



# SIPA

## Bulletin

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### SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIATION

(Founded 1956)

(Affiliated to the Philatelic Congress of India)

#### At our Monthly Meetings :

September '84.

Mrs. R. Ramanujam had put up a display of "Plants on stamps," prepared by a 11 years boy and also the special cancellation on coconut research in Kerala and the special cancellation issued by USA during XXIII Olympics at Los Angeles.

Mr. K. C. Veeraraghavan, briefed the members about the talk he had given to the St. Thomas Higher Secondary School children in two batches. His talk was educative and appreciated by the members.

Mr. R. Ramanujam then gave a short talk on medicine on stamps, basing on the article written by late K. D. Dinshaw.

Mr. K. Lakshminarayanan showed to the member a very rare but a modern cover with the two special cancellations given for the Antarctica Expeditions by India.

Mr. A. Thiruvengada Gupta showed a special cover issued by the Hyderabad Institute of Philately on the honour conferred on Mr. D. M. Jatia, the first Indian to sign the Distinguished Roll of Philatelists at the Royal Philatelic Society.

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

#### Editorial :

#### Resumption of 'Indian Philatelist'

It is heartening to note that the Posts & Telegraphs Department has resumed its publication of 'Indian Philatelist' after a gap of about four years. The realisation of it as one of the musts for the development of Indian Philately is quite welcome. This time P & T Department has gone a step ahead by its proposal to have direct contract with Philatelic Clubs, Societies and individuals pursuing the hobby of stamp collecting and has requested those interested to register their names (A registration slip which may also be typed on plain paper is published elsewhere in this bulletin for the benefit of those interested).

While we appreciate and welcome the above step taken by the Posts & Telegraphs Department and the Philatelic work shops conducted by it in various regions at spaced intervals; we also suggest that the following steps are essential for the promotion of philately.

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*All communications relating to the Bulletin may please be addressed to Mr. M. T. Karunakaran-Hony. Editor 'SIPA Bulletin', No 2, Ill 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** at every month - Auction meeting at 41, Perumal Mudali Street, Madras-1.



# Does Stamp Collecting Pay?

Sometimes it does, and sometimes it does not pay to collect stamps. A great amount of pleasure and instruction is to be had from this hobby, but unless we go about it in a right way, stamp collecting is not a profitable investment from a monetary point of view. Many stamp collectors throw over the hobby after a few years. Why? They often find out that their stamps are worth far less in the open market than they were purchased for. If they had collected in a common-sense manner, buying judiciously stamps that are bound to rise in value, and only those specimens that are in every way perfect, these collectors would have nothing to grumble about. Good stamps, well bought, are a safe security. Do not try to fill all the spaces in your album, but rather endure the sight of empty spaces than have your album full of torn, mended, dirty or undesirable stamps. A stamp collector should study these things in buying stamps-genuineness, value, and con-

dition. We may put aside the question of genuineness, for that is a *sin que non*, value depends more or less on the condition of the stamp. When buying stamps, whether they are used or unused, see that they are in every way perfect. If the stamp is used, the post mark should be light. Do not include any postmarked-to-order stamps in your collection. If the stamp is unused it should be in 'mint' condition, full gum, clean, well centered and the colour unaffected by the sun or atmosphere. The preservation of the stamps you purchase also demands some attention. Do not paste your stamps in any old exercise book, but mount them in a strong, well-bound album. This should keep out the damp and dust, and do not expose it to the rays of the sun. It is also well to store your album when not in use in a dry cupboard, and keep that place specially for it. If collectors follow these hints they need not be afraid of saying "Stamp collecting does pay."

(Contd. from page 29)

Editorial...

1. Conducting State level philatelic exhibitions every year. (This would cultivate ambition to attain perfection in collection and to obtain awards.)
2. Helping to conduct Stamp Bazaars at important centres (This would facilitate the collectors to obtain stamps of other countries also to some extent).
3. Conducting work shops specially for the school philatelic club masters. (This would help the masters to educate the students in number and continuously for years).
4. Establishing small libraries at all Philatelic Bureaux. (The philatelic literatures including Souvenirs issued by the Dept. on various occasions will suffice to begin with).

