



# SIPA *Bulletin*

For Circulation to Members only

VOL. 17 No. 1

JANUARY - FEBRUARY '96

BIMONTHLY

**SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIATION**

(FOUNDED 1956)

(AFFILIATED TO THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF INDIA)

## **EDITORIAL**

For the stamp-collectors (including philatelists), an event of the millennium is coming, styled STAMP WORLD-2000, from May 22 to 28, 2000, featuring international dealer and postal administration stands as well as many important international competition, displays and features.

Earls Court Olympia Group has been selected by British Royal Mail to host and organise it in their Earls Court 1 Exhibitions hall. Stamp World is one of a series of major inter-national philatelic exhibitions which are organised by postal administrations around the world with Britain's Royal Mail running the event every ten years.

Philately is believed to be the biggest worldwide hobby after sporting activities with over three million stamp collectors in the U.K. and many more millions overseas. Stamp World 2000 is expected to attract over 120,000 visitors from all over the world. With 23,000 m<sup>2</sup> of space in Earls Court 1 it will become an important additional tourist attraction for London in the year 2000.

Earls Court Olympia Group has the expertise in venue management, event organisation and marketing combined with its international prestige and location.

The center provides the best international and UK accesses for visitors and exhibitors in central London

with its world famous entertainment facilities. London First, the business forum for the promotion of London, is also supportive of London Millennium Festivals which will position London at the heart of the UK's millennial celebrations, and provide a prime attraction for overseas visitors.

The development, marketing and organisation of Stamp World 2000 will be undertaken by P&O Events, the event staging subsidiary company of Earls Court Olympia Group. P&O Event is one of the UK's leading exhibition organisers with events such as the London Motor Show, the Royal Smithfield Show and Olympia International Showjumping in its portfolio. Terry Denham, Director, P&O Events intends the event to be the envy of the world for its creativity and appeal. "There will be something to interest all visitors no matter what their level in the hobby - from the young beginner to the very experienced collector."

It is surely going to be a show if the wealthy philatelists, vaunting the thickness of their purse. Let us watch how it encourages any interest among the young and new collectors, who we hope, do not become just tourists and so overawed as to leave the hobby.

CCOURTESY :EDITOR, STAMPS & STAMPS JAN / MARCH 1996

**Dear Members wish you a Happy New Year 1996 & Sweet Pongal**

### **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 meetings 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 Nannain Street, Madras - 3. (7 p.m. to 8 p.m.)



**TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH**

Rs. 2.00

09-02-1996

The Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) was established in 1945 at the initiative of Dr. Homi Jehangir Bhabha. Since 1962 it is housed at Navy Nagar Campus in South Mumbai. The Institute is proud to have produced many of the finest scientists of India who have been involved in seminal research in fields ranging from Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Science, Physics and Science Education to some aspects of Public Health.

There are at present about 400 scientists in the Institute working in various disciplines grouped into two major schools: the School of Mathematics and the School of Physics. The Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education at Deonar, Mumbai, The National Centre for Radio Astrophysics at Pune and The national Centre for Biological Sciences at Bangalore also form a part of TIFR activities.

The Institute has several field stations and research facilities in different parts of the country. A Giant Meterwave Radio Telescope, the largest of its kind in the world is coming up at Khodad near Narayangaon, north of Pune and a large equatorially mounted cylindrical telescope and a high energy cosmic ray laboratory are operational at Udthagamandalam in Tamil Nadu. High energy Cosmic ray and gamma Ray laboratories are operated from Panchamarhi in Madhya Pradesh and Kolar Gold Fields in Karnataka. TIFR runs a National Balloon Facility in Hyderabad which is among the best in the world and has the geographical advantage of being close to the geomagnetic equator. At Gauribidanur, TIFR scientists have built an extremely sensitive balance to study the difference between gravitational and inertial mass. A Heavy Ton Low Energy Accelerator capable of accelerating particles to moderate energies for studying heavy ion atomic interaction and a nuclear magnetic Resonance Facility to study complex molecules are also housed in TIFR. The Institute's Dental Section has been actively involved in investigations pertaining to cinogenic effects of tobacco.

In addition to the research laboratories, the facilities of TIFR include:

A large library in India with more than one hundred thousand books and journals in its collection. The library is fully computerized and provides microfilm, microfiche, audio-video and compact disk reading facilities.

A powerful central computing facility together with individually assigned personal computers and workstations for computation, control and monitoring of experiments and data analysis.

A network connected to the world grid through high speed communication networks.

A large workshop and glass blowing section for manufacturing high precision instruments.

Pioneering work done in the Institute in several areas has resulted in the establishment of new National organizations such as the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research (SAMEER) and the National Centre for Software Technology was developed at the Institute, were transferred to the industry and other departments of the Government of India. The Tata Institute of

Fundamental Research is reconized by the Government of India as the National Centre for Nuclear Science and Mathematics.

The stamp depicts the buildings of TIFR with Dr. Homi Bhabha in the inset. Some of its installations figure on the first day cover.

**TECHNICAL DATA**

Date of Issue	9.2.96
Denomination	200 / P
overall size	3.91 x 2.9 / Cms.
Printing Size	3.55 x 2.54 / Cms.
Number per issue sheet	35
Color	Multi Color
Perforation	13 x 13
Paper	Imported unw/m
	Adhesive Gravure
	Coated Stamp Paper in
	53.5 x 50.8 Cms.
sheets of size	
Printing Process	Photogravure
Number of Stamps	
Printed	0.6 Million
Printer	India security Press. Nasik.

Kasturba Trust-Tribute To Ba

Rs. 1.00

Printed - One Million

22-2-1996

Kasturba Gandhi was born at Porbandar (Gujarat) in April, 1896. She was married to Mohan Das Karamchand Gandhi at the age of 13 and accompanied him to South Africa in 1896 when he went there on a lawyer's assignment. Public life for both of them began with the **Satyagrah** to reinsitute the prestige of Indians in South Africa in 1902 and the establishment of the **Phoenix Ashram** and later Tolstoy Farm where bread labour was the rule. Kasturba stayed in the Ashram, bore all its hardships, courted arrest on her own and was sometimes a guide to Gandhiji.

She returned to India along with Gandhiji and joined the Indian freedom struggle. She went to Champaram (Bihar) in 1917 and pioneered the work for the upliftment of the rural women. At Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad and at Sewagram Ashram Wardha, she gave the love of a mother to all specially the girls and women who came to join the Ashram and the freedom movement of the country.

She courted arrest in 1939 at Rajkot and was in prison at Tramba (now called Kasturbagram) 13 k.m. away from Rajkot. Again during the Quit India Movement in 1942 she was imprisoned in August and that proved to be her last journey. She breathed her last on 22nd February, 1944 while under detention. All her life she suffered for the independence of the country but did not live to see dawn of freedom.

Her demise was a great shock to the nation. An appeal by 100 prominent citizens of the country was issued to the nation to collect a donation Rs. 75 Lacs and present it to Gandhiji. The regard in which she was held was so high that



the amount later came to about Rs. 1 crore and 31 lacs. Gandhiji turned this collection into the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust with the sole aim of serving needy women and children in the rural areas who could become capable of serving the country in the true sense of the world.

## 100 YEARS OF CARDIAC SURGERY

25-02-1996 Printed - One Million 500 p.

