



SIPA Bulletin

For Circulation to Members only

VOL. 14 NO.4

JULY - AUGUST '93

BIMONTHLY

SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIATION

(FOUNDED 1956)

(AFFILIATED TO THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF INDIA)

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

ANCIENT SIAM & MODERN THAILAND

Abundant natural attractions, including mountain and marine national parks, sparkling beach resort, ancient ruins, archaeological wonders, year-round festivals and events, interesting culture, recreation, dining, accommodation, and shopping facilities, sincere hospitality, and impeccable service enable Thailand to offer every visitor truly memorable holidays.

For centuries known by outsiders as Siam, Thailand is a modern, predominantly Buddhist Kingdom where past and present mingle in evolving harmony.

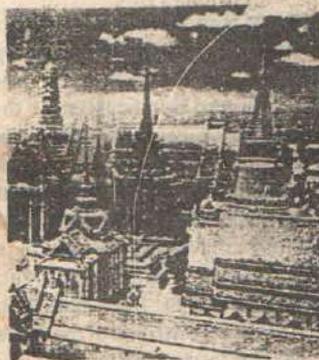
Essentially, Thailand's distinctive, oftentimes unique characteristics stem from Chinese and Indian influences harmoniously blended by Thai eclecticism rich natural and human resources and ethnic diversity, over 700 years of cherished independence, and a traditional culture delicately attuned to the time-honored Buddhist ideals of charity, tolerance, and loving kindness.

Touristically speaking, Thailand is divided into six major regions: the mountainous north, where elephants work forests and winter temperatures are sufficiently cool to permit cultivation of temperate fruits such as strawberries and apples; the sprawling northeast plateau, largely bordered by the mighty Mekong River, where a Bronze Age civilization flourished some 5,700 years ago; the central plain, a richly fertile fruit and rice growing area; the eastern coastal plain where fine sandy beaches support the growth of summer resorts; western mountains and valleys, resplendent with natural beauty in the form of numerous splendid rivers, waterfalls and caves; and the peninsular south where arresting scenic beauty and tropical islands complement economically vital tin mining, rubber cultivation, and fishing.

Some 70 per cent of Thais are connected either directly or indirectly with agriculture, a tradition dating from the founding of the first integrated Thai Kingdom at Sukhothai in northern Thailand more than 700 years ago.

Today the ruins of the ancient kingdoms of Sukhothai and

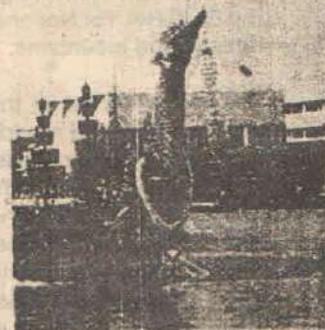
Ayutthaya stand mute and peaceful amidst a modern world, indications of a glorious past. The splendour of their arts and crafts, their architecture, their traditions, and their ways of life have not vanished with their decline, however. On the contrary, modern Thailand is shaped by influences that originated during their supremacy. More than mere tourist attractions, these two cities, together with other similar historical sites, represent a part of Thailand that cannot be recalled but whose impacts have forever enriched this country with a unique pride in its priceless historical and cultural heritage.



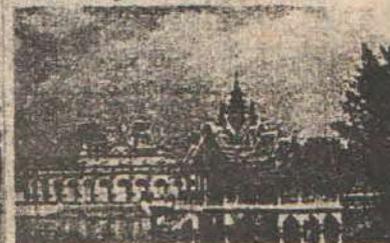
Wat Pra Kaec



The floating market



The Royal Barge called Suphanahong



Bang Pa-in Pavilion

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.

Presentday Thailand is a Constitutional Monarchy where Buddhism is the professed religion of more than 90% of all Thais.

Buddhism casts strong influences on daily life. Besides moulding morality, providing social cohesion, and offering spiritual succour, Buddhism provides incomparable artistic impetus. In common with medieval European cathedrals, Thailand's multi-roofed temples have inspired major artistic creation.

Besides sustaining monastic communities, Thai temples traditionally serve other purposes, - as the village hostelry, employment and information agency, a school, hospital, dispensary, and community centre - to give them vital roles in Thai Society.

The Thais have their own unique culture, including literature, drama, architecture, music, painting, sculpture, folk dances and crafts, their own customs and beliefs.

Historical past notwithstanding, modern Thailand is as much attuned to the micro-chip as to its traditional Buddhist culture.

A modern highway system reaches all corners of the Kingdom, and is complemented by a railway network with connections to Malaysia and Singapore. Thailand's domestic airline is first class.

Comfortable western-style hostels are found in major cities, as are modern hospitals and clinics staffed by highly trained doctors and medical staff.

