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History, Art and Culture

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya

• **Born in -** 1916 in Nagla Chandrabhan village, now Deendayal Dham, UP.
• Deendayal Upadhyay is an Indian politician, one of the most important leaders of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the forerunner of Bharatiya Janata Party.
• Started monthly magazine **"Rashtra Dharma**", weekly "**Panchajanya"**, and daily "**Swadesh"**.
• His mantra for the journalism was 'Don't distort the news'.
• **Books -** Samrat Chandragupt, Jagatguru Shankaracharya, Political Diary, Integral humanism, Ekatmamanav - vad and an analysis of the Five Year plans in India.
• In 2019, PM unveiled a 63 feet statue of Pandit Upadhyaya at the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Memorial Centre in Padao on the Varanasi.

Polity & Governance

Scholarships for Young Achievers Scheme (SHREYAS)

• **Initiated by**- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
• **Offers scholarship** - Programs for (SC), (OBCs) & Divyangjan.

SHREYAS for Scheduled Castes

• *Central Sector Umbrella Scheme* which comprises 04 sub-schemes.
• **Sub-schemes**
  - Top Class Education for SC students (TCS)
  - National Fellowship for Scheduled Caste students (NFSC)
  - National Overseas Scholarship for Scheduled Castes (NOS)
  - Free Coaching for SC and OBC Students (FCS)

SHREYAS for OBC and Others

• Central Sector Umbrella Scheme which comprises two sub-schemes namely
  - National Fellowship for OBC, Scholarship scheme.
  - Dr.Ambedkar Central Sector Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans for Overseas Studies for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Economically Backward Classes (EBCs).

Scholarship for Students with Disabilities (Divyangjan)

• **Implemeting Agency -** Department of Persons with Disabilities.
• Comprises 6 sub-schemes
  - (a) Pre-Matric (b) Post-Matric (c) Top Class Education (d) National Overseas Scholarship (e) National Fellowship for PwDs and (f) Free Coaching Scheme.
• It does not come under SHREYAS.

Hostel Facilities under Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY)

• It is a ***Centrally Sponsored Scheme*** since 2021-22.
• **3 main parts**
- Adarsh Gram',
- 'Grants-in-aid for District/State-level Projects for Socio-Economic betterment of Scheduled Caste (SC) Communities', and
- 'Hostel.
• **Objectives -** To improve socio-economic developmental indicators in the SC dominated villages.
• To reduce poverty of the SC communities by generation of additional employment opportunities.
• To increase literacy and encourage enrolment of SCs in schools and higher educational institutions, especially in the aspirational districts/ SC dominated blocks and elsewhere in India.

Scheme for Promotion of Culture of Science (SPoCS)

• **Implementing Agency** - National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), an autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture
• **Aim -** To establish Science Cities, Science Centres, Digital Planetarium, Innovation Hubs across the country.
• It established the above ones based on the proposals received from different State Government and UTs.

Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) scheme

Government recently approved the continuation of the PM- AASHA during the 15th Finance Commission Cycle up to 2025-26.
• **Aim -** Provide remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce and also controlling price volatility of essential commodities by ensuring their availability at affordable prices to consumers.
• **Components -** Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS), Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) and Price Stabilisation Funds (PSF).
• **Ministry -** Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

International Relations and Issues

Dunki Routes

• "Dunki" or "donkey journey" refers to the long-winding, often *dangerous routes* that people across the world take to reach the places they want to immigrate to.
• These difficult journeys are undertaken due to a ***lack of requisite legal permits*** or financial resources.
• The American authorities recently deported those who have taken this illegal route to reach America.

Security

Hindustan Jet Trainer (HJT) Renamed 'Yashas'

HJT 36, the flagship training aircraft of HAL has been renamed 'Yashas', unveiled at Aero India 2025.

• **Aim** – To Enhance improvised training effectiveness and operational efficiency.

• **Upgrades**

- Stage-II pilot training, counter-insurgency and counter-surface force operations, armament training and aerobatics.
- **Powered by -** FADEC controlled AL55I Jet engine, providing best in class thrust to weight ratio, optimised thrust management and reliability.
- A stepped up rear cockpit provides excellent all-around vision and enhanced situational awareness with multi-function displays (MFDs) and head-up displays (HUDs).
- **Capabilities** - Stall and spin, aerobatics, armament carriage up to 1,000 kg, single point ground refuelling and defuelling.

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