The heart has always been the most revered organ in the human body and usually viewed as the seat of life. It has never failed to captivate the fascination of poets, philosophers, artists, Littratures, clerics, sorcerers as well as scientists. However it had been considered surgically untouchable. Stephen Paget, a famous British Surgeon, remarked in his textbook on surgery of the chest as late as in 1896. "Surgery of the heart has probably reached the limit set by nature to all surgery; no new method and no new discovery can overcome the natural difficulties that attend a wound of the heart". The same year however, Ludwig Rehn of Frankfurt performed the first successful repair of a stab wound of the heart. The era of cardiac surgery had begun.

The hundred years that followed witnessed the amazing saga of fathomless capabilities of the human spirit. It was a long road from modest repair of cardiac wounds to transplantation, and the milestones were legion. Even to name only a few is a formidable list of firsts: surgery on the aortic valve (1912) by Theodore Tuffier, Paris; surgery on the mitral valve (1923) by Elliot Cutter, Boston; systematic-pulmonary shunt for blue babies (1945) by Alfred Blalock, Baltimore; closure of atrial septal defect (1952) by John Lewis, Minnesota; valve substitute implantation (1952) by Charles Hufnagel, Georgetown; open heart operation (1953) by John Gibbon, Boston; totally implantable pacemaker (1959) by Ake Senning, Sweden; successful coronary artery bypass (1964) by Michael DeBakey, Houston; cardiac tranplatation (1967) Christian Barnard, Cape Town.

Over the subsequent three decades, phenomenal progress has been made in the fields of heart lung bypass and equipment required for the same, preservation of the cardiac tissues during surgery using hypothermia and pharmacological agents and also surgical intervention in patients belonging to all age groups. Currently, research on for the correction of foetal defects within the mother's womb. The quest for a perfect heart valve prosthesis has led to tremendous improvement in their design and function. Surgery for myocardial revascularisation saw several landmark innovations including the use of arterial grafts and recently, laser technology. Other areas where remarkable progress has been made are in the evolution of surgery for disturbance in cardiac rhythms, assist devices for the failing heart such as the intra-aorti balloon pump and amongst the most recent developments, the implantation of a total artificial heart.

It is a matter of immense pride and satisfaction that cardiac surgery in India has progressed at par with the best amongst the rest of the world. In India, the first successful open heart operation was performed by Dr. Reeve H. Betus and Dr. N. Gopinath on July 6, 1959 at the Christian Medical College Hospital, Vellore. The basic concept of laser was first given to the world by Dr. P.K. Sen of Mumbai who had also attempted the first cardiac transplantation in the country in 1969. The first successful heart transplant operation was performed at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New

Delhi on August 3, 1994 by a team of doctors led by Prof. P. Venugopal.

As the next hundred years begin, the Department of Post pays tribute to those pioneers whose courage, ingenuity and entrepreneurship have made cardiac surgery an epitome of precision and sophistication. The stamp depicts towards the left the first ever successful suturing of a heart wound being performed. Towards the right it shows cardiac transplantation in progress.

The First Day cover depicts surgery in progress. The cancellation shows a scalpel and a heart.

## NEWS FROM INDIAN POST

### Headquarters Delhi Area

26.09.1995 Printed - One Million 200 p.

The Headquarters Delhi area to support Delhi Military District was proposed way back in 1906 but was shelved due to World War I.

The proposal was finally implemented in 1918 when approximately 50 acres of land was acquired in South West Delhi and work on construction on the Cantonment commenced in 1919 under the direction of General Officer Commanding 7 Infantry Division (Meerut). Headquarters Delhi Brigade Area was raised on 1st June 1920 and Brigadier HC Tytler, CMG, CIE, DSO. IO assumed command as its first Commander.

The Headquarters Delhi Brigade Area was named as Headquarters Delhi Independent Brigade Area on 5 September 1922 and redesignated as Headquarters Delhi Area on 1 April 1940. With the raising of Delhi and East Punjab Headquarters Delhi Area was changed to Headquarters Delhi Area was changed to Headquarters Delhi District on 21 March 1946 and thereafter to Delhi and East Punjab Area on 1 August 1947. As a result of communal riots, Delhi and East Punjab Area was activated in establishing refugee camps and maintenance of essential services.

On 1 September 1947, the Delhi and East Punjab area was redesignated as Headquarters Delhi Independent Area and Major General Maharaj Shri Rajendra Singhji, DSO, IA assumed command of the Area. On 15 September 1947, the Area was renamed as Headquarters Delhi Area and 'TAURUS' was adopted as the formation sign. On 1 January 1958, Rajasthan was made part of the Area and the Headquarters was redesignated as Headquarters Delhi and Rajasthan Area. When on 16 February 1966, Rajasthan ceased to be part the final designation remained Headquarters Delhi Area.

A multifaceted sanctioning the Headquarters today provides not only rear area security; it caters to logistic support for smooth inductions of field formations into the theater of operations; renders aid to civil administration; organises all ceremonial events of national importance.

The special postage stamp marks the Platinum Jubilee of Headquarters Delhi Area.

**Theme :** Capital Administration, Military in civil works, Aid to civil authority, Ceremonial duties, National celebrations.



## LOUIS PASTEUR

28.9.95

Printed One Million

500 p.

Over the course of 50 years Louis Pasteur's discoveries revolutionized chemistry, agriculture, industry, medicine, surgery and hygienic and greatly changed the human condition, and his brilliance and rigorous methods advanced both science and its techniques. Each discovery is a link in an uninterrupted chain, from molecular asymmetry to the prevention of rabies via fermentation, silkworm, wine and beer diseases, sterilization and virus / vaccines.

In 1847 he formulated a fundamental law: asymmetry differentiates the organic world from the mineral world; in other words, molecular asymmetry is the mark of life. His work became the basis of a new science - stereochemistry (or three-dimensional chemistry).

In studying fermentation, he demonstrated that each sort of fermentation is linked to the existence of a specific micro-organism, cultivating it in an appropriate sterile medium. This is the basis of microbiology.

Pasteur negated the doctrine of spontaneous generation; he also developed a theory on germs. At the same time his discovery of anaerobic life paved the way for study of germs of septicemia and gangrene among other infections. Thanks to Pasteur, it became possible to devise techniques to kill microbes and to control contamination. Pasteur demonstrated that wine diseases are caused by microorganisms which could be killed by heating the wine to 55°C. Applied to beer and milk, this process called "Pasteurization" soon came into worldwide use.

Pasteur's study of silkworm diseases led to the discovery of the infectious agents and revealed transmission of these diseases and how to prevent them, an elaboration on his study of fermentation. He was able to confirm that each disease has its microbe and that the microbes are foreign elements. he established the basic rules of sterilization (asepsis) which became critical for surgery and obstetrics.

From 1877 to 1887, Pasteur employed these bases of microbiology in the battle against infectious diseases. He went on to discover successively staphylococcus, streptococcus and pneumococcus.

He discovered the method for the attenuation of virulent micro-organisms and then developed vaccines against chicken pox, cholera, anthrax and swine erysipelas. On July 6, 1885 for the first time, he tested in pioneering rabies treatment on man ; the young Joseph Meister was saved.

On March 1, 1886 Pasteur presented his result to the Academy of Sciences and called for the creation of a rabies vaccine centre. A huge international public drive for funds financed the construction of the institute Pasteur. In accordance with Pasteur's wishes the institute was founded as clinic for rabies treatment, a research centre for infectious disease and a teaching institution Louis Pasteur was then 66 years old. He went on to dedicate the last 7 years office life to the institute. His work was pursued and amplified by his disciples, the Pasteuriens.

