



SIPA *Bulletin*

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BIMONTHLY

SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIATION

(Founded 1956)

(Affiliated to the Philatelic Congress of India)

EDITORIAL:

We are thankful to the Chief Postmaster General, Shri S. Brahmanandam for readily consenting to be the PATRON of the ECOPEX'95 Exhibition held from 5th to 9th October, 1995 at the fully Airconditioned LALITH KALA Akademy in Greams Road, Madras - 600 006.

He not only gave his signal for the 5 different Catches brought out on the occasion with the multicoloured covers befitting the Topics current for today's world. He has a mission in whatever he does. He conceived that if PHILATELY should grow in this part of this State, he was of the opinion that it must take its roots in the rural areas. With this in view, he conducted in January, 1996 a School level Exhibition in about 60 Frames for the school going children upto +2 level. It was a success. He also conducted Schools of Philately before moving to the Districts--Westana-96; - SANGAMPEX-96 and THANJAIPEX-96 comprising nearly 180 frames, 120 frames and 150 frames and was mainly responsible in goading and motivating his Departmental personnel in holding these exhibitions at Salem; Nagercoil and TANJORE. Having done this, his next mission was to conduct a State Level Exhibition (The Ninth Circle Level Philatelic Exhibition of Tamilnadu being organised by the Tamilnadu Circle of Posts under his able guidance in about 400 frames. The response for the Entries exceeded beyond our expectations and the Allotment committee had to reluctantly reduce the allotment. This shows how he was responsible for the popularising PHILATELY in this Southern Region --TAMILNADU CIRCLE. We owe our sincere and grateful thanks to him and his Departmental personnel in keeping the standard of the exhibits high conforming to the latest trends of FIP Rules. This has certainly given a boost to our Association in no small

measure and our activities were redoubled, our membership grew steadily and our SIPA Bulletin kept our members informed of the latest developments with the latest new Issues. The Department of Posts which discontinued the STAMP NEWS from 1996, again after much pressure from the APEXbody, Philatelic Congress of India and other leading Associations/Societies' insistence, have agreed to bring out QUARTERLY STAMP NEWS and the same has been published in June/July. Another drawback for the Philatelic Account holders is that the Information Sheets have been drastically cut from New Delhi with the result all the Account holders are not able to get them. Remedial measures must be taken to set right this drawback.

The long awaited Ninth Circle Level State Exhibition is to be held from 12 to 14th August, 1996 in the spacious Indoor Stadium, Madras University Union, 85/86 Spurtank Road, Chetput, Madras 600 031, a centrally located venue and well served with transport facilities. Members should visit this exhibition in large numbers with their entire family and friends and see for themselves the vast vista of knowledge, education and information that one can draw from these tiny pieces of paper --STAMPS--the Ambassadors of PEACE.

Our Association is holding their 21st Biennial Meeting after completing 40 years of useful existence at Hotel Palmgrove on 15th August, 1996 from 10.30 am. After the adoption of Report and Statement of Accounts for the period ended 31-3-1996 and election of Office Bearers for the period ended 31-3-1998, LUNCH will follow and in the afternoon AUCTION will take place. PLEASE do attend the Meeting, renew your membership and ENROL new members.

- EDITOR

SIPA MEETINGS

Second Sunday of every month - Regular meeting at the Philatelic Bureau, Anna Road Head 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 Nannain Street, Madras - 3.
(Timing 10.45 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.) SIPA Library Open Tuesday & Sunday, 6 Nannain Street, Madras - 3. (7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.)

HIMALAYAN ECOLOGY

Rs. 5.96 Printed 1 Million Rs. 5.00 each

Rising from the bottom of the seas, the Himalayan mountain range is one of the dominant features for the earth. Its vast stretches of ice fields and rising spires of ice have played a key role in determining the climatic pattern of far away continents. Nearer home, it has been an equally dominant ecological feature; it harbours a flora and fauna alien to its latitudes and bridges biospheres of eastern and western hemispheres.



It protected the Indian landmass from the icy winds of the north; brought in moisture laden winds rising from oceans in far away south and gave well defined seasons to the seasonless land of the tropics. Numerous rivers from the Himalayan water sheds transported loads of silt, eroded from rocky slopes depositing it along the helmine. Vast stretches of the great Indian plains with equally vast reservoirs of fresh water and life supporting minerals continually replenished by the ceaseless action of rivers bear testimony to this great effort.

