



SIPA

Bulletin

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SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIATION

(Founded 1956)

(Affiliated to the Philatelic Congress of India)

Editorial:

An Incomplete Record

Under the heading "Cancellations and Post marks Provided from Inpex-77 to Inpex-82", a total number of 138 pages of the Inpex-82 Souvenir-cum-catalogue contains illustrations of Special Pictorial and Exhibition cancellations and post marks issued in India.

It is mentioned below the title as follows: "The Souvenir-cum catalogue issued on the occasions of Inpex-75 and Inpex-77 presented the works of cancellations and post marks provided thereafter, as received from the various circles, are presented here, circlewise, including those issued by the Army Postal Service."

From the words "as received" one has to presume that the particulars furnished might not be complete. However to prove this presumption to be correct, that a number of cancellations and Post marks of Tamil Nadu circle, which should have found place in the list have been found missing. It is to be verified to ascertain whether such omissions prevail in the cases of other circles also.

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

The discrepancy may probably be due to the failure of upto date maintenance of a register showing the allotments of such cancellations in chronological order.

To the philatelists the Inpex Souvenir is a national publication and is expected to furnish complete particulars for reference. A little extra attention in this respect could have provided an authenticated record to serve the collectors in India and Abroad as an useful guide.

SIPA

Wishes its readers

a happy and prosperous

New Year.

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.

SIPA MEETINGS

SECOND SUNDAY of every month - Regular meeting at the Philately Bureau, Anna Road, Post Office.

THIRD SUNDAY of every month - Auction meeting at 41, Perumal Mudali Street, Madras 1

Air Crash Letter

by M. T. Karunakaran.

The Wright Brothers first went up in their flying machine in 1903. But to obtain a government contract, it was an essential condition that the aircraft be able to carry a passenger. In September, 1908, Orville-Wright took off with a light weight passenger and came down safely. A few days later he took off with a heavy weight passenger. When the aircraft was descending to 75 ft. a wooden propeller blade splintered and cut the wires controlling the rudder. The aircraft nose dived in to the ground. Orville Wright escaped with broken leg but the passenger was killed. This was probably the first air accident that took place in the history of passenger aircraft service.

Gone are the days when an aircraft was of mere wooden wings, fuselage, tail and springs. Today's aircrafts most of them with jet engines are of thousands of parts. Despite the tremendous amount of care and technical

scrutiny accidents do occur due to human error and machine faults, material faults, inadequate ground facilities personnel failure and other causes like: "Bird strikes, lightning-thunder squall, destabilising air streams which are beyond human control" were the probable causes for air accidents.

In spite of all the constantly improved safety means, approximately at an average more than 20 accidents occur every year resulting in loss of Aircrafts, human lives, merchandise, personal effects and postal articles including letters.

The letters are one of the items that are salvaged from the crash. Most of them may be in a torn, damaged (dirtied), partially burnt or water soaked condition.

On ascertaining the addressee the postal authorities normally mark them with an explanation. Such letters hold special interest to philatelists as "Air crash covers or letters."

FIP EXHIBITION IN 1984 AND 1985

Year	Name	City	Date	FIP Coordinator	National Commissioner
1984	ESPANA 84	Madrid	Apl-27 May 6	Dahinden	M. G. Pittie
	AUSIPEX 84	Melbourne	Sep 21-30	Jatia	P. Gupta
	MLADOST 84 (Youth)	Pleven, Bulgarea	Oct. 5-11	Lindberg	K. Lakshminarayanan
	PHILAKOREA 84	Seoul	Oct. 21-30	Ichida	Dhirubhai Mehta
1985	ISRAPHIL 85	Tel Aviv	May 14-22	Blecher	M. G. Pittie
	ARGENTINA 85 (Thematic)	Buenos Aires	July 20-29	De Voss	S. P. Chatterjea
	BUDAPEST 85	Budapest	Sept. 7-15	Lindberg	G. Gupta
	MOFILA 85 (Modern issues)	Hamburg	Sept. 11-15		
	ITALIA 85	Rome	Oct. 25. Nov. 3	Dahinden	Col. Sheno

