



“
**FROM SECRETARY-
GENERAL'S DESK**



Greetings from the Asian-Pacific Postal Union!

As we reach the halfway mark of 2025, I want to take a moment to thank each one of you for your continued support and active engagement. Your collaboration has been the driving force behind the Union's steady progress across all areas of our work.

The highlight of this period has been the successful conclusion of the 2025 Executive Council Meeting in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. It was heartening to witness our shared commitment to regional cooperation and to see firsthand the results of our collective efforts. Notably, the Union recorded a nearly 50% increase in the total budget since the start of the current cycle – a significant milestone that reflects our financial strengthening and long-term sustainability. In fact, all three Bureau sections – Administrative, Training, and Consultancy – reported surpluses and contributed to their respective reserve funds.

During the EC meeting, we also formalized a new partnership with the **Philippine Postal Corporation (PHLPost)** through a Memorandum of Understanding, which paves the way for exciting new initiatives in the area of philately.

Our capacity-building efforts through the **Asian-Pacific Postal College (APPC)** are also gathering momentum. By mid-August, we expect to have completed about **70% of our scheduled courses and workshops**, with **161 participants** already trained or enrolled – setting us firmly on track to exceed last year's participation numbers. The growing interest in APPC's programmes is a strong testament to the value they bring to our membership and beyond.

We also marked the successful completion of the **UPU-funded regional project on postal regulations** titled 'Exploring key aspects of postal regulations in the Asia-Pacific region', which compiled valuable regional insights and best practices with significant learnings that can be of immense benefit to the members that are in the process of amending the existing or bringing in new postal regulations. The final report has been shared with all members, and we are planning follow-up engagements to build on its findings and support members further.

Within the Bureau, our development work continues with new infrastructure upgrades. The **Digital Library Project** is steadily progressing towards its rollout, and the newly planned **Philatelic Gallery**, approved at the 2025 EC meeting, will soon take shape – showcasing the rich cultural and historical tapestry of our region through stamps.

Looking ahead, the second half of 2025 promises to be dynamic and forward-looking. We are preparing for the **2025 UPU Congress in Dubai**, the launch of the **Postal Regulations Expert Team (PRET)**, and the hosting of two key regional events – the **Pacific Small Islands Postal Conference** in Fiji in November and the **12th APPU Postal Business Forum** in Bangkok in December.

There is much to look forward to, and I am confident that together, we will continue to build a more inclusive, innovative, and resilient postal ecosystem for the Asia-Pacific.

Warm regards,



Dr. Vinaya Prakash Singh
Secretary-General, APPU

2025 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE ASIAN-PACIFIC POSTAL UNION



The Asian-Pacific Postal Union (APPU) successfully convened its 2025 Executive Council Meeting in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, from 30 June to 5 July 2025. The event brought together over 100 delegates from 22 member countries across the Asia-Pacific region, reinforcing the Union's collective commitment to regional cooperation, innovation, and advancement in the postal sector.

As the final Executive Council meeting of the Bangkok Cycle, this gathering marked a pivotal moment in steering the strategic direction of the Union. The meeting was officially inaugurated by H.E. Mr. Batshugar Enkhbayar, Minister of Digital Development, Innovation, and Communications of Mongolia, who highlighted the power of regional collaboration and shared progress in the postal domain.

Distinguished keynote speakers included Dr. Vinaya Prakash Singh, Secretary General, APPU; Ms. Kalaya Chinatiworn, Chair of the Executive Council; Mr. Marjan Osvald, Deputy Director General, UPU; Mr. Telmen Gerelt, CEO, Mongol Post JSC; and Mr. Chinzorig Gonchig, Chairman, Communications Regulatory Commission of Mongolia.

The Council reviewed the progress made since the 2024 meeting and assessed developments across all key functions of the Union. Notably, the Union recorded a nearly 50% increase in its total budget since the start of the current cycle, and all three sections – Administrative, Training, and Consultancy – reported a positive financial position. A major milestone was the positive contribution in the last year to all three Reserve Funds – the Administrative Section Reserve Fund (ASRF), Training Section Reserve Fund (TSRF), and Special Activities Fund (SAF) – signaling strong strides toward long-term financial sustainability of the Union.

On the training front, the Asian-Pacific Postal College reported a significant expansion in reach, having trained twice as many participants as the previous year, demonstrating the growing demand and relevance of its programs.