Moreover, English is widely understood, particularly in Bangkok where it is almost the second commercial language.

Thailand's major tourism attractions are numerous. Briefly, by region, they include:

THE CENTRAL REGION

The highlight of the region has to be Bangkok. It is a cosmopolitan capital, justifiably famous for historic palaces and temples, superb hotels and dining facilities, lively entertainment and excellent shopping opportunities for arts and handicrafts. To the west lies the Rose Garden, a tropical park/country club famous for its beautiful surroundings and daily cultural show. Nearby, in Nakhon Pathom City, is the world's tallest Buddhist monument, the 380-foot orange-tiled Phra Pathom Chedi. Damnoensaduak Floating Market, 40 kilometres south of Nakhon Pathom, is Thailand's most vibrant and famous, floating market. For lovers of history, Aythaya is just 70 kilometres upriver from Bangkok. This former Siamese capital contains magnificent ruins of medieval temples, palaces, and fortresses. And for lovers of sun, sea and sand, the beach resorts of Cha Am and Hua Hin, highly popular among Thais, are becoming increasingly well-known with foreign visitors. An hour south of Hua Hin is the Sam Roi Yot National Park with 60 square kilometers of marshland and mountains.

THE EAST COAST

Beaches and fun abound along the eastern coast of the region which offers some of the best beach resorts and islands to be found anywhere. All manner of water sports, luxury hotels, and fun-filled activities can be found at Pattaya, Thailand's internationally famous resort. A short distance to the north is the resort of Bangsaen for more economical enjoyment. Samet Island, or Koh Samet, in Rayong Province boasts beaches and coral reefs which are ideal for scuba diving and pure relaxation. The provinces of Chanthaburi and Trat also have their share of golden beaches, plus some of the tastiest tropical fruits and the best star sapphires.

THE NORTH

The first integrated Thai kingdom, Sukhothai, is notable for its massive stone Buddhas that preside over ruins within the historical park. Si Satchanalai, the ancient seat of Sukhothai's viceroys, also has several fine ruins. Lampang is famous for its horse-drawn carriages and Ngao's Young Elephant Training

STAMPS FOR THEMATIC/TOPICAL COLLECTORS ALL DIFFERENT - FINE USED / MINT

25 Animals	15.00	25 Motorcycles	15.00
25 Architecture	15.00	25 Mushrooms	15.00
25 Art	15.00	25 Music/	
25 Aviation	15.00	Instruments	15.00
25 Balloons	15.00	25 Nude Paintings	15.00
25 Birds	15.00	25 Olympics	15.00
25 Bridges	15.00	25 Paintings	15.00
25 Butterflies	15.00	25 Red Cross	15.00
25 Cats & Dogs	15.00	25 Reptiles	15.00
25 Christmas	15.00	25 Roses	15.00
25 Cars	15.00	25 Scouts	15.00
25 Costumes	15.00	25 Ships	15.00
25 Elephants	15.00	25 Space	15.00
25 Fish/marine life	15.00	25 Sports	15.00
25 Flags	15.00	25 Stamps on	
25 Flowers	15.00	Stamps	15.00
25 Football	15.00	25 Trains/Engines	15.00
25 Horses	15.00	25 Transportation	15.00
25 Insects	15.00	25 Triangle Stamps	15.00
25 Maps	15.00		

Add Rs.10 for Postage

Terms Cash With Order No.V.P.P. Postage Free on Order over Rs.150/-

CAPITAL STAMP CENTRE

2214-15, Hardhyan Singh Road,
II Floor, Chanana Complex,
Karol Bagh, NEW DELHI-110 005.

School. Chiang Mai, "the Rose of the North", is famed for beautiful women, mountain scenery, exotic hill tribes, and distinctive festivals and handicrafts. A trip to the North must certainly include this lovely province which is 700 kilometres north of the capital. Further north, Chiang Rai offers still more majestic mountains and interesting hill tribes.

THE NORTHEAST

The diverse attractions of the northeast are luring more and more tourists to this simply enchanting region. Khao Yai National Park is laced with waterfalls and trails, and hosts teeming wildlife. Of particular historical interest is Ban Chiang in Udon Thani Province which houses priceless Bronze Age jewellery and pottery excavated from local burial mounds. Prasat Hin Phimai is an 11th-century Khmer temple, one of the finest examples of classical Khmer architecture found outside Kampuchea. Another national park, PhuKra Dueng National Park in Loei Province in the northern part of the region, occupies a beautiful tableland overlooking the spectacular scenery surrounding it. The provinces of Nakhon Phanom and Sakhon Nakhon are abundant in resplendent temples, especially in Nakhon Phanom, where the region's most revered shrine, the 9th century Phra That Phanom, is located. The Candle Festival can be seen at its finest in Ubon Ratchathani when it is held to introduce the Buddhist Rains Retreat in July. At Surin, there is the annual Elephant Round-up when countless elephants demonstrate to the delight of spectator's how they work and play.