New Facets of Philately

by O. P. BHATNAGAR

The universal popularity of the hobby of stamp collecting lies in the fact that it has no hard and fast rules. Its followers have not only the full freedom of collecting what they like but also have a large and varied scope for selecting any particular type of collection to build up viz., (1) a general collection of the whole world's stamps (now impossible task for any one in view of the extremely large number of stamps one has to get together); (2) a collection of a single country or a group of countries; (3) a collection of countries by area or continentalwise like Asia, Africa, Europe, etc.; (4) a collection of the cancellation and post-marks of a country; (5) a collection of a specialised study of single stamp or a particular issue or group; (6) subject matter collecting called Topical collecting by the Americans and Thematical by the British followers of this kind of stamp collecting. Twenty-five years back, philatelists declined to consider it a branch of philately. But now it has been universally recognised as a part of philately. So much so that in the National and International Stamp exhibition largest number of entries are received in this group. In the International Stamp exhibition INDIA-80 held in new Delhi in January 1980 under F.I.P. patronage there were 65 entries in this Group.

2. A new branch of philately came into existence in June 1959 when the Cinderella Stamp Club was formed in U.S.A. The club was formed for those interested in "not in the catalogue material" such as local postage stamps, Railway and bus stamps, bogus or phantom issues, advertising labels, registration labels, Christmas and T.B. Seals, forgeries, stamp-like labels, stamps prepared but not issued mystery issues and similar "Cinderellas."

3. It is indeed heartening to note that there is today greater number of collectors than ever before of Cinderella material. Cinderella Philately is the most interesting

field in the accepted general field of philately. Collections of Fiscals of India and Malaya States were displayed in the INDIA-80. A book "Cinderella Stamps" written by well-known Philatelic writers M/s. L. N. & M. Williams appeared in the market as back as in the year 1971. Cinderella and Revenue stamps were major items offered at a Robson Lowe Auction Sale in October 1980.

4. Other item of collection which is drawing attention of the stamp collectors is "Meter Stamp". In 1903 the Franking Machines came into operation for the first time. Postal Department is encouraging the use of franking machines by the clubs, societies and firms. As present meter stamps do not offer much scope to the collectors but with the rapid advances in the modern technology and the increased postal traffic some fascinating material of meter stamps is likely to appear in near future. It is interesting to note that the early examples of Indian Meter Stamps used before 1930 or very scarce and command good price.

5. Another branch of philately which has recently drawn attention of the stamp collectors is MAHIMAPHILY i.e., collection of Maximum-cards. Maximum Cards are known since 1930. Maximaphily has its aim to collect postage stamps affixed to picture post-cards complying with certain criteria of concordance and post-marked under certain conditions of concordance. Such cards are called Maximum Cards. This name is justified by the fact that its three postal components viz., (1) the postage stamp, (2) the picture post card, (3) the post-mark together present the Maximum possible concordance. Commission has been appointed by the F.I.P. for this branch of Philately. In the INDIA-80 International Stamp Exhibition there were 11 entries in the sub-class Maximaphily of Group 10—OTHER COLLECTIONS. This is the most interesting branch of Philately.

(SIPA Silver Jubilee Souvenir-1981)

NEWS

SIPA wishes its readers a happy and prosperous New Year.

New issues :

(i) A commemorative postage stamp (denomination 100 paise) will be issued on 1-2-1984 on 100 years of Postal Life Insurance.

(ii) A se-tenant set of four stamps on 'President's Review of the Fleet' will be issued on 12-2-1984. A complete set of four stamps is priced at Rs. 4/-. Each stamp is in the denomination of 100 paise

(iii) A commemorative postage stamp (denomination 100 paise) will be issued on 20-2-1984 in connection with XII International Leprosy Congress.

(iv) A commemorative stamp (denomination 50 paise) will be issued on 21-2-1984 and not on 23-2-1984 as notified in Stamp News No. 18 of December, 1983 in honour of Vasudeo Balwant Phadke, a freedom fighter.

The Asiatic Society Commemorative Stamp :

A commemorative postage stamp (denomination 200 paise) on the Asiatic Society will now be issued on 15-1-1984 instead of 11-1-1984 as notified in Stamp News No. 18 of December, 1983.

