



SIPA

Bulletin

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SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIATION

(Founded 1956)

(Affiliated to the Philatelic Congress of India)

At our monthly meetings—

At the March meeting Mr. V. N. S. Rau gave a speech on thematic collections and varieties of cancellations. He narrated the interesting features of many of the thematic collections that were displayed at various national and international exhibitions. He exhorted members to come out with varieties of themes of their choice and interest and start collecting. He pointed out that 'classics' was no more the craze as it had become beyond the reach of many. He also warned the philatelists especially the thematic collectors not to be carried away by the eye-catching stamps of certain Gulf countries, Bhutan etc., as these stamps were printed in number, many times that of the actual requirements of the countries concerned; with no philatelic importance.

Mr. Arun Savak, Secretary of the South India Stamp Dealers' Association explained the aims and activities of that Association.

Mr. M. Janakiraman, retired - Post-master General, graced our meeting held on 12-4-81. Mr. V. N. S. Rau, welcomed him and made a brief review of how Mr Janakiraman and his predecessors and successor were helpful at

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

Editorial :

The National Postal Museum, London and Thomas De La Rue & Co., recently presented some rare Indian Philatelic items to the National Philatelic Museum, New Delhi.

The presentation ceremony was held under the aegis of Philatelic Congress of India at the India International Centre on Mar. 7, 1981. Sri C. M. Stephen, Union Minister of Communications accepted the gifts from Mr. Robson Lowe and Mrs. Norman, thanking them whole heartedly.

The Philatelic Congress of India took the opportunity to confer upon Mr. Robson Lowe, who has been instrumental in promoting this valuable presentation; its first Honorary Life Membership, in recognition of his unique, pioneering, outstanding and many splended contribution to world philately.

SIPA Acknowledges the great philatelist

The joint efforts of Sri G. B. Pai, President Philatelic Congress of India and Sri S. P. Chatterjee in this valuable presentation surely deserve recognition.

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.

Answers to Quiz in our previous bulletin

- | | | | |
|------|------|---|---------|
| 1 a | 1950 | Inaguration of Republic | 3½ as |
| b | 1968 | Amrita Bazar Patrika Centenary | 15 Ps. |
| c | 1968 | Birth centenary of Lakshminath Bez baruah | 20 ps |
| 2 a | 1976 | Maraja Agrasen | 25 ps |
| b | 1978 | Indian Museums | 1 Re. |
| 3 a | 1963 | Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt | 15 ps |
| b | 1965 | Abraham Lincoln | 15 ps |
| c | 1969 | Martin Luther King | 20 ps |
| d | 1979 | Albert Einstein | 1 Re. |
| e | 1980 | Miss Welthy Fisher | 30 ps |
| 4 a | 1962 | Ophthalmology Conference | 15 ps |
| b | 1976 | World Health Day | 25 ps |
| 5 a | 1964 | Raja Ram Mohan Roy | 15 ps |
| b | 1966 | Swami Rama Tirtha | 15 ps |
| c | 1971 | Guru Ravindas | 20 ps |
| d | 1974 | Mrs. Kamala Nehru | 25 ps |
| 6 a | 1957 | The Rani of Jansi | 15 ps |
| b | 1961 | Shivaji Maharaj | 15 ps |
| c | 1970 | Jatindranath Mukherjee | 20 ps |
| d | 1973 | President's Bodyguard | 20 ps |
| e | 1972 | Kittur Rani Channamma | 25 ps |
| 7 a | 1976 | Bi-Contenary of American Revolution | 2-80 ps |
| 8 a | 1964 | Children's Day | 15 ps |
| b | 1974 | Professor Roerich | 1 Re. |
| 9 a | 1957 | International Red Cross Conference | 15 ps |
| b | 1963 | Red Cross Centenary | 15 ps |
| c | 1970 | Indian Red Cross | 20 ps |
| d | 1976 | World Health Day | 25 ps |
| 10 a | 1950 | Inauguration of Republic | 12 as. |
| b | 1963 | Human Rights | 15 ps |
| c | 1969 | Mahatma Ghandhi Birth Centenary | 5 Rs. |
| 11 a | 1976 | Maraja Agason | 12 ps |
| 12 a | 1954 | United Nations Day | 2 as. |
| b | 1957 | International Red Cross Conference | 15 ps |
| c | 1962 | International Ophthalmological Conference | 15 ps |
| d | 1969 | Mahatma Gandhi Birth Centenary | 5 Rs. |

S. Ramaswamy.

(At our monthly meeting)

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every stage in the growth of our Association and praised the efforts of Mr. M. Janakiraman, whs conducted two Tanapex exhibitions; one at Rajaji Hall, and another at Abbotsbury, both at Madras and how he gave his unstinted efforts for the cause of Philately and in particular to our association in all directions

Mr. A. Ravooof President of Elite Stamp Club displayed a few sheets on "Dhothies on Stamps". Mr. Madan Mohan appreciated the originality of the theme and gave a detailed talk on the theme.