THE SOUTH

Thailand's largest island, Phuket, is blessed with magnificent beaches and secluded bays. On the eastern coast of the South is Surat Thani, renowned for its delectable seafood. It is also the port for ferries to the paradise island Kho Samui, and Ang Thong Marine National Park with heavenly islands amid tranquil crystal-

clear water. On the same coast is Nakhon Si Thammarat, a major centre for Thai handicrafts, particularly nielloware. Hat Yai, sometimes referred to as "the Crossroads of the South", is virtually a shopper's paradise for a variety of high quality goods. Songkhla is another province which offers white sandy beaches with an added attraction in the 520-square-kilometere Khu Khut Waterfowl Park. On the opposite coast of the South, aside from Phuket, are also the hot spa of Ranong, the Su-San Hoi shell graveyard of Krabi, and the more than 300 limestone islands of Phang Nga Bay. Last but not least, Tarutao Marine National Park near the Southern border of Thailand is rich in marine life and peaceful islands.

THE WEST

Travel to Kanchanaburi and visitors will find a completely different world to which they are accustomed, as the province is the gateway to mountains, waterfalls, and arresting riverine scenery, not to mention the site of the historic River Khwae Bridge. Suphan Buri, a province believed to have been established in the Dvaravadi period, has many interesting temples (wats) built during that time. The seaside provinces of Samut Sakhon and Samut Songkhram are famed for their numerous wats and fresh seafood from the Gulf of Thailand.

Year-round festivals and events, such as traditional Thai New Year celebrations each April in Chiang Mai, the "Glory of Ayutthaya" light & sound presentation in the former Siamese capital, also during April, post-Buddhist Rains Retreat Boat races each October in Nan, Nakhon Phanom, Surat Thani, and Pathum Thani, November's Elephant Round-up in Surin, and many more complement other attractions to provide Thailand's visitors with enjoyable spectacles. Furthermore, though the Thai Products and Fruits Fair at Hat Yai and the Thailand Seafood Festival at Phuket are relatively new to the already-long list of things to do and see for visitors, they are nonetheless very well-received.

POSTAL BID SALE

FOR

**INDIA, INDIAN STATES STAMPS,
POSTAL HISTORY ITEMS, STATIONERIES,
COURT FEE, REVENUES
STAMP PAPERS, CINDERELLAS
AND COLLECTABLES, GREAT BRITAIN,
BRITISH COMMONWEALTH,
FOREIGN COUNTRIES STAMPS,
COVERS ETC. ALSO LITERATURE.**

WRITE FOR FREE CATALOGUE

SATHISH MISRA

112, Punjabpura,
Bareilly - 243 003.

PHILATELIC MATERIALS

For Stock Books, Albums, Graph Sheets,
Hinges mounts, Hinges, Butter Paper
Covers, Country Stamp Packets,
Thematic Stamps Packets,
Indian commemoratives in Bundles
India definitives in Bundles Errors etc.,

No Printed Price List

PLEASE CONTACT :

A.C. SUKANYANATH

(Philatelist)

No.7E, Dr. B.N. Road,
T.Nagar, Madras - 600 017

Souvenir shops which have received TAT's quality emblem can be counted upon for excellent services, reasonable prices, and first-rate merchandise. In addition, the Tourist Police is always ready to assist tourists in every possible way to help ensure the smoothest possible stay.

Special interest groups, such as golfers, skin divers, and naturalists can find fulfilment throughout the year in nationwide course, resorts, marine and mountain national parks and wildlife sanctuaries, while, increasingly, conventioners and incentive groups find Thailand's superb hotel and convention facilities, smiling service and exciting pre-and post-convention tours and theme parties extraordinarily attractive.

Indeed, dollar for dollar, Thailand offers holiday makers, businessmen, and conventioners exceptional value.

And few other countries can rival the year-round allure of this dazzling "Land of Smiles".

COINS COLLECTION

INDIA MAGADH, MAYURA PERIOD SILVER COINS, HINDU RAJA,
MUGHAL PERIOD SILVER, COPPER COINS

SHER SHAH SURI, DELHI SULTAN,

BENGALSULTAN SILVER COINS

INDIAN STATES SILVER COINS:

ALWAR, BIKANER, BUNDI STATES, JAMMU & KASHMIR,
KISHANGARH, MAHARAJA RANJIT SINGH Etc.,

STAMPS

INDIA PRE & POST INDEPENDENCE USED & MINT

WRITE TO:

SUBHASH CHANDRA,

K. 57/47, NAWAPURA,
VARANASI - 221 001.

PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF INDIA REGIONAL MEETING

1. Minutes of the Regional Meeting of Philatelic Congress of India held at "SUN PLAZA" 3rd Floor, 10, G.N. Chetty Road, Madras on 4th July 1993, hosted by South India Philatelists' Association, Madras. 55 Members attended the meeting.