The Himalayan heights supports diverse biomes, simulating climates of higher latitudes, arctic to temperate, lush green forests nourished by monsoons on the southern slopes and the cold deserts beyond the high pinnacles in the north.

India Post is proud to present a set of four special postage stamps on Himalayan Ecology. Each stamp highlights one rare specimen of Himalayan flora or fauna. We bring the beauty of the Himalayas to your notice in order to seek concerted effort to save it from destruction. The four stamps depict:

(i) *Capra falconeri*, the Markhor, found in the valley of Kashmir and westwards in the Hindukush. The old male, with its magnificent horns, a flowing beard and a generous mane from the neck and shoulders to the knees, appears almost patriarchal in its silent dignity. The winter coat of rusty iron-grey turns short and reddish brown in summer, growing grey with age. Females are dark fawn and about half the size of a wellgrown male. Although the horns vary in different areas from the Indian to Afghan ranges, they are widely spaced with fine spirals. The Markhor therefore, while living where there are forests, keeps mainly to the open. They seldom go higher than the snow line. Their favourite haunt is precipitous crag and rock which secures them from attack.

(ii) *Ithaginis cruentus* is the Blood Pheasant found in the Himalayas east of Nepal. Its bright red and black face is streaked

gray above with a yellow crest and apple green below with yellow streaks. It is crimson on the upper breast, wings and tail. The female is a rich brown with scarlet around the eyes. The bird is gregarious, a strong runner, rarely flying. It feeds in open clearing and is almost tame sometimes, which leaves it vulnerable to attack. Its habitat is steep hill forest, bamboo, rhododendron and juniper scrub and it prefers snowcovered areas.

(iii) *Saussurea simpsoniana* is a member of the sunflower family. Its peculiar shape with long woolly hairs look like a "yoga mudra" earning it local names like 'Yogi Raj' and 'Yogi Padshah' in Kashmir. In Uttarakhnad it is commonly called "Phen Kamal". This plant was photographed at an elevation of 4500 m on the slopes of Garhwal Himalayas in autumn.

(iv) *Mecnopsis horridula* is a Himalayan poppy owing its name to Greek 'mekon' (poppy) and 'opsis' (like). The plant is fiercely bristled (horridula) and bears deep azure blue flowers. Found in open stony areas at 4500m.-5500 m. in the Eastern Himalayas, this plant was photographed in late July in the Sikkim Himalayas where it is commonly called "Tsher Gnoin".

The miniature sheet shows the Laspa Valley in the background. The first day cover shows the Bhyundar Ganga which rises from Ripra glacier to the foot of Rataban and Ghouri Parbat peaks. It skirts the famous Valley of Flowers till its confluence with the Alaknanda at Govind Ghat, passing mixed temperate deciduous forests in its steep cascade.

S.K.C.G. College

25.5.96 Printed 0.4 Million Rs. 1.00

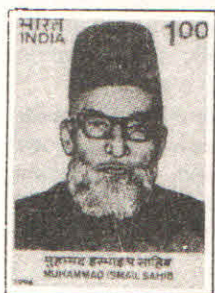


The S.K.C.G. College, as it is at present, has grown out of a primary grade school established in 1857. It was the result of local effort and was originally supported for some years from local subscriptions. After a time the Court of Wards of behalf of the Raja of Paralakhemundi made a monthly grant towards its upkeep. In 1878, it became a Middle School, in 1884 a High School and in 1896 it was raised to a Second Grade college affiliated to the Madras University. It acquired the status of a First Grade college in 1936 in commemoration of the conferment of the title of Maharaja on the Raja Saheb of Paralakhemundi. With the establishment of the Andhra University it became affiliated to it. Its Management was taken over by the State Government in 1947 and Post Graduate classes were opened in 1980. It was one of the five affiliated colleges with which the Utkal University was established in 1943. It is now a premier college affiliated to the Berhampur University imparting instruction at the Higher Secondary, Degree and Post Graduate Levels. It enjoys the distinction of being the third oldest college in the State of Orissa and the only degree/P.G. college in the district of Gajapati, Orissa.

During the hundred years of its existence this institution has been a vital factor in the growth of higher education in the State and has successfully produced intellectuals, administrators, politicians, social workers and professionals who have made their mark within the country and abroad.