5. Directly involving the local Philatelic Association. Which are affiliated to the Philatelic Congress of India, the national body; in all its activities. (The assistance and guidance of the Senior Philatelists are a must for a meaningful implementation of any programme).

Dear Members !

We are sure that each one of you is specialising in some subject or other in Philately. You must surely have something interesting or unique to mention in your collection. Please write about it to us for publication in these columns. SIPA is very much interested in publishing such items of interest for the benefit of other members. Please do share your knowledge with others. Senior members are specially requested to send in their original articles first for publication in our bulletin. Also please write to us your suggestions for improvement.



# On Display of a Stamp Collection

by V. N. S. Rau.

Presentation of Stamps, arranging of Album pages and methods of mounting on them always presents an interesting pastime to all collectors whether he or she be a child or an adult, be a child or an adult, beginner or advanced. The pre-requisite for a proper presentation, one should have some sort of an opportunity to know the stamps and of what one has and what one needs. The habit of accumulating them in transparent envelopes or closed envelopes and lock away in drawers and boxes often causes damage or loss of stamps and large such accumulation becomes a right mare.

The best method to collect is to house the stamps in an album which adds to the delight of the possessor and is an incentive to study them and continue the hobby. The albums that are printed is the best for the beginner. They provide ruled spaces for stamps of different countries, with illustrations for identification. The choice of the album varies with the taste of the individual and to start with, the album consisting of several hundred pages with spaces for stamps which can be bought with a small outlay will serve the purpose. The printed album initially inspires neatness arrangement skill in locating proper places and mounting with peelable hinges of good quality. This further enlarges the scope for filling up the blank spaces and complete the issues of countries.

The printed album leaves much to be desired by an advanced collector for to them, acquisition stands foremost and appearance and arrangement is of no consequence. For the advanced collector, the advantages of a blank album affords a good field. The blank albums are available to suit the requirements of the well informed adult beginner or a student of research and study with a price-range to accomodate each type of collector.

After the collector progresses in the hobby, the need comes for specialising in one thing or other and the blank album is the only thing that will satisfy his needs. Collectors indulge in evolving a method by which they

could display their material. It is done in diverse ways, for some of the pages are mounted to look simple with an appeal on the stamps themselves. To some who wish to display their material resort to profuse colouring and ornamentation, symetrical designs on borders and emblems to enhance the presentation. To some who wish to convey ideas resort to descriptive lettering giving particulars relating to issue, water mark, perforation and period of issue and the like. To some they afford as work pages for study and research of the stamps mounted on them.

Mounting stamps on the pages should be with peelable hinges which leaves no trace. When removed and too many should not be mounted on a page but should be limited to a maximum of ten stamps. If a complete set could not be accomodated in a page which is desirable, resort may be had to split them and accomodate them in two or three pages, if necessary. No more than one issue should be mounted on a page which make it a good page. Stamps should be arranged is each of the pages differently to relieve monotony. The arrangement of stamps and covers if they are of similar types gives a departure from the ordinary way of mounting and adds to one's pleasure.

The most important factor to be borne in mind is the write up on a blank page collection. Too much write-up is not desirable. The country, special nature, date of issue and other important information which is necessary should be included. There are different methods used in such writing up and the best of all is by way of hand lettering with indian ink, the next best being type writer and lastly the writing which is illegible and shaky should be avoided.

The attractiveness of a collection depends largely in following the above simple methods which will not only be pleasing to the owner and afford great pleasure but also to the onlooker.

*by Courtesy: NRPEX-82, SOUVENIR.*



## PHILATELIC TERMS — (Contd.)

**Ivory head :** A variety of the G. B. 1d red and 2d blue of 1841-57. Electro-Chemical action between the constituents of the ink used and the paper content caused eventual and variable bluing of the paper owing to the comparatively little ink upon the portrait of the queen, the local staining was practically non-existent and (viewed from the back) the head often appears almost white upon a blued ground.