2. The meeting was called to order by Col. L.G. Sheno, President PCI, Mr. G. Madan Mohan Das welcomed all the members local as well as those outside members who have made it convenient to attend the same and making it a grand success. Later Mr. D.H. Rao 'SIPA' president also welcomed all those who have come to attend the meeting. He said the seminars held on 3rd July '93 on four subjects had an impact on every body. He thanked all the four speakers: Mr. Vispis Dastur (Postal History) Mr. Y.R. Shah (Traditional), Mr. A.R. Singhee (Postal stationery) and Mr. A.M. Mollah (Fiscals) for their thoughtful, illustrative, and explanatory speeches on the respective subjects. He said 'SIPA' would also like to hold a seminar on MAXIMAPHILY, Mr. R.D. Binani earlier in December 1992 held a two hour seminar on Thematics, but it was felt that the time was not sufficient. He suggested to keep one additional local speaker also ready to fill up the gap in case of absence due to unavoidable circumstances.

3. Col. L.G. Sheno said he and PCI are thankful for SIPA for giving an opportunity to hold a meeting at Madras. He said to-day to secure the healthy growth we must work. For the promotion of philately a Youth Chapter has been set up by PCI. Stamp clubs should be organised in schools on a nominal membership fee of Rs.5/- to 10/- we want to establish a 'stamp bank' to supply stamps to the members of such clubs. We have received 15,000 stamps from abroad. Recently a Magazine named 'MAYUR' has been brought out. The first issue was sponsored by Philatelic Society of India, Bombay and Mr. B.B. Paymaster. The second issue was sponsored by Mr. Dhananjay Desai of Ahmedabad. He had requested to send articles for MAYUR. Mr. Ajit Chordia from Madras has agreed to sponsor one issue of MAYUR. Points received from Mrs. Sathi Veerachandra Menon were taken up for consideration.

4. Mrs. Menon, who was present, explained the various points. The details are as under :-

(i) Mrs. Menon explained that a regional meeting of the PCI may be held in Kerala, preferably at Cochin or Thrissur. The president welcomed the suggestion and stated that it would be possible for PCI to arrange a regional meeting, seminars etc. at either of the two places suggested, if Institutional members provide space, hosting etc. However, it may be possible to arrange this only around March 1994. The Philatelic Association of Thrissur should inform the President of their willingness to arrange the place for the meetings etc and the convenient dates (Saturday and Sunday only) for holding the meetings.

(ii) Mrs. Menon explained that at many of the meetings of Philatelic associations, the discussion on Numismatic seriously interfered with the Philatelic subjects. She suggested, therefore, that Numismatics should be segregated from Philatelic associations and clubs affiliated to PCI.

The President explained that it was beyond the capability of the PCI to enforce any such segregation, and that it was up to the members of the association to control the deliberations of the particular associations they belong to.

iii. In order to promote philately, Mrs. Menon recommended that PCI should make it compulsory that the affiliated philatelic associations devote at least one day in a month to give talks to the young philatelists and start Stamp Exchange programme among them. She also said that ways and means have to be

thought out to assess the aptitude and potential of each young philatelist and guide him or her to specialised collections. The president was of the view that PCI is not in a position to make such a task a compulsory programme for the affiliated philatelic societies but can only appeal to them to devote some of their programmes to the promotion of youth philately. This has already been done and from all accounts quite a lot of attention to the education of young philatelists. He also stated that the PCI Chapter for Promotion of Youth Philately was PCI's direct contribution to this cause.

iv. Mrs. Menon suggested that a Directory of PCI members be brought out including each member's name, age, qualification, occupation, address, phone no. collection interest and other relevant details such as languages in which they are conversant etc. The President explained that the publication cost of such directory would be very high and that the printing of the earlier directory was possible only because of the large advertisement revenue collected. Unless similar revenue accrues, it would not be possible to bring out such a directory.

In case any member desired to have a list of PCI membership, it was announced that a computerised list was available with the Secretary General, PCI a copy of which can be had from him on payment of Rs.25/- inclusive of Rs.10/- as postage, by Money Order. His address is: **Mr. Dilip Shah**, Secretary General, PCI, 799, Gol Bazaar, Wright Town, Jabalpur - 482 002.