The growth of this institution from its small beginning and its subsequent success are a fitting tribute to the visionary zeal and concern for education of the people of the principality who supported it in its initial years, through local subscription.

The Department of Post feels happy to issue a commemorative postage stamp to mark the centenary celebrations.



MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB

5.6.96 Printed 0.4 Million Rs. 1.00

Muhammad Ismail Sahib was born on 5th June 1896 at Pettai, Tirunelveli in Tamil Nadu. He joined freedom movement in response to Mahatma Gandhi's call to the students to come out from their colleges and support the "Khilafath Movement". He took a leading part in that movement in Tamil Nadu.

He was elected President of the Madras State Muslim League in 1945. After India gained independence, he became the President of the Indian Union Muslim League in 1948 and continued in that post till his death. He is credited with restructuring of Indian Union Muslim League on secular lines. This strengthened the democratic, secular and natural forces of our country.

He served as Member of the Tamil Nadu (Madras) Assembly from 1946 to 1952. He was later elected to the Constituent Assembly. As a member of the Constituent Assembly he played a prominent role in the shaping of the Indian Constitution.

He was elected to Rajya Sabha in 1952. Thereafter, he was elected thrice to Lok Sabha from Manjeri constituency in Kerala in 1962 and again in 1967 and 1971.

He dedicated his life towards the growth of communal goodwill. In his words, "While united wonders can be achieved, those who do harm to the communal goodwill and sow the seeds of communal hatred are worse than the murders". For his yeoman service, he came to be known as Quaid-e-Milleth, which means "guide of the Muslim Community".

The department of post is happy to issue a postage stamp to commemorate the birth centenary of Muhammad Ismail Sahib, which falls on 5th June, 1996.

SPRIT OF OLYMPICS

25.6.96 Printed 0.7 Million Rs. 5.00 each

The Ancient Olympic Games were started in 776 B.C. at Olympia, Greece. Thereafter, the Games, were held at four year intervals until they were abolished in 393 A.D. During the period of the Games, there would be a complete cessation in conflicts and wars between participating City States of ancient Greece and eventually came to be known as 'Olympic Truce'.

The modern Olympic Games were first held in Athens in 1896 through the single-minded efforts and determination of Baron Pierre de Coubertin, a brilliant educator and scholar, but not an athlete. He recognised that sports tournaments open to all countries in the

world would represent the ideals of fraternity and equality. It would generate the sense of brotherhood amongst peoples and nations. It is these ideas together with the ideas of the Ancients which constitute the 'Spirit of Olympism'. In Olympic Games of 1896, only 13 countries participated. This number increased to 171 in 1992, representing almost all the nations on earth.

The Olympic Games at Atlanta scheduled in July-August 1996 celebrates the centenary of the modern olympic movement. This includes a rededication to the ideals of the olympic movement as set out by Baron Pierre de Coubertin, and as reflected in the 'Spirit of Olympism' namely, 'ALTIUS' 'CITIUS', 'FORTIUS'.

The Department of Post has, from time to time, highlighted sports events, particularly the Olympics. Special postage stamps have been issued on the occasion of the 19th, 20th, 23rd and 25th Olympic Meets. The Department is now very happy to issue this set of 2 stamps on the 'Spirit of Olympism' on the occasion of the 26th Olympic Meet which also marks hundred years of Olympics. One of the stamps depicts the Marble stadium of Athens with an impression of Parthenon in the background and the other, the Olympic torch which has been carried since the first meet. The First Day Cover is a visual depiction of the Olympic motto. The torch is repeated on the cancellation.

THE LINNEAN SOCIETY OF LONDON

By BARBARA LAST

Until fairly recent times, medical men were forbidden to dissect the human body to discover its anatomy and details of its muscular and reproductive systems. Instead, animals and plants which were the main source of drugs were studied, and 18th and 19th century doctors became famous naturalists with an extensive knowledge of botany and zoology. But there was no generally accepted record of terms, each country or even district using its own words for a particular animal or plant, and earlier writers employing Latin. It became necessary to devise a system which would describe an item unambiguously so that everyone recognised the specimen in question.

Carl Linne, later enobled as Carl von Linne, but more often referred to by the latinised Linnaeus, was born in 1707 in the Swedish province of Smaland. He became the biological name-giver of the 18th century, growing up amidst an exuberance of flowers in local marshes and meadows, as well as exotic blooms cultivated in his father's rectory garden. "This garden inflamed my mind from infancy onwards with an unquenchable love of plants". but as a five year old helper he exasperated his father by constantly forgetting their names. Linnaeus was no apt pupil at school, but he received an excellent grounding in Latin without which he could not have penetrated Europe's scholarly circles.