Postponed :

The issue of a commemorative stamp on Baba Kanshi Ram scheduled for 7-2-1984 has been postponed. The revised date of issue of the stamp will be notified subsequently.

Special cancellations :

(i) A special cancellation will be provided at Calcutta, GPO on 11-1-1984 on the occasion of the Nehru Gold Cup Football Tournament.

(ii) A special cancellation will be provided at Vapi on 3rd & 4th February, 1984 on the occasion of Rotary International District 306, Annual Conference to be held at Vapi.

(iii) A special cancellation will be provided at Bhilai, Post Office on 4-2-1984 on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the Bhilai Steel Plant.

Programme of Indian Stamp Issues 1984

1. Jan. 7 7th Light cavalry 100 p.
2. " 9 Deccan Horse 100 p.
3. " 15 The Asiatic Society, Calcutta (Bi-centenary) 200 p.
4. Feb. 1 Postal Life Insurance (Centenary) 100 p.
5. " 7 Baba Kanshi Ram 50 p.
6. " 12 President's Review of Naval Fleet. (set of 4 stamps) 100 p. each.
7. " 22 XII International Leprosy Congress 100 p.
8. " 23 Vasudeo Balwant Phadke 50 p.
9. Mar. Forts of India (set of 4 stamps)
10. Apl. Indo-Soviet Space Mission 300 p.
11. May 10 India freedom Struggle (set of 4 stamps on Mangal Pande, Nana Sahib, Tantiya Tope and Begum Hazarat Mahal) 50 p. each.
12. Jun. 11 G. D. Birla 1st death anniversary. 50 p
13. Jul. 29 Olympics, Los Angeles (set of 4 stamps) 100, 150, 200, 250 p
14. Sep. 14 B. V. Paradkar 50 p.
15. Oct. 1 White winged wood Duck 200 p.
16. Nov. 14 Childrens' Day 50 P.
17. Dec. 3 Dr. Rajendra Prasad 50 P.
18. " 6 Swami Haridas 50 p.
19. — Brides of India (set of 2 stamps) 100 p. each.
20. — Roses (set of 2 stamps) 100 200 p.
21. — Bougainvillea (Kagaz ka Phool (set of 2 stamps) 50 100 P.

The above are subject to change. Dates of issue of sum of the stamps will be notified later.

Philatelic Terms — (contd.)

Cylinder No: Figures in the margin showing the cylinder number. The equivalent in photo gravure printing of plate number.

Damaged: A stamp of which the design has been cut into rubbed or smeared or of which the paper is creased, thinned or torn.

Definitive issues: The normal issues of stamps of a country as against commemorations, charities etc.,

Demonetized: A stamp which even though unused has officially been deprived of postal validity.

Design: The essay when actually used for printing the stamp becomes the design of the stamp.

Die: The actual engraved piece of metal which is sometimes called the original master die. It is normally used for the purpose of reproducing replica impressions on a plate by which the stamps are printed.

Doctor blade: In high speed modern printing machine surplus ink is removed from the printing surface by a flexible steel blade known as the doctor (doctor) blade. This process can cause characteristic flows on the printed stamps. For example a piece of fine grit with ink may be picked up by the blade, scratching a line on cylinder until worked out this can cause a flaw.

Dominical Labels: A small label attached by perforation to the foot of all Belgium stamps issued from 1893 to 1914 inscribed in French and Flemish 'Do not deliver on Sunday'—The label was part of a campaign to reduce the amount of postal work done on Sundays.

Double impression: Two impressions on the stamp as a result of faulty printing.

Doubly printed: A blurred print, caused by a sheet passing twice through the press or due to slight 'whip lash' in the paper during printing.

Dumb: A stamp or post mark is said to be 'dumb' when it bears no outward indication of the country or place of origin. Sometimes the term is extended to indicate the stamp which bear no indication of the face value.

Duplex mark: British double (or dual) obliterations which were in use from 1853 to 1906 usually consisted of an oval of bars, with or without an office number.

Duplicates: Copies identical in every respect as regards water mark, perforation, colour or design.

Elusive: Term often used to denote a stamp, not to regard as rare or expensive, but which seems difficult to find and may be scarce than is generally thought.