5. Regarding letter form Secretary, Philatelic Society, Bhubaneswar regarding charges for cancellations it was told that the matter has already been taken up in P.A.C. meeting. Regarding giving 200 covers, it was clarified that the 200 covers are to be given to the Department and they will return unsold covers to the respective society after 60 days.

6. In conclusion Mr. D.H. Rao, President, SIPA said every function is supposed to come to an end. SIPA is thankful to all those who have come from outside and made the meeting a memorable one.

Mr. P.S. Dixit, Secretary, PCI proposed a vote of thanks and adjourned the meeting for sumptuous lunch.

A Note on the PCI Seminars held at Madras on 3-7-1993

Seminars on four subjects were arranged by PCI at Madras under the aegis of SIPA on 3rd July 1993. The seminars were conducted at SUN PLAZA 10, G.N. Chetty Road, Madras. The following are the details of the seminar themes and the leading speakers at each seminar.

1. Traditional Philately - Mr. Y.R. Shah, Bangalore
2. Postal History - Mr. V.S. Dastur, Bombay
3. Postal Stationery - Mr. A.R. Singhee, Hyderabad
4. Fiscal Philately - Mr. A.M. Mollah, Bombay

The leading speakers discussed the finer details of the scope and desirable features of an exhibit and explained the FIP Rules and Guidelines for judging such an exhibit. Each seminar was approximately of 2 hours duration.

More than sixty philatelists hailing from Madras, Tiruchirapalli, Thrissur, Bangalore, Pondicherry, Bombay, New Delhi, Patna, Calcutta, Hyderabad attended the seminar. The keenness of their participation in the seminar was evidenced by the length of the question - answer session that followed each talk.

The general feeling was one of appreciation of the extreme usefulness of such seminars for educating the philatelists, and the hope that such seminars would be arranged frequently.

DO YOU KNOW

In Maharashtra FIVE MILLION letters were handled daily of which 4.4 Million were in Greater Bombay alone. Of the 4.4 Million, the number of Mail delivered was 2.2 Million daily in Bombay.

Nation's first mechanised sorting machine would arrive from BELGIUM to be installed at the Airport Post Office. The Machine which will start functioning towards the end of November, has a capacity to handle 30,000 letters an hour as against 1000 by sorting (Sorters).

There are 1,49,000 post offices throughout the Country, 1,32,000 of them are in Rural areas providing postal facilities to 5,80,000 villages. The Maharashtra Postal Circle, which also has a jurisdiction over the GOA, accounts for 16 percent of the total Mail Traffic in the Country.

The Maharashtra Circle handles 229 Crores pieces of Mail out of 1468 crores dealt with by the postal services in the country in 1990-91.

There are 12079 post offices in Maharashtra and 243 in GOA. Of these 10632 post offices in the state and 187 in GOA are in Rural Areas.

Around 112 New post offices were opened in Maharashtra and 3 in GOA this year.

In Bombay there were only 275 post offices to serve a population of 1,10 crores. There was one post office serving the need of 40,000 persons, while the actual requirement is that there should be a single post office for a population of 10,000. (By Courtesy : Times of India, Bombay)

STAMP NEWS 7/93

New Issues:

1. Greater Bombay Municipal Corporation Building (1893-1993)

A commemorative stamp on the centenary of Greater Bombay Municipal Corporation Building was released on 31.7.93 in the denomination of 100 p

The building housing the headquarters of the Municipal Corporation of Greater Bombay completes 100 years of its construction on 31st July, 1993. It is an architectural marvel in Gothic style. It was designed by Mr. F.W. Steevens and it took three and a half years for completion at a cost of Rs.1.1 million. In front of this majestic buildg is the imposing statue of Sir Pheroze Shah Merwanjee Mehta, acknowledged father of the Bombay Municipal Act of 1888 which continuously govern the working of the Corporation eventoday.

This architectural masterpiece has been classified as a heritage structure by the State Government.

We Specialise in :

India	: Pre-Post Independence Mint, Used, errors.
Gandhi	: World issue stamps, S/S F.D.C. Errors.
Bhutan	: All issues stamps S/S F.D.C. errors
Bangladesh	: All issues stamps S/S F.D.C. Errors.
Thematic	: Rotary, Lions, Scouts, U.P.U. Birds, Animals and many more
Omnibus	: Coronation, Royal Wedding, Silver Jubilee etc.
Hawid Mount	: New Economical Pack 200 Gram consist 11 diff. strips

11 Strips for set. 121 strips in all Black or White price Rs.400/- + Rs.20/- postage and packing. Terms C.W.O remittance must be sent by bank Draft only under Regd. Post. Postage Rs.35/- minimum.