Pasteur's work is not simply the sum of his discoveries. It is also the revolution of scientific methodology. Pasteur had superimposed two in disputable rules of modern research; the freedom of creative imagination obligatorily subjected to rigorous experimentation. Louis Pasteur was also

a humanist, his goal was the amelioration of human condition. He was a free man who never hesitated to take issue with the prevailing yet false ideas of his time.

The Stamp depicts Louis Pasteur at work originally depicted by Edelfelt (a Finnish painter) recreated in a charcoal sketch. The first day cover is a bronze statue of young Jupille, vaccinated against rabies by Pasteur. The statue by Truffaut stands in the Institute Pasteur, Paris.

## LA MARTINIERE COLLEGE, Lucknow

01.10.1995

Printed One Million

200 p.

Celebrating its 150th anniversary La Martiniere College pays tribute to its remarkable founder :major General Claude Martine; adventure; soldier; political advisor; self taught architect; manufacture of arms, ammunition and coins; surveyor; entrepreneur; banker; botanist and patron of arts. a large-hearted millionaire Martin bequeathed his fortune to charities and dedicated a major part of his estates to the founding of school at Lucknow, Calcutta and Lyon(France)."Constantia", the imposing 18th century edifice which is the heart of La Martiniere ,was his country house. His bequest of "Constantia" for academic pursuit was followed by the years of litigation till an order of Supreme Court in 1841 laid down a scheme for the establishment of La Martiniere College, Lucknow. On 1 October, 1845 the College began its work, starting with 70 boys. Today it has over 1700 boys on its rolls. The Founder's munificence has provided many boys, called Foundationers. with tuition, board & lodging and clothing at nominal fees. They share equal facilities with full paying boarders and day scholars. It has classes from Nursery to Intermediate where boys are educated through the medium of English. Admission to La Martiniere is eagerly sought.

1857 saw La Martiniere evacuated to the Residency. The boys and masters defended "The Martiniere Post" for almost five months against repeated onslaughts, while continuing their studies. It was a unique phenomenon which earned colors for institution in 1938 bearing the legend 'Defence of Lucknow 1857'.

"Labore et Constantia" is the motto the College adopted from Claude Martin's personal motto placed on his coat of arms. The column or 'Lat' in front of "Constantia" is a memorial to him. Claude Martin left behind him a name, a legacy, a dream; La Martiniere College, Lucknow. Its alumni look back on the Alma Mater with affection and pride.

## MAHATMA GANDHIJI (1869-1945)

### INDIA-SOUTH AFRICA OPERATION

02.10.1995

Printed - 1.05 Million

100, 200 p.

Less than a hundred years ago. South Africa officially accepted and socially enforced that black, colored and brown races not mix with the white. Nor could they share with them the earth's bounty and the good things of life. Fifty years later this practice took the legally enforced form of apartheid for those who, the ruling minority of South Africa thought, belonged to the lesser breeds. There were few who then thought this was wrong, fewer still who would undo this system's injustice and immorality.

But there was one Indian who believed such discrimination between one human being and another was



immoral. He found himself among the ill-treated and discriminated people of South Africa. He backed up his beliefs with peaceful action and organised non-violent mass movement against racial laws. His methods were his own shorn of violence, vengefulness and hatred. He hated the immorality of the system with its discriminating laws but so loved the evildoer as to win him over.

The experiments for which Mahandas Karanchand Gandhi created a fertile soil stood him in good stead during his later satyagrahas to awaken India to social equality economic self-reliance and political freedoms. He worked up the moral sanctions which compelled the British to see the injustice of their rule and to quit India. This was the peaceful prelude to the winding up of the British in South Asia and Africa.

Mahatma Gandhi's crusade against racist laws was taken up by the Africa National Congress. In Nelson Mandela it found a leader who prefers reconciliation to recrimination and vengeance for past wrongs. He now heads a government of national reconstruction which seeks to provide an African and human answer to the challenges bequeathed to India by Mahatma Gandhi. In Nelson Mandela, India finds an inspiration which is Mahatma Gandhi's legacy to the whole world which, Indians have believed practised for hundred of years, makes up the single family of humankind. Reaffirming faith in oneself and Gandhi's legacy, President Mandela described the essence of Gandhiji as "the moral force he extols, the goodness he invokes, the justice and balance with which he seeks to promote human society."

To recall this common heritage and the links forged by Mahatma Gandhi and there after by Nelson Mandela Indian Post release setenant commemorative stamps on 2 October, 1995, on completion of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The cancellation is a line drawing of Pietermaritzberg Railway Station at which Mahatma Gandhi's historic journey to satyagraha began.

*Theme : Freedom struggle, Father of nation, Apartheid, Cooperation, Nonviolence, Truth, Racial equality, Peace, Morality in Politics.*

50 Years (FAO) 1945-94

16.10.1995

Printed - 0.6 Million

500 p.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nation's system is the apex International Organisation in the field of food and agriculture, founded on 16 October, 1945 at the Chateau Frontenac Quebec (Canada) with a mandate to raise levels of nutrition and standards of living, to improve agriculture productivity, and to better the conditions of rural populations.

The idea of a world Organisation for food and agriculture gained currency around 1942. Under a decision of United Nation's Conference on food and agriculture in June, 1943 an interim Commission prepared FAO's Constitution and scheduled its signing for 16 October, 1945, when the First FAO Conference in Quebec gave FAO 42 Member Nations and its first Director General Sir John Boyd Orr, a well known scientist in the field of human and animal nutrition. The membership of the FAO is 171 nations today.

Since 1981, 16th October, the anniversary of the founding day of FAO, is celebrated throughout the world by the Member Nations as World Food Day. It reminds

Governments, institutions, Non-governmental agencies and individuals to act together to achieve long-term solutions to inter-related problems of hunger, malnutrition and poverty. This year marks the 15th anniversary of World Food Day, and the 50th anniversary of creation of F.A.O.

FAO has worked to alleviate poverty and hunger by promoting agriculture development, improved nutrition and the pursuit of food security and success of all people at all time to the food they need for an active and healthy life. It offers direct development assistance, collects, analyses and disseminates information, provides policy and planning advice to Governments and acts as an international forum for relevant debate. FAO is active in land and water development, plant and animal production, forestry, fisheries, economic and social policies, investment nutrition, food standards and commodities and trade. It also plays a major role in dealing with food and agricultural emergencies. A specific priority of organisations to encourage sustainable agriculture and rural development, a long-term strategy for the conservation and management of natural resource, and technical know-how. FAO has an average of 2500 field projects operation at any one time. These range from Integrated Land Management Projects to policy and planning advice for Governments in area as diverse as forestry programmes and marketing strategies.

India is a founding Member of the FAO and is also a Member of the FAO Council, which is its Executive Body. India receives FAO assistance in development of sustainable production system and expansion of the natural resource base covering agriculture, forestry, dairy development and fisheries.

Today FAO is working towards diversification of agriculture with focus on rainfed agriculture which covers 70 percent of the cultivated land based by various ecological problems, serve resource degradation and poverty.

Future plans also aim at technical assistance to the State Governments for the reforestation activities, development of the of the oilseeds sub-sector, crop diversification, reduction in post-harvest losses, food processing and marketing, tuna fisheries development, and application of modern biotechnological approaches in increasing and sustaining yields in major field crops.

