



# SIPA

## Bulletin

For Circulation to Members only

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Bimonthly

### SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIATION

( Founded 1956 )

( Affiliated to the Philatelic Congress of India )

#### At our meetings :

March 1982 34 Members were present, Mr. S. Ramaswamy was unanimously elected as the Chairman of the meeting in the absence of both the President and the Vice-President. New issues were announced. Mr. A. Ravoo showed the latest issues and collectors' pack from USA, which were beautiful. Both Mr. & Mrs. Ramanujam, appealed to the members to make the monthly classes being held at the Association office, a success by making a large attendance. Mrs. Ramanujam said that to be a good philatelist, one must know the rudiments of philately before the hobby is systematically pursued. She added that the art and science of philately should be learnt systematically and to this end, she offered her services to the members. Mr. S. Ramaswamy traced the beginnings of thematic issues by various countries, which were very small. But now it had assumed so much of importance and gained recognition even by the conservative countries like UK, that thematic issues had become the order of the day and there was no dearth of material for collectors pursuing any of their pet themes.

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

#### Editorial :

##### PHILATELIC MUSEUM

*According to the note from Shri S. Kitson, a life member of PCI: SIGNET informs; "The Philatelic Museum and library located in the General Post Office, Calcutta, is now two years old. The brain child of Shri C. L. Deb the then Postmaster General, the Museum has now in to an interesting addition to the Philatelic scene in this part of the country. It deserves to be on the itinerary of all philatelists who visit the city ... .. The museum provides an insight into the history of the Postal Dept. with the help of maps, Charts and equipment used by the Department in Olden days."*

*While seconding the suggestion made by Shri S. P. Chatterjee in urging the P & T Dept. to provide a library of philatelic books and Journals in each of the philatelic bureaux in the country to facilitate at least the local hobbyists to use them frequently for their benefit and taking it for granted that such philatelic libraries will be provided in the Philatelic Bureaux in Tamil Nadu. We further suggest that such an endeavour be taken up in consultation with the local Philatelic Associations to make it more successful and worthwhile.*

*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.*

## NEWS :

### Revised programme for issue of commemorative/ special stamps during 1982.

| Date    | Subject                                   | Denomination         |
|---------|---|----------------------|
| 09 May  | Durga Bai Desh Mukh                       | 35                   |
| May     | Himalayam Flowers (set<br>of 4 stamps)    | 35, 100,<br>200, 283 |
| 04 Jun. | Centenary of Darjeeling<br>Himalayan Rly. | 285                  |
| 19 Jun  | Apple Satellite                           | 50                   |
| 14 Aug  | Oil Exploration                           | 100                  |
| Aug.    | Asian Games (set of 2<br>Stamps)          | 100, 100             |
| 03 Sep. | 75th Anniversary of<br>Scout Movement     | 50                   |
| Sep.    | Contemporary Art<br>(set of 2 Stamps)     | 305, 200             |
| 01 Oct. | Wild life                                 | 285                  |
| 08 Oct. | 50th Anniversary of IAF                   | 100                  |
| 09 Oct. | Textiles of India (set of<br>2 Stamps)    | 305, 200             |
| 21 Oct. | Indian Police                             | 50                   |
| 14 Nov. | Children's Day                            | 50                   |

19 Nov. IX Asian Games (set of  
4 Stamps) 50, 200,  
285, 285

06 Dec. 50th Anniversary of IMA 50  
 \* Science & Technology 200  
 \* Centenary of Post Office  
Savings Bank 35  
 \* Dates of release will be  
announced later (The above  
programme is subject to  
change)

### Special Cancellation :

A special cancellation will be provided on  
24-4-82 at the following post offices on the  
occasion of the Golden Jubilee of Kalaimagal  
Magazine.

- (i) George Town GPO., Madras (ii) Mount  
Road, Madras.
- (ii) Mylapore, Madras (iv) T. Nagar,  
Madras

### New Philatelic Bureau :

Philatelic Bureau will be opened at Visaka-  
patnam Head Post Office on 22-4-82 With  
the opening of the Bureau; the total number  
of bureaux in the country will be 34.