PRADIP JAIN

Professional Philatelist
Post Box No.128, Patna - 800 001. (India)

SKY IS OUR LIMIT

A GOOD SELECTION ON THEMATIC SUBJECTS IN FULL MINT SETS & MINIATURE SHEETS FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES ALONG WITH PRESENTATION PACKS AND BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR SALE. FIRST COME FIRST SERVED DUE TO LIMITED STOCKS.

No Printed Price List Please

AVAILABLE PHILATELIC ACCESSORIES:-

STOCK BOOKS, ALBUM PAGES,
PERFORATION GUAGES,
HAWID MOUNTS, HINGES ETC., INDIA
PRE INDEPENDENCE :- USED
POST INDEPENDENCE :- MINT, USED
STAMPS, FDCs, FOLDERS Etc.,
BUYING ANTHING & EVERTHING IN
PHILATELY

PHONE : 566466, 581370

CONTACT : **PARSI AMARCHAND,**
6, NANNIAN STREET, II Floor
Off : WALL TAX ROAD,
Near Hotel Blue Star, MADRAS 600 003.

II INPEX - 93

It is proposed to release a set of two stamps during INPEX-93 scheduled for December '93at Calcutta. The list of stamps issued during the previous National Philatelic Exhibitions is given below:

1. Inpex-70	Date of Release	Denomination
Stamp Collection	23.12.70	20p, 100 p
2. Inpex-75		
MailCart	25 p	
Indian Bishop Mark	1775 -- 25.12.75	25p, 25.12.75 200 p
3. Inpex-77		
Early postman		
Lion & Palm Tree	12.10.77	25p, 200p
4. Inpex-82		
Mail Van		
Early Stamps	30.12.82	50p 200p
5. Inpex-86		
Hawa Mahal		
Camel Back Post Office	14.2.86	50p 220p
IV. New postal stationery		

1. Post Card with a message of the Ministry of Food in Telugu 'Cook Rice in just Sufficient 'Water' is being released with effect from 21.6.1993.

2. Post Card with advertisement message of the Ministry of Food in Bangla 'Cook Rice in just sufficient 'water' is being released with effect form 21.6.1993.

V. TIT BITS

The first Indian personality to be honoured with a postage stamp in his life time:- The rare distinction of being honoured with a postage stamp during the life time of a personality goes to Dr. Dhondo Keshav Karve. Dr. Karve born in 1858 died in the year 1962. A special stamp in his honour was issued on 18th April 1959.

(Information Courtesy : Mr Nirmalendu Chakraborty, Cooch Behar)

POSTAL RATES IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY 1800 1837

by Max Smith

The rates of postage used in the Madras Presidency have been something of a mystery for many years. However they were published for the benefit of the residents of Madras every year in the "Madras Almanac". The rates of postage formed part of the Regulations for the Post Office Department, and it is important to remember that the rates and the other rules could and did change independently of one another. Most volumes of the "Almanac" from 1811 are available in the India Office Library and Records.

Rates by 1800

The first edition available is that of 1803, which contains "Regulations for the post office department. Established the 1st May 1800." Presumably this date is what it says the date of establishment for the Regulations are dated "Fort St. George, 19 March 1801. The rates are given as.

"Conformable to the principle of charging 1.5 fanams for each single letter for every 100 Miles, the following rates are to be adopted.

Letters not exceeding in Weight:-

1 Rupee to be considered as single

from 1 to 1.5 double

1.5 to 2 treble

2 to 2.5 quadruple

2.5 to 3 or one oz to be considered as a packet and to bear five times the original postage, and for every additional half ounce treble the original postage, of a single letter to the place where such letter is addressed is to be added.

The Regulations were evidently revised with effect from 1 December 1808. I take the date from Inamdar (Madras G.P.O. (Earlier postal history of Madras Presidency) Philatelic Association, Hubli, 1986) because the next

edition of the "Almanac" is not until 1811. In the 1808 revision and in the next dated 28 December 1810., the 1801 Regulations were expanded, mainly in respect of the conduct of public Officials. The basic rates remained the same. Minor changes showed that a maximum weight of 12 ounces was imposed for letters. Beyond that, letters had to be sent by the Cavedy Tapal. Limits were also introduced on the number of letters from Soldiers and Sailors which could pass free of postage (1 in 200 men daily while in quarters, and 1 in 100 men when on the march or in the field.)

