



# SIPA

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## Bulletin

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PRE - 1947  
INDIA - 25

Bimonthly

### Guest Editorial

It is not a practice for the editor's of the SIGNET to write an editorial. I think it is a column which the editor can use to stimulate thoughts of well meaning people in furtherance of the hobby to which we all and this journal, the mouth piece of the Philatelic Congress of India is devoted. I took fancy to, and share the views of, the President of the Gujarat Philatelic Association, which I freely reproduce here.

The other day, I was thinking whenever a question is raised by an exhibitor regarding his exhibit, it is always suppressed by giving a general answer by stalwarts of Philately and nobody bothers to give a specific answer to his queries. In my opinion, a specific answer can be made available to an annoyed participant, if he is allowed a hearing before being penalized for his collection. I want to put stress on the word "Penalise". It means that an exhibitor is going to get a lower award from his previous award on the same exhibit. If a hearing is arranged, the participant will know his shortcomings and will become wiser and will not complain in future. Therefore, a meeting should be arranged between the participant and juries when a participant is demoted. Here, we should not forget that our aim is to promote philately and a satisfied participant will become a pillar in promotion of philately.

But participants should always remember that they collect and exhibit stamps for their own hobby / interest and their collections give them immense satisfaction as well as proud feeling. They should not be disheartened if their collections are not understood or praised by juries. One should go ahead and share his knowledge with others, by displaying his materials. Prizes in exhibitions, should not become the prime criteria for exhibiting a collection. In my opinion, a collector should show his collection to share the knowledge, as a research writer writes an article to share the knowledge without thinking of a prize. No Philatelic Society in India has ever installed a prize for best Research Article of a year. When a writer can write an article without keeping an eye on a prize why a participant cannot show his material, without longing for a prize. If this can be achieved, collectors will be more happy and will have sufficient time to discuss philately at any given time or place, instead of complaining about their prizes.  
(Courtesy : Signet, 2001)

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### The First Stamp Club

The first stamp collectors' club ever organised in the world was the one started by Rev. F.J. Stainforth of London. Although Collectors gathered at one time in Birchin Lane in the City, regular meetings of collectors for discussion and exchange of stamps were taking place at the Reverend's rectory, on Saturday after-noons during the early 1860's. There, in an upper room, one could have seen such giants among the stamp collectors, as Sir Daniel Cooper, Dr. Viner, Judge Philbrick and Mount Brown all spending many happy hours together.

### The First Stamp Album

That the World's first stamp album is a book containing annotated collection of Duty stamps issued in 1774 by John Bourke, the Receiver - General of Stamp Duties in Ireland. Its title was "A Collection of impressions to be made on every skin or piece of Vellum or Parchment or every sheet of paper in manner and form as hereinafter expressed."

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### Monthly Second Sunday Meetings

With President

Mr. G. Balakrishna Das on the Chair,  
24 members attended the meeting on  
10.2.2008.

Patron Mr. G. Madan Mohan Das  
enlightened everybody on "Finishing  
touches and finer points on Exhibits".

## STAMP NEWS

### ENDEMIC BUTTERFLIES OF ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

2.1.08 4x500 J.O. Mill each

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands are blessed with rich butterfly fauna due to presence of humid tropical rainforest. The long isolation of these islands and their relatively undisturbed ecology provides scope for the evolution of many endemic varieties. The butterfly fauna of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands has a high degree of endemism and they are very unique.



Some of the endemic butterflies are : Andaman Mormon, Andaman Club tail, Andaman Oak Leaf, Tailless Oak Blue and Andaman Snow Flat; Nicobar Yeoman and Nicobar Map. These butterflies are very specific to their food plants. The butterflies have been provided protection by the Government of India under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and a few butterflies of Andaman and Nicobar islands are listed in Schedule I, II and III and in the Red Data book of International Union for the Conservation (IUCN).

#### Andaman Mormon (Papillon mayo)

Andaman Mormon was the first endemic butterfly described from Andaman Islands, The wing expanse of male is 120 mm while that of female is 150mm. The body is black in both sexes. Male has black upper side; forewing without internervular streak, hind wing black; fore wing with basal red streak and obscure internervular veins; hind wing with red patch, a complete red ocellus, submarginal blue lunular spots; posterior ones less prominent. The female has fore wing with broad internervular streaks; white in the discal area. Hind wing is interrupted by an oval black spot and by a broad elongated black patch, apical half of tail is red whitish at apex. Its food plant is citrus plant of climbing vine. This is a forest species which inhabits North to South Andamans.

#### Andaman Club Tail (Pachilopta rhodifer)

Wing expanse of male 120mm while that of female is 140mm. The body of the male is red upper side black;

forewing has pale streaks extending upto apex of cell; hind wing are more crimson red; hind wing upper side dusted with black scales, discal more extensive; antediscal spot extends well below vein. The female is mimic to female of Andaman Mormon and flies slowly together in forest paths. Theme : Insects, Flora & Fauna, Butterflies.

### DR. B.P. PAL

5.1.08 500 0.4 Mill

Dr. B.P. Pal was born at Mukandpur in Punjab on 26 May 1906. He has his early education in Maymyo and Rangoon and got Ph.D.degree in Plant Genetics and Agriculture from the University of Cambridge, UK in 1933. He joined the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (then known as the Imperial Agricultural research Institute), located at Pusa in Bihar in October 1933 as Economic Botanist. In 1937, he became the Head of Division of Botany of IARI. He served as Director general of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). After retirement from ICAR, he served as Chairman of the National Committee on Environmental Planning and Coordination. Dr.Pal expired on 14 September 1989.

Dr. Pal's contributions to the agricultural renaissance of India are many and varied, As a geneticist and plant breeder, he spearheaded the breeding of wheat varieties resistant to the rusts and other diseases. The wheat variety NP809 which he helped to breed is the first variety in the world with concurrent resistance to stem, leaf and stripe rusts. He also bred numerous beautiful varieties of roses and bougainvilleas. Even in his Ph.D. work in Cambridge, he showed that the exploitation of hybrid vigour is possible in a self-pollinated crop like wheat.



Dr. Pal's contributions to the promotion of agricultural research and education have been truly monumental. He established a Post-graduate School at IARI in 1958 which helped to meet the human resource requirements of the Agricultural Universities of India. He was the principal author of the chapter on "Education for Agriculture" in the report of the National Education Commission headed by Dr DS Kothari. The symphony approach he promoted in agricultural research and development helped to launch the green revolution in the country in the mid-sixties.

Dr. Pal's research contributions have received national and global recognition through numerous honours and awards, including Padma Vibhushan by the President of India, fellowship of the Royal Society of London, Japan Science Academy and all the major Science Academies of India. His plea made 70 years ago for the launching "a research for new genes" led to a global movement in the area of genetic resources conservation and enhancement.

Love of the beauty and diversity of nature and achieving the goal of food for all and for ever have been his abiding passions. He donated all his worldly belongings

including two houses in New Delhi and Simla to the Indian Agricultural Research Institute. His life and work will continue to inspire generations of agricultural scientists and scholars.

Theme : Personality, Roses, Agriculture, Scientists.

### DR. D.R. GADGIL

8.2.08                      500                      0.4 Mill

Dr. D.R. Gadgil, one of India's Great economists, belonged to that rare and exclusive class of learned men who have been able to successfully combine an illustrious academic career with an equally active role in the real world.

