



SIPA

Bulletin

For Circulation to Members only

Vol 2 No. 2

Mar. - Apl. 1981

Bimonthly

SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS ASSOCIATION

(Founded 1956)

(Affiliated to the Philatelic Congress of India)

At our monthly meetings—

The first "Members Meeting" of the year 1981, took place on 11th January. Sri. C. A. Rajagopalachari, our ex-President gave a talk on Aerophilately. He drew the attention of the members to the literature available in plenty with regard to areophilately, which could be made use of, for furthering one's knowledge on the subject. He recalled as to how the Astrophil unit of the Association was started a few years ago with a big fan fare and expressed his distress in not seeing its further progress. He hoped that with the necessary co-operation of the members and with the help of some more new members joining the Astrophil unit, it could continue its activities progressively. He appealed to members to come forward and revive the Astrophil unit and also assured that Astrophilately would come to occupy a position that could only be rivaled by the classic. He also pointed out that India had come to occupy a prominent position with the launching of the satellites into orbit.

Sri V. N. S. Rao, our President appealed to members to bear with the short comings of the Philatelic Bureau, in not being able to supply even the reasonable requirements of the philatelists on the first day of issue of stamps.

(contd. in Page 11)

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

Editorial:

At the 49th Congress of the Federation Internationale de Philatelie (F. I. P.) held at Essen, Germany, from November 11 to November 13, 1980, the congress for the first time decided to have a permanent secretariat for F.I.P. It also established a 9-man board. Mr. D. N. Jatia, the chief delegate of India (also represented for Iran) to the Congress, was elected to the board of Directors.

It is a great honour extended not only to Mr. Jatia but to India as well. It may not be out of place, if we mention here; his earlier exertions and efforts in making "Asiana" (The first ever Asian level International exhibition held in India at Bangalore) a success, and the concrete and meticulous part played by him in India-80, which was indeed a recognition by the F.I.P. after the Asiana. This would stress the fact that Mr. Jatia is one of the leading architects of modern Indian philately.

We wish Mr. Jatia every success in all his future endeavours for promoting and spreading philately as a scientific and educative subject all over the country.

All communications relating to the Bulletin may please be addressed to Mr. M. T. Karunakaran, Hony. Editor, 'SIPA Bulletin', No. 2, III Cross Street, Jayanagar, Tambaram Sanatorium, Madras-600 047.

Stamp Quiz

A quiz programme was conducted at the monthly meeting of our Association on 8th Feb. '81 by Sri S. Ramaswamy one of our past presidents. It generated some lively interest among members present.

We then thought that it would be nice to have a feature in our monthly bulletin devoted to the quiz, as often as possible, depending on the welcome it gets from members.

So, here we present you with a dozen questions prepared by Sri S. Ramaswamy, relating to Post-independence issues of our country till 1980 end and wish you some pleasant moments finding out the answers for the quiz.

1. The Quill has appeared on three stamps so far, could you name them?
2. Coins have been featured on two stamps apart from the one issued on children's day in 1964. Which are the stamps?
3. A number of prominent foreigners have been honoured on our stamps. Name Six Americans who have been honoured so.
4. Identify two stamps portraying the human eye.
5. Four stamps have been issued in diamond shape instead of in the conventional form, which are they?
6. At least six stamps issued so far portray persons on horse back. Name them.
7. Of all the stamps issued after 1947, only one stamp bears the inscription 'Air Mail' on it, which is it?
8. Two of our stamps feature medallions showing the profile of the person concerned. Name them.
9. So far four stamps have the Red cross as a prominent part of the design of the stamp. Identify them.
10. The charka (Spinning wheel) appears on three stamps issued. Which are they?
11. Atleast one king appears with a pucca crown on his head. Can you name him?
12. Apart from the issue in 1977 depicting flowers the Lotus forms an integral part of the design of four stamps. Please identify them.

(The answers will appear in our next issue)

S. RAMASWAMY

Crows Nest by Lookout (contd.)

3. TIRUMURTHY. Creations, Preservation and destruction: The three basic aspects of the Lord, are attributed to Brahma, Vishnu and Maheswara and Thirumurthy idol symbolises their synthesis. The three headed deity represents the three aspects and their authors. Very few Thirumurthy temples exist in the sub-continent.

1949-311-9 P. stamp Post Ind.—Clossal image representing Siva in the rock cut cave at Elephanta 8th century A. D. — colour-bright green.

— Card — Post Ind. as above with Gandhi Photographs.

1-1-1976 Cancellation-at Bhagabannagar P.O. on the above card.

4. NATARAJA. Widely published by Western scholars and known the world over for its artistic excellance form. The Destroyer depicted in his dance form, dancing Siva over the corpse of the Asura killed by him. Siva or Nataraja is the diety worshiped by the Hindu followers of the Saivaite sect. anywhere in the suq-continent. The Pose symbolises conquest of the evil and supreme art form of Thandava Nritya.