Throughout his years as an impecunious student, his enthusiasm and diligence brought help from influential men whose names he later enshrined in gratitude in his classifications. The first to help was the local doctor who gave him personal instruction in botany and medicine, and explained the sexuality of plants. This led to the study of



of flowers and their propagation, and later formed the basis of his "Sexual System" of classifying plants into major groups according to their genital organs (ie stamens and stigmas) a system which affronted many scientific men as indelicate.

He was also shown a collection of plants, dried and glued to paper at Lund University, and immediately started his own Linnaeus Herbarium and natural history library. Although still a student at Uppsala University he later gave instruction on botany. However, he started his classification of plants, and together with his close friend Petrus Artedi, another medical student, invented a fresh method of documenting the natural world. Artedi dealt with fish, reptiles, amphibians, and *Umbelliferae* plants, and Linnaeus with birds, insects and plants in general. Unfortunately, Artedi was drowned, and Linnaeus was forced to continue his name-giving alone.



The young man made many plant-collecting journeys. His Lapland expedition of 3,000 miles in 1732 was the most exciting as that country was then practically unknown. This expedition produced *Flora Lapponica* five years later, and exerted an enormous influence on his career. Sweden brought out a stamp booklet in 1978 to commemorate the bicentenary of his death, and the young explorer is shown (SG964) in Lapp costume, with a Dutch doctor's hat on his head, for he had obtained his doctorate in Holland.



He also visited Britain in 1736 where it is said he fell to his knees and praised God as he rejoiced at the sight of the gorse in bloom on Putney Heath. He returned to Sweden as a practising physician and first President of the Swedish Royal Academy of Science. He then became professor of medicine and botany at Uppsala University in 1741, and remained so until his death.

After studying thousands of animals and plants, his books provided a concise and usable classification that for the first time standardised names for the world's botanical and zoological species. His *Species Plantarum* (1753) and *Systema Naturae* (1758) were therefore accepted internationally as the official starting point for the naming of natural history items. The specimens Linnaeus studied are scientifically extremely important, and many of the 12,000 plants, shells, insects and fish that he distinguished and named became part of his own personal collection, now held by the Linnean Society.

Linnaeus' binomial system gave one single name to genus, and a two-word scientific name to an individual species within that genus. Thus the yellow waterlily *Nuphar lutea* is distinguished from its smaller British cousin *Nuphar pumila*. Linnaeus did not invent this system for the use of such two-word names for kinds within a group go far back in many lands, just as two British owls have been known for centuries in the vernacular as the Barn Owl (GB 1986 SG 1320) and Tawny Owl. But he was the inventor of the first naming system which classified thousands of living things in groups of species and genera, and his methods are still in use.

The illustrations and texts on the new stamps all come from the collections and archives of the Linnean Society which commemorated its 200th anniversary. Both the drawing and remarks on the Bull-rout (18p) were made by Jonathan Couch FLS (1789-1870), a Cornish doctor. The yellow waterlily (26p) was illustrated by Major Joshua Gwatkin FLS (1855-1939), and the text comes from a note written by Sir Thomas Frankland in the margin of William Hudson's *Floara Angelica*.

Further Latin words can be added to describe a sub-species more clearly - thus Linnaeus' *Cygnus cygnus*: Whooper Swan is distinguished from *Cygnus columbianus*: Bewick's Swan. The full terminology of the latter's European and Asian Variety is *C. columbianus bewickii bewickii* Yarrell, denoting that William Yarrell FLS first recognised that Bewick's and the Whooper Swans were two distinct species. The text on the 31p stamp comes from a note by Yarrell himself, and the bird from an illustration by Edward Lear FLS (1812-1888), of nonsense rhyme fame, who was also a noted naturalist and painter.



Lastly the morel (34p) was drawn by the famous botanical artist James Sowerby (1757-1822), and the text comes from a letter by B McForster in 1821 to Sir James Edward Smith, founder President of the Linnean Society. The correct definition of the morel is still debated, as it is a variable plant with many close relatives. Species can be re-categorised. The yellow waterlily was originally listed as *Nymphaea lutea* by Linnaeus, and was

then removed to the genus *Nuphar* by Sir James, its full designation being *Nuphar lutea* (L) Smith.

