



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati Jayanti



Recently, the Prime Minister of India **inaugurated the year-long (two-year) celebrations commemorating the 200th birth anniversary of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati**. He also released a logo for commemoration.

Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati Jayanti is **celebrated every year to mark the birth anniversary** of the Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati.

He was **born on 12th February 1824 in Tankara**, Gujarat in a Brahmin family. Dayananda's views were **published in his famous work, Satyarth Prakash (The True Exposition)**.

He was an **Indian philosopher, social leader and founder of the Arya Samaj**. His vision of India included a classless and casteless society. **He took inspiration from the Vedas and considered them to be 'India's Rock of Ages'**. He also gave the slogan **"Back to the Vedas"**.

The **DAV (Dayanand Anglo Vedic) schools came into existence in 1886** to realize the vision of Swami Dayanand Saraswati.

Read More: [Arya Samaj](#)

AMRITPEX 2023

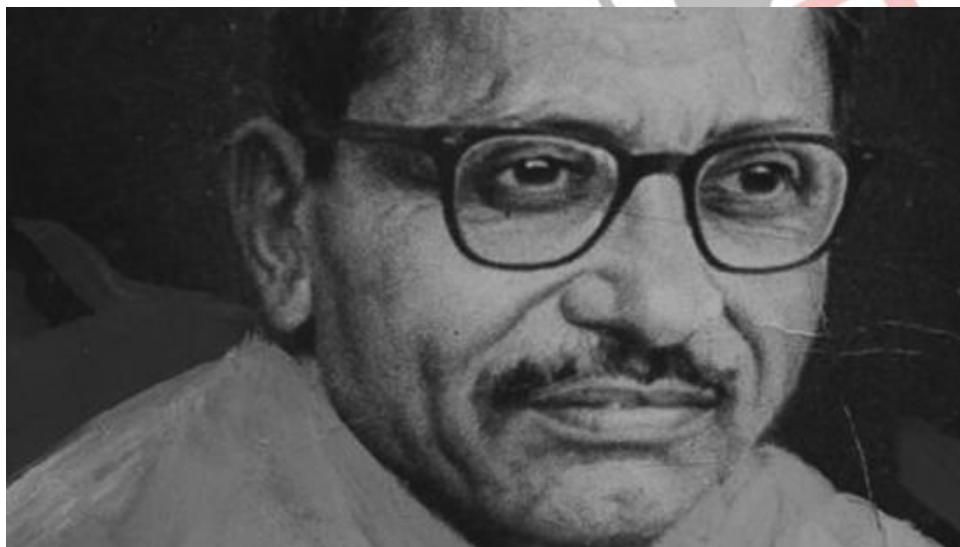
Recently, the Minister for Communications, Electronics & Information Technology **inaugurated AMRITPEX 2023 - National Philatelic Exhibition**. This five-day Mahakumbh of Stamps (11th to 15th February 2023) in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, **is being organized as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Celebrations**.

The exhibition **will feature stamps and photographic collections on the country's history and culture**. It is **based on five themes** - Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and New India, Yuva Shakti, Nari Shakti, Nature and Wildlife, and India's Culture and History.

For the first time in India, **new Technology like Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality has been used** to showcase the cultural heritage, history, nature and wildlife by narrating the stories of stamps.

Read More: [Initiatives on 75th Independence Day, Virtual Reality](#)

Deendayal Upadhyaya



The Prime Minister has **paid tributes to Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Ji on his Punya Tithi** (Death Anniversary).

He was **born in 1916 in Nagla Chandrabhan village, now called Deendayal Dham** in Uttar Pradesh. He **joined the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)** and dedicated himself to full-time work in RSS from 1942. He **started a monthly magazine "Rashtra Dharma", a weekly 'Panchajanya', and a daily 'Swadesh'**.

In 2019, Prime Minister **unveiled a 63-foot tall statue of Pandit Upadhyaya** while inaugurating the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Memorial Centre in Padao on the Varanasi-Chandauli border.

Read More: [Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons \(PDUNWFS\)](#)

NRIs and G-20 Countries to have Access to UPI

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** permitted all inbound travellers from the **Group of Twenty (G-20) countries and Non-resident Indians (NRIs)** to access **Unified Payment Interface (UPI)** for their merchant payments/ Person to Merchant (P2M) at select airports while they are in the country.

According to the RBI, banks and non-banks authorised to issue **Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs)** can issue rupee-denominated full-KYC PPIs to foreign nationals and NRIs visiting India. The conversion to the Indian rupee can be carried out only by entities authorised to deal in foreign exchange **under Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA)**.

PPIs are payment instruments **that facilitate purchase of goods and services** against the value stored on such instruments. The value stored on such instruments **represents the value paid for by the holder, by cash, by debit to a bank account, or by credit card**

Read More: [FEMA](#), [RBI](#), [G-20](#), [UPI](#), [NRIs](#)

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