1949-313-2a-Stamp- A bronze image of Siva as the cosmic dancer from Tiruvalan-gadu 1100 A. D.-Colour-Red.

1977 — 25 P. Stamp — Ananda Kumaraswamy with inset. Cover of above cancelled at Thiruvalangadu on 22-3-1977.

Cancellation and Spl. Cover — 2-1-79 at Sibsagar with Siva's temple.

1965-575-60 P. Stamp — Somnath temple—the most sacred of all Siva temples in Western India and perhaps the wealthiest. It was destroyed by Mohammed Gazni in his invasion of India. Re-built and restored to its original form 20 years ago. it is a gem of Indian temples architecture of Medieval India

Cancellation only: With above stamp. No special cover.

18-11-1976 Cancellation and special cover-Issued at Kamakhya Temple: Cover shows Maheswar wita Sati at his shoulder.

From mere Accumulative to educative Thematic Collection

M. T. Karunakaran

To start with, the term philately was limited in its scope and implied the mere collection of postage stamps. In the present day the scope of philately has considerably widened to include not only the collection but involving critical and thematic studies of stamps.

The "Penny Black" the first ever designed adhesive stamp was a well thought out and artistic one. The choice and engraving of the queen's head of Golden Victorian era was a great success in promoting a fillip to philately. The shape and size of The 'Penny Black' was also appropriate and convenient. It was a pattern to be copied by other countries in subsequent years. Many countries started issuing postage stamps and it was dawn for the countrywise stamp collection. The early philatelists were confined to the collecting of stamps of a particular country or a few selected countries. Many others attempted to collect stamps from as many countries as possible to the extent feasible. Most of them in their attempts could not achieve completeness of collection. Achievement of completeness was found extremely difficult if not impossible. The Collectors inspite of their arduous efforts felt handicapped and restricted.

Gradually the critical study of perforations, water marks etc., gained momentum and made philately an interesting study. This fascinating hobby captured the hearts of a great many. Comprising from school children and extending up to septuagenarians and above. The flight of philately had a phenomenal progress. If philately had confined its scope to the mere collection of stamps, its pursuit would have been ephemeral in its nature and stagnated, for there was no intellectual appeal. But in a few years the factor of intellectual appeal has been introduced in the field of philately paving way for its success.

The specialists instead of confining themselves to mere collection of stamps started

making critical studies of various manufacturing methods involved in the printing of stamps such as Recess printing, Lithograph etc, which were the process adopted in the early stages. Very minute yet discernable variations or differences which existed between one stamp and another in the same printing block, the rectifications or corrections made in subsequent printing blocks were discovered by the keen and penetrating eyes of the specialists. They fixed the variations with reference to the position of each differing stamp in the block. Some had taken great pains to reassemble the used stamps as a sheet comparable to the original sheet, indicating the differences that existed in the original printing stone, or block. Such an earnest study analysis and gathering of all the specimens, involved considerable time and money for acquiring adequate material. Only a few could afford such a luxury.

However since the issue of 'Penny Black' rapid growth and progress in the development of stamp designing, printing and issuing have taken place that today all the countries of the world are issuing numerous amazingly beautiful thematic and subject stamps. On account of this, majority of the philatelists of the present day are devoting themselves increasingly to the delightful and educative pastime of topical and thematic collection. Under this branch of philately commemorative stamps also play an important role.

The commemorative stamp is not a comparatively modern development. It has been claimed that the first commemorative was the 5 centavos stamp issued by Peru in 1871. This stamp which depicts a locomotive was intended for use in mails carried on a newly opened railway connecting Lima, Callao and Chorrillos.

The first commemorative "series" was issued by the New South Wales, an Australian

(contd. in Page 11)

(contd. from Page 9)

State to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the colony's formation. As this series remained in use for a number of years they were considered as "definitives". The inscription "one hundred years" on them however proclaims the interest of issuing them as commemoratives.

The early commemoratives were first considered as speculative stamps. Some philatelists of that period opposed such issues. They even formed a society which however later on passed into oblivion. At first the issue of commemoratives was confined to individual countries which brought out stamps to mark their own national events. The day of commemoratives multiple issue began when the U. S. A. celebrated the 400th anniversary of the landing of Columbus in the Columbian exposition series. So also Salvador and Nicaragua in 1892 and Venizula in 1893 commemorated the same event showing the explorers advent to the New World. To begin with the commemorative stamps were very few in numbers. Subsequently the issue of commemorative stamps gained a rapid momentum. To day there are several thousands of commemorative stamps out of which more than two hundred different thematic or subject collections could be formed. An elaborate list of themes has been issued by the A.T.A. (American Topical Association) for the benefit of prospective collectors.