K. PRASAD.
Hony. Secretary.

Crow's Nest By Lookout

4. Nataraja (Contd)

20-4-73 Spl. cover issued during Tanapex with Nataraja in gold.

3-2-77 Spl. cover issued at perur. by Tamilnadu P & T circle, showing the beautiful pose of the Thandavamurthy

5. Sri Padmanabha Temple at Trivandrum:

The most important temple in the former princely state of Travancore, and worshipped daily by the royal family. Its architecture is noteworthy for its resistance to the South West monsoon, pouring 200 inches of rain per year. The surrounding court yard was used for Mass feeding of devotees through out the year. The Maharajas ruled Travancore styling themselves Padmanabha Dasas. It was the biggest charitable institution in the state and unrivalled in India for Mass Feeding

1931 - 36 - 6 ca stamp Travancote (Indian State)
1937 - 45 - 12 ca stamp Travancore.

METER FRANKING

M. T. KARUNAKARAN

Meter Franking machines are those which print impressions of stamps of various values direct on to the envelopes, cards and labels for other postal articles and record the amount expended by means of a meter.

In the early days only big concerns used franking machines. The time has now changed, that to day a franking machine has become as necessary in an office as a typewriter or a telephone. It eliminates the time and energy spent on buying, storing and sticking postage stamps. Franked mail does not require post marking and is passed direct to sorters. It also carries advertisement, special message or announcement.

number of value segments which are brought into operation by means of levers or a dial. As with the F. V. machines the number of values possible is indicated by LV3, LV6, etc.

3 Multi value (MV): These machines have a single frame die in which any value or denomination can be printed by the operation of keys, knobs or dials. The number of possible values depending on the number of banks of keys (Banks denote figures of value i.e., 2 Bank-0-0i; 4 Bank-0003).

The impressions from a meter franking machine usually consists of upto three parts, as in the illustration below;



C



B



A

Newzealand first started using the machine in Jan. 1907. Then followed United states in 1920, Greater Britain in 1922, Canada, India, Germany and Uruguay in 1923. Afterwards the number increased rapidly.

The types of meters used vary, according to the nature of the value die employed.

Types of Meters :

1 Fixed value (FV): Here each value is printed from an entirely separate frank die of which the value (denomination) forms an integral part. Some early machines were fitted with a single value die only and are known as FV. 1. Later types were fitted with more than one value-die and are known as FV3, FV6, etc; according to the number of possible values.

2. Limited value (LV): These machines are fitted with a single frame die, with a limited

A. The Frank is the essential part corresponding to the adhesive postage stamp, made up of the "Figures of value (FgV)" and the die with the name of the country etc.,. In most countries the impression included a Meter Number (M No) or identification No. (Id No.) which indicates the particular machine. A record number (R No.) is some times included in the impression between the town mark and the frank. This is a serial number indicating the number of items that have passed through the machine irrespective of the value of the impressions.

Whilst the colour officially recognised by the Universal Postal Union for meter impressions is red and was at one time compulsory for metered mail sent overseas there are many exceptions to this rule. United States and

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Canada used violet and green respectively, while blue, brown and orange were used by some other countries. In some early machines used in Great Britain, India and else where, the frank was printed in red and the town mark in black. (illustrated below)



In India a licence for the use of a post office franking machine will be granted on application to the Head of the Postal Circle concerned.

The Franking machine must be obtained under the licence only from the firm authorised by the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs and specified in the licence. Before the machine being brought into use it must be shown to the post office concerned. Each machine will be sealed by the suppliers before being delivered and the post office will affix a lead seal at the bottom. The seal must not be broken or tampered in any manner by the licensee. The licensee will pay in advance a sum representing the amount of postage for which he wishes the machine to be set at the time of purchase. Any resetting of the meter will be done only at the Post Office, as the machines are easily portable.