Born in 10<sup>th</sup> April 1901, Dr. D.R. Gadgil spent his childhood in Nagpur and received his B.A. and M.A. degrees in History and Economics from Cambridge University. He followed this up with a thesis on the "Industrial Evolution of India" in 1923, which was published by Oxford University Press in 1924. While searching for avenues to pursue his ambition he took on a job in the Finance



Department of Government of Bombay. When the offer to become the Principal of M.T.B. College in Surat came in 1925, he immediately accepted it. In 1930 he took charge as the Founder-Director of the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, a position he held for the next 36 years. In 1966 he was nominated to the Rajya Sabha, and from 1967-71, he served as the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission.

What he is really remembered for is his association with the co-operative movement in India. He was very much a man of action and felt that economic theories should be tested in real life situations. His association with the cooperative movement started in the 1930's as a Director of Poona Central Cooperative Bank. He also went on to chair the Maharashtra State Cooperative bank and the National Federation of Cooperative banks. During his association with these organizations he put into practice his theories on providing credit to farmers. He also served as the Chairman of the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar factories and the National Cooperative Union.

As the Principal author of the Fourth Five Year Plan, he was not only instrumental in introducing decentralized planning at the district level, but also in devising measures for reducing regional imbalances. Judging by the number of schemes, policies or plans that he authored, Dr. D.R. Gadgil would stand very high in the ranks of the builders of modern India.

Theme : Leaders, Personality, Economics, Cooperative Movement

### DAMODARAM SANJEEVAIAH

14.2.08                      500                      0.4 Mill

Damodaram Sanjeevaiah was a parliamentarian and a leader of the masses committed to the cause of social upliftment of the down trodden. He was born on 14<sup>th</sup> February 1921 . With a degree in law from Madras, he practiced for a short period. He married Ms. Krishnaveni on 7<sup>th</sup> May 1954.

In the General Elections held in the year 1952, he was elected to the Madras Legislative Assembly as one of the two members from Pathikonda Constituency. Shri.C. Rajagopalachari, appointed him as Minister in charge of the Departments of Housing and Cooperation.

The state of Andhra Pradesh was created in 1953. Shri. Damodaram Sanjeevaiah was a natural choice for induction into the government of Shri. T.Prakasam, the first Chief Minister of Andra Pradesh. He was made Minister of Social Welfare , Rehabilitation, Planning



and Public Health. Elected to the Legislative Assembly of Andra Pradesh from Yemmiganur constituency during the 1955 mid term elections, he was appointed Minister in charge of the Departments of Transportation and Commercial Taxes. When Shri Sanjeeva Reddy took over as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in 1956, Shri Damodaram Sanjeevaiah was entrusted the Departments of Labour and Local Bodies Administration. In 1960, Shri Sanjeeva Reddy elected as President of the All India Congress Committee and resigned from the post of Chief Minister. Shri Damoodaram Sanjeevaiah was the successor and took over as the fourth Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh on 11 January 1960. He held this office till March 1962. In the elections that followed he was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Andhra Pradesh from Kodumuru Constituency. In June 1962, he was elected as the President on the All India Congress Committee.

Shri Damodaram Sanjeevaiah also had the distinction of working under three Prime Ministers of India. In 1964, he joined as Labour Minister under Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. After Pandit Nehru's demise, he continued as Labour Minister under the next Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. From February 1970 to March 1971 he was in the cabinet headed by Smt. Indira Gandhi.

In 1972, he was elected for the second time as the president of the All India Congress Committee. On 8<sup>th</sup> May 1972, Shri. Damodaram Sanjeevaiah expired after a life of active service to the nation.

Theme : Personality, Leaders, Politics, Congress.

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## INPEX 2008

### INDIA NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

With much expectations and enthusiasm a grand national philatelic exhibition has been organized and conducted by INDIA POST under the able leadership of the Principal Chief Post Master General, Tamil Nadu Circle Smt. Indira Krishna Kumar, SIPA as the supporting home association congratulates and salutes the leader and her efficient team for the memorable success of the event which has been held for the first time in South India.

For posterity and record SIPA wishes to give in detail all aspects of the event.

#### INVITATION

Principal Chief Post Master General Tamil Nadu Circle, Chennai Cordially invites you to INPEX 2008, India National Philatelic Exhibition being held at Raja Muthiah and Rani Meyyamai Halls, Rukmini Lakshimipathi Road, Egmore, Chennai 600 008 from 02<sup>nd</sup> to 06<sup>th</sup> January 2008.

#### LOGO

The evolution of 'Writing' marks the milestone in the development of human civilization. Likewise the invention of postage stamp denotes the landmark of the postal history. The logo showing the perforation stands for the stamps collecting activity. The word 'உலகெல்லாம்' (means 'all over the world') symbolizes the fact the postage stamp, crossing all countries, enjoys the freedom of transit all over the world.

#### MASCOT

"Mayoori" the swallow tail Butterfly of Papilionidae family called Tamil Peacock (Papilio paris tamilana) largely found in the Nilgirs, Tamil Nadu and Kerala is the mascot of INPEX 2008. Butterfly represents colour, beauty and speed, akin to the colourful and beautiful stamps, which knows no boundaries. The speed denotes the fastness with which the stamped letters are transmitted and delivered throughout the world.

#### ORGANISING COMMITTEE

**CHAIRPERSON** Smt. Indira Krishna Kumar  
Principal Chief Postmaster General  
Tamil Nadu Circle, Chennai 600 002.

#### VICE-CHAIRMEN

Sir. K. Ramachandran N Postmaster General  
(Mail & Mktg), Tamil Nadu Circle  
Sri. T. Murthy Postmaster General (BD & Mktg),  
Tamil Nadu Circle  
Sri K.G. Sundar Rajan Postmaster General, Western  
Region, Coimbatore  
Sri. A. Annamalai Postmaster General, Southern  
Region, Chennai  
Sri. S.P. Rajalingam Postmaster General, Central  
Region, Tiruchirapalli

Sri. V. Murugaiyan General Manager (Finance & Postal  
Accounts), Chennai

**SECRETARY**  
Sri. D.S.V.R. Murthy Director Postal Services (HQ), Tamil  
Nadu Circle, Chennai

**JOINT SECRETARIES**  
Sri K. Balasubramanian Director (Foreign Post & Mktg),  
Tamil Nadu Circle  
Sri R. Anand Director (Mail Business), Tamil Nadu  
Circle  
Sri C.S.P. Kumar Director of Postal Services, Chennai  
City Region  
Sri Sushilkumar Director of Postal Services,  
Southern Region  
Sri V. Rajarajan Director, Postal Training Centre,  
Madurai  
Sri V.S. Jayasankar Director of Postal Services, Central  
Region  
Sri Vijay Jwala Director of Accounts (Postal),  
Chennai

#### MEMBERS

Sri S. Balasundaram Asst. Postmaster General (Retd.),  
Officer on Special Duty  
Smt R.P. Chitra Devi Asst. Director (Philately), Tamil Nadu  
Circle, Chennai  
Sri P. Nagarathinam AD (Official Language), Tamil Nadu  
Circle, Chennai  
Sri. T.T. Baskaran Circle Philately Officer, Tamil Nadu  
Circle, Chennai  
Sri Dirubhai Metha Mumbai 400 040  
Dr. Sita Bhateja Bengaluru 560025  
Sri Dilip Shah President, Philatelic Congress of  
India  
Sri M.G. Pittle Senior Consultant, FIAP  
Sri G. Balakrishna Das President, South India Philatelists'  
Association, Chennai  
Sri Ajit Chordia Vice President, SIPA  
Sri Rojands J Nelson Secretary, SIPA  
Sri C.G. Bhaskar Treasurer, SIPA