# INTRODUCTION TO THEMATIC PHILATELY - Contd,

(A very exhaustive and simple note "Introduction to thematic Philately" prepared by

Dr. MOROLLI, President of the FIP Thematic Commission is reproduced

below - Courtesy - SIGNET)

## 10. Presentation

- A. If the collector has no intention to take part into philatelic exhibitions any arrangement of the material will be suitable.

Anyway it is recommended to store the material in a "stock book" type of album following the plan inserting small paper labels with thematic information. It is also recommended to keep note of the main reasons relating each item to the theme, especially when it is the output of a personal study.

- B. If the philatelist decides to "Mount" the collection he has to choose the type of sheets.

### — Type of Paper

Hard enough to support the items (envelopes, etc.)

Flexible enough to use typewriting. (Eraser) should not damage it.

### — commercial or specially made?

For the first preparation commercial sheets are alright. Free choice between plain or squared colour should not disturb (clear, soft,)

Better to use a standard format (check availability of protection covers in transparent plastic).

## C. Writing

Any technique (hand, letraset, typewritten, printing, etc.) but clear, consistent, tidy

## D. Mounting

Any kind of support but clear, consistent tidy.

- E. The items should be arranged in the sheets in a "readable" form. Each page should contain enough items and should be balanced with the other pages.

The items should be in the sequence according to the thematic development (No graphic justification should change the thematic order.)

- F. Non postal items cannot be used for presentation reason Exceptions.

Sketches or Maps.

If they improve the understanding (avoid a long description enlargements or pictures)

If strictly necessary (mainly for philatelic reasons, (ex. to show the back of a post-card, etc

## G. Texts

Each chapter of the plan should start with a title. The same applies to each sub-chapter/paragraph.

A concise text should introduce and link together the items from a thematic standpoint

Additional short information should be provided any time the material is not self explanatory from a thematic philatelic point of view.

Main suggestions :

The collection should be read through the material (which is what we are collecting). Try to write as little as possible, but as much as needed for clear understanding.

## H. Other hints:

+ do not superimpose items.

= do not cut postal stationery.

(If they are too big and of little interest but the cancellation, mount them in the back of the pages showing the postmark through a "window" cut in the sheet)

+ Remember that the presentation is for understanding all your work and appreciating it!

+ The plan page should reproduce the plan of the collection at a detailed level (not too much—one page should be enough for a normal sized collection)

— In order to give the list of contents of the collection, the plan should be written down as the index of a book, indicating as well the actual size of each chapter (in pencil, for easier updating).

## 11. Philatelic Exhibitions

### — Why to exhibit?

to make propaganda for philately.

to compete

to measure your achievements

to publicise the results of your research.

Competition is challenging, interesting and motivating but should not be the main target of your philatelic activities.

### + Where to exhibit?

There are different level of exhibitions :

Local

Regional, national, international

In some exhibitions there is no competition: Participants are invited by the organizers.



For competition regulations/enrolment procedure are available through the philatelic organizers (address in the philatelic press)

+ What is a philatelic competition?

It is an overall evaluation of the collection in points. According to the pointage: A prize (medal) is awarded/level of points needed to get the same type of medal is higher in Higher rank exhibitions (national, international).

**12. Regulation:**

- + Are the evaluation, Criteria of a thematic collection.
- + Reflect the suggestions given in the previous pages.
- + Are prepared by the most advanced collections in the field at international level in the thematic commission of the international federation of philately.
- + Are modified from time to time in order to reflect the advancement achievements in the latest years.
- + In the exhibitions organised by philatelic societies active in the FIP environment, these regulations are always in force.

**13. Regulation—how they are applied**

According to the regulations

The jurors consider the main aspects given an average evaluation considering errors and special merits.

**1. Presentation**

Clear  
readable  
balanced  
uniform  
tidy  
effective

**Errors:** Page with the plan missing  
Plan too long/short

No information about size of the collection

Pages too loaded, too empty, without care

Mounting material badly arranged  
Writing too big, too little, without care

Spelling errors

Text too long, too short

New and used stamps on the same page,

**2. Thematic development**

Logic  
correct  
balanced  
complete

**Errors:** Development inconsistent with the plan

development too poor

development too much confused/unclear

development not covering all parts of the theme covering

parts not pertaining to the theme  
division in chapters not balanced.