A special session during the meeting focused on the 2025 UPU Congress in Dubai, providing APPU member countries contesting for seats on the Council of Administration and the Postal Operations Council an opportunity to present their candidatures. The Council also hosted roundtable discussions on Postal Regulatory Reforms and Universal Service Obligations, reflecting the region's proactive approach to emerging policy challenges.

Key decisions endorsed by the Council included the establishment of the Postal Regulations Expert Team (PRET) to support regulatory advancement in the region and in-principle approval for the release of an omnibus postage stamp in 2027 to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the APPU. The Union will also be hosting the inaugural edition of the Pacific Small Islands Postal Conference in November 2025 and the 12th APPU Postal Business Forum in December 2025. Preparations for the 14th APPU Congress in 2026 were also set in motion, with information provided on structure, organization, and timelines.



A sincere appreciation is extended to Mongol Post JSC for their warm hospitality, meticulous planning, and unwavering support, which ensured the success of this meeting. The APPU also acknowledges the dedicated efforts of the Executive Council Chair and Vice-Chair, the Chairs and Co-Chairs of all working groups and committees, and the invaluable contributions of all delegates and observers. The collective efforts of all the delegates attending the meeting, both online and in-person in Mongolia, made the 2025 Executive Council Meeting a remarkable success.

Strengthening Ties

ENGAGEMENTS WITH KOREA POST

The APPU Bureau visited the Republic of Korea from 9–11 July 2025 to engage in bilateral discussions on key postal development issues with Korea Post. Dr. Vinaya Prakash Singh, Secretary-General of APPU, along with Bureau colleagues, was warmly received by Mr. In Hwan Park, Director General of the Bureau of Posts, and Mr. Tae Hee Park, Director General of Korea Post HRD Institute, as well as other colleagues from Korea Post.

The meetings were highly productive and focused on deepening mutual collaboration, particularly in the areas of training, knowledge exchange, and postal development. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to advancing the shared objectives of the APPU community.

A few key highlights of the visit included:

- ▶ Strengthening bilateral ties and institutional collaboration between APPU and Korea Post.
- ▶ Exploring opportunities for joint capacity-building programs and technical cooperation.
- ▶ Discussing Korea's continued support for APPC training activities through the HRD Institute.

The Bureau sincerely appreciated the warm hospitality and constructive dialogue with Korea Post.



Bridging Regions and Systems:

APPU AT THE RTC WORKSHOP



Representing the APPU Bureau, Ms. Yu Yan, Manager of the RTCAP/Consultancy Section, participated in the Regional Technical Centre (RTC) Workshop held from 1 to 3 July 2025, organized by the UPU Postal Technology Centre (PTC). The event brought together representatives from all UPU Regional Technical Centres for technical discussions in preparation for the next Congress cycle.

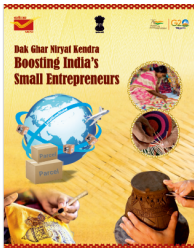
PTC acknowledged and appreciated the engagement of RTCs throughout the sessions. Specific attention was given to regional concerns, including financial service participation, internal settlement solutions, and recurring customs data issues. These inputs helped shape practical exchanges, and the PTC team expressed willingness to work more closely with regional unions to address implementation gaps and promote targeted support.

For APPU, the workshop not only provided a platform to raise region-specific concerns but also offered timely updates on new system features across IPS, DPS, and IFS. The exchanges enhanced regional understanding of upcoming requirements and will help guide future technical cooperation and training priorities.



EMPOWERING EXPORTERS THROUGH POST: INDIA POST'S DAK GHAR NIRYAT KENDRA INITIATIVE

In the APPU Postal Business Forum 2024, India Post was recognized with the Innovation in the Postal Sector Award for its Dak Ghar Niryat Kendra (DNK) initiative. This project demonstrates how postal networks can play a pivotal role in connecting underserved communities to global markets through inclusive, digital export facilitation.



Project Overview

To promote cross-border e-commerce and support the Government of India's export-led development goals, India Post launched the Dak Ghar Niryat Kendra (DNK) initiative. Over 1,000 DNKs have been established as one-stop export facilitation centers across India, focusing especially on rural and semi-urban areas.

