



# SIPA Bulletin

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BIMONTHLY

## SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIATION

(FOUNDED 1956)

(AFFILIATED TO THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF INDIA)

### TIPS FOR THE BEGINNER

With increased temperatures and muggy weather, make sure your collection is protected from humidity! Mint stamps have a tendency to become stuck down, and ultimately ruined. Protect your stamps by using plastic mounts and make sure your collection is stored in a cool, dry, humid free atmosphere. Many good stamps have been ruined or damaged by lack of concern over atmospheric conditions. Don't let it happen to you and don't forget to renew your SIPA dues for the 1993 stamp year.

### THE STAMP SCENE

by Mark Kellner

(Junior Editor's note: The following article has been written by a member of the APS Junior Writer's Unit. For more information on the JWU, contact Greg Wildemann, 18 Pleasant Street, Seneca Falls, New York 13148).

What to collect? That is the question that will always face the philatelist at one time or another, especially if he wants to put something together for an exhibit. Having been in that situation myself, here are a few hints that you may want to use the next time:

**LOOK FOR THE UNUSUAL.** While anybody can assemble a collection of a popular country, it is the true philatelist who goes after the unusual in a specialized area or topic.

**SET A PERIOD OF TESTING.** Usually two or three months will help you determine if a topic is right for you. If you quit before then, you may regret it and if you stick with it too long, you may end up with material that you really do not want.

**FILL YOUR MIND WITH INFORMATION.** Look up all you can about your topic withing catalogs. If you live near or have access to a philatelic library, take a further look for what you can find. Also, try to find out about the major study groups in your field. If there are none, you could very well start one once you have become advanced enough.

**WRITE TO DEALERS** who are specialized in your topic. All carry advertisements of many specialty.

**CHECK FOR EXHIBITS** of your topic at the next stamp show you attend. If, by chance, your favorite postal

administration happens to have a booth, stop by and chat awhile with the officials, and make some purchases.

**DISPLAY IT WELL!** This I can not emphasize enough. If you hve good stamps, they deserve a good home! Your wouldn't keep a pet in a rundown cage, so why mistreat your stamps?

**CHECK THE AUCTIONS AND TRENDS.** If you do this, you may be able to pick up a bargain or two and can gauge the market. Linn's "Trends" is an excellent source for this. Most auction houses send free catalogs, but a growing number ask for subscriptions. Pay it - the knowledge and philatelic reference value of the catalog is well worth it.

**DON'T BE AFRAID TO EXHIBIT.** The only way to improve your collection is to leave it subject to criticism. The worst you will do is a certificate of appreciation, and just think how much fun it would be to win an award! So, go ahead, try it, you may like it.

### Tit-Bits

Shri Dhirubhai Mehta, well known philatelist writes from USA to inform that Canada will release the final set of stamps in its folklore series on September 7 '93. The following countries have been admitted to the Universal Postal Union (UPU)

1. Latvia (June 17 1992),
2. Croatia (July 20 1992),
3. Khazakhstan (Aug 27 1992),
4. Slovenia (Aug 27 1992),
5. Aminia (Sept 14 1992),
6. Moldova (Nov. 16 1992)

### SIPA MEETINGS

SECOND SUNDAY of every month - Regular meeting at the Philatelic Bureau, Anna Road Post Office, Madras - 600 002. (10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.) FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAY of every month - Auction meeting at our Library Hall at 6, Nannian Street, Madras -3 (Timing 10.45 a.m. to 1 p.m.) SIPA Library Open Tuesday & Sunday, 6, Nannian Street, Madras - 3. 7p.m. to 8 p.m.



**PHILATELIC EXHIBITIONS**

1. Punpex-93 was held from 7 to 9 May 93 at Government Museum and Art Gallery, Sector 10, Chandigarh.

2. Uphilex-93. The UP Potal Circle organised the 7th State Level Philatelic Exhibition "UPHILEX-93" at Doon School, Dehradun from 15th to 19th May 93.

