



# SIPA

## Bulletin

For Circulation to Members only

Vol 2 No. 1

Jan. - Feb. 1981

Bimonthly

### SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS ASSOCIATION

(Founded 1956)

(Affiliated to the Philatelic Congress of India)

#### SIPA : 1980 Activities

As we welcome 1981 with great hopes and jubilation, let's look in retrospect at our activities during 1980.

By far the most important event of the year was India-80, International Stamp Exhibition in which four of our members participated and won a number of prizes.

The Biennial General Meeting of the Association was held on 25th May 1980. New office-bearers and members of the Managing Committee were elected for the years 1980 and 1981. It would be worthwhile to quote some excerpts from the Chairman's speech on that day.

"We are due to celebrate this year, in 1981, the Silver Jubilee of our Association. 25 years of existence of the Association is certainly worth rejoicing, especially when we consider that barring the Philatelic Society of India, Bombay and the Empire of India Philatelic Society, Bombay, there are very few stamp societies like our SIPA, in India, which can boast of 25 years of activity. Now the single important factor contributing to our Association's functioning continuously over the years has been the practice of holding a monthly meeting of the members 'come rain or shine'".

(Continued on Page 2)

#### Editorial

Our Greetings to you for a happy and prosperous new year.

The year 1981 will witness a note worthy mile stone in the annals of the SIPA which will be completing its dogged existence of quarter of a Century. The SIPA which is affiliated to the P. C. I. the premier Association in India, is also one of the oldest in peninsular India. Though the name of South India Philatelic Association would seem to suggest a kind of restriction to membership, it has in its rolls members from all over the country. The SIPA is also proud to have most of the eminent philatelists of our country as its life members. It needs hardly be emphasised that SIPA has during its carrier rendered yeoman service in promoting the fascinating, absorbing and wholesome hobby of philately in South India. It is therefore necessary to celebrate the Silver Jubilee year of SIPA in a fitting manner to highlight its activities: past and present. This might include a state level exhibition, proposed to be sponsored by the Association and a number of other philatelic activities spread throughout the year. The preparation and publication of a souvenir covering the various facets of philately and other useful information on the subject for ready reference will be a worthwhile contribution during the celebrations. Efforts will also be made to obtain articles from eminent authorities on philately in India, for inclusion in the Souvenir to make it interesting, informative and useful.

The active participation and co-operation of every member of the SIPA will be needed to make the proposed Jubilee Celebrations as a real success

*The views continued in the articles published are the author's own and not necessarily those of the Association.*



## SIPA 1980 Activities (Contd. from Page 1)

On the eve of the Silver Jubilee year of the Association, we have achieved the long felt need of bringing out a news bulletin of our own. Shri M. T. Karunakaran volunteered to take upon himself the editorship of the SIPA Bulletin and the Bi-monthly bulletin started coming out. Very appreciative letters have already been received about the Bulletin and all the credit should go to Shri Karunakaran, for his interest and dedication in shaping the Bulletin, as what it is now.

The monthly meetings of the members of the Association are held on every second Sunday at the Philatelic Bureau, Madras, which continue to have an attendance of 30 to 40 members. Several interesting and useful topics are discussed at the meetings apart from exchange of stamps amongst the members. Shri G. Madan Mohan Das conducted philatelic quiz and prizes were distributed. At one of the meetings, Shri V. N. S. Rau narrated his impressions about London-80 exhibition, which was very useful and highly informative for those who did not attend the exhibition. At another monthly meeting, Shri. J. D. Pannalal, Dy. Dist Governor, District 324-A, Lions Club International, gave a talk on Lionism with the help of 4 volumes of mint stamps honouring Lionism by 62 countries since 1940 and first day covers in 2 volumes and a separate volume of special cancellations.

Apart from the above several talks on X'mas stamps, Indian States, Aerophilately, Refugee Relief stamps, 35th anniversary of U. N. Stamps etc were given.

The Association subscribes to Gibbons Monthly and stamp Collecting (weekly). Members can take one magazine at a time by keeping a refundable deposit of Rs. 10/- with the Association. The Association has also purchased the following for the benefit of the members. (1) Gibbons Commonwealth Catalogue 1981. (2) Gibbons Simplified Whole World Catalogue 1981 (3) Gibbons Catalogue Germany 1980 (4) Gibbons Catalogue-France 1980 (5) Collecting Postmarks (6) Indian Airways (7) Stephen Smith Diary

## Crow's Nest by Lookout

Don't wonder why I have chosen this unique heading. I am selfish. I collect mainly ships on stamps, hence this heading. CROW'S NEST is a platform or shelter for a LOOKOUT at or near the top of the mast. From such point, from PINTA was sighted the new land for columns.