These centers provide end-to-end digital and physical support, including:

- Guidance by Dak Niryat Sahayaks (Postal Export Assistants) on registration, documentation, invoicing, and compliance;
- Integration with e-commerce platforms and customs systems for label generation, electronic declarations, and tele-customs processing;
- Phygital infrastructure (physical drop points + digital portal) for shipment processing;
- Support for IGST refund, MIS reporting, shipment tracking, and data validation.

Key Highlights

Inclusive Reach: Over 20,000 MSMEs, especially women entrepreneurs and artisans from Tier II and III towns, have registered on the DNK portal.

Strong Export Impact: Within two years, DNKs facilitated 625,000+ shipments worth USD 17.6 million, enabling global market access for local producers.

Affordable and Simple: DNKs reduced export costs and complexity for micro-exporters by offering digital tools and hands-on guidance.

Empowering Women: The project enabled many "export-from-home" women entrepreneurs to run online businesses and ship globally.

Boosting Incomes: Direct export revenues via DNKs are up to 5x higher than traditional sales through traders, improving local livelihoods.

Greener Processes: The paperless, tele-customs system supports low-carbon logistics aligned with India's green goals.

Stronger Postal Role: DNKs position India Post as a key trade enabler, especially in regions historically disconnected from global commerce.



By offering affordable, accessible export solutions, India Post's DNK model boosts income generation, reduces reliance on intermediaries, and supports SDG targets related to market access, digital inclusion, and green logistics. It stands as a replicable blueprint for how postal operators can unlock export potential at the grassroots level.

CONTACT US



www.appu-bureau.org



APPU Bureau



@APPU_Post



APPU Bureau



yuyan@appu-bureau.org

admin@appu-bureau.org

INDIA POST MARKS 11TH INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA WITH COMMEMORATIVE STAMP AND NATIONWIDE EVENTS

India Post joined the global celebration of the 11th International Day of Yoga on 21 June 2025, with vibrant events held across the country and the release of a commemorative postage stamp by the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi, at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.



The newly released stamp, rich in color and symbolism, reflects India Post's enduring commitment to health, harmony, and holistic living through yoga.

Under the global theme "Yoga for One Earth, One Health," India Post organized yoga sessions and awareness activities at post offices and administrative units nationwide. These events were designed to inspire postal employees and the wider community to embrace yoga as a path to physical well-being, mental balance, and a more sustainable lifestyle.

For more details, visit

<https://www.facebook.com/moayush/videos/the-honble-prime-minister-shri-narendra-modi-unveiled-a-commemorative-postage-st/9978049008947850/>



KOTRA AND KOREA POST SIGN AN MOU TO SUPPORT SME EXPORT LOGISTICS

On July 3, 2025, the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) and Korea Post signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at Seoul Central Post Office to reduce international shipping costs for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The agreement offers discounted rates – up to 40% – on EMS, EMS Premium, K-Packet, and Registered Small Parcel services to over 210 countries.

Korea Post will support SMEs in expanding globally through its nationwide postal infrastructure and international mail services, while KOTRA is committed to alleviating the logistics cost burden for businesses and helping them enter overseas markets more efficiently.



» READ MORE

<https://www.hankyung.com/article/2025070364721>



MONGOL POST ACCELERATES MODERNIZATION WITH FIRST AUTOMATED SORTING SYSTEM

Mongolia's national postal operator, Mongol Post, has launched its first Automatic Mail Sorting Machine as part of a broader effort to modernise and automate its operations.

The company handles over 70% of Mongolia's mail and is responding to shifting market demands driven by digitalisation and the rise of E Commerce. The new machine is expected to triple sorting capacity, cut labor costs in half, and improve delivery speed and accuracy. This marks the first major automation investment in Mongolia's postal sector and supports the company's 2025 goals of re-engineering operations, integrating with e-commerce platforms, and enhancing customer service.



» READ MORE

<https://www.facebook.com/universalpostalunion>

MEMBERS' NEWS

The Philippine Postal Corporation (PHLPost) joined the 127th Independence Day celebrations by offering public services at its booth in Rizal Park, Manila, during the "Pampamahalaang Programa at Serbisyo" on 10–11 June 2025. The booth provided Postal ID applications, commemorative stamps and postcards, and information on mail and parcel services.