**SPECIAL CANCELLATIONS**

1. A special cancellation was provided on 2.5.93 on the occasion of Scout, Guide, Compere Plantinum Jubilee Celebration at Calcutta.

2. A special cancellation was provided on 5.5.93 on the occasion of 180th Swati Tirunal Jubilee Celebration at Trivandrum.

3. A special cancellation was provided on 23.5.93 on the occasion of the Birth Centenary Celebration of Kudapi Bhujanga Rao at Mangalore.

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**NEW ISSUE : P.C MAHALANOBIS (1893 - 1972)** Prashanta Charndra Mahalanobis joined the Presidency College, Calcutta in 1922 as a professor of Physics and started a statistical laboratory in his office., He established the Indian Statistical Institute in 1931 which soon won world wide recognition as an advanced centre of research and studies in statistics. During the late 30's and early 40's it developed a technique of statistical samples and successfully conducted large scale sample survey on food and cash crops, public opinion, famines and other important subjects to establish this as a most effective technique for fact collection. He set up the Central Statistical Organization of the Government of India and was the moving spirit behind the creation of the Indian Statistical service. The most important contribution of Professor Mahalanobis to modern India was to introduce what he called the approach of operational research to socio - economic planning in India.

He will be remembered for ever for what is known as the Mahalanobis D2 Statistics a measure of divergence between two entities which is more and more and more being used today in problems of machine recognition of patterns.

The Department of Posts was happy to issue a commemorative stamp Re. 1.00 on this great statistician and planner India has produced on 29.6.93.

II. Inpex - 93 : The 6th National Philatelic Exhibition 'INPEX-93' will be held between 25th and 29th December '93 at Netaji Subash Bose Indoor Stadium, Calcutta.

The 5th National Philatelic Exhibition INPEX-86 was held at City Palace, Jaipur.

As in the previous philatelic exhibitions, new stamps and FDCs will be released during INPEX-93 also. Future issues will carry special features on INPEX-93.

New Postal Stationery : i. Aerograms with the message in English "LIC Housing Finance Limited, Housing Loan for NRIC" is being released with effect from 22 March 93. ii. Post Cards with message in Malayalam "Cook rice in just sufficient water" was released with effect from 21.6.93. iii. ILC's with message in English "Land a Vital resources" was released with effect from 20.6.93.



# FISCALS

by : **Sri. Y.S. Murty.**

Of late, Fiscals have come into prominence. what are Fiscals? There is no standard definition as yet in the field of philately. A Glossary of Philatelic Terms says "Fiscal Stamps (Fiscals) : Revenue Stamps : Those employed for collecting non-postal taxes or fees as distinguished from postage stamps; Telegraphic stamps. The term 'postal fiscals' denotes stamps that were originally issued exclusively as fiscals and afterwards allowed provisionally or permanently to be employed as postage stamps". In the absence of any standard definition, the dictionary meaning of the word "fiscal" is normally accepted. It means a label indicating pre-payment to the public treasury, which in the case the Native States was obviously the State treasury of the concerned Raja. A Stamp used for revenue purposes other than postage, or having a fiscal

cancellation as distinct from a post mark is a fiscal stamp.

Many modern States collect public funds such as taxes, fees and licences through stamps. Stamps are also used in the acquittances for payments made out of public funds. Most of these are governed by the law of the land and are fixed by suitable enactments. Money is also collected through embossed stamp papers, non-judicial, judicial and court fees. In all these varieties of transactions or official business, the stamps, labels, or stamped papers do not have any postal use as in the case of the ordinary postage stamp.

The Cinderella Philatelist puts forward two separate definitions for Fiscals and Revenues thus : "Fiscals : Stamps employed for collecting non - postal taxes or fees destined for national funds. Revenues : Stamps employed for collecting non - postal taxes or fees raised by a National government." But, in my opinion, there should not be any distinc-



tion between Fiscals and Revenues. Of Course, all fiscals are not revenues, but all revenues are fiscals. The labels, stamps, or any such items not meant for any fund of a National government, or not forming a part of an valid discharge in any financial transactions, or of the payment of a fee, tax, licence, or any such item, should not be treated as fiscals. The War Labels thus are not fiscals, but a non-judicial stamp is a fiscal.