*Theme : Election, Tribes, Labour, Agriculturist, Former, Zamindari, Freedom Struggle, Cast-ism, Harijan, Political Party, Nationalism, Patriotism.*

P.M. THEVAR

30.10.95

Printed - 0.6 Million

100 p.

Pasumpon Muthuramalingam Thevar was born in Pasumpon village, Ramanathapuram District, Tamil Nadu on 30.10.1908. His parents were Ukkirapandia Thevar and Indirani. Thevar studied upto Secondary School. He loved horse riding, shooting and martial arts.

He showed his eloquence at his maiden speech in 1933 at the Vivekanantha Library at Sayalgudi where Thevar spoke for three hours before a spellbound audience.

In 1934, the British Government promulgated the Criminal Tribe Act, thereby branding 'Mukkulahor' as a



Criminal Tribe. Thevar opposed this and because of his relentless efforts the C.T. Act was abolished in May, 1948.

In the General Elections held in 1937 Thevar on a Congress ticket defeated the Rajah of Ramanathapuram representing the Justice Party.

Thevar established the "Agriculturist Association" to mitigate the plight and suffering of the peasants, and fought to abolish the Zamindari System. A Committee was formed as a result of his efforts under the Chairmanship of Sri Prakasam, and culminated in the "Zamindari Abolition Act".

A devout follower of Gandhiji Thevar used Khadi and promoted prohibition and removal of untouchability. Thevar led the historic entry of Harijians into the Meenakshi Temple, Madurai.

Thevar got elected unopposed from Muthukulathoor Constituency in the Legislative Assembly election held in 1946. His association with Netaji Subash Chandra Bose brought down the wrath of the British Government on him. When Netaji formed the Forward Bloc in Congress party he joined him to found the Forward Bloc in Tamil Nadu. In 1952, Thevar contested successfully both from Madras Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies.

Thevar devoted his entire life to the uplift of the downtrodden, be they peasants, industrial workers or untouchables. He died at Madurai on 30th October, 1963.

W.C.Roentgen

08.11.1995

Printed - 0.6 Million

600P

Born on March 27, 1845, at Lennep, a village in Rhine district in Germany Conrad von Roentgen had an interesting life. A celebrity as a physicist, a prolific mathematician and a teacher of eminence, he was dismissed from the High School for a foolish prank and was refused permission to the University of Utrecht. He migrated to Switzerland for completing his University studies from Swiss Federal Polytechnic School in Zurich.

He made the momentous discovery of "X-rays", known by his name as Roentgen rays, when in November 1895. He published his observations in an obscure local journal of Warzburg in January 1896. Thomas Alva Edison confirmed his findings shortly after the announcement adding prophetically.

"Professor Roentgen probably does not draw one dollar profit from his discovery. He belongs to those pure scientists who study for pleasure and love to delve into the secrets of nature. After they have discovered something wonderful. Someone else must come to look at it from the commercial point of view. This will also be the case with Roentgen's discovery."

Radiology began with the static radiograph or X-ray discovered by Roentgen. It was later enriched with knowledge from space exploration and war defense technology. It moved from vacuum tubes to transistors, printed circuits on silicon chips. Miniaturisation, telecommunication and fine detail television screens assisted its development.

Today the field has opened up remarkably. Computerised tomography or CTscans has been developed independently by Nobel prize winning South African physicist Allan M. Cormack and British engineer. Sir George

Hounsfield. Position Emission Tomography (PET), Ultrasound and magnetic resonance imagery (MRI) have added startling facets to radiology.

What Roentgen discovered a hundred years ago has gone from strength to strength. Following the first paper "On a new kind of Rays (preliminary communication)". He published two more papers on the subject. In April 1900 Roentgen was appointed Professor of Physics and Director of the Physical Institute at the Ludwigo Maximilians University in March. In 1901 he received the first ever Nobel prize in Physics. He retired in 1920 and breathed his last on February 10, 1921.

The stamp commemorates the 100th year of his discovery.

*Theme : Medical, Surgery, Health, Science, Scanning, X-ray, Radiology, Discovery, Childhood of Great Men.*

Children's Day - 1991

14.11.1995

Printed - One Million

100 p.

India treasures its children and every year the 14th of November, the birth date of the first Prime Minister, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru is observed Children's Day by dedicating it to the country's children. This year marks 20 years of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, a composite programme for the care of children, mother and adolescent girls. To provide health and nutrition care and education to the rural areas, anganwadies have been established under this scheme.

Conceived in 1975, the ICDS Scheme started with 33 blocks and has expanded into a programme covering 3907 projects with 1.78 crores of children and 0.38 crore mothers benefitting from it as on 31.3.95. Angawadi workers and helpers, who are normally residents of the village, maintain close contacts with individual households and enlist the help of voluntary organisations, social activists academic institutions and professionals to provide health, nutrition care and childhood education services. There is a special thrust to cover Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other backward communities.

John Locke had said that children should be allowed freedom "suitable to their years". He recommended rewards to encourage children to learn, rather than punishment when they did not. One step in this direction is reflected in issue of this special postage stamp which is based on a painting done by Master Pintu and first day cover which is a painting by Master chu-chu Bhutia, aged 6 years. These children belong to anganwadies and have been awarded for these delightful little paintings which were the outcome of a painting competition conducted ICDS Scheme under the aegis of the Department of Women & child Development, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India.

The joy reflected in these paintings makes us pause for thought when we look back over the years to the condition of child labour which emerged in a particularly distressing form after the Industrial Revolution. Every country in all succeeding years has made efforts to give childhood back to children. Whether it was Dickens highlighting the conditions of child labour or Robert Raikes, an English publisher starting Sunday School in 1780 or unknown poets contributing to the



Mother Goose Nursery rhymes or the poems of William Black or William Wordsworth. Aesop's Fables or the stories of Panchatantra of India, each country has worked towards the same goal of bringing joy and laughter back in to the lives of its children, particularly those who have a deprived childhood.

As we mould children into adulthood we allow them the freedom to grow naturally and happily. But deprivation in any form. Physical, emotional or mental, stunts the personal growth of a child, leading these young inexperienced and vulnerable people perhaps towards a life of want or anti-social activities.

It is in this light that the work of ICDS Scheme merits the gratitude of everybody as it devotes itself to the welfare of the very young children.

*Theme : Childhood, Children children's Day, creativeness, arts, Paintings, Motherhood, Nutrition, Rewards not punishments, Human resource development.*

#### Jat Regiment

20.11.1995 Printed - One Million 500

p. The Jat Regiment had its origin in 1795 when a garrison unit " the Calcutta Native Militia" was raised at the Presidency for local guard duties. Converted in to a regular infantry until in 1861 it was finally amalgamated with the Jat Regimental Centre in 1923. Three other units joined the Regiment in 1923. By the end of the Second World War, the number of battalions had increased to five. After Independence the Regiment underwent periodic expansion, and today has 19 battalions including one Territorial army unit.

During its 200 year long history the Regiment has served with great distinction within and outside the country earning 34 battle honours and large number of gallantry awards including one Victoria Cross 3 George Crosses. 7 Mahavir Chakras, 5 Kirti Chakras, 34 Vir Chakras and 10 Saurya Chackras. Its 1st Battalion. Now a mechanised infantry battalion was the only unit in the British Indian Army to have been awarded the twin honorifies of "royal" and "Light Infantry". The 3rd Battalion, the fourth highest decorated unit of British Indian Army during the 2nd World War, received universal acclaim for its outstanding action at DOGRAI in 1965, now considered a landmark battle by military thinkers.