**3. Originality**

Personal work

level of detail

level of difficulties

value of research

correctness

**Errors:** No work in depth

no research

errors against the theme

no personal activity

no thematic work (subject collections only)

**4. Size**

completeness

comparison with possibilities in the specific area

**Errors:** Some chapter or the collection too little

**5. Philatelic knowledge**

presence of all the types of item possible in that area

choice of items from a philatelic standpoint

choice of items from a thematic standpoint  
quality of philatelic studies (if any)

**Errors:** Stamps only

very few documents

too little/too much philatelic study  
forgeries

block, margins useless

detrimental issues

postmarks and material "de complaisance"

FDC, Maximum, etc. used without philatelic reason

Non philatelic items, postal stationery cuttings

**6. Condition and Rarity**

quality of stamps and documents

rarity = difficulty to find an item rather than commercial value

**Errors:** Items from a limited geographical area

bad conditions of items

new issues only

bad quality of cancellations/used stamps

(Contd in page 20)



# THE EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF STAMPS

By AAZER A. MEDHORA

The story of evolution is the story of human progress and civilization. Empires rose to greatness and like 'chimney sweepers turned to dust' but the chronicles of their glory their power and influence have come down to us through the corridors of time. Ruling kings, poets, philosophers, navigators, explorers, scientists and inventors and along with them the memorable events of the age including victories, festivals, jubilees, inaugurations and achievements have all been fittingly honoured in all modern countries. These are all depicted in the adhesive pieces of paper known as stamps. The hobby of stamp collecting instils in one the urge to acquire knowledge of finer tastes and likings, in the instinct for the preference of the tender, the beautiful, the gay and the artistically perfect articles we should like to enjoy.

The dignity and eminence of a country may be gauged from her postage stamps and in this respect India admittedly stands supreme. India presents a gallery of postage stamps noted both for their beauty of design and colour and for their educative value. They extend from a chronicle of events and indigenous occupations to reigns of Kings and Queens, lives of sages, saints, poets, scientists, industrialists, important historical events like the mutiny, the Telegraph Centenary, the Indian Railway Centenary the Olympic Games, the temples, the flora and fauna, five year plans, High Courts and universities, miniature paintings and a host of other subjects. They are some of the finest specimens of colour and art. Philately has honoured the father of Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, the Prime Minister Statesman, our beloved Pandit Jawaharlalji, saints like Kabir and St. Thomas, poets like Tagore and Ghalib, philosophers like Swamy Vivekananda, educationists like Dr Maria Montessori, Industrialists like Sir Jamshedji Tata, Engineers like Dr Visvesvaraya, politicians like Motilal Nehruji, Mathematicians like Ramanujam, Scientists like Haffkine and Madame Curie, Musicians like Beethoven, Cricketers like Ranjit Singhji and many others. Their lives are portrayed in the beautiful folders brought out by the Indian Posts and Telergaphs Department.

It may be of interest to observe that Portugal issued stamps depicting the story of the Great Navigator Vasco De-Gama's landing at Calicut and Argentina in 1892, and U.S.A. in 1893 similarly commemorated the centenary of the discovery of America. So History speaks through stamps and imports to them an educative force. Curiously enough it fell to the

lot of a British school master, Rowland Hill, to agitate in 1835 for uniform postal rates which culminated in the birth of the postage stamp.

Geography fittingly claims the postage stamps as its educator on paper. The collector of stamps comes to know more of lands and the people of the world. Map stamps of the various countries help to visualise the location of the place in that little known portion of the world and are more vivid to the trained eye of the collector and linger longer in his memory than large sized wall maps. But stamps need not necessarily show maps to excite an interest in geography. The collector sees stamps of South Africa, Angola, Niger, East Africa, Somali Land, Congo when he collects stamps of Africa. He begins to wonder how the various countries of Europe i.e. Britain, Portugal, France, Germany, Italy and Belgium respectively, got their colonies in Africa. If the collector has any curiosity at all, he will learn facts about the Boer war. The collector who has Vatican stamps has an understanding of the unique position of the Vatican that is probably not known by some of his non-collecting friends. For a Roman Catholic the collecting of stamps of Italy instils an urge to know the various Popes and Pontiffs.