Thus, in attempting to define "fiscals" we can say "Fiscals are stamps duly used in the collection of any fee, tax, duty, or an acquittance, or as a valid discharge of any financial transaction duly supported by proper legislation". For instance, as far as India is concerned, the stamps used in the transactions supported by such legislation as the Indian Stamp Act, the Indian Court Fee Act, the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, the Indian Insurance Act, the Indian Registration Act and the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act are to be treated as fiscals.

In the case of the Native States, the Stamp Act of 1862 (Act X of 1862) applied to all of them and was an enabling Act for the Government to collect money to defray the expenses of the Courts. Almost all the Feudatory Chiefs had magisterial powers and were subject to District Courts or the Courts of the Political Agent in whose jurisdiction they worked. The British allowed the Native States to raise their own funds for running their own Courts, and the scale of fees prescribed by the Native chiefs varied from five to twenty five percent of the value of property under litigation. Section 33 of Act X of 1862 provided for exemptions whereby the Native States were exempted from affixing British India Court Fee stamps. This enabled the litigant public of the concerned Native States to go up to the District Courts, or Courts of the political agent, on appeal without affixing extra court fees prescribed by the British Indian Government. Some of the Native States who were not exempted from the use of British India Court Fee Stamps overprinted them on with the State's name and / or a surcharge. It is because of this that we find in some States two types of Court Fees prevailing - one with the Native Ruler's portrait and the other with the British Monarch's. The

values of the Native Ruler's stamps were generally for smaller causes, or relating to cases which the Native chief considered not fit for appeal to British Courts. If they became the subject of appeal, the litigant public was to pay additional court fees by affixing British India Court Fee stamps. It is because of this fact that in the first decade of the operation of the Stamp Act of 1862 some of the Native Rulers used even British India postage stamps for court fees. Kalahandi (or Korond) did so during the 1870s.

Having thus defined "Fiscals", we now have to look into the definition of "States". Three terms are being used now relating to States as 'Feudatory', 'Convention' and 'Native' in the field of philately. In India's Stamp Journal for January 1979, Sri Sahadeva Sahoo observed that they should not be referred to as 'Feudatory', or 'Convention' but only as States. I fully agree with this, for all those being referred to as Convention States are Feudatory States but the converse is not true. We only add the term 'Native' to avoid confusion between the States as they now exist and the princely States that existed prior to integration and independence. Thus, all these can be referred to as 'Native States' in philately.

(Editor's Note : If interested in Fiscals, apply for FIP SERVS to Mr. Abdul Mattin Mollah, T/486, New Air India Colony, Santa Cruz East, Bombay 400 029. He is the Indian Chapter Representative for FISCALS for FIP representing Philatelic Congress of India. Enrol yourself as a member of Fiscal Chapter. No fees. He gave an interesting talk on various occasions in the Seminar for FISCALS at various State Capitals.)

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# Tennis Stamps

By Mr. Martin Duke, MD

None of the major tennis powers of previous years, principally the U.S.A., England, Australia, or France, have issued a tennis stamp. This is a surprise considering their numerous Davis Cup victories, the major tournaments and dramatic matches held at famous places synonymous with tennis, i.e., Wimbledon and Forest Hill, and the superb triumphs of individual players such as Donald Budge and Bill Tilden of the USA, Rodney Laver and Ken Rosewall of Australia, and the 4 Musketeers of France (Cochet, Barotra, LaCoste and Brugnon).

Four individuals have been portrayed on tennis stamps. The Brazilian star Maria Bueno, winner of the women's singles event at Wimbledon in 1959, 1960 and 1964, was honored by her country on a 1960 stamp. Bueno is depicted stroking a classic forehand shot. Bela Kehrling, former champion of Hungary, and Major Walter Clopton Wingfield, an Englishman who is credited with inventing modern lawn tennis in 1874, are portrayed in a

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1961 Hungarian series on the history of tennis. In a 1972 set of Swedish stamps on women in sports, Yvonne Kristensen is pictured at the net hitting a forehand volley.