The Linnean Society of London was born of the deep British interest taken in natural history in the 17th century. It was founded in 1788 by James Smith and six colleagues in memory of the Swedish botanist, physician and prolific author who had died 10 years previously. It is the oldest society in the world devoted to the scientific study of all living and extinct plants and animals, their evolution and environment. Sir Joseph Banks had been offered the Linnaeus collections in 1783. He did not want them himself, but over breakfast one day advised James Smith, at that time a medical student and naturalist from Norwich, to buy them. Accordingly, Smith acquired the collections and library, which in turn were bought in 1828 by the Society after Smith's death. In addition, Sir James had followed Linnaeus' example and assembled another herbarium of 18,000 specimens, many unknown to the Swede. The priceless collections are kept in an atmospherically controlled strongroom, but are regularly consulted when comparisons with fresh botanical and zoological material are needed by researchers.



The extensive library includes Linnaeus' own library and personal papers, and contains many early works, important manuscripts, correspondence, and drawings by other famous naturalists, and a collection of portraits of these early scientists. They came from many countries and many backgrounds - Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles, the founder of Singapore (Singapore 1980 SG380), Sir James Paxton, designer of Crystal Palace and gardener (GB 1987 SG1367), and J J Audubon, the American ornithologist and magnificent painter of birds (USA 1985 SG2124).

The present rooms were completed in 1873, and it is a matter of philatelic interest that there was a post office in one of the rooms. This closed in the 1920s, but there is an ornately carved oak pillarbox in the entrance to Burlington House which is still in use. Before 1873 the Society had shared quarters with other societies across the courtyard. It was there in 1858 that the world-shaking joint paper by Darwin and Wallace on evolution was read by the Society's Secretary, as Darwin was ill and Wallace was still in New Guinea.

But these are only two naturalists in a starstudded list of Fellows of the Linnean Society. Sir Joseph Banks, that extremely wealthy and generous patron of the sciences was the Society's first Honorary Member. He had sailed with James Cook on *Endeavour's* first voyage round the world, and at his own expense had taken a retinue of scientists and artists to record the voyage. One of these was his Swedish friend Dr Daniel Solander, chief botanist, who had been a pupil of Linnaeus. Solander is shown on several stamps, but I like the charming one produced by Australia 1986 (SG1006), which shows the Reynolds portrait of Banks with an inset of Banks and Solander in conversation, based on the 19th century stained glass window at Cranbrook school, Sydney.

Banksia serrata Australia 1986 (SG1002) was discovered by Banks, and two butterflies, Blue Tiger and Big Greasy Australia 1983 (SG793 and 794), were caught by him in 1770 at the mouth of the Endeavour River. Banks spent much time observing and drawing birds and marine animals. He is shown Falkland Islands Dependencies 1985 (SG137) with the Dove Prion *Pachyptila desolata banksii*, first seen in January 1769 in Le Maire Strait. Banks had 362 sketches drawn by Sydney Parkinson (Australia SG1007) on the voyage which were engraved ready for the *Florilegium* that he intended to publish. This work is in the process of being completed now. On the return of the *Endeavour* this famous Fellow persuaded Dr Edward Jenner FLS (Transkei 1983 SG125), the pioneer of smallpox vaccination, to arrange the rich collection of plant specimens brought back. Another student of Linnaeus, Anders Sparrman (Sweden 1973 SG746), sailed as botanist on Cook's *Resolution* voyage of 1772, and is depicted against a view of Tahiti.

Darwin's theories on evolution (GB 1982 SG1177) have rather eclipsed the mass of observations he made in the botanical field. He had a profound passion for all living things which he regarded with wonder and delight, and the Society owns a wealth of many letters and postcards written by him. Darwin joyfully accepted the appointment of unpaid naturalist/geologist on HMS *Beagle* which visited the Falklands in 1833, and he is shown (Falklands 1985 SG517) with the plant *Calceolaria darwinii* which he never actually saw in bloom.

Another illustrious Fellow was Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker who sailed with Captain James Clark Ross RN FLS as a young surgeon/naturalist on the HMS *Erebus* expedition to the Antarctic from 1839 to 1843. James Ross (GB 1972 SG897) was an expert on terrestrial magnetism, but he made many bird specimens into skins during the voyage. In fame Hooker outshone his father Sir William Hooker, the eminent botanist, whom he succeeded in 1858 as Director of Kew Gardens.