All stamp Impressions for the purpose of prepayment of postage must be made as far as possible in the right hand top corner of the address side of the postal article itself or a wrapper or label firmly attached to it. Cut out labels with Frank impressions on them for pre-paying postage can be used subject to the following conditions :

1. Not more than one cut out label bearing the frank impressions in full payment of postage and registrations and other fees will be permitted to be affixed to each parcel.

2. When more than one frank impression is obtained on a cut out label or wrapper, the impression should not overlap nor be more than half inch apart. In such cases the impressions of stamp bearing the name of the firm the licence number, the date and of any slogan used should appear only once and should not overlap any frank impressions.

3. The cut out label should be securely pasted to the parcel on the right hand side above the name and address of the addressee.

4. The cut out labels should bear the name and address of the sender printed on the left hand side.

5. The total value of the frank impression or impressions should be written in figures in red ink on the cut out, below the printed name and address of the sender.

Franking is allowed upto any amount. The impressions must be of a bright red colour, must be clear and distinct, as otherwise the article is liable to be refused by the Post Office.

An advertisement devise may also appear along side the date stamp impression provided that :

(i) it relates solely to the business or professions of the licensee

(ii) it is quite separate from the impressions of the identification mark, licence number and the date stamp and post mark.

(iii) it is confined to the top left hand corner of the envelope or card.

The machine franked postal articles must be tendered at the post office counter on the very day of the date of frank borne by them.

The advertising devise should however first be approved by the head of the postal circle.

Meter franking impressions like adhesive postage stamps are also being collected world wide by several philatelists and collectors. They too have a distinct place within the scope of philately. Just like all other collectable items, these also have a value like those in a collection of any other kind.

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Sri Lanka Stamp Issues—1981

No.	Issues	Denominations	Date of issue
1	Animals of Sri Lanka	Rs. 2-50, Rs. 3-00 Rs. 4-00 & Rs. 5-00	81-12-10
2	Census of population & Housing	50 cts.	81-03-02
3	C. L. I. Centenary	Rs. 2-00	81-04-01
4	Vesak 1981	35cts., 50cts. Rs 7-00	81-05-05
5	Ter Centenary—La Sallian Brothers	Rs. 2-00	81-05-15
6	National Heroes	Three Stamps of 50cts value each	81- 5-22
7	Dr. T. B. Jayah	50 cts.	81-05-31
8	Dr. N. M. Perera	50 cts.	81-06-06
9	International Year of the Disabled	Rs. 2-00	81-06-19
10	Centenary Pali Text Society	35 cts.	81-06
11	Universal Franchise	50 cts. & Rs. 7-00	81-07-07
12	Silver Jubilee— A.C.B.S.F.	Rs. 2-00	81-07-19
13	Family Planning	50 cts.	81-08
14	Trees of Sri Lanka	35 cts., 50 cts. Rs. 5-00	81-09
15	Acupuncture	Rs. 2-00	81-10-19
16	Queen Elizabeth's Visit	50 cts. Rs. 5-00	81-10-20
17	Flowers of Sri Lanka	35 cts., Rs. 2-00, Rs. 3-50 & Rs. 7-00	81-11
18	Sir James Peiris	50 cts.	81-12-20

*Dates and Values are subject to alteration.

Fourthcoming Issues :

Stamps—AUSTRALIA

20 May 1981 :

Gold Rush Era :

17 June 1981 :

Australia Painting

15 July 1981 :

International year for Disabled Persons. Commemorative issue. One stamp and one first day cover.

29 July 1981

Marriage of HRH Charles Prince of Wales and the Lady Diana Spencer. Commemorative issue. Two stamps one first day cover and one souvenir pack.

STAMPS - Australian Antarctic Territory :

Ships of the Antarctic, series III, Australian Antarctic Territory definitive issue. Six stamps, one first day cover and one souvenir pack.

Pre-stamped envelopes :

24 August 1981 :

International Botanical Congress

16 September 1981 :

25th Anniversary of outward Bound.

SIPA - Silver Jubilee :

SIPEX - 81 : The South Indian Philatelists Association, Madras is organising a Philatelic Exhibition from 16th to 19th July 1981 at the LLA Building I Floor, Anna Road, Madras. The members are requested to send their applications for participation before the date specified (Necessary forms and other particulars will be separately issued.)

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