		Miles by Tappal Road.	Rupees	Annas.			Miles by Tappal Road.	Rupees	Annas.	
To the Islands of Ceylon	Jaffnapatam			12	NORTH WARD					
	Mannar *			12	Pulicat	28	0	2		
	Trincomalie	}		14	Nellore	114	0	4		
	Naldive *				Hullore	194	0	4		
	Colombo				Ventapolliam	200	0	4		
	Point de Galle				Ongole	200	0	4		
	Point Pedro				Palanau	200	0	4		
	Matura	}	1	0	Inunacoodah	283	0	6		
	Galla				Timmericottah	293	0	6		
	Negumboo				Bellecondah	203	0	6		
	Gurtoor				263	0	6			
WESTWARD					Bazarah	293	0	6		
Conjeveram		52	0	2	Condapuly	270	0	6		
Aroot		80	0	2	Masulipatam	300	0	6		
Arnee & Connatore		100	0	2	Elore	334	0	8		
Vellore		100	0	2	Rajahmundry	381	0	8		
Amboor		144	0	4	Madepollam					
Chittoor		123	0	4	Narasapooram	325	0	8		
Royacottah		202	0	4	Pulicole					
Kisnagherry		183	0	4	Ingeram, Coringa, } Yanam, & Neelapuly }	336	0	8		
Congoody					Cocanadah	378	0	8		
Trepatore					Samulicottah & Jagganada } pooram }	403	0	8		
Cavariyatam	}	200	0	4	Vizagapatam	527	0	12		
Verabudadroog					Bimlipatam	547	0	12		
Salem		256	0	4	Chiconole	590	0	12		
Sankerrydroog and } Panagara }		286	0	8	Conada	560	0	12		
Errode		316	0	8	Calingapatam	580	0	12		
Bavahney		297	0	8	Ganjam & Itchapoor	733	1	0		
Darapoorum		350	0	8	Aska	775	1	0		
					Barampore	775	1	0		
					Collacum	312	1	0		
					Balasore	917	1	0		
The Malabar Hill } By Coimbatore and } Paigacherry }	Coimbatore	319	0	8	To Ganjam } SOUTHWARD }	7	0	2		
	Paigacherry	450	0	10		Mount	36	0	2	
	Angarpar	500	0	10		Chengleput	50	0	2	
	Calicut	520	0	12		Carangooly	53	0	2	
	Mahe	531	0	12		Sadras	43	0	2	
	Cochin	545	0	12		Permacoil	77	0	2	
The Malabar Hill } By Mysore }	Wynad and } Maruntoddy }	400	0	8	Pondicherry	100	0	2		
	Tailamully	351	0	8	New Town	115	0	4		
	Cannanore	425	0	10	Portnov	135	0	4		
	Tellicherry	434	0	10	Chellambarum	142	0	4		
					Shealy	162	0	4		
					Verdashellum	157	0	4		
In and Through Mysore	Mysore or } Sringapatnam }	300	0	5	Tranquebar	180	0	4		
	Bangalore	218	0	6	Karrical	188	0	4		
	Nundidroog	247	0	6	Combaonum	191	0	4		
	Seerah	202	0	6	Karrical	188	0	4		
	Paughur	347	0	6	Naggore & Negapatam	198	0	4		
	Hurryhur	402	0	8	Combaonum	191	0	4		
	Chittledroog	345	0	8	Tanjore	230	0	6		
	Mangalore				Trichinopoly and } Warriore }	232	0	6		
	Canara	457	0	10	Madura	314	0	8		
	Cuddalbander				Carore	312	0	8		
	Cundapora	458	0	10	Dindigul & Pylney	352	0	8		
	Bednore and Naghur	486	0	10	Ramnad and Danooocody	434	0	10		
	Sedashghur	576	0	12	Sevahgunga	390	0	8		
	Honore	512	0	12	Shevelapootoor	380	0	8		
Hulliel	486	0	10	Palamcottah & Tinnevelly	430	0	10			
Goa	652	0	14	Kyar	410	0	10			
Poonah	787	1	0	Secondermally	330	0	8			
Seroor	829	1	2	Travancore } Travanderam }	518	0	12			
Bombay, Surat, Baroda, } Combay and Guzerat }	887	1	2	Odiagherry						
NORTH WEST					Quilon	521	0	12		
Poonamallee		13	0	2	Anjengo	541	0	12		
Trepasore		36	0	2	Allepe	600	0	12		
Cuddapah		172	0	4	Malabar Coast } by Palamcottah }					
Sidhout		180	0	2						
Complapore		182	0	4						

WE ARE BUYERS

World Perfins, Stamps & Covers

COLLECTIONS, PRE INDEPENDENCE
BANK NOTES, D- NOTES IN QUANTITY

as seller we offer

EXTENSIVE SELECTION ON STAMPS
SHIP & SPORTS

G.B. MINT & FDOS AT FACE VALUE

INDIA MINT 1947 - 56

INDIAN STATE POSTAL STATIONERY

PHONE 6238001

please write

REKHA MAFATLAL SHETH

28/D/415, MANISH NAGAR,

FOUR BUNGLOWS, ANDHERI (WEST)

