

## **Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana 2019-20**

### **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 weight-age 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.

In addition to the above mentioned objective it is envisaged that the SPARSH scholarship, through its various provisions, would have other spin offs as follows:

- 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,

### **Description of the Scheme**

Under the scheme, it is proposed to:

- Award 920 scholarships to students pursuing Philately as a hobby.
- 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 who satisfy the eligibility condition and qualify in the selection procedure.
- The amount of Scholarship is to be Rs. 6000/- per annum @ Rs. 1500/- per quarter (for 1 year only).
- 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:**

Following are the eligibility conditions for SPARSH

- 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 hasn't been established a student having his own Philately Deposit Account may also be considered.
- 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**

- The Selection Process will be consisting of two levels (Level 1- Philately Written Quiz & Level- 2- Philately Project).
- Level 1: A Philately Written Quiz at regional level will be conducted for 1 hour on Current Affairs, History, Geography, Science, Sports, Culture, Local Philately & National Philately. The Written Quiz will be for 50 marks.
- Level 2: Students @40 per each class selected through Philately Written Quiz will have to submit a Philately Project and final selection would be made based on the evaluation of Project work on Philately @ 10 students per class.
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A committee constituted at the circle level would evaluate the Project work on Philately submitted by the candidate.

- 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 in original to **Asst. Post Master General (Philately), O/o Chief Postmaster General, Telangana Circle, Dak Sadan, Abids, Hyderabad-500001** by hand or through Speed Post.
- 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 @ <http://postagestamps.gov.in/> & <http://telanganapostalcircle.in> dedicated to Philately.

#### **Disbursement of Scholarship:**

- 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,
- Each Postal Circle will select the awardees and hand over the list of beneficiaries to IPPB/POSB for payment of scholarship;
- IPPB/POSB will ensure that the scholarship is paid to awardees on quarterly basis (Rs. 1500/- each quarter for 1 year only).