The main theme of this article is "Cultural Heritage of India Through Indian Stamps". I have chosen the first stamp on VINAYAKA. Thanks to our Indian rulers who have given us the best to depict on this side of heritage. I shall be giving brief list of stamps on GODS TEMPLES RELIGIOUS places through stamps cancellations. or on covers.

1. LORD GANESHA, is worshiped all over India as the God who ensures smooth success for all your endeavours. He removes all obstacles. He is the first to be worshiped in any ceremony.

Stamp issued by - Duttia 1893 to 1920 S. G. 1 to 37.

2. SURYA, The sun is the supreme life giver and most powerful. Rama offered prayers to Aditya on the battle field to conquer Ravana. But there are very few temples in India dedicated to Sun God. The most famous is Konarak in Orissa

Stamp issued by - Jasdan	1942	1	1a.
Jaipur	1904 to 1926		
		1-39	various values.
	1931	40	1a.
	1947	78	8a.
Konarak p.p.	1980	spl.	can-
		cancellation	on total solar
			eclipse on 18-2-1980
India	1974	707	20p.
			Sun Mark

(To be continued)

(8) Hyderabad Philatelic History (9) Gwalior Postage History.

(This year—the SIPA has decided to have its Committee Meetings regularly on the 3rd Sunday of every month.)

K. Prasad, Hon. Secretary, SIPA.



# 1980 Christmas Commemoratives

G. MADHAN MOHAN DAS

One scarcely needs to point out the fact that CHRISTMAS is time when the Post Offices of the World are swamped with an overload of mail, mainly Greeting Cards and parcels. This is the time of the year when many people send seasonal greetings to all corners of the world. It is hardly surprising therefore that most Postal Administrations release special commemorative stamps for such an occasion, not only for financial reasons, but also to contribute to the Seasonal Cheer. Letters over this period usually are Posted with such colourful stamps which add to the festive season.

It would be an impossible task in this article to attempt a complete listing of all 1980 Christmas issues. So let us have a brief look at the kind of subjects depicted.

There is no surprise to find that a majority fall in to the religious category showing the Madonna and the Child, Angels, the Magi, scenes in the manger etc., Australia's stamps (issued in two parts) feature paintings of the Holy Family, the Virgin presenting Christ to a group of Saints and Martyrs and also a statuette of the Madonna and Child. St. Lucia has also used reproductions from the old masters to celebrate Christmas. The Cocos (Keeling) Islands' and Gibraltar's sets depict the Magi following the star and their adoration of the Jesus. Austria's stamps depicts a stained glass window from Church (Parish), the two stamps from Germany (West) and Germany (West Berlin) each show an illustration from a twelfth century manuscript. From Solomon Islands and Christmas Island come stamps with angels and from Nauru a set with quotations from the New Testament

Another extensive category of this year's Christmas stamps is associated with children: appears to be non-religious. From Tristan da Cunha comes a charming sheetlet of nine stamps depicting some of the most popular Nursery Rhymes. The Walt Disney omnibus has proved to be a popular contribution for Christmas; with PINOCCHIO set from Turks and

Caicos, PETER PAN from Dominica and BAMBI from Grenada-Grenadines. Finland's stamps depict children playing old Christmas games on a straw covered floor of a cottage. Children's designs have been adopted for Ireland's set as well as for the stamps from Malawi.

Other popular subjects are Churches (e. g. Lesotho and Togo) and closely associated items like the pulpits which feature on the Cyprus stamps; Christmas cards are depicted on Canada's set.

Christmas decorations alone is the subject of Great Britain this year. They constitute an unusual subject when viewed along side all other Christmas stamps which the British Post Office has issued since 1966, when it first and somewhat belatedly entered the Christmas stamp issuing market.