BOMBAY - 400 058

1823 changes

The Regulations were consolidated and the postage rates changed from 1 July 1823. (these are the rates shown by Inamdar as having been introduced in 1833) The new scales of postage showed a substantial increase over the old for shorter distances, highlighted by a doubling of the cost for a journey of 200 miles although for more than 700 miles they were cheaper. The weight bands were also changed

	Miles	Rups.	Annas.	Miles.	Rups.	Annas.
	30	0	2	500	0	12
	60	0	3	600	0	13
	90	0	4	700	0	14
	120	0	5	800	0	15
	150	0	6	900	1	0
	180	0	7	1,000	1	1
	210	0	8	1,100	1	2
	250	0	9	1,200	1	3
	300	0	10	1,300	1	4
	400	0	11	1,400	1	5

A Single letter to any place not exceeding the distance of

"Letters not exceeding one Rupee to be considered single, from 1 to 2 double 2 to 3 treble, and so on in arithmetical progression as far as 36 Rupees, beyond which weight no packet will be received for transmission Dawk...

A new clause was introduced to the effect that within the Presidency it was optional whether to prepay the postage, but beyond the Presidency prepayment was compulsory. In addition, a local delivery charge of 1 anna was imposed on letters not received by sea which were delivered to residents of Madras. New tables were published, this time in alphabetical order (above) Clearly there was a good deal of miscalculation at first, because an appendix to the 1825 edition shows "corrected" tables of postage. The distances to about half the offices were revised. Most changes were relatively minor, but some were sufficient to alter the rates. One anna too little had been charged to Aska, Ellore, Inkolloo, Innaconda, Ongole, Seringapatam; and Vizianagram one anna too much to Sedashegur. More offices were added to the list:

Aujaram	530	0	13
Coonghul	263	0	10
Hoovary	315	0	11
Juggumpettah	386	0	11
Kedgerie	982	1	11
Keeranoor	159	0	7
Moordeshewar	531	0	13
Naggery	57	0	3
Naidoopettah	67	0	4
Nerumbawk	19	0	2
Oolunderpettah	128	0	6
Payakerowpettah	421	0	12
Pooliary	383	0	11
Preaghy	683	0	14
Saitooputty	240	0	9
Taurptry	235	0	9
Vemboocottah	338	0	11

1834 changes

The rates and Regulations remained unchanged until, from 1 April 1834, the rates for a letter not exceeding one Rupee weight became:

The weight bands remained as before. Some revisions were made, (On) letters received from Calcutta, "Post paid to the boundary line. Such postage only shall be levied at Madras, as added to the sum already paid, shall complete the amount to the rate established in the Table for the entire distance: the same rules applies to letters received from Bombay and Hyderabad.

The rates remained in force until the Post office Act XVII standardised the rates throughout India from 1 October 1837.

Table reproduced by kind permission of the British Library, Oriental and India collections.

	Miles by Tappal Road.	Rupees	Annas.		Miles by Tappal Road.	Rupees	Annas.
Gumbum	254	0	6	Rachoutty	197	0	4
Kurnool	262	0	6	Hydrabad	418		6
Gootty	270	0	6	Aurungabad	713		6
Bellary	310	0	8	Secundrabad	424		6
Adoney	310	0	8	Booranpoor	660	0	14
Auantpoor	291	0	8	Nagapoor	728	1	0
Ganjecottah	218	0	6	Jaulinah	710	1	0
Gurumondah	218	0	6				

Madras
Genl. Post Office
10th June 1818

E. RICHARD SULLIVAN P.M.G.

The 1808 revision provides that "the Government Gazette shall be for the present charged only half postage. From the 1810 revision it went free. New Bangy Regulations had laid out dated 13 December 1809 (not 1833 as suggested by Inamdar), with the first Bangy being despatched on 2 January 1810. Expresses were forbidden "except in cases of urgent importance" and additional Regulations dated November 1815 provided for refused letters to be returned to the sender, who was to be required to pay the postage for both journeys.

The currency was converted from fanams to annas in 1818. 1 fanam became 1 anna 3 pice, and 1.5 fanams became 2 annas.

Tables appear from the 1819 edition. The first are perhaps the most interesting since their layout shows how the postal routes, including the branch routes spread outwards from Madras. Note that it seems to have been possible only to pay postage on a letter for Bengal as far as Ganjam. (Table illustrated left and on previous page)

Largest Manufacturers of stock books.

With Latest Addition (German) Type

with foreign knowhow.

Free price list

handsome discounts for dealers & Societies

Write

R.I. Philatelic

79/A, S.P. Mukerjee Road,

Calcutta - 700 026.