The Regiment has also contributed its contingents to UN forces in Korea in 1953-54 and later in Congo in 1961-62. The Regiment's motto "Sangathan Wa Veerta" underlines the eternal relevance of valour and esprit-de-corps in a soldier's life.

*Theme : War, Military, Valour, Honour, Civil duties of military, Un duties, Peace keeping duties.*

#### 175th Anniversary 5th BN (Napiers)

#### The Rajputana Rifles

28.11.1995 Printed - One Million 500 p.

5th Battalion of the Rajputana Rifles, one of the oldest Rifles Regiments of the Indian Army made a humble beginning in 1917 at Dapuri near Pune. It became a regular Unit in 1820 and was designed as the "First Extra Battalion" nas participated in many battles both in the pre- and post-independence era. For its gallantry and heroism it has won over 200 gallantry awards including one Victoria Cross in 1858 and 27 Battle Honours.

The last century saw the Battalion, both in India and overseas, indomitable fitting spirit kindled by General Sir Charles Napier. Under his command on 17 February 1843 the Battalion won the epic battle of Meeanee. General Sir Charles Napier's name has been associated with that of the Battalion which is traditionally known as "Napier's rifles"

The present century of the Battalion is no less glorious beginning with both the great Wars, winning a number of distinguished awards including 19 Military Cross. In 1931 the Battalion was the first of the Regiment to be Indianised. In Korea in 1953-54. it operated under the United Nations Security Council. The Indo-Pak wars of 1965 and 1971 saw the Battalion perform incredibly in the forefront of all military engagements In OP PAWAN (Sri Lanka) the Battalion was awarded three Virchakra, one Yudh Seva Medal, four Sena Medal and two mention-in-despatches 2 officers and 33 Jawans made their supreme sacrifice for the honour and glory of the Battalion. During OP RAKSHAK in J&K sector, the Battalion accredited itself with one Sena Medal and four Chief of Army Staff commendation Cards.

The battalion's achievements in the field of sports are equally unmatched. Naper's Rifles has produced a large number of Olympians, sportsmen and marksmen of national and international repute who have brought laurels to the country. Stamp commemorative the 175 glorious years of 5th Battalion (Napier's) the Rajputana Rifles.

*Theme : War, military, valour, honour, civil duties of military, sports, olympics, Peace keeping duties.*

#### Tukdoji Maharaj

10.12.1995 Printed - 0.6 Million 100 p.

Sant Tukdoji Maharaj was born on 30 April, 1909 at Yawali in Amravati District. He received spiritual initiation form Videhi Paramahansa Samarth Adkoji Maharaj of Warkhedgram. Early in childhood. Sand Tukdoji Maharaj performed rigorous penance and spiritual exercises in self-realisation. He also was trained in reciting Khanjeri bhajans and attained considerable mastery in the art.

He studied the existing religious sects and other schools of thought and discussed religious and secular problems of the devotees. He was determined to re-define sociospirituality and re-vitalise and awaken the country. He also laid the foundations of future organised efforts in terms of service to mankind as service to God. He was invited to the Wardha Sevagram by Mahatma Gandhi in 1936 where he was introduced to eminentnational leaders, and other devoted workers and Satyagrahis. In 1941 he performed individual satyagrah and he took part in the mass upsurge of the 'Quit India' movement in 1942. He strongly opposed the inhuman repressive measures, adopted at that time by British rulers. He was arrested in 1942 at Chandrapur and was imprisoned in Nagpur and Raipur Central Jails.

Maharaj loved and honoured each and every religion and graced all programmes organised by them as a special invitee. He took part in Acharya Vinobha Bhave's Bhudan Movements. He attended the World conference of Religion and World Peace in Japan in 1955 His wisdom lives on his 'GRAM GEETA' which provided inspiration in the work for national reconstruction. He worked hard to convert devotion to god into service to mankind and the nation. Consequently he transformed traditional prayer organizations into disciplined. Broad based groups of devout young men and women who



engaged in constructive social works. They held yearly festivals and helped to spread the message of service to mankind.

*Theme : Saint, Religious, Sects, Socials service through religion, Nationalism, Freedom fighter, Greatmen, festivals to integrate, Godmen, humanity.*

Dr. Yellapragada Subbarow

19.12.1995

Printed - 0.6 Million

100

p.

Dr. Yellapragada Subba Row. " one of the most eminent medical minds of the century" was a wizard of wonder drugs and one of the greatest geniuses of medical science. His gifts to mankind include folic acid which conquered tropical sprue. Once the scourge of India; tetracycline antibiotics which combat wide range of fevers and infections; di-ethyl-carbamazine which stems filariasis and reduces chances of developing elephantiasis; methotrexate used in childhood blood cancer and some forms of adult cancers.

Born on 12 January, 1895 in Bhimavaram. Andhra Pradesh he initially sought his prime motive in religion but was persuaded by the Ramakrishna Mission to enter medical college. Having qualified from the Madras Medical College. He worked for a while on systematising Ayurvedic drugs to better fight disease. With a view to acquire modern research techniques at the Harvard School of Tropical Medicine. He went to U.S.A in 1923. A year later he shifted to Harvard Medical School where he grew to be a giant among biochemists with fundamental research to his credit that unravelled a life process and enriched the knowledge of vitamins.

His research at Harvard in the 20s and 30s yielded a method for estimation of phosphorus test is now an invaluable tool in the diagnosis of certain metabolic ailments. His research also led to the discovery of phosphocreatine and ATP which have been shown to be the source of muscular energy, and important key to the mystery of life.

Dr. Subba Row was later Director of Research at Lederle Laboratories were professionally fulfilling. Dr. Row passed away on the night of August 8, 1948 in Pearl River, New York. It is a matter of national pride that his discoveries and contributions to bio-chemistry and medicine have endured the five decades since then. The stamp commemorates the birth centenary of Dr. Yellapragada Subba Row.

*Theme : Invention, Inventor, Discovery, Medical, history, Medicine, Antibiotic, vitamins, Cancer, Filariasis. Phosphorous, Metabolic diseases.*

Giani Zail Singh

25.12.1985

Printed - One Million

100 p.

Born on May 5, 1916 in village Sandhwan in the erstwhile Princely State of Faridkot in Punjab, Giani Zail Singh studied Hindu Muslim and Sikh scriptures. An ordinary rural lad of 15 Zail Singh entered the arena of the freedom struggle. He joined the Riyasti Praja Mandal in 1938 and formed a branch of the Congress Committee in Faridkot. He was physically assaulted by the Maharaja's Police and in a sham trial was imprisoned for 5 years. subjected to various types of torture. Giani Zail Singh to various types of torture. Giani Zail Singh did not yield his respect and refused to apologize.

In April 1946, Gianiji launched a Satyagrah Movement. Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru visited Faridkot and led a mass of people with Giani in the vanguard to hoist the tricolor. Giani declared an open revolt against feudal rule and set up a parallel Government.