The international trophy of world tennis sprmacy, the Davis Cup, contested between countries almost yearly since 1900, has been depicted twice. The cup is portrayed on a stamp in the Hungarian history of tennis series, and also forms the background for a male tennis figure hitting an overhead on a 1971 issue from Mali.

Regardless of the fact that tennis has not been an official Olympic sport since 1924, several countries have portrayed tennis players on Olympic issues, including Monaco in 1948 for the 14th Olympic Games in England. Tunisia and Costa Rica in 1960 for the 17th Olympic Games in Rome, Nicaragua, Togo and Syria for the 18th Olympic Games of 1964 in Tokyo, and Laos in 1968 for the 19th Olympic Games held in Mexico. Vincent Richards and Helen Wills of the United States won the last men's and women's singles Olympic championships in 1924. Since then tennis has occasionally been played as an unofficial event at the games.

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Several stamps portray tennis symbols. These may be the main feature of the stamp, as in the Paraguay set of 1961, Bulgaria 1961, Cuba 1962, Nicaragua 1963, and Upper Volta 1965, in which rackets, nets, and tennis balls are usually depicted. On the other hand, a tennis symbol may be an incidental finding on a stamp often issued for other reasons, such as the French West African issue of 1958 commemorating the centenary of Dakar, the background of a Liberian boy scout issue of 1961, or two small tennis rackets grouped with other sports equipment in a Tunisian stamps of 1967. Tennis buildings, courts, or stadiums are also represented or mentioned on Nicaragua 1949 (2c Stamps), Liberia 1950, Hungary 1964, Tunisia 1967, and Togo 1969.

The first stamp showing the change of men's wearing apparel from long white slacks to the now familiar tennis shorts was on Monaco 1948. Liberia in 1955 pictured the first woman on a tennis stamp. Since then Tunisia, Costa Rica, and Brazil 1960, Bolivia 1961, Japan 1971, Sweden and New Zealand 1972, have portrayed women or girl players.

The following basic tennis strokes can be identified on these stamps: 24 forehands, 15 backhands, 6 volleys at net, 2 overhead. I serve, and I ready position awaiting the ball. (Some of the forehands and backhands may have been at net but unless clearly indicated were listed as above. A set of several denominations of the same stamp was counted only once). All players are right handed except for two left handed players represented on Monaco 1948 and Barbados 1971. Only 2 stamps, Colombia 1961 and Cook Islands 1967, appear to represent the game of doubles.

The metal racket might have been first portrayed on a stamp of Mali 1971, although one could not be completely certain. The Y-shaped throat of the racket and roundness of the racket head suggest this possibility.

Although containing neither racket, ball, net nor tennis player the French issue of 1939 entitled "Oath of the Tennis Court" is included. This depicts a painting by Jacques Louis David, a survivor himself of the French Revolution. The French Deputies, in their controversy with King Louis 16th, held a meeting in 1789 on an indoor

court, probably court tennis since lawn tennis we know it was not to be invented until the late 19th century. There, the assembly swore "never to separate, and to meet any place where circumstances might require until such time as the Constitution should be established on solid foundations". Truly this represented one of the most significant tennis events of all time, leading as it did to the French Revolution. No other oaths made on a tennis court, numerous and more colorful as they might have been, have yet led to such eventful consequences.

Brazil 1960, Paraguay 1961 and 1962, UAR 1963, Columbia 1963. Hungary 1964 and 1965, Bolivia 1968, Rykyus 1968, and Japan 1971, issued stamps for a specific tennis event or tournament alone. Other tennis issues have been part of a series in which tennis was only one of several athletic events portrayed. The New Zealand 1972 series is meant to raise money for health camps rather than to actually portray sport, and is part of a health series yearly since 1929.

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No lack of occasions or events exist that would preclude future issues devoted entirely to tennis, a sport that can be played at all levels from the most social and relaxing to the most highly competitive. The physical demands, grace of action, and drama of game situations make this sport an ideal one for artistic representation on future stamps.

