in class VI-IX in recognized schools.
- Scholarship will be provided to students pursuing Philately as a hobby and who satisfy the eligibility condition and qualify in the selection procedure.
- The amount of Scholarship is to be Rs. 6000/- per annum @ Rs. 500/- per month.
- Selections to the scholarship would be for one year and there would be no bar on an already selected student applying for the scholarship next year provided he/she fulfils other criterion.

Eligibility condition:

- Candidate must be a student (class VI-IX) of a recognized School within India,
- Concerned School should have a Philately Club and the candidate should be a member of the Club,
- In case the School Philately Club has not been established a student having his own Philately Deposit Account may also be considered.
- Requirement of having Philately Deposit Account/Membership of the School Philately Club would be with respect to the Date of Application and the student applying would have to mention the same in his/her application form
- A candidate must have good academic record. At the time of selection for award of scholarship the candidate must have scored at least 60% marks or equivalent grade/grade point in the recent final examination. There will be 5% relaxation for SC/ST.

General Conditions:

- An awardee is eligible for the scholarship provided he/she maintains good conduct and continues his/her studies as a regular student.
- Scholarship may be revoked at any point of time by the competent authority (CPMG) on finding any irregularities in the eligibility criteria.
- A student must continue to have a PDA account and continue to be a member of Philatelic club during the scholarship-awarding period.

Selection Procedure

- A. A two level selection process is to be adopted for conducting the Quiz and Philately Project. At the 1st Level, a written test will be conducted at regional level which would act as a Screening Test and students selected at first level will have to submit a Philately Project for final selection at 2nd level.
- B. There will be no weightage of the marks secured in the Philately Quiz in the final evaluation and the final selection would be decided solely on the basis of the marks secured in Philately Project.
- C. For any given Circle, the written test would be conducted simultaneously at all regional centres. All arrangements with regard to conduction of the test would be the responsibility of the Circles.

D. Guidelines regarding Philately Written Quiz at regional level

- Question papers for the written quiz to be conducted at regional level will be prepared by the circle & same set of paper should be used across region.
- Philately Quiz will comprise of 50 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs). Each question will be of one mark with no negative marking. OMR sheet may be used for answering these questions which would aid in evaluation.
- The Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) format based Quiz test would contain 50 (Fifty) Questions which would be chosen from following subject areas in the following proportion:

Subjects	Marks
General Knowledge/Awareness	
Current Affair	5 marks
History	5 marks
Geography	5 marks
Science	5 marks
Sports/Culture	5 marks
Philately	
Local Philately	10 marks
National Philately	15 marks
Total	50 Marks

- Same set of Question Paper will be framed for all the eligible students across classes. Therefore, framing of Quiz question paper would be done considering the knowledge levels of participating student from class VIth to IXth.
- Circles would select through the written quiz approximately four times the number of scholarship to be given at circle level i.e. about 160 students at regional level.

E. Philately Project for final selection-

- After finalizing the list of candidates selected in the Quiz. Circles would issue communication to the selected candidates detailing them of the list of Philately Project Topics & broad guidelines to be followed for writing their project. The candidates selected at Philately Written Quiz can choose One topic from the list to submit the project.
- The time given for the preparation and submission of project can be 15 days & the project can be directly submitted to the CPMG Office through Registered/Speed Post.

- The Philately Project should not be of more than 4-5 pages. In this project, student may use not more than 16 stamps and not more than 500 words. Detailed guidelines regarding the Project & sample project template may be issued by Circles.
- Project work on Philately, copy of School ID card, copy of the result of last final examination all duly attested from Principal of School may be submitted to the CPMG Office. The project should be sent in original.
- Project would be 4-5 pages work on Philately containing the original creative work performed by the candidate on the Philately subject. To know more about Philately a candidate may visit India Post website @ <https://postagestamps.gov.in> dedicated to Philately.
- The committee constituted at circle level will do the evaluation of the Project. A committee comprising of DPS or other DoP Officers & eminent Philatelist nominated by CPMG would evaluate the Project & shortlist the candidate for scholarship.
- The committee would recommend a list of 40 students considering 10 students maximum from each of the VI, VII, VIII & IX Class.

Disbursement of Scholarship:

- A. The awardees will be asked to open Joint account with parents in India Post Payment Bank or Post Office Savings Bank in a branch, which has core banking facility,
- B. Each Postal Circle will select the awardees and hand over the list of beneficiaries to IPPB/POSB for payment of scholarship;
- C. IPPB/POSB will ensure that the scholarship is paid to awardees on quarterly basis (₹1500/- each quarter for 1 year only) after getting the list from each Circle



Deen Dayal SPARSH Scheme (Philately Scholarship) 2024-25– Telangana Postal Circle



APPLICATION FORM

Passport size
photograph

1. Name of the Student : _____
2. Mother's Name : _____
3. Father's Name : _____
4. Date of Birth : ___/___/_____
5. Class : _____
6. Academic Year : _____
7. Name of School : _____
8. % of marks (in final examination of the last academic year) : _____
9. Whether belongs to SC/ST : Yes/No
10. PDA Account (Yes/No) : _____ If yes, PDA A/c no. : _____
11. PDA A/c holder since : _____
12. Member in School
Philatelic Club (Yes/No) : _____ Club Membership No.: _____
13. Address : _____
_____ PIN _____
14. Contact No. Mobile : _____ Landline : _____
15. Email Id : _____
16. Aadhar No (Candidate/Parent) : _____

Date:

Place:

Signature of candidate

Attestation by School in lieu of verification & confirmation of above information

**Signature of the Principal/Authorized Signatory
with School Stamp & Seal**

For Office Use

Name of the Division :

Roll No Allotted:

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Name of the Region :

Recommended : YES/NO

Signature of the SPOs/SSPOs