Gianiji was sworn in as a Minister in the first PEPSU Government in 1946, and was unanimously elected President of the PEPSU Congress in 1955. He became a Member of the Rajya Sabha in 1956 and in 1962, after being elected Member of the Punjab Assembly, he became a Minister in the State. In 1966, he was unanimously elected President of the Punjab Pradesh Congress and in 1972 became the Chief Minister of Punjab. After being elected to the Lok Sabha in 1979 he was included in Smt. Indira Gandhi, then the Prime Minister's cabinet as Home Minister.

In 1982 Giani took oath as the 7th President of the Republic. He was described as the President of the People. He passed away on December 25, 1994 in a road accident while returning from Anandpur Sahib to Chandigarh.

*Theme : Greatmen, childhood, Freedom fighter, Religiousman, President of India, Politics, Sikhism.*

Alahazrat Bareilve

31.12.1995

Printed -0.6 Million

100 p.

Maulana Ahmed Raza Khan also known as Ala Hazrat Bareilvi was born at Bareilly on 14 June, 1856, son of Maulana Naqi Ali Khan and grandson of Maulana Raza Ali Khan, both of whom were celebrated theologians of their time. He completed his education under his father as well as under many famous scholars.

Maulana Ahmed Raza Khan's knowledge was encyclopaedic with an astonishing range that covered many ancient and modern sciences and many branches of oriental learning. Apart from his well known translation of the Quran Sharif was his study of traditions, jurisprudence, sufism, all aspects of Islamic Law, Astronomy, mathematics, logic, poetry, phonetics and chemistry. His Caliph Maulana Mohammed Zafar al-Din compiled his bibliography mentioning about 350 books and treatises on more than fifty branches of knowledge.

He accompanied his father to visit Shah Al Rasul. He was admitted to the Qadiriyya order and was permitted to enrol and train neophytes. He had similar authority in thirteen other orders. In 1878 and in 1905 he went on pilgrimage to Mecca where he received the respect and honour of noted scholars. He began issuing Fatawa and verdicts on Muslim Jurisprudence when he was only a boy of less than 14 years. His first book was the Arabic Commentary of Hidayat Al-Nahy which he wrote at the age of 10 years. He also wrote in Arabic, Persian and Urdu on diverse topics. It is estimated that he wrote over a thousand books, hundreds of treatises and annotations and commentaries on more than 150 books pertaining to various branches of learning. In 1904 he founded a Dar-al-Ulum Manzar-i-Islam at Bareilly in India. To-day scores of Dar-al-Ulam in the sub-continent are functioning under his influence.

He was a poet who dedicated the beauty of his selected style called Na'at to sing glories of the Holy Prophet. His devotion elevated his poetry, making it ecstatic and rich. He passed away in 1921 and his mausoleum is situated at Bareilly. The stamp reflects the beautiful dome of the Dargah of Ala Hazrat Bareilvi which is once again repeated on the First day Cover and the Cancellation.



*Theme : religious leader, precocious person, encyclopedic knowledge, Oriental learning, Islam.*

### COLORFUL SHOW IN NEW DELHI

Part of fifty years colorful stamp collection, particularly the work of designing stamps and development of philately in Bhutan in early 1960's of Shri R. Krishnamoorthi, Member of several philatelic associations, was exhibited at Phoolwaari Restaurant, Pragathi Maiden, New Delhi, coinciding with printpack India '96 on Saturday, the 13th January, 1996.

Shri Sajive Kanwar, chief Executive, Pioneer Ltd., inaugurated the exhibition and released a commemorative cover with special cancellation of Phoolwaari Restaurant by the postal department.

The exhibition was sponsored by the Consultancy development centre, Jalcooper Philatelic Society and Philatelic Club of India.

### REPORT ON "WORKSHOP ON PHILATELY"

A workshop of philately was one of the various attractions of the 7th National Children Fair-96 organised by Pariwar Milan, Calcutta.

The "WORKSHOP" was organised by the Calcutta Chapter of Philatelic Congress of India.

Inaugural address was made by Shri D.N.Jatia, President F.I.P. and conducted by Shri R.Binani and Shri R.K.Bagri. A slide show was conducted by Shri Prasant Arora explaining all aspects of philately.

In addition to slide show, other items such as catalogue, philatelic magazines, postal stationeries, tweezer, magnifying glass etc. were demonstrated to give practical knowledge necessary for development of philately. Few pages of 6 different type of collections were also exhibited.

Besides 35 children's of all age from 8 to 18 years from various school / colleges, teachers, parents and organizers have also attended the "WORKSHOP" Registration of children's were made in advance.

At the end of the programme, a gift pack consisting of an approval book, stamps and hinges, was given by Philatelic Congress of India to every participants so that they can pursue the hobby with interest.

**The Astro Space Stamp Society  
ENGLAND: 27 FEBRUARY 1996.**

**Honoray Press/PR Unit,  
20 Princes Park Avenue,  
Golders Green,  
London NW11 OJP**

ASTRO SPACE STAMP SOCIETY is a British based 'space-theme world-wide postal society' for collectors who specialise in 'space-themed-stamps & covers; to commemorate all events in the history of space-flight-whether manned or un-manned'- all ages are welcomed-newcomers or experienced.

Members keep in touch by communicating through Society journal 'ORBIT'-which is published quarterly, an A4/stapled-publication, averaging, approximately 30 pages + of "astro-philatelic articles", 'black-white-illustrations' NEW Issues data and UP-dates, of world-wide astro-philatelic stories etc-compiled entirely by members who are guided by experienced semi-professional Honorary Editor.

NEW-members receive a "welcome-pack"-containing donated mint stamp set very kindly given by either "Crown Agents" or "Australia Stamp Bureau"- a copy of our award winning "Space-Craft & Astronomy Index" - which details and numbers world-wide space-stamps from Apollo to Zodiac and the LATEST-edition of "ORBIT" the Society astro-philatelic informative quarterly journal.

READERS and COLLECTORS considering membership should please remember to state they saw this news in "SIPA BULLETIN" and note to always send 2 INTERNATIONAL REPLY - COUPONS / WITH EITHER 'PRINTED' OR TYPEWRITTEN NAME AND FULL ADDRESS ON A SELF-ADHESIVE LABEL TO :

Mr. BRIAN LOCKYER, HONORARY-SECRETARY OF:  
ASTRO SPACE STAMP SOCIETY  
21 EXFORD CLOSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE, AVON BS23 4RE, UK.

Our members hail from:UK, USA, Australia, Eire, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, Holland, Honk Kong, France, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Croatia, Ukraine, Iran, Kazakshstan, Russia, etc., etc., etc., etc... YES ! IT IS TRUE ! THE SOCIETY SENDS A MINT STAMP SET TO BONA FIDE ENQUIRIES REMEMBERING TO STATE WHERE & WHEN THEY SAW THIS NEWS..thanks a lot for taking time to read our NEWS.

### SIR PHEROZESHAH MEHTA A GREAT SON OF INDIA

By Mr. VISPI S. DASTUR

President, The Mumbai Parsee Association

Since my childhood I have been fascinated by the tall magnificent statue at Mumbai's Bori Bunder of an awe inspiring Indian in the customary parsi dress and "pagdi" - the statue of none other than that great son of India, Sir Pherozechah Mehta, K.C.I.E., M.A.(Hons),LL.D., Bar-at-law.



Born in the Fort area of Mumbai on August 4, 1845 to a middle class family of Parsi merchants he rose to be "a great citizen, a great patriot and a great Indian" and "the father of Local Self Government in India".