At the request of the National Historical Commission, 100 PHLPost employees also participated in the Independence Day Parade wearing Kalayaan 2025 shirts, in the presence of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.

source:



PHLPOST JOINS INDEPENDENCE DAY FESTIVITIES WITH SERVICE BOOTH AT RIZAL PARK



THAILAND POST EXPANDS SOCIAL IMPACT AND HEALTHCARE SERVICES THROUGH LOGISTICS INNOVATION

Thailand Post is deepening its role as a national logistics enabler with the launch of two new initiatives aimed at supporting agricultural livelihoods and expanding access to veterinary healthcare. These projects reflect the operator's commitment to meeting emerging societal needs through efficient, reliable delivery solutions.

Free Nationwide Fruit Distribution to Support Farmers

Under a government directive, Thailand Post is distributing over 3,000 tonnes of fresh fruit free of charge across the country. The initiative aims to reduce crop losses and transport costs for farmers by delivering produce such as durian, mangosteen, rambutan, and mango directly to consumers and through online channels. Packaging materials are being provided by public authorities to facilitate the process.

» [READ MORE](#)

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/universal-postal-union_postalnews-activity-7344990575479189504-HKs8?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_ios&rcm=ACoAAAEIFMYBqxTKIBDNnSdostoPGOZbSr9RZEG

Veterinary Medicine Delivery Service Now Available

In partnership with Chulalongkorn University's Faculty of Veterinary Science and Bangkok Animal Hospital, Thailand Post has introduced a new service: "Posties Deliver Pet Meds, Chula Vets Deliver Love." The service enables EMS delivery of veterinary medicines and supplies nationwide and supports both in-person and tele-veterinary consultations. It is designed to meet rising demand, with Thailand's pet population expected to reach 5.38 million in 2025, and to improve access for pet owners in remote areas.

<https://www.msn.com/en-xl/news/other/thailand-post-venture-provides-pet-healthcare-delivery/ar-AA1GNb7z>



DHL AMENDS PARCEL PRICING FROM JULY TO REFLECT INCREASING OPERATIONAL COSTS

DHL has announced changes to its international parcel pricing, effective July 1, 2025, to address increased labor, transportation, and delivery costs. The adjustments will apply to private customer parcels and small packages sent abroad, with pricing varying by country zones.

Key updates include:

- New product offerings: A 2kg parcel category for non-EU shipping (available online) and a mobile parcel label for international shipments.
- Discontinuation of the 'Premium' service for international parcel shipping due to low demand.
- Price increases for cylindrical shipments due to higher handling costs.
- Standardization of international parcel weight limits to 30kg, aligning with Universal Postal Convention regulations.
- Changes to economy sets: Introduction of new economy sets of 10 labels for EU shipping, while 50 and 100 discount levels will be eliminated.

DHL emphasizes that these adjustments are necessary to maintain service quality amid rising operational expenses. The changes apply to Post & Parcel Germany, but not DHL Express products.

» READ MORE

<https://www.parcelandpostaltechnologyinternational.com/news/parcels/dhl-amends-parcel-pricing-from-july-to-reflect-increasing-operational-costs.html>



BPOSTGROUP UNVEILS #RESHAPE2029 STRATEGY FOR FUTURE GROWTH

bpostgroup, Belgium's national postal operator, has unveiled its #Reshape2029 strategy, outlining a bold transformation toward becoming a digital and regional leader in parcel-sized logistics by the end of the decade. Moving beyond its postal roots, the company is repositioning itself to capitalize on growth in e-commerce and cross-border delivery.

The strategy focuses on seven key priorities designed to deliver measurable outcomes. These include an ambitious target of over €5 billion in top-line revenue and more than €275 million in EBIT by 2027. Annual capital investments of €160–180 million will fuel innovation and improve customer experience.

Financially, the group will adopt a sustainable dividend policy (30–50% payout of IFRS net profit) and prioritize debt reduction over acquisitions.

CEO Chris Peeters emphasized that this shift builds on a decade of experience in logistics and e-commerce, with a renewed focus on placing parcels at the center of the business model. #Reshape2029 is a forward-looking move to strengthen the company's logistics footprint while delivering long-term value to shareholders.

» READ MORE

<https://press.bpost.be/bpostgroup-launching-reshape2029-towards-becoming-a-regional-and-digital-expert-in-parcel-sized-logistics>