Citizenship is the way people treat one another rather than mere knowledge about our Government, when better is citizenship learned than in the pursuit of this hobby? Arthur summerfield U.S. Postmaster General, truly said 'A Nations' postage stamps are a gallery of its glories. In miniature, they depict its famous men they enliven the great events of its history, they highlight its industries, they extol its natural wonders postage stamps are also ambassadors of goodwill. They show what a country stands for. They show where a people's heart is. They mirror the soul of a nation.' In this world of conflict and turmoil, these small pieces of paper are real messages of love and peace, and little silent 'ambassadors of a country.

Stamps properly studied, can have educational value in language. The collector who collects French stamps knows many French words before he even enters a French class. He knows that Holland is Dutch and Osterriech is Austria.

A stamp album is a compendium of History, Geography and Biography. It is a sociable past time. What more will one want from philately than its silent joys and its gateway to the Temple of knowledge.



# PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF INDIA

The following were elected as office bearers and Members of the Governing Council of Philatelic Congress of India for a term of to years 1982 and 1983.

|                      |     |                          |
|----------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| Mr. G. C. Jain       | ... | <i>President</i>         |
| " V. N. S. Rau       | ... | <i>President elect</i>   |
| " G. B. Pai          | ... | <i>Past Presidents</i>   |
| " D. N. Jatia        | ... |                          |
| " P. Gupta           | ... | <i>Vice Presidents</i>   |
| " S. P. Chatterjea   | ... |                          |
| " Dhirubhai Mehta    | ... |                          |
| Col. L. G. Sheno     | ... |                          |
| Mr. S. B. Kothari    | ... | <i>Treasurer</i>         |
| " G. Madan Mohan Das | ... | <i>Joint Treasurer</i>   |
| " M. G. Pittie       | ... | <i>Secretary General</i> |
| " K. Lakshminarayan  | ... | <i>Secretary</i>         |

## Members of Governing Council :

|    |                     |     |  |
|----|---------------------|-----|--|
| 1  | Mr. A. G. Shirolkar | ... | <i>Bihar</i>   |
| 2  | " N. K. Javeri      | ... | <i>Gujarat</i>   |
| 3  | Dr. N. V. Sheno     | ... | <i>Kerala</i>  |
| 4  | Mr. G. M. Pujari    | ... | <i>Madhya Pradesh</i>  |
| 5  | " B. B. Paymaster   | }   | <i>Maharashtra</i>   |
| 6  | " Vispi S. Dastur   |     |  |
| 7  | " Brahm Mehta       | ... | <i>New Delhi</i>   |
| 8  | " K. K. Varma       | ... | <i>Haryana Punjab Himachal Pradesh,<br/>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</i>    |
| 9  | " O. P. Bhatnagar   | ... | <i>Rajasthan</i>   |
| 10 | " M. C. Kapur       | ... | <i>Uttar Pradesh</i>   |
| 11 | " S. N. Poddar      | }   | <i>West Bengal</i>   |
| 12 | " S. C. Sukhani     |     |  |
| 13 | " Tay Peng Hian     | ... | <i>To represent foreign members</i>                                |
| 14 | Brig S. K. Anand    | ... | <i>To represent Army Postal Service</i>                            |
| 15 | Mr. N. K. Varma     | ... | <i>Dy. Director General (Phil: P &amp; T)<br/>Observer Member.</i> |

## Introduction to Thematic Philately :

(Contd. from Page 18)

### 14. How to select the pages for exhibitions

In order to let the juror appreciate the best rules of work you should select the pages which brings you the best evaluation for each item of the pointage scheme:

- Best presented
- best developed
- Most original
- widest choices of items
- best philatelic items

But linking them in a continuous way, i.e., exhibiting full (or wide selection) chapter rather than separate pages

#### Suggestions :

- + The plan should be that of the collection, not of the frames you exhibit
- + Do not modify your collection according to the number of frames you have obtained from the organizers

- + Do not believe that the higher the number of frames, the better chances for success.

### 15 Conclusion

- + As any other good philately collection a thematic one requires personal engagement time and study and also money  
You cannot built up a good collection in few weeks or months with new issues or simple items.
- + Without your research even the best items of classical philately support of the top express will help you very little.
- + Your personal commitment will be rewarded with personal satisfaction and pleasure at philatelic and cultural levei and if you decide to exhibit, with additional pleasure and, we wish you, the highest awards.