#### SUB-COMMITTEES

Sl.No.	Name of the Committee	Chairperson S/Shri
1	Hall & Security Committee	A. Annamalai PMG, Southern Region
2	Allotment Committee	V. Rajarajan Director, PTC, Madurai
3	Exhibit Committee	K. Ramachandiran N PMG (MM)
4	Publication Committee	R. Anand DPS (Mail Business)
5	Reception / Hospitality / Ceremonial & PMG (MM) Programme Committee	K. Ramachandiran N
6	Award & Jury Committee	K.V. Sundar Rajan PMG, Western Region
7	Volunteers & Youth Promotion Committee	S.P. Rajalingam PMG, Central Region
8	Publicity / Souvenir & Trade Committee	T. Murthy PMG (BD & Mktg)
9	Finance Committee	V. Murugaiyan GM, Postal A/cs & Finance

**PROGRAMME**

**02.01.2008 – Inaugural Day**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Guest</i>
11.00 AM	Inauguration of INPEX 2008 Release of Endemic Butterflies of A & N Islands & Release of 1857 Through Indian Postage Stamps (Book)	Thiru A. Raja Hon'ble Minister of Communications & IT Smt K. Noorjehan Member (O & M), Postal Services Board
02.30 PM	Seminar on Modern Trends in Philately	Sri K.V. Sundar Rajan, PMG Western Region, Coimbatore Sri. K. Balasubramanian Director, Foreign Post, Chennai
<b>03.01.2008 – Maritime Day</b>		
11.00 AM	Release of Special Cover on Catamaran	Sri K. Suresh Chairman, Chennai Port Trust Sri. K. Ramachandiran N, PMG (MM)
12.00 PM	Philately Workshop	Sri P.S. Seshadri Sri S.P. Rajalingam PMG, Central Region, Tiruchy
02.30 PM	Leadership Development Programme & Cultural Programme	Sri V. Irai Anbu Secretary, Information & Tourism Government of Tamil Nadu Sri S.P. Rajalingam PMG, Central Region, Tiruchy
<b>04.01.2008 – Art Day</b>		
11.00 AM	Release of Special Cover on Thanjavur Painting & Distribution of Award to Design-a-Stamp contest winner	Kalaiamamani R. Sivakumar Cine Artiste Sri. A. Annamalai, PMG Southern Region, Madurai Ms Sita Bhateja, Philatelist
02.30 03.30 05.00 PM	On-the-spot painting competition State-level Quiz Folk Art	Sri L. Pradhan DPS, Berhampur Sri S.P. Rajalingam PMG, Central Region, Tiruchy
<b>05.01.2008 – Heritage Day</b>		
11.00 AM	Release of Special Cover on Copper Ticket	Sri S. Muthiah Historian Sri. K.V.Sundar Rajan, PMG Western Region, Coimbatore Sri Dilip Shah, President, PCI
12.00 PM	Philately Workshop	Sri P.Soundara Rajan Sri S.P. Rajalingam PMG, Central Region, Tiruchy
02.30 PM	Kavi Sammelan by 'Vasal' Kavithai Amaippu, Chennai	Sri V. Murugaiyan GM (PA & F)
04.00 PM	Light Music by Dinesh Rythms Sri Sankar Ganesh, Musician	Sri S.P. Rajalingam PMG, Central Region, Tiruchy
<b>06.01.2008 – Technology &amp; Valedictory Day</b>		
11.00 AM	Release of Special Cover on Information Technology & Honouring of Sri S.M. Muthu Omalur	Sri M.S. Sundara Rajan CMD, Indian Bank Sri Ajith Chordia, MD Olympia Technology Park Chennai Sri T. Murthy PMG (BD), Chennai
04.00 PM	Release of Souvenir Award Distribution Valedictory function	Smt. K. KANIMOZHI Member of Parliament Smt. K. Noorjehan Member (O & M) Postal Services Board

AWARDS & SPECIAL PRIZES					
Sl	Entry No	Frame	Exhibitor's Name	Title	
Grand Prize for Championship Class					
1	2	59 – 66	Madhukar Deogawankar	Indian Booklets	
Grand Prize for Best Exhibit					
2	367	924 – 930	G. Amarchand	India pre Independence	
Cup for Best Youth Exhibit					
3	298	1243-1245	Deeraj Chaitanya T	Means of Transport	
Trophy for Best School Exhibit					
4	308	1278-1282	Balagurukulam Nursery & Primary English School	Means of Transport	
DG's Special Prize for Postal History					
5	43	330-334	Gopal Biswas	India Pre Independence Postmarks	
DG's Special Prize for Youth Class – 4.2.12A					
6	227	1077-1079	Master Mirinal Mathur	Cars on Stamps	
Principal Chief PMG, Chennai Special Prize for Youth Class 4.2.12 B					
7	253	1149-1151	Sashank Agarwal	Highest Peaks of Himalayas	
Principal Chief PMG, Chennai Special Prize for Thematics Class 4.2.6 A					
8	75	544 – 548	Anil Kumar Reddy	Mahatma Gandhi	
Principal Chief PMG, Chennai Special Prize for Thematics Class 4.2.8 C					
9	151	997 – 1001	Sri Santanu Panighrahi	Bamra Feudatory State	
Principal Chief PMG, Chennai Special Prize for Schools					
10	302	1257-1259	Vijaya School	Airman to Airbus	
Gangashahar Philatelists Association Special Prize for Youth Class – 4.2.12 C					
11	263	1171-1173	Prithvi Raman	Aves	
Indian Bank Special Prize for Youth Class – 4.2.12 D					
12	298	1243-1245	Deeraj Chaitanya T	Means of Transport	
South India Philatelists Association Special Prizes					
13	90	655-659	Lallan Prasad Singh	How & Whys of Birds	
14	118	795 – 799	T. Ramalingeswar Rao	Railways	
15	138	1002-1007	Dr. Satyendra Kumar Agarwal	Roses	
The Empire of India Philatelic Society's Sri Sitaram Jhunjuwala Memorial Award for Traditional Philately					
16	8	101-196	Moses Mathuram G	Essays, Proof, Repaints & Specimen Stamps	
17	356	299-303	Shaji Mohan	The Tale of 753 Machin Definitives	
Cama, Copper & Shroff Memorial Prize for Traditional Philately					
18	108	747-754	Dinesh Chandra Sharma	Summer Olympics	
Mr. Coppel & Manners Award for Fiscal & Revenue					
19	150	992-996	Atul Kumar Gupta	Court Fee & Revenue Stamps of Bharatpur State	
Shri Viswanath Jhunjunwala Award for Traditional Philately					
20	20	174-178	Binod Kumar Kasera	Definitive Stamps of India	

CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS					
Sl.No	Entry No	Frame No	Exhibitor's Name	Title	Medal
1	2	59-66	Madhukar Deogawankar	Indian Booklets	Gold + Grandprize
2	3	67-74	Kishor S. Chandak	Handstruck Postage Stamps of India upto 1852	Gold
3	1	51-58	Valmick K. Desai	Philatelic terms – Panorama	Gold
4	4	75-82	AnilSuri	Fiscals of Mysore	Gold