At our monthly meetings,

(contd. from Page 7)

During the next meeting that took place as usual at the Philatelic Bureau hall, around 30 members attended. Mr. G. Madanmohan Das, our Vice-President gave an interesting talk on French art stamps and also circulated to the members present a few beautifully and neatly prepared album sheets of French art stamps. Mr. S. Ramaswamy, conducted a quiz programme, which drew the interest of all the members present.

—:o:—

NEWS :

Special cover and cancellation :

National Postal museum, London and M/s. Thomas De La Rue, London will be presenting rare philatelic material to the National Philatelic Museum, India through the Philatelic Congress of India, on Saturday 7th March 1981 at New Delhi. To commemorate the occasion a special cover (Price : 25 P.) and will provide a special cancellation.

Mail orders for special cover and cancellation may be addressed to Post master, Philatelic Bureau, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110 001.

Commemorative Stamp :

A commemorative stamp would be issued on March-23 to symbolise the nation's homage to the martyrs who laid down their lives in the freedom struggle. — "The Hindu"

Shortage of Stamps :

There is shortage of postage stamps and other postal stationery as production "has not been able to keep pace with the increasing demands". Among the measures being taken to tide over the shortages are; the provision of a second security press in Hyderabad and local manufacture of blank inland letter cards and envelopes, wherever necessary "The Hindu"

"SIPA BULLETIN"

Bimonthly Bulletin of SOUTH INDIA PHILATELIST
ASSOCIATION

ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF

Full Page	...	120
Half Page	...	65
Quarter Page	35

South India Philatelists Association,
Madras-600 001.

Membership subscription particulars :

Rs. 12/-	per annum for ordinary member	(Resident)
Rs. 7/-	„ „	for non resident
Rs. 5/-	„ „	for Junior member
		(below 18)
Rs. 100/-	for Life membership	
	No Admission Fee.	

Members who have not renewed their membership are requested to renew their membership immediately.

G. Balakrishna Das,
Hony. Secretary, SIPA.

NEW MEMBERS :

- Mr. N. S. Narayanasamy,
D-28, Rajam Road,
Madurai-625 003.
- „ C. H. Madhusudan Rao,
1, Gosha Sahib Lane,
Madras-600 001.
- „ K. Vijaya Sai,
1, Gosha Sahib Lane,
Madras-600 001.
- „ R. Baktha,
32, Ritherden Road,
Madras-600 007.
- „ P. Balasubramaniam,
41, Seerammal St.,
Madras-600 008
- „ P. Thyagarajan,
41, Seerammal St.,
Madras-600 008.
- „ V. Srinivasan,
16, Mangadu Swami St.,
Madras-600 034.
- Mr. R. Vijayakumar,
A-3, E. I. D. Parry Colony,
Ennore, Madras-600 057.
- Master M. Vasu,
15, East Abhiramapuram,
First Street,
Mylapore, Madras-600 004.
- Mr. J. D. Pannalal (Life Member)
238, Ramakrishna Mutt Road,
Mylapore, Madras-600 004
- „ Bhimani R. P., (Life Member)
8, Anderson St.,
Madras-600 001.
- Master Sunil Kumar Khetan,
22, Hunters Road.
Vepery, Madras-600 007.
- Mr. N. C. Venugopal,
34, Aziz Mulk I St ,
Madras-600 006
- Mr. B. Ashok Kumar,
Cashier Dena Bank,
311, Mint St , Madras-600 003.

- „ C. S. Chandar, (Life Member)
28, Chockalinga Nagar,
Madras-600 086.
- „ S. V. Gopal Row,
52, Chellappa Mudali St.,
Madras-600 012.
- „ D. Kandasamy (Life Member)
T M M. Kandasamy Nadar Sons
191, Anna Pillai St ,
Madras-600 001.
- „ K. C. Veeraraghavan, (Life Member)
Dy. Supt. of Police (CBI) Rtd.
1, Subramania Gurukkal St.,
R. A. Puram, Madras-600 028.
- Master P. Sanjay,
81, Govindappa Naicken St.,
Madras-600 001.
- „ P. Roorpray,
26, Pillayar Koil Street,
Madras-600 026.
- Mr. M. M. Namazie,
125/126, Moore St.,
(behind G. P. O.) Madras-600 01
- Master M. P. Swamy,
BHEL Site Office.
G.N.F.C. BHARUCH.
Narmada Nagar (P.O.)
Gujarat-392015.
- „ Ranjit Singh.
F 14/63, Model Town,
Delhi-110 009.
- Mr. T. Vinayak,
Indian Bank,
Royapettah, Madras-600 014.
- „ M. Narayanan,
37, Alangatha Pillai St.,
Triplicane, Madras-600 005.
- Master A. Arvind,
6, Nannian St., Madras-600 003.
- „ A. Rajendra Kumar,
6, Nannian St , Madras-600 003.

YOUR ADDRESS

Members are requested to notify their present address immediately to the Editor SIPA Bulletin.