For years he corresponded with James Ross over botanical aspects of the *Erebus* expedition, and his six-volume *Botany of the Antarctic Voyage of HM Discovery Ships Erebus & Terror* established him firmly as a leading botanist. He made solitary excursions plant gathering on Kerguelen Island, and wrote vividly on the volcano Mt Erebus on Ross Island.

During the ships' stay in the Falklands he made an extensive botanical survey. The mini omnibus set of early naturalists (British Antarctic Territory 1985 SG144) shows him with *Aira antarctica* (now reclassified *Deschampsia antarctica*) which was discovered and collected by Hooker, and is based on his own field sketches and specimens made on the voyage. For many

years Hooker's *British Flora* have been used by British botanists. A special Swedish Linnaean Medal was struck in 1907 to honour Hooker as "the most illustrious living exponent of botanical science".

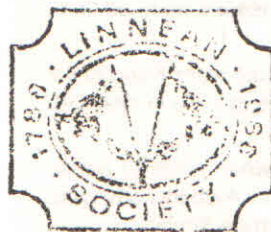
From your copy of the book with Dr Solander. Thanks: as you say you will send copy of prints make at time, I will keep all the documents & return all together. From the section, which I made with measurements, it contains the to eastern trench was outside the E. boundary wall of the station, the E. wall was within the next room to the East, made "never complete" T. J. in the trench was parallel to the wall of the station. C. D. J. H. is grateful for



The Linnean Society's Royal Charter was granted in 1802 for the "cultivation of the science of natural history in all its branches". The Society encourages all professional and

amateur interest in any biological discipline, including genetics, archaeological biology, the study of methods/classification (systematics), and ecology. These often tie into the closely related subjects of agriculture, fisheries, geology and oceanography. Fellows represent the Society on outside bodies like the National Trust, and there are specialist groups to study advanced aspects of biology encompassing all ramifications of the living cell such as molecular science and ultrasonic echolocation which is the emission of ultrasonic sound reflecting back off solid objects.

The flower meter mark adopted by the Society to publicise their bicentenary refers to the man who inspired its foundation. For Linnaeus' favourite flower was the *Linnaea borealis*. Acknowledgements and thanks to the Linnean Society of London.



The Linnean Society meter mark in Red showing the *Linnaea borealis*.

class mail, letters & Post cards and other matter paid at letter rates as well as M.Os were carried exclusively by air between participating countries without surcharge. All second class by surface rates. At first 4 times a week, later 5,3 sea planes and 2 land planes. In India connecting services established between Karachi via Bombay, Madras to Colombo and from Karachi via Jacobabad and Multan to Lahore.

RESULTS FOR INDIA

CAPEX'96

Exhibitors Name	Title of Exhibit	Total	Medal
Bhateja, Sita Dr (Mrs)	Pre-Independent India (Grand PRIX De Honour)	0	CC
Desai, Dhananjay	Soruth State from 1818 to 1950	85	LV
Pittie, Damayanti (Mrs.)	Pre-Stamp Postal History of British India, 1780-1854	90	G
Shirokar, Anand	Indian Cancellations and Postmarks (1854-1900)	78	LS
Anandamurthy, H.M.	Early Indian Railway Mail Service	70	S
Jain, Pradip	Indian Airmails-The Development and Operation (1911-1942)	95	LG+SP79
Krishna Rao, Padma (Mrs.)	The Magnificent Tree	67	SB
Subba Rao, G.V.	Bald Heads	44	CP
Mollah, Abdul Matin	Fiscal Stamps of Indore and Jaora Indian Princely States	81	V
Rungta, Santosh Kumar	Fiscal Stamps of India (Adhesive)	83	V
Prabhakara, M.R.	Rural Philately	62	B

29LG; 94G; 154LV; 138V; 145LS; 104S; 60L Bronze; 28 Bronze & CP 8 Altogether were given



Hearty Congratulations

Shri PRADIP JAIN PATNA for his coveted Large gold & Special prize for his Entry - Indian AIRMAILS Development and Operation (1911-1942) at Capex - 96 held at Montreal - Canada.