## Gold Medal

Competitive class							
Sl. No	Entry No	Frame No.	Exhibitor's Name	Title	Marks	Category of Medal	Remarks
Sub Class : Indian Classics							
1	5	83-90	Vishwanath Junjhunwala	India upto 1867	90	Gold	
Class : Postal History							
Sub Class : India after Independence							
2	314	340-347	Kishor S Chandak	Indian Instructional Labels & Markings	90	Gold	
Class : Thematic Philately							
3	47	370-374	Madhukar Deogawankar	Postal History of Jaipur State	92	Gold	
Class : Thematic Philately							
Sub Class : All other themes							
4	108	747-754	Dinesh Chandra Sharma	Summer Olympics	93	Gold	Special Prize
5	367	924-930	G. Amarchand	India Pre Independence	92	Gold	Grand prize
6	138	1002-1007	Dr. Satyendra Kumar Agarwal	Roses	91	Gold	Special Prize

## Large Vermeil Medal

Competitive Class							
Sl. No	Entry No	Frame No.	Exhibitor's Name	Title	Marks	Category of Medal	Remarks
Sub Class : India after Independence							
1	8	101-106	Moses Mathuram G	Essay Proof Reprints & Specimen Stamps of India	87	Large Vermeil	Special prize
2	12	123-127	Narendar Kumar Saboo	Portuguese India	85	Large Vermeil	
3	336	141-145	Abdul Hai	Pre Independence	85	Large Vermeil	
Sub Class : India since Independence							
4	20	174-178	Binod Kumar Kasera	Definitive Stamps of India	85	Large Vermeil	Special prize
Class : Postal History							
Sub Class : India pre – adhesive period							
5	40	315-319	G. Amarchand	Hand Struck Stamps of India	89	Large Vermeil	
Sub Class : India after Independence							
6	43	330 -334	Gopal Biswas	India Pre Independence Postmarks	89	Large Vermeil	Special Prizes
7	44	335-339	Shruti Kishor Chandak	Class Period of India's RMS	85	Large Vermeil	
Sub Class : Indian Feudatory States							
8	315	361-365	Somani Shag Chand	Postal History of Krishnagarh State	85	Large Vermeil	
9	48	375-379	Prakash O.K	Cochin Anchal History	85	Large Vermeil	
Class : Postal History							
Sub Class : India up to Independence							
10	56	429-434	Valmick K Desai	Pre Independence Postal Stationery	85	Large Vermeil	
Class : Thematic Philately							
Sub Class : All other themes							
11	90	655-659	Lallan Prasad Singh	How's Why's of Birds	85	Large Vermeil	Special prize
12	118	795-799	T.Ramalingeswar Rao	Railways	85	Large Vermeil	Special prize

## Vermeil Medal

Competitive Class							
Sl. No	Entry No	Frame No.	Exhibitor's Name	Title	Marks	Category of Medal	Remarks
Sub Class : India after Independence							
1	14	135-140	Bhaskar C G	India Upto Independence	81	Vermeil	
Sub Class : India Feudatory States							
2	16	151-155	VK Mohan	Saurashtra States	80	Vermeil	
3	17	156-160	Prakash O K	Travancore Stamps	82	Vermeil	
Sub Class : India since Independence							
4	22	185-189	Binod Kumar Jain	India - Refugee Relief Tax	80	Vermeil	
Sub Class : Rest of the World							
5	356	299-303	Shaji Mohan	The Tale of 753 Machin Definitives	82	Vermeil	Special Prizes
Class : Postal History							
Sub Class : Indian Feudatory States							
6	317	380-384	Mohan K S	Postal History of Travancore - Cochin	82	Vermeil	
Sub Class : India after Independence							
7	41	320 - 324	Atul Kumar Gupta	Slogan Post marks of India	81	Vermeil	
Class : Postal Stationery							
Sub Class : Indian Feudatory States							
8	57	435-442	PrasanthH Pandya	British India Postal Stationery	80	Vermeil	
Sub Class : India up to Independence							
9	75	544-548	Anil Kumar Reddy	Mahathma Gandhi	80	Vermeil	
Sub Class : All Other themes							
10	144	959-963	Rajesh Kumar Sinha	Facinating world of MAPs	81	Vermeil	
Class : Maximaphily							
Sub Class : Maximaphily							
11	147	982-986	Sasmilta Raut	The World of Birds	82	Vermeil	
Class : Revenues							
Sub Class : Indian Feudatory States							
12	150	992-996	Atul Kumar gupta	Court Fee & Revenue Stamps	85	Large Vermeil	Special prize
13	151	997-1001	Sri Santanu Panigrahi	Bamra Feudatory State	82	Vermeil	Special prize
Class : Philatelic Literature & Publications							
Sub Class : Books pamphlets and studies within five years							
14	202	-	Tawker KSK	Birds of the World	83	Vermeil	

### INVITATION CLASS EXHIBITS

- |     |                                       |          |
|-----|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 1.  | National Philatelic Museum, New Delhi | 5 Frames |
| 2.  | Army Postal Service, Chennai          | 5 Frames |
| 3.  | Sri. G. Madanmohan Das, Chennai       | 5 Frames |
| 4.  | Sri. Rajesh Kumar Bagri, Kolkata      | 5 Frames |
| 5.  | Sri. V.K. Gupta, Meerut               | 5 Frames |
| 6.  | Sri. S.P. Gupta Meerut                | 5 Frames |
| 7.  | Sri Rameshwardas Binani, Kolkata      | 5 Frames |
| 8.  | Sri Dhananjay S Desai, Ahmedabad      | 5 Frames |
| 9.  | Prof. Arvind Jain, Bhilwara           | 6 Frames |
| 10. | Sri P.A. Ravindranathan, Calicut      | 4 Frames |



## REPORT OF THE JURY

The Exhibition, organized by the Department of Posts, India comprised of Exhibits from all over India, covering almost all the major classes of Philately, which include Traditional, Postal Stationery, Thematics, Revenue, Maximaphily, Youth and Schools.

The organizers deserve Special Appreciation for their hard work, efficiency and courage and for their efforts to overcome the great difficulty of arranging the Frames, Glasses etc. for display of the Exhibits. The exhibition has set a successful example of Efficient Management of available resources. This allowed a total of 354 Entries spread across 1298 frames covering different disciplines of Philately.

A remarkable feature of the Exhibition was the large participation of the Youth and Schools. Entries under the Thematics and Youth Sections comprised of more than 70% of the total number of exhibits.

All the exhibits were judged by Accredited Jury Team of 8 Jurors along with 5 Apprentice Jurors as per the India Post rules and regulations.

The Jury Members are pleased to announce a total of 6 Gold Medals, 12 large Vermeil Medals, 14 Vermeil Medals, 36 Large Silver Medals, 47 Silver Medals, 69 Silver Bronze Medals, 81 Bronze Medals & 69 Diplomas. Besides the above a total of 16 Special Prizes received from various Societies and Individuals have been awarded as an appreciation.

The members of the Jury thank the Organisers for the warm hospitality, courtesies and facilities provided for the Jury Work. The members of the Jury also thank the Volunteers, Mounting and Dismounting teams, Secretarial Staff and all others for their untiring efforts and labour to make this event a Grand Success.

A special Thanks of the Jury go to Shri. I.M.G. Khan Secretary, Department of Posts, Ms. K. Noorjehan, Member (O & M), Postal Services Board, Principal Chief Postmaster General Smt. Indira Krishna Kumar and Shri R.R.P. Singh DDG (Philately), who all took up this challenge and made this Exhibition a Grand Success. We Jury consider the Exhibition, a mile stone for the Future Exhibitions.