One has however to appreciate the problems which the Post Office has had to face over the last fifteen years in choosing Christmas stamps that will appeal to all from the most discerning collector and philatelist to members of the general public. The British Post Office got off to an original start in 1966 when it was decided to enlist the services of the country's school children. The result was two charmingly fresh images of Christmas seen through the eyes of two six year olds. The following year was marked by convention and produced three dull reproductions of paintings. 1968 saw a new departure in design which deprived the stamps of any seasonal reference beyond an explicit motto urging users to have a HAPPY CHRISTMAS. For the next four years, religion returned to claim pride of place in the form of angels, shepherds, the Magi etc., after an interlude of a year when Church decoration; featured, the angels were to return in 1975, giving way in the following year to English Nativity embroidery. With the options rapidly dwindling, the Post Office has this year thrown tradition to winds and opted for a firmly new, indeed modernistic design.



## NEWS

### Elite Philatelic Club, Madras

According to Mr A. Ravoo, President of the Elite Philatelic Club, the E. P. C. will be conducting an Exhibition cum contest on Philately every month during its monthly meetings on the 1st Sundays at L L A Buildings, Mount Road to help the members to learn the art of participation and presentation. The subject for January 1981 will be something with 'A' viz, Australia, Albania, A.P.O. etc., and for Feb '81, something starting with 'B' and so on. A token gift is proposed to be awarded for the best entry

### 'KOVAIPEX - 81'

The Posts & Telegraphs Department will be conducting a Philatelic Exhibition exclusively for students - KOVAIPEX-81, on January 17, 18 and 19. The exhibition will be held at the Centenary Hall of St. Michael's High School, Coimbatore. Special Cancellation will be provided on all the three days of the exhibition. Special covers on each day covering the themes (1) The Handicapped (2) Children and (3) Textile technology will also be brought out. Interested Philatelists may contact Philatelic Bureau, Coimbatore. H. O.

### 'APPEX-81'

The 3rd Andhra Pradesh Philatelic Exhibition 1981, will be held at Hyderabad from 11 to 14 January, 1981, under the auspicious of P M.G. Andhra Circle. The venue will be the Hall of Institution of Engineers (India), Khairatabad Hyderabad, 500 004.

### 'COCHINPEX'

A Philatelic Exhibition to be designated 'COCHINPEX-81', Sponsored by Stamp Exchange Club of Cochin is proposed to be held at Mattanchery, Cochin, 682 002 on 15th, 16th and 17th May 1981. Special covers and cancellations will be provided on all the three days.

### The Philatelic Society of India

The Philatelic Society of India has a proud record of holding more than 650 uninterrupted fortnightly meetings. The members meet at

the Darbar Hall, Town Hall, Elphinstone, circle (Horniman circle), Fort, Bombay-400 001. Mr. Dhirubai Mehta, Hon. Editor, Philatelic Journal of India (Journal of the Philatelic Society of India) welcomes the visiting philatelists to attend the society's fortnightly meetings.

### Indian Topical Association

Indian Topical Association with H. Qrs. at Bhopal is functioning since January last. The object of the Association is to bring all stamp collectors, especially thematic/Topical collectors under one banner. The ITA issues a cyclostyled journal containing informative and instructive articles. Philatelists who are interested may contact Mr. D. Madhav Rao, Secretary, Indian Topical Association, Berasia Road, Bhopal-462 001.

### ROCPEX TAIPEI '81

An international stamp exhibition, organised by Ministry of Communication, Republic of China will be held at the National Palace Museum in Taipei during October 25th to November 2nd, 1981.

No participation fee will be charged. Each exhibit will be allocated a minimum of two and a maximum of 10 frames. Applications must be sent to the Commissioner by 31st March '81. Commissioner in India: Mr. R. K. Sarawagi, Nipha Machinery Mfrs Pvt. Ltd., 25, Netaji Subhas Road, Calcutta - 700 001

### Letters to Editor

I must say that Madras is the real paradise for philatelists..... Kindly let me know how to become the member of SIPA. So that I receive your bulletin regularly.

Dr. Manoj Sharma, Varnasi.

It was interesting to read of the Mobile PO. in Madras. I think the enclosed paragraph which I had for long time, was taken at inauguration of the mobile PO. in Madras. May be Mr. Ravoo would like to have one for his record.

Dhiru Bhai Mehta, Bombay.