The young Pherozechah studied at Ayrton School which was the literary cradle of several prominent persons. He went to Elphinstone College for his bachelor of arts degree. The principal sir Alexendar Grant was so deeply impressed that within six months of his passing the B.A. exam he was allowed, as a special case, and for the first time in the history of the Mumbai University, to appear for his M.A. exam which



he passed with honors at the young age of 19 years. He was the first Parsi to be conferred with the M.A. degree. Pherozechah took keen interest in the game of cricket which had been recently introduced in India and of which the Parsi's were pioneer Indian players. He won the Dakshina Fellowship which was followed by a scholarship instituted by Rustomji Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, the first Baronet's son which enabled him to go to England in December 1864.

He was one of the first five Indians to proceed to England for the purpose of qualifying themselves for practice as Bar-at-laws. His stay there of four years brought him in to close contact with another great son of India, Dr. Dadabhoi Naoroji, the first Indian to be elected to the British Parliament, which helped in inspiring him and giving him a liberal outlook. On January 3rd, 1867 he became a Fellow of the Mumbai University and on December 17 he read in London his famous paper on the educational system of the Mumbai Presidency. He was called to the Bar on April 30, 1868.

He returned to India on September 25. He was sworn before Justice Joseph Arnould on November 30. He fought against the practice of appointment to certain highly remunerative offices in the High Court going exclusively to the English Barristers. His writing brought him in conflict with the Bar and however, his practice increased steadily. He was made a Justice of Peace on June 3, 1870.

Pherozechah's career of public service begun in the early 1870's. In later years he said that "immediately after I began my career I had to make a choice between entering public service - I mean official government service and entering the service of the public....But I unhesitatingly chose to enter the service of public". he felt that it was the duty of every citizen to subordinate personal interest to public service. He actively pleaded for municipal reform which later took the form of the Act of 1872. He became a member of the Mumbai Municipal Corporation on September 4, 1873. He fought for further reforms and was responsible for the Municipal Act of 1888 which has been called "the Magna Carta of civic rights in India". Thus, Pherozechah established the Municipal Corporation of Mumbai City. His fight for local self government brought him the title of "Father of Local Self Government in India". He served the Corporation for 42 years and was elected President (equivalent of today's office of Mayor) for four terms (1884, 1885, 1905, 1911) - a unique achievement. His efforts to make Mumbai the "Urbs Prima in India" often brought him into conflicts with the various Governors including Sir Richard Temple and Lord Sydenham. Pherozechah was an Indian who had the courage to speak out and take stand against the British Government. This earned him the title of the "Lion of Mumbai".

Pherozechah was one of the founders of the Indian National Congress in December 1885. He was elected President of the Congress at its Sixth Session held at Calcutta in 1890. He was one of the first Indian leaders to fight for secularism. The following words from his presidential address are worth recalling in today's turbulent times: "To my mind a Parsi is a better and truer Parsi, as a Mohammadan or a Hindu is a better and truer Mohammadan or Hindu, the more he is attached to the land which gave him birth, the more he is bound in brotherly relations and affection to all the children of the soil". Pherozechah was a moderate and in later years fought the extremists in the Congress in those days and the

fountainhead from which flew the streams of constructive statesmanship".

He attacked the obnoxious and hated Ilbert Bill in 1883. He also spoke against the British Annexation of Burma. He was nominated to the Mumbai Legislative Council in June 1887 and to the Imperial Council in May 1893 to which he was elected in December 1895. He resigned from the Council in the same year.

Pherozechah was awarded the C.I.E on January 1, 1894. He read the Corporation Addresses to the Prince and Princess of Wales on November 9, 1894 and to King George V and Queen Mary on December 2, 1911. It is said that he insisted that it was the right of the first citizen of Mumbai, an Indian and not the Governor, a Britisher to welcome the esteemed personalities. He was bold enough to threaten that if this right was snatched away the city would be without any lights when the royal guests arrived.

It may not be known to many that Pherozechah was mainly instrumental in introducing the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi to the Indian Public and Indian Politics. He had great regards for the young Mohandas and his fight against apartheid in South Africa. He was full of praise for Kasturibas's part in the struggle and said "History records the deeds of many heroines and I feel the Mrs. Gandhi will stand as one of the foremost heroines in the whole of the world". Pherozechah was true Swadeshite long before Gandhiji made it popular in India; he believed in Indian commerce and industry. With Justice Telang he started an Indian soap factory but it proved a failure. However the Central Bank of India of which he was a Founder Chairman and the Oriental Insurance Company of which he was a founder prospered. He founded the Mumbai Chronicle - an English daily edited by B.G. Horniman; the paper was India's voice in those turbulent times and fought for India's freedom as well as the freedom of the press.

Pherozechah was keenly interested in the proper education of his fellow Indians. He was associated with the Mumbai University for most his Public life; he was a member of Senate for 48 long years from 1861 to 1915. On March 1, 1915 he was appointed Vice Chancellor and on August 6 the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) was conferred upon him. He fought with the Government to ensure that the University become a "Department of the Government".

He was a staunch Freemason and a leading light Lodge Rising Star. It may be mentioned that there was one battle he lost - the election for trusteeship of Mumbai Parsi Panchayat.

Pherozechah though he crossed swords with the British Government on more than one occasion, had great regard for English liberalism. It is this that prompted Lord Willingdon to say that he was "a strong and resourceful opponent if he thought we were wrong, a warm and loyal supporter if he thought we were right, a fearless critic in his public life". When Pherozechah was not permitted to enter the white preserve, the Byculla Club thought on the front entrance, he and a few other Parsis formed a club on January 27, 1884 he ensured that it was called the Ripon Club after that liberal Britisher having a great affection for Indian - Lord Ripon. Lord Harris stated that "Whilst he was a resolute fighter, keen in arguments and firm in adhering to principles,



he was a fair fighter as I have ever met either in England or India.

The courageous old warrior deported from this terrestrial world on November 5, 1915 after rendering yeoman services to humanity, his city and his country. To Lokmanya Tilak who as an extremist in the Congress had often opposed the liberal Pherozeshah "India had many leaders that there were few who approached Sir Pherozeshah in points of strength, of character, distinguished and selfless public service and fearlessness of criticism". To Mahatma Gandhi he was "more of an Indian than a Parsi who believed that the unity of India could be achieved only by turning the entire population into a single community". To Jawaharlal Nehru, he was a great Indian who helped in laying the foundation of our National movement for freedom and who in days when subsmissiveness to authority was common, fearlessly stood up for our people's rights.

On his 150th Birth Anniversary let us all draw inspiration from his life and make ourselves worthy of tradition of selfless service, fearlessness and secularism that he has left behind. Let us remember that the statue of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta was raised not just to honor him but also to serve as a beacon light to successive generations of Indians coming afterwards, to exhort them and tell them:

"Go Forth Thou and Do Lickwise"

#### **Bombay GPO Introduces Innovations.**

The department of posts is introducing a gift delivery scheme between Mumbai and Delhi and Bangalore through which bouquets, cassettes and cakes could be to the addressee the next day.

Department of posts has tied up with leading departmental stores, including Akbarallys to get quality products for this purpose, said Mr. Narasimhan, the Chief Post Master General, Maharashtra circle at a function organised at the Indian Merchants Chamber. Mr. Narasimhan also said that the department has introduced Mahila Samrudhi Yojna for rural woman. Under the scheme a rural woman who deposits Rs.300 will be paid back Rs.375 at the end of the year. A plan to introduce computers in 60 more post offices in Maharashtra is also under way, he said.

