

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

10th October, 2018



World Post Day is observed every year on October 9 to spread awareness about the postal services and their role in the everyday lives of people and businesses. The day is celebrated to mark anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern.

The 2018 theme is: “Imagine you are a letter travelling through time. What message do you wish to convey to your readers?”.

About Universal Postal Union (UPU):

- It is a specialized agency of United Nations that coordinates postal policies among member nations, in addition to worldwide postal system.
- It was established in 1874 and is second oldest international organization worldwide after International Telecommunication Union (ITU) which was established in 1865. It is headquartered in Berne, Switzerland.
- It has 192 member countries.
- It is primary forum for cooperation between postal sector players among member countries.

Functions:

It helps to ensure truly universal network of up-to-date products and services. It sets rules for international mail exchanges and makes recommendations for growth in mail, financial and parcel services volumes and also to improve quality of service for customers.

To be looked in UPSC Paper 3 Topic: Important International institutions, agencies and fora, their structure, mandate.