Shri Pradip Jain, a professional Philatelist, represented india Participated in

Singapore-87, INDIA-89; New Zealand-90, Zonlon-90; Bangkok-93, Phila korea - 94 and Singapore-95 in world Philatelic Exhibitions. In the recently held CAPEX-96 at montical he won the highest Award for his Entry - INDIAN AIRMAILS-Development and operation (1911-1942) Large Gold with special prize. Hearty Congratulations to him for this honour to our country & to his family.

He is honoured with Bihar Ratna on 28.3.1991 by Bihar Diwar Samaroh Surithi. He is on the Governing Council of the ApexBody - Philatelic Congress of India and also on the Philatelic Advisory committe of the Department of Posts, New Delhi for second term representing Dealer's. Besides he is a Rotary of the Rotary club of Pallipatu Dist-325 and many other social and trade organisations. He had acted as National Commissioner for Singapore-95, world stamp Exhibition. He is an executive member of PCI since 1986. He has popularised philately in India, has attended seminars, sympostums, given talks on philately on Doordarshan and All India Radio on several occasions. He has written a series of articles in Newspapers both in Hindi & English. PRAY Lord to SHOWER many more honours in the years to come

TRIBUTE TO GANDHI BY REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (RSA) RSA - Gandhi Commemoration



SOUTH AFRICA GOVERNMENT is pleased to ANNOUNCE appointment of their sole agent in India to MR. PRADIP JAIN for MARKETING the SOUTH AFRICA POSTAGE STAMPS.

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Philatelic Terms Explained

by *Kenneth Chapman*

Telegraph Stamps

Telegraph stamps were those issues whose purpose was to pre-pay the charges for telegrams. These stamps originated with the private telegraph companies, beginning with the adhesive issues of The English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company in 1853, quickly followed by The Electric Telegraph Company stamps in 1854. These and other private stamp-issuing telegraph companies were acquired by the Government following the Telegraph Acts of 1868 and 1869 granting the Postmaster-General monopoly rights over delivering telegrams, as with normal letters.

From 1 January 1870 to 31 January 1876 ordinary postage stamps were used to pre-pay telegrams. Thereafter, for nearly six years, until November 1881, eleven special stamps ranging from ½d to £5, all of them inscribed TELEGRAPHS were in use. The need for specially inscribed stamps was to facilitate the separation of telegraphic revenue from normal postal business. Telegraphic revenue was easily checked by accounting for all sales of the telegraph stamps as distinct from *postage* stamps. This, set against the costs of the service provided a check on the resulting profit or loss – usually it was a loss! (Normal postage stamps were again used on telegrams from December 1881, when other accounting methods were adopted and continued until the telegram service finally ceased in 1982.)

These telegraph stamps began to be ignored by even specialist collectors of Great Britain when, as a Second World War paper-saving measure, they were dropped from the Stanley Gibbons catalogue. However, they are now included in Volume 1 of Gibbons Specialised GB Catalogue, so far as the official Post Office issues are concerned, but the private company issues remain in the cold, presumably because Gibbons only normally list government-issued stamps.

As the majority of Telegraph issues, in due course, were destroyed along with the telegram forms to which they were attached, mint examples are more usual than

used. The exception was the 1d value which, from October 1877, was used in pairs to pay the 2d fee charged for an official receipt confirming the payment and despatch of a telegram.

As soon as postage stamps replaced the telegraph issues it became necessary to provide a £5 denomination to replace the withdrawn £5 “Telegraphs” stamp. This was achieved by removing the word TELEGRAPHS from each cliché on the plate and substituting POSTAGE, a Greek border ornament filling in the space either side of the new and shorter inscription. This is the only instance where the plate for a British stamp was amended to produce a new plate for a totally different stamp.



Military Telegraphs

The Queen Victoria ½d vermilion of 1887 and the companion ½d green of 1900 were both overprinted ARMY TELEGRAPHS for use by the Military authorities during manoeuvres in England and some overseas campaigns. Also, there were special overprints on stamps prepared for fiscal purposes but with blank panels for the insertion of inscriptions as required. The basic stamps are known to collectors as impressions from “unappropriated dies”. Use of these dies for fully inscribed postage stamps, as opposed to telegraphic use, is unusual but did occur in British Bechuanaland in 1987.

Correction – Philatelic Terms Explained No.23

In the article on UPU colours in the June *Bulletin*, there was an error in the text concerning the Edward VII stamps. The affected part of the sentence should have read, “... back into line – ½d green, 1d red and 2½d blue – 20 years after falling from grace.”