(Sd)  
JURY Secretary      Jury Co-Chairman      Chairperson  
(Sunder Bahirwani)      (G. Madanmohan Das)      (Indira Krishna Kumar)

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## PRE - INDEPENDENCE STAMPS OF INDIA

P. M. Medhora

India has a very fascinating postal history and equally fascinating are the Indian stamps. Much has been written about the postal history and the early classical stamps of India by eminent foreign philatelic writers like

Hausburg, Martin Dawson and Smythies who took great prominence. Mr. Jal Cooper is another eminent Indian author who was to his credit a most readable and interesting book on "Stamps of India" and his other interesting publications are, "India Used Abroad" and "Early Indian Cancellations" which are to my mind excellent reference books for a keen student of Indian stamps. In spite of such wealth of reference books that are at the disposal of Indian stamp collectors, very few devote their time and money in studying the stamps of India and the other side lines like postal history, early lithographed stamps and their fascinating printing and early Indian cancellations.

### Short Postal History :

This vast country has passed from vicissitudes of time it has seen good days as well as bad days. The country's history is full of strife and brickerings and it was because of this, the country was dominated by a foreign power for over hundred years. In the days of yore prior to East India Co., there was internal postal service carried in a number of ruling states and also by zamindars by regular runners or on horses or mules but the postal service was on a very restricted scale.

The East India Co., which was established in the year 1600 was mainly responsible in introducing regular postal service-run on proper lines. The East India Co., having established, started its trading activities from three important centres that of Madras, Calcutta and Bombay. As the Company prospered very fast it realized that for exchange of business letters and other documents from one place to another a regular postal link was not only necessary but very imperative. The two trading centres at Madras and Bombay were asked to put up a regular post office in the year 1688. Between 1700 to 1760 a number of postal reforms were introduced. By about 1720 a weekly postal service was introduced between Madras and Calcutta and as the years rolled by a similar service was brought into effect joining Bombay. With the expanding trade and with the help of able administrators like Lord Clive and Warren Hastings the power and political influence of the East India Co. increased rapidly. The postal system which was once used for the Company and its staff only, was thrown open to the public. By 1837 British influence took its deep roots in the Indian soil and virtually the Britishers were in control of most of the strategic points in this country. The first Post Office Act of 1837 - 38 came into force and the postal service was put on better footing throughout the country. As there was no postage stamps, various strikes better known as Early Indian Handstruck Stamps were introduced in three major presidencies that of Madras, Bengal and Bombay.

From the view point of stamp collectors those strikes applied to various letters offer a very interesting and fascinating study. A keen collector of Indian stamps if he wishes to bring completion must keep a few examples of these early Indian handstruck stamps in his collection. Some of these strikes are very rare and hard to obtain and fetch high prices. For a keen student of early postal history I would recommend that magnificent work in two parts on 'The Handstruck Postage Stamps of India' by Col Hammond Giles.

### Scinde Dawks And 1854 issues

To Sir Bartle Frere goes the credit of introducing first stamps in this country. He was the Commissioner of Sind in those days and was an able administrator and a reformer. He decided to introduce cheap postal rate service in his province and with this view in mind he designed the first postage stamps of India, popularly known as Scinde Dawk stamps. No proper proof is available as to where the Scinde Dawks were printed but it is presumed that the credit goes to the famous printers De La Rue & Co.

The first to appear was a the red Scinde Dawk. As it was very brittle stamp it did not remaining circulation for a long time and a new supply was ordered which was on white paper. From Stamp collectors' view the red Scinde Dawk is a great rarity in fine condition First of all very few examples are known in fine condition as invariably the copies are found in cracked condition.

The white Scinde Dawk stamp did not prove popular with the postal staff because when affixed on a white cover they were not easily noticeable to the postal clerks working at night in very dim light. So, out went the white Scinde Dawks, and in came the other variety the blue Scinde Dawks. The Scinde Dawk stamps remained in circulation for more than two years, from July, 1852 to 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 1854. There was a time about fifteen years back the writer had sold four copies of white Scinde Dawks at Rs.125/- per stamp and the blue Scinde Dawk two copies at Rs.200/- each to a dealer friend. The position is quite different today as they have gone up in prices, but I would still say that do buy good or fine used copies at prevailing prices as these rarities are simply disappearing from the market. One word of warning beware of forgeries, as there are crude as well as clever forgeries and one is likely to be duped.

It was Sir Bartle Frere's bold venture which was greatly responsible for issuing stamps throughout India in Oct., 1854. Full credit must be given to Capt. Thuillier for his hard work and sincerity of purpose for printing 1854 Indian lithographs. This devoted officer first succeeded in printing nine hundred sheets of half anna in vermilion colour. The sheets were first sent to Bombay but they were not issued to public for postal use. As further printing of the soild half anna vermilion cannot be had because that particular English vermilion ink was in short supply, Capt. Thuillier experimented with the Indian red ink but the result was not very encouraging. So he switched over to deep blue or indigo ink and was successful in putting up an excellent performance.

The first supply of half anna vermilion SG No. 19-½ arches were 120 stamps in a sheet but in the new printing of half anna blue there were 96 stamps in a sheet 8 x 12. Each sheet showing corner floral ornaments, some descriptive information, printer's name and date of production. There was a very heavy demand for stamps so Capt. Thuillier had to work hard and fast by preparing one large 'Primary or Parent stone' of 96 stamps. To satisfy were printed and released to the various post offices. The first half anna stamps are known to exist in three different dies viz., die I, die II and die III and it is interesting to know as to how this happened.

By constant printing the printing stones got worn out and in spite of 'touches-up' and 're-touchers' made to the worn out stones the impressions of stamps were not satisfactory. Therefore new printing stones parts of the original design and such redrawing resulted in the new die, better known as die II. Further changes were made in the master die and there resulted a new die, known as die III. So one will find three different dies of half anna blue. Out of three dies half anna stamps, that of die II were printed in a small quantity and it is very difficult to come across fine used copies of die II. The second best is die III and the third best is die I. There was a time when good to fine used copies of all the dies were available at a very low price but our Indian collectors never paid proper attention to early classics and today they have gone up in.

It was truly a success story for Capt. Thuillier. So this hard working officer put on another great performance in offering a big quantity of one anna value in red colour. They were also printed in sheets of 96 stamps with the corner ornaments and descriptive inscription. As for the three different dies in one anna value the same story as that of half anna repeats itself. Out of the three dies in the one anna value the unused examples of die I and III are very scarce. Fine used copies of die III are hard to come across.

Those who are really interested in a deep and profitable study of 1854 half anna and one anna stamps are advised to possess or go through the masterly works on this subject by those very knowledgeable authors Col. Martin, L.E. Dawson and E.A. Smythies. Very interesting and scholarly articles also appeared some years back under the pen of late Mr. D.E. Wadia in India's Stamp Journal edited by Jal Cooper.

### Two Annas & Four Annas

Where as the half anna and one anna stamps were printed in sheets of 96 stamps and lithographed, the two annas stamps were printed in sheets of 80 stamps 8 x 10 and were typographed. In the top and bottom margins it is inscribed, "EIGHTY TWO-ANNA POSTAGE STAMPS" and "PRICE TEN RUPEES" respectively. In half and one anna stamps there are a number of 're-touches' and 'touches-up', in two annas such intricacies are not to be found. The stamps appear with two different watermarks and it was late Mr. C.D. Desai who brought to light the new watermark. Nearly seven million stamps were printed of this value and those stamps with an extra outer line (frame line on all four sides) are scarce. There are a number of shades and the rare one is two anna emerald green.