**Jubilee :** The term usually refers to the 1935 Silver Jubilee of King George V, marked by an omnibus series of stamps for all the territories of the British Commonwealth. The Silver (25th Anniversary) Golden (50th) and Diamond (60th) Jubilee of a ruler's reign or a country's Independence are favourite subjects for commemoration stamps. The 1887 issue of Great Britain is some times described as the Jubilee series, because its appearance coincided with Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. It was not a commemorative issue, however, remained in use until 1902.

**Jubilee line :** The inked printer's rule frame or line surround enclosing a pane of stamps. It was first introduced into sheets

of stamps of G. B. in 1887 - Queen Victoria's Jubilee year hence the name. It is due to the inking of a frame work of brass rule placed around the places to more evenly distribute the weight and impact of the inking rollers' kicking the edges of the marginal 'cliches' or plates, on making and breaking contact. An unbroken 'Jubilee' is known as 'continuous' if broken, it is 'co-existence,' terms used in connection with the study of 'controls.'

**Key plate :** The printing plate used to print that portion of a design decided so that it can be used commonly for many countries by printing different inscriptions from separate *Duty plate*.

**Killer :** Any cancellation sufficiently heavy to disfigure most of the design.

**Kiss :** 'Kiss' is a can term for an accidental or chance touch by the printing base on the sheet. When a sheet of stamps is taken from the press a stamp or stamps, if issued, will show part of the printed design either doubled or married an impression of some other part of the design completely out of register in relation to the stamps.

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At our Monthly Meetings ...

Mr. G. Madhan Mohan Das gave a talk on 'Receipes and Cooking on stamps' and showed a Book issued by the American Topical Association, available in the Association Library.

Mr. F. P. Seervoi wanted to know, when the ordinary cancellation in Hindi was effected and showed a Hyderabad Town cancellation from his collection.

October '84 :

Our member, Mr. M. S. Md. Noorullah who had put on display a few of the selected sheets of his pit theme 'Traffic Safety' gave a very lively and interesting talk on the safety methods to be adopted both by the pedestians and the vehicle drivers; right from cycle to lorries, and mentioned local life accidents and emphasised that both the pedestians and

the vehicle drivers should observe the traffic rules.

Mr. F. P. Seervoi, Vice-President of the Association gave a quiz programme on 'PIN' and gave in token appriciation a FDC to correct answers from members. The talk he gave subsequently on the subject 'PIN CODE' was really very informative, educative and generated interested among the members.

Mr. V. N. S. Rau, President, PCI and Member of the Philatelic Advisory Committee, gave his advice about stamp collecting and how to mount a collection, by seeking the advice of elders, hearing their talks and seeing their displays and also using the library books and journals on philately. He was given a rousing avotion on his departure to Seol to be an International Juror for Phila Korea 1984.



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**SIPA LIBRARY**

Mr. F. P. Seervai, Vice-President of SIPA presented to the Association's Library 16 issues of the journal 'Stamp Magazine' of the period 1977-78. While offering since thanks we also expect senior members to follow suit.

*New Location of the Library :* Our Library is now being shifted to No. 58, Krishnappa Naicken Tank St., Madras 600 079. Sri S. Sankaranarayanan has offered the space in his house for keeping the material and his services to conduct the Library. He has also promised to make himself available and keep the Library open to members on all Sundays. For further information please contact him in person.

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**Capital Stamp Bazaar**

We congratulate those enthusiastic and sincere philatelic dealers who have successfully started this 'Capital Stamp Bazaar'.

The Philatelic Promotion Council, New Delhi, is conducting this new programme every month on scheduled date. So far two such stamp bazaars have been successfully held. It provides excellent opportunity to buy sell or exchange philatelic items. The important additional features being :

(i) Launching of the campaign to educate masses against Bogus stamp issues.

(ii) Free film shows,

(iii) Free training workshop on stamp collecting.

While wishing this new venture success, we also hope that in the immediate future, the council will be able to launch such bazaars in other important cities also atleast once in a year for the benefit of those who could not travel long distance.