The GPO, Mumbai has a new look with 29 computerised counters. The department is making all efforts to make automatic the marking system so that sorting becomes easier. In Mumbai five lakh articles are sorted out through machines. Registered articles are also being handled by computers so that they could be quickly disposed of. Mumbai alone handles 45 lakh articles per day and accounts for 10% of the registered mail for the whole country.

Mr. Narasimhan said, the problem of late delivery becomes acute during the two, last months of the year because of the flood of Annual Report Posted by big industrial houses including Reliance Industries, State Bank of India, Videocon, Mangalore Refinery, Tisco and others.

#### **Christmas Island Lunar New Year**

On 9 January 1996 Australia Post will issue two seven-tenant stamps and a miniature sheet to commemorate the Lunar New Year on Christmas Island.

About half Of Christmas Island's two thousand residents are ethnic Chinese and the Lunar New Year is the most important of the traditional Chinese festivals.



The Lunar (or Chinese) New Year celebrations center on the family and family reunion. Incense is burnt for ancestors, and friends visit each other to exchange presents, cards, and money in lucky red paper envelopes.

The traditional Chinese calendar spans 60 years, or the time it takes Saturn to make two orbits of sun. In that time Jupiter orbits the sun five times, so the calendar is subsequently divided into five twelve-year cycle in which each year is named for a different animal.

Legend has it that the animals quarreled about whose year would be first so the gods settled the argument by having the animals race across a river. The rat saw the ox was going to win so it climbed onto the ox's back until they were nearly at the other side, then leapt onto the river bank to come first.

The Lunar New Year arrives with the second full moon after the northern hemisphere's winter solstice, so it always falls between 21 January and 20 February. The 1996 Lunar New Year falls on 19 February and marks the beginning of the Year of the Rat and a new twelve-year cycle.

The twelve-years sequence is Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig. All twelve animals are featured in the gutter strip in gold foil.

The stamps and miniature sheet were designed by Luis Chiang of Melbourne.

*Thematics "Wildlife"*





## Thematics - Wildlife

Thematic collecting is one of the most exciting ways of welding stamps, postal material, and personal knowledge of a subject into a cohesive story. Unlike an ordinary collection limited to the stamps of one country, the real fun of a thematic is the freedom to browse through a catalogue to pick out those issues particularly applicable to the theme, regardless of country of origin. Relevant stamps should be collected from all over the world, not just one country, as the development of the subject depends completely on the picture depicted on the stamp. The designs are more clearly seen on mint stamps. If, however, used stamps are preferred, choose very fine copies with a light cancel avoiding the important part of the design.

Choosing a subject depends entirely on one's interest, and the depth and quality of that interest. If the choice of theme is 'Painting' it is not enough to gather such stamps together, for unless they are directed and developed according to a plan then the paintings will remain just a clutch of pretty miniature pictures, not a thematic collection. A fine thematic grouping can however be built up by bringing together the painting of a particular man, and arranging them to illustrate his development as an artist. In order to create a collection in this fashion a considerable background knowledge must be acquired of the subject, which with any luck may grow into a deeper interest than originally intended. Therefore it is important to pick a subject that will grip your imagination-if it does not live up to expectations it can be abandoned without great expenses. Although all types of stamp collecting cost money like any other hobby, a thematic collection is cheaper to form than the equivalent in a straightforward stamp or postal history class. But it needs as much thought and consideration as a conventional stamp collection with a far wider based general knowledge.

There are two basic points that might curb anyone's enthusiasm. It is possible to become discouraged if there are insufficient stamps issued on a particular subject to keep interest alive. Equally if the chosen theme is too wide in concept the sheer quantity of material can be intimidating. Thousands of sets in the catalogue depict various types of wildlife. Some are so well designed and appealing that they prove irresistible also to non-collectors who are beguiled into buying quantities of animals, and then wonder what to do with them. Stockbooks are ideal as a temporary refuge, but do not show off the stamps to advantage like a properly mounted and written-up collection. 'Wildlife' is acceptable as an overall title but is otherwise far too general a term, and needs to be broken down into manageable portions that are of interest to you. Your specific liking might be 'Cats', and they could be grouped very simply according to their breeds, and mounted with brief notes on their lives and habitats. Africa is justly proud of its abounding wildlife, and has game lodges as tourist attractions (Tanzania 1978) where visitors can watch the animals in their natural environment. Sierra Leone (1981) produced an enchanting set of se-tenant pairs depicting wildcat parents and cubs. One of the finest tigers came from India (1963), and early in 1984 Pakistan issued a snow leopard with the animal echoed in the first day cancellation so

that the pictorial handstamp itself could be incorporated into the thematic scene.

Conservation is dear to many hearts, and its various aspects make another good thematic subject. It can include Zambia's (1978) game wardens and anti-poaching patrols, or accentuate the role of national breeding programmes. The snow leopard (Jersey 1984) in its high Asian snowfields has been hunted almost to extinction for its thick fur, and various zoos have tried to improve its survival rate by breeding it in captivity. Jersey Zoo and its Wildlife Preservation Trust has played an impressive part in the captive breeding programmes of endangered species whose situation is desperate because their natural habitats have been reduced or completely destroyed by Man. There are already a variety of extinct animals and birds on stamps that could form another wildlife section. The Falkland Fox (1982) was still around when Darwin visited the islands 150 years ago, and the poor flightless Dodo (Mauritius 1953) had no defence against Man. Penrhyn (1978) commemorated Captain Cook's discovery of Hawaii by issuing se-tenant pairs, one stamp showing the High Chief's ceremonial clothing made from red and yellow feathers, and its companion stamp depicting the bird that provides a handful of feathers - the birds are now extinct for one cause alone necessitated the slaughter of 80,000 birds.

Birds form a most colorful and enthralling theme, and their portraits lend themselves happily to the miniature size of postage stamps. Once again the wide scope must be controlled and planned, and the simplest method is to list them alphabetically by country. But far more interest can be achieved if they are grouped into specific families or type of environment, and the world-wide variations within one family contrasted. Thus the common Kingfisher (G.B. 1980) clearly shows its resemblance to the Blue-breasted and White-tailed Kingfishers of Sierra Leone (1980) and Australia (1978). Birds of prey are another fascinating sub-division that included the Californian Condor (USA 1971), which, with its huge wingspan of 9/10 feet, is the world's largest flying bird, and also the extraordinary Secretary Bird (Tanzania 1982), a long-legged hawk that runs after snakes and beats them to death. Only about ten Mauritius Kestrels survive (1984 set) due to the feeling of vast forests, and the introduction of the macaque monkey that eats the bird's fruit supply and devours their eggs. Various birds of prey have appeared recently in most attractive se-tenant strips that illustrate the cycle of a particular bird such as Sandford's Sea Eagle (Solomon's 1982) or Norfolk Island's Boobook Owl (1984.).

Other postal material can also be incorporated. Britain brought out a series 35p stamp books in 1971 depicting birds on the covers; and among Australia's postal stationery a series of pre-stamped envelopes and lettercards with birds as subject of the printed stamp. These designs differ from any normal definitive stamps, and are only available in this form. Whatever the subject matter and planned grouping finally chosen, this type of additional relevant postal material is most worthy of consideration for inclusion in any thematic collection.