The East India Co., prospered by leaps and bounds and with increased prosperity the volume of work at the post offices also shot up. The postage rates were increased so there was a need for issuing a higher denomination stamp. The four annas value in two colours blue and red was released on 13th Oct. 1854. There were in all five printings. The first printing was in wide setting with only twelve stamps in a sheet, each stamp separated with a blue wavy line. As the sheets were small and the demand was great the stocks were dwindling fast and in quick succession further two printing in wide setting were made with some difference in the head and frame dies.

The sheets of twelve stamps were found small and inadequate so Capt. Thuillier decided to improve upon his method of setting and printing. The size of the sheet was kept the same as before but he decided to put the stamps closer on the sheet he brought out 24 stamps in a sheet and this printing is known as fourth printing - close setting. In so doing the wavy lines between the two stamps were not incorporated in the design and the stamps were placed 2½mm apart from each other. This very close setting was found unsuitable so there came out the fifth printing of this value with stamps placed 4½mm apart from each other and this last printing is popularly known as fifth printing medium setting.

In four annas also there are a number of re-touches and fine examples of worn dies, different head dies and frame dies, centre shifted or double which provide an excellent study. This value was not printed in big quantity and as majority of them were used in post, it is extremely difficult to obtain mint copies. Fine or superb used copies with four corners and wide margins all round are fast disappearing from the market. This glamorous group will not be complete if that great rarity Head inverted, is forgotten or not taken note of. Recently it was offered in an auction in America where it relapsed fantastic price.

Note must be taken of other varieties - the Serrated perfs. or pin-perf of ½ an. die I; I and dies I & II and 4 as. die II. This is believed to be unofficial yet they are listed by Gibbons. Most of them were used in Madras circle but some are known with Bombay post-marks. The writer had one fine used example of 1 and die III serrated perfs which is unlisted by Gibbons. The above copy is genuine as I hold the same with the certificate of genuineness from the Royal Philatelic Society dated 28th Feb. 1936.

There is also a very fine range of early essays and proofs some of them are very rare. Those early essays are hard to find such as the famous 'Lion and Palm Tree' essay prepared by Col. Forbes and the first essays prepared by Capt. Thuillier. Reprints were made later on in 1833, 1889, 1891, 1894, 1905 and 1916. For a full account the best reference books are Robson Lowe's Encyclopedia Part III and Mr. Cooper's Stamps of India' book.

### Queen Victoria Stamps

From 1855 to 1990

After the fascinating lithographed stamps there came a supply of stamps from London printed by De La Rue & Co., Five values that of 1/2 an; 1 an; 2 as; 4 as and 8 as. were printed on no watermark paper in sheets of 320 stamps, four panes of 80 stamps and they were perforated 14 all round. The values that of 4 as and 8 as. on thick glazed bluish paper which are listed as SG Nos. 35 and 36 by Gibbons. All other values were printed on white paper and they abound in shades. These no watermark stamps No.35 to 49 are extremely difficult to obtain in fine mint condition. Even the used copies that one can get are hardly in superb condition as out of hundreds of stamps one may come across only a dozen or two fine copies.

There are many star items in this group and they are the bisected stamps used on covers and imperforate pairs. No doubt it is not possible to get all the imperforate pairs but it is advisable to keep one or two imperforate pairs

in ones collection. The biggest pitfall is that of bisected stamps used on a piece or on a cover. I have seen only a couple of genuine examples of bisected stamps used in pieces. Most of the bisected and imperforate singles that are hawked around used on pieces are nothing but dangerous forgeries. Very few collectors know that these bisected were used in Strait Settlement only, so be careful about the forged Potmarks.

Another rare item in 2 as. Yellow-green No.50 which was printed but not officially issued. In spite of it being officially not issued some used examples are known which are worth possessing. The other very elusive items are imperf between vertical pair of 1 anna brown No.39a examples of which I have never come across and double impression of 1/2 anna blue and 1 anna brown. Actually I possessed stamp printed double of 1/2 anna blue which was brought from one of the London auctions about twenty years back.

In the year 1865 the same series as above from 1/2 annas to 8 annas No. 54 to 65 with some variations in shades were issued on water-mark paper known as 'elephant head watermark'. In this group also mint stamps in perfect condition are difficult to obtain. Even fine used copies are hard to come across and the most difficult stamp either mint or used in 8 annas value No. 65. The imperforate pairs of 8 pies purple; 1/2 anna blue and 2 annas orange are very rare. I have seen the first two but so far I have not come across an imperforate pair of 2 annas orange.

The other two important stamps either mint or used are the six annas provisional stamps Nos.66 and 68. From 15th Aug., 1863 the 1/2 oz. letter rate to U.K. via Marseilles was fixed at 6 annas. 8p. and an order for this new value was placed with the printers. In the mean time to tide over the difficulty the Foreign Bill stamps of 6 annas denomination was overprinted 'POSTAGE' in green ink with the words 'FOREIGN' at the top and 'Bill' at the bottom removed. The overprint 'Postage' appears in two types. The great rarity is No. 66 showing the over-printed inverted. Be very careful in buying these stamps as many forgeries are known. Only a limited number of stamps were over-printed (about 166400) with the result mint stamps are very scarce and whatever used copies that are available are mostly in poor condition.

Between 1867 - 1876 further new values were added such as 9 pies, 6 as; 6 as. 8 p; 12 as. and Re. 1 for postal purpose. Out of this I consider 9p; 6 as 8p; 12 as; and Re.1 No.72, 77-79 and 82 are hard to obtain in fine used condition. The star item is the imperf pair of 6 as; 8p value examples of which are hardly to be seen.

Here we come to the end of stamps with the inscription 'East India Postage' over and above the stamps. One could very easily expand ones collection by adding a galaxy of die proofs essays, and stamps overprinted 'SPECIMEN' and 'CANCELLED'.

### Empire of India

On 1st Jan. 1877 Queen Victoria assumed the title of Empress of India and the inscription on the stamps

was changed from East India Postage to India Postage. A new set of stamps from 1/2 an. to Re. 1 was printed and released in 1882. Once again the stamps were printed by De La Rue & Co., on star watermark paper in sheets of 240 stamps in two panes of 120 stamps - 12 x 10. There is nothing of importance in this series except two very good errors of 1/2 an. bluegreen and 2 as. blue SG Nos. 85a and 92 a, showing the stamps printed double or what we call 'double impression' Genuine examples are extremely difficult to obtain so it is advisable to buy from a very reliable source or preferably with the certificate of genuineness from B.P.A. or Royal Philatelic Society. Looking to their scarcity, they are grossly under priced in Gibbons catalogue.

Between 1890 - 1900 further new values and change of colours and surcharges appeared but they are not of great importance. The high values Rs. 2, 3 and 5 (SG Nos. 107 - 109) are getting scarce either mint or used as the demand is increasing day by day. Another interesting item is the surcharge 1/4 anna on 1/2 anna blue - green showing stamp printed double and the surcharge double variety. In 1898 postage rate of new paper was reduced from 1/2 anna to 1/4 anna so to meet the demand this provisional surcharge was made. Both these errors are very difficult to obtain and they too seem to be under priced.