Tennis Stamp Check List, By Year,

- 1934 Philippines..... 10th Far Eastern Championship Games.
- 1935 Colombia ..... 3rd National Olympic Games, Barranquilla
- Russia ..... International Spartacist Games, Moscow
- 1938 Russia ..... A sports scene
- 1939 Ecuador ..... 1st Bolivian Games, La Paz
- France ..... Painting by Jacques David, "Oath of the Tennis Court", issued on 150th Anniversary of French Revolution.
- 1949 Monaco ..... 14th Olympic Games, Wembley, England
- 1949 Nicaragua ..... 10th World Series of Amateur Baseball and erection of national sports stadium
- Nicaragua ..... 10th World Series of Amateur Baseball and erection of national sports stadium
- Japan ..... 4th National Athletic Meet, Tokyo
- 1950 Guatemala ..... 6th Central American and Caribbean Games
- 1951 Bolivia ..... 5th Athletic Championship, La Paz
- 1953 San Marino ..... A sports scene

- 1955 Liberia ..... A sports scene
- 1956 Russia ..... All Union Spartacist Games, Moscow
- 1958 French West Africa ..... Centenary of Dakar
- Liechtenstein ..... A sports scene
- 1959 Rumania ..... A sports scene
- 1960 Tunisia ..... 17th Olympic Games, Rome
- Costa Rica, ..... 17th Olympic Games, Rome
- Brazil, ..... Maria Bueno, Wimbledon Champion
- 1961 Paraguay ..... 28th South American Tennis Championships, Asuncion
- Liberia ..... Boy Scout issue
- Bulgaria ..... World University Games, Sofia
- Columbia ..... 4th Bolivian Games, Barranquilla
- 1962 Paraguay ..... 28th South American Tennis Championships and 150th Anniversary of Independence
- Portuguese Guinea ..... A sports scene
- Indonesia ..... 4th Asian Games, Jakarta
- Cuba ..... 9th Centural American and Caribbean Games.
- United Arab Republic ..... International Lawn Tennis Championships, Cairo
- Columbia ..... 30th South American Tennis Championships, Medellin
- Afghanistan ..... 4th Asiatic Games, Jakarta
- Nicaragua ..... 18th Olympic Games, Tokyo
- 1964 Lebanon ..... 4th Mediterranean Games, Naples
- Hungary ..... Tennis Exhibition, Budapest Sports Museum
- Togo ..... 18th Olympic Games, Tokyo
- 1965 Syria ..... 18th Olympic Games, Tokyo
- Upper Volta ..... First African Games, Brazzaville
- Hungary ..... International College Championships, Budapest
- Hungary ..... History of Tennis
- 1966 Papua and New Guinea ..... 2nd South Pacific Games, New Caledonia
- Thailand ..... 5th Asian Games, Bangkok
- 1967 Tunis ..... Mediterranean Games, Tunis
- Cook Islands ..... 2nd South Pacific Games, New Caledonia
- 1968 Bolivia ..... 32nd South American Tennis Championships, La Paz
- Ryukyus ..... 35th All Japan East-West Men's Soft Ball Tennis Tournament, Naha City
- Laos ..... 19th Olympic Games, Mexico
- 1969 Cook Islands ..... 3rd South Pacific Games, Port Moresby, Papua and New Guinea
- Togo ..... Opening of Omnisport Stadium, Lome
- 1971 Mali ..... Davis Cup Competition
- Barbados ..... A sports scene
- Japan ..... 26th National Athletic Meeting, Wakayama Prefecture
- Sharjah A sports scene
- French Polynesia ..... 4th South Pacific Games, Papeete
- 1972 Sweden ..... Women Athletes, Yvonne Kristensen in Tennis
- New Zealand ..... Annual health stamps
- China People's Republic ..... Various sports, including tennis (Editor, Sipa would request members to furnish stamps issued, cancellations and covers depicting the game of tennis from 1973 to upto date.)

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