Thanks a lot for sending the SIPA Bulletin to me. I am really happy to read the interesting articles..... I am now proud to be a member of the esteemed SIPA

V. Bala Ravichandran, Coimbatore.



## 1981 STAMP PROGRAMME

Jan. 2, 1981 Maulana Mazharul Haque 1 x 35 Paise; Jan. 1981 Tribes of India 4 x 100 Paise; Feb. 1981 St. Stephen's College 1 x 35 Paise; Feb. 9, 1981 Gomateswara 1 x 100 Paise; Feb 27, 1981 G. V Mavalankar 1 x 35 Paise; Apr. 1981 International Year for the Disabled persons 1 x 100 Paise; Apr, 1981 Heinrich von Stephen 1 x 100 Paise; May 1981 IX Asian Games, New Delhi 1982 1 x 35 Paise; 1 x 100 Paise; May 1981 ICOM Submarine Telephone Cable 1 x 100 Paise; June 5, 1981 Environmental Preservation 1 x 100 Paise; June 22, 1981 Nilmoni Phookan 1 x 35 Paise; June 23, 1981 Sanjay Gandhi 1 x 35 Paise; July 1981 IX Asian Games, New Delhi 1982 1 x 35 Paise; 1 x 100 Paise; July 1981 Indian Space Research Achievement (Launching of Rohini-Rs 1 by Indian Statellite Launching vehicle); Aug. 1981 Indian Butterflies 1 x 35 Paise; 1 x 50 Paise; 1 x 100 Paise; 1 x 230 Paise; Sept. 1981 Indian Navy 1 x 35 Paise; Oct 21, 1981 Pablo Picasso 1 x 230 Paise; Nov. 14 1981 Children's Day 1 x 35 Paise; Nov 27, 1981 K. P. Jaiswal 1 x 35 Paise; Nov, 1981 Indian Costumes 6 x Denominations to be notified later on) and Dec. 14, 1981 Henry Heras 1 x 35 Paise (*The above are subject to change*)

—O—

## TIT BITS

### Some Nicknames - or popular Names

'*Admirals*'— Colloquial name for three sets of British Commonwealth Stamps, the 1912-18 issue of Canada 1926 Newzealand and 1913 Rhodesia, all of which show king George V.

'*Bantams*'— The miniature, war economy and war effort stamps of the union of South Africa were so nicknamed on account of their size.

'*Baby*'— The name collectors give to the early issues (1896-1900) of King Alfonso XIII of Spain and her colonies.

'*Black Jack*'— Name given to the 1862 USA 2c black bearing the portrait head of Andrew Jackson, reproduced from a miniature by J. W. Dodge.

'*Bulls eyes*'— Nickname given to the first issues of Brazil. 1843.

'*Camels*'— The issues of the Sudan of 1898 and 1921 have taken this name from the Camels shown in the 'Vignette'.

'*Chain Breakers*'— Popular name for the 1919 issues of Yugoslavia, so called from the sign design which shows a symbolic figure breaking his chains.

'*Chalan heads*'— Famous full-face portrait of Queen Victoria painted by Alfred Edward Chalan in 1837, on the occasion of Queen's first visit to the House of Lords after her accession. It was used for many of the classic issues of the British Empire, the first being 12d black stamps of Canada, 1851.

'*Commerce*'— Name given to the French Colonial general issues of May 1881, which depict the allegorical figure that give rise to the title.

'*Cotton Reels*'— The first (1850) circular typeset issues of British Guiana were so nicknamed.

'*Dawks*'— Scinde Dawks) These stamps were the first issues of British India. They were initiated by Sir Bartle Frere, the Commissioner of Scinde. The issue was stopped in 1854, 'Dawk', freely translated, means 'the post'.

'*Doves*'— The famous Bale (Basel or Basle) Swiss Cantonal stamp issues of 1845.

'*Kangaroos*'— The first general issue of the Commonwealth of Australia (1913) shows a kangaroo within an outline map of the continent.

'*Map backs*'— Stamps of Latvia (Latvija) issued in 18 Dec 1918 were printed on the backs of German ordnance survey war maps.

'*Wood Block*'— The 1861 locally-produced triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, during to their crudity when as a matter of fact they were engraved on steel.

All communications relating to the Bulletin should be addressed to Mr. M. T. Karunakaran, Hony. Editor, SIPA Bulletin, No. 2 III Cross St., Jayanagar, Tambaram Sanatorium, Madras-600 047.