#### Edward VII and GEO. V Stamps

By 1900 the volume of trade in this country and with the overseas increased tremendously so to cope up with the demand of high denomination stamps, in 1902 the Edward VII set was issued upto Rs. 25. The composition of the sheets for all the values upto rupee one was the same as before that means 240 stamps in a sheet whereas the high values from Rs.2 to Rs.25 were in the sheet of 96 stamps, eight panes of 12 stamps - 4 x 3. In this group most of the stamps are easily available but I would like to make special mention about the scarcity of fine used examples of Rs.3,5 and 25 denominations. There was a time when they were easily available at very cheap rates. Twenty years back Ed. Rs.25 (No. 147) was openly offered at Rs.75 in fine mint or used condition but today the story is different.

King Ed. VII ruled for a short period so in 1911 when Geo. V came on the throne another new series was released from 3p. to Rs.25. As for the low values upto 12 annas there were 256 stamps in a sheet, four panes of 64 stamps 16 x 4 and the high values were printed in similar fashion as Ed. VII high values. This series abound in a number of shades. Due to heavy demand the high values Rs.15 and Rs.25 are getting scarce in fine mint condition as well as in fine postally used condition. The major error is the centre omitted in one rupee value which is a star item.

There are some errors in surcharges which are worth possessing-some of them like 1/4 an 1/2 an. surcharge double and inverted; surcharge omitted in pair with normal and some errors in the provisional NINE PIES on 1 anna like surcharge double and surcharge inverted are extremely scarce. Here also collectors are warned against forgeries of all the above surcharges. And last but not the least is that very scarce error of the double print of 1/2 an yellow - green (155a).

#### Stamps Printed at Nasik Security Press

For a long period of about seventy years De La Rue & Co. printed and produced some fine stamps for this country. The then government was contemplating in establishing a printing press in India but for some unforeseen circumstances it was delayed for one reason or the other. The first printing plant was established at Nasik and the plant started operating from 1st April, 1926. The composition of the sheets was the same as before but there was only one difference and that the stamps were printed on paper with multiple star watermark instead of single star watermark. The whole set of Geo. V from 3 p to Rs.25 came out practically in the same colours as before. There is nothing of importance except that there are two tetebeche pairs of 1 an. and 2 as. values. If the high values Rs.15 and 25 are missing from your collection do not wait long-buy them at best.

For the first time three pictorial sets that of 1925 Air Mail, 1931 Inauguration of New Delhi and 1935 Silver Jubilee were issued. The first two sets are worth possessing. In the air mail set there is one good error which is better known as 'tree top missing' in the 8 as. value which is recommended in pair with normal. In the 1931 Inauguration of New Delhi set there are some fine examples of 'centre design printed double'. Clear centre double examples are scarce.

In the later issues of Geo. VI there is nothing special to mention. Most of the stamps in this series are easily available except Rs.15 value in fine used condition.

#### Service Stamps

As the volume of official correspondence increased, the authority decided to have separate stamps for official purpose. On 1st Aug. 1866 complete sheets of 320 stamps of 1/2 an 1 an. and 8 ans., on no watermark paper and 1/2 an., 1 an., 2 ans. and 4 ans with watermark elephant head were over-printed and issued with the word 'Service' in small letters. The sheets were over printed in Military Orphanage Press, Calcutta. As the stamps were printed in small quantity it is difficult to obtain either fine mint or used copies. Varieties such as wide and more open letter 'S'; no dot on letter 'i' and no stop after 'Service' are hard to come across. The major error is the 'Service' overprint inverted on 1/2 an; 2 as. and 4 annas values. These are really outstanding errors. To tide over the shortage as many as 500 sheets of 8p purple were also overprinted 'Service' in 1872. One may come across a number of clever as well as crude forgeries of the 'Service' overprint. A number of stamps of 8p value are known with the forged overprint as well as with the forged postmark. Beware of reprints and dangerous forgeries.

The star items of the 'Service' group are foreign bills and fiscal stamps on blue enamelled paper overprinted with the word 'SERVICE' and 'POSTAGE' in green ink. The quantity printed was very small. There were 18,000 stamps of 2 annas; 20,000 stamps of 4 annas and only 2000 stamps of the 8 annas value. Mint stamps are very rare and good used examples are very scarce. Reprints were made but the reprints can be distinguished

from the genuine stamps by the size of the overprints. Those who have not got SG Nos. 015 to 019 in their collections are advised to pick them up when the going is good.

Between 1867 - 1873 further supply of stamps overprinted Service in large letterings on stamps bearing watermark elephant's head from 1/2 an. to 8 annas were supplied by De La Rue & Co. The stamps of this series are not so scarce except two scarce stamps that of 1/2 anna blue die II No. 022 and 6 as. 8 P. (No.030b). Nearly 196 sheets (62,720 stamps) of the 6as. 8p. were received at Bombay but they were not issued and officially recorded as destroyed. It seems the whole stock was not destroyed as a number of mint stamps have appeared on the market.

In the year 1874 the overprint 'Service' was changed and a new overprint reading HMS was applied by De La Rue for all the official stamps. In the Queen's official stamps there are some very rare items with the overprints double as well as inverted, examples of which are simply unobtainable. Keep in mind 1/2 an. blue and 1 an. brown (Nos. 036 - 037) with the overprints inverted and double No. 038a, 040a, b. 050a, b. But once again be very careful, buy these errors from only reliable source. These items in my mind are grossly under priced as I have hardly come across a couple of them. Other varieties such as overprints shift are not to be neglected. All the stamps of this series exist with the overprints Specimen or 'Cancelled'.

The official stamps of Ed. VII and Geo. V are fairly common. There are some very deserving items in the high value provisional issues and the two outstanding items are Re.1 on Rs. 25 (Geo.V) showing surcharge inverted (No.0103a) and the most difficult item Rs.2 on Rs. 10 green and scarlet (No. 0104). There are a number of other provisional errors which were formerly listed by Gibbons but were removed from the catalogue after some time. These provisional errors are not to be neglected, if one can get a few examples they are worth keeping in ones collection. Besides there is a very fine range of Essays of high value provisionals in Ed. VII and Geo. V complete details of which can be obtained from Col. Hammond Giles article on the subject or from Cooper's Stamps of India book.

In Geo. V single star 'SERVICE' stamps there are a couple of fine items worth possessing 1/2 anna yellow - green and 1 anna aniline carmine showing overprint double are not easily obtainable. 1 anna chocolate an imperforate pair with the SERVICE overprint and the provisional error 'ONE ANNA' on 1 anna chocolate (No.0107a) should not be missed. There are a number of provisional errors but space does not permit to describe them at length.

In my opinion pre independence stamps offer a fascinating study but somehow our own Indian stamps collectors have neglected the stamps of their own country. It should be the pride and privilege to collect the stamps of one's country as extensively done by stamp collectors of other countries. When a number of publications on Indian stamps containing wealth of knowledge are available at reasonable prices, why should we not read them and study

them. If this article gives some fillip and inspiration to some Indian collectors to collect the stamps of their own country, then I would feel, I have done my duty towards Indian philately.

(Courtesy : India Stamp Journal. 1989)

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## INTERESTING CANCELLATIONS AND POST MARKS USED IN MADRAS CITY 1854 and 1861 G.B.PAI

This article is devoted to the various interesting cancellations and post marks used in Madras City after the first postage stamp was introduced in 1854. The major cities in India like Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, had distinctive post marks of their own before and after the introduction of the adhesive stamps.

How distinctive the post marks of Madras City will be amply borne out by the illustrations given in this article.

The question naturally arises as to why particular interest is shown in the study of post marks and postal marks and postal frankings by Philatelists. The answer is obvious. The post marks more than the stamps give a truly intimate version of the postal history of a country. When you collect the post marks you have to collect the entire cover. The entire cover gives details of the person to whom the letter was addressed, and if it is a registered cover, it also indicates the person who sent the letter. If there is a letter in the cover it is better still. You get a glimpse of exactly the service rendered by the post office in carrying such personal and business messages. That is the reason why the collection of postal stationery with the distinctive postal markings has become so popular and deservedly so.

The first two rectangular date stamps were used during the years 1844, 55 and 1858 respectively. The first contains the words 'Madras G.P.O.' and date, and second only 'G.P.O.' and the date. They were all stamped in red. (See illustrations 1 and 2).

During 1850 to 1859 a dispatch stamp consisting of a single lined circle 37mm in diameter and the word 'Madras' on the inner rim of the circle and BPP and BG (bearing) in two parallel lines, was used as per illustration above. This did not contain the date the stamping was always in black. (illustration 3).

In the year 1858 to 1861 the earlier ship letter cancellations were continued to be used with slight variations. It was a squarish cancellation with three compartments, the first compartment contained 'Madras Ship Letter' in two lines, the second contained the date and the third St. Postage and inland .D. The square was approximately 34mm in size. This was always stamped in black. (Illustration 4).

During 1855 to 1873 the duplex type of cancellations consisting of two circles kept side by side

were used with the name of the post office and the date in the first circle and the number assigned to the post office in the second circle. In Madras City two variations of this post mark were used. The first was apparently used for canceling foreign mail and consists of two single lined circles 20mm in diameter. The first circle contains the word 'Madras' touching the inner rim of the circle, the date in the two parallel lines and the words, 'Indian Paid' touching the lower inner rim of the circle. The number " 1," which is the number assigned to Madras City, is placed in a square in the second circle with a parallel line and a triangle against each side of the Square. (Illustration 5).

The second variation apparently used for internal mail is double lined cancellation, the circles being 19mm and 12mm respectively. In the top space between the circles the word 'Madras' is inscribed and the date across in two parallel lines in the centre of the Circle. The figure 1 is placed in a square in the second circle (single lined) with three parallel lines and a triangle against each side of the square. (Illustration 6).

In the year 1856 a date stamp was used with two concentric semi-circles topped by the word 'Madras' and the month and date in the inner space. A variation of this stamp was used between 1856 and 1860 with the year introduced in the inner space and the numeral 1 in the bottom apparently to denote delivery. (Illustration 7) Both these stamps were struck in black.

In the years 1856 to 1858 a crude oval stamp was used, normally struck in red, to denote the first second and third delivery (Illustration 8).

During the years 1856 to 1887 the Madras Postal District used cancellations in the shape of a diamond consisting of eight dotted lines. Each Post Office was assigned a number below the letter 'C'. The numbers assigned to Madras City were 1,6,7 and 8. the illustration given above is the first of the series. The earliest known cancellation of this type is of 14<sup>th</sup> January 1856. (Illustration 9).

In the years 1857 to 1862 a crescent shape stamp with the words 'India unpaid' was used apparently in the foreign post to denote that postage had not been paid. (Illustration 10.)

During the years 1874 to 1884 a series of all India cancellations were introduced consisting of a circle with barred obliterator on the side. The circle contained name of the post office and the date, and the obliterator consisted of six thick horizontal parallel lines, the third line being shortened to accommodate the first letter of the post office and the number assigned to the post office. The letter and number assigned to Madras City were 'M-1'. (Illustration 11).

Illustration 12 is a circular date stamp of Madras apparently assigned to the "Standard Newspaper" called "The Madras Standard". It consists of a single circle 25mm in diameter and it contains 'M-55 Madras/Standard' across the centre and then the date. The year of use is not seen from the cancellation. A similar cancellation was assigned to the 'Madras Mail', another newspaper in Madras.

In the year 1861-62 a double lined cancellation was used in Madras with the circles 28mm and 20mm in diameter respectively. The top space between the circles contains the 'Madras G.P.O.' alongwith two stars each on the side of the word 'Madras' and the date in three parallel lines in the inner space. The stamping was in black. (Illustration 13).

In the year 1867 a peculiar registration mark was used in the shape of a tomb stone both at Madras and Bombay. The illustration is of this registration mark. It consists of a rectangular base 45mm long and 6mm high and a circular arch 33 long with the words 'Madras G.P.O.' within the two lines of the arch and the year and date in the inner space and the abbreviation for Registration No. in the base. (Illustration 14).

Illustrations 15 to 17 are three distinctive ornamental postal cancellations used by the Madras Post Office during the years 1916 to 1921. In December 1915 to January 1916 an exhibition was held in Madras known as the 'Madras Exhibition of Arts and Industries.' The net proceeds of the Exhibition augmented the funds for the benefit of the Hospital Ship 'Madras' which was used in the First War 1914-1919. The cancellation is squarish and a shortened version of the Exhibition 'Park fair' on top and 'Madras' at bottom. This post mark was used between 28<sup>th</sup> December 1915 and 16<sup>th</sup> January 1916. Its two sides contained the word 'Post' and 'Office'. The date was written over the top of the ship and the time at the bottom. The four corners of the post mark contains floral ornaments.

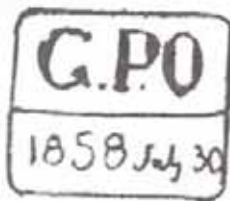
Illustration 16 is a similar ornamental post mark with "Madras Exhibition" instead of "Park Fair Madras". The same floral ornaments occur and instead of the ship, the figure '1917' in bold letters is placed in the centre. This was a later exhibition again to collect funds for the War. The post marks were used during the later part of 1917 and early part of 1918.

Illustration 17 is a similar ornamental post mark but instead of the words "Park Fair Madras" "Marian Congress" at top and "Madras" at bottom. The year 1921 is put in an oval. The corner ornaments are 'M' in script, the date is also in script. The Marian Congress was apparently a Catholic Congress held in Madras that year, 'Marian' being the adjectival form of 'Mary'.

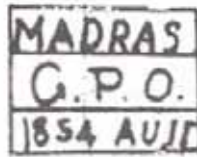
In 1930 the Madras Governor's Camp used a time post mark. It is a double lined cancellation 31mm and 21mm in diameter with the words "Madras Governor's Camp" in the space between the two circles with a thick arch at the bottom in the same space and the date and time in the inner space. There are seven vertical parallel bars at the top and seven at the bottom arranged in a semi-circular form. (Illustration 18).

In 1961 a bilingual time mark was used in honour of the royal visit. This consists of a double ringed cancellation of circles 32mm and 21mm diameter respectively. The words "Royal Camp Madras" in the lower half of the inner space between the two circles and the Hindi translation in the upper half. There are two ornaments separating the two scripts consisting of a diamond and four dots. The date and

time is placed in the inner space within the two parallel lines.  
(Illustration 19).



III. 1



III. 2



III. 3



III. 17



III. 18



III. 4



III. 5



III. 19



III. 6



III. 7



III. 8



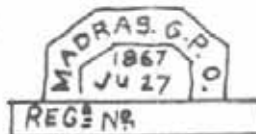
III. 12



III. 13



III. 15



III. 14



III. 15



III. 16

As the heading itself suggests the article does not pretend to be exhaustive of all cancellations and post marks used in the city. Only those post marks which are distinctive in character have been selected and the normal circular date stamps have been left out of consideration. Even so some stamps might have been over-looked and any information on such stamps would be welcome.  
(Courtesy : Tanapex Souvenir, 1973)

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