भारतीय डाक
डाक सेवा-जन सेवा

India Post
Dak Sewa-Jan Sewa

TANAPEX

E-SOUVENIR 2025

TAMIL NADU STATE LEVEL PHILATELY EXHIBITION 2025





Chief Postmaster General
Tamil Nadu Circle,
Chennai - 600 002

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Introduction

The 14th State-Level Philatelic Exhibition, TANAPEX 2025 was a significant event organized by the Tamilnadu Postal Cirle, held from 29.01.2025 to 01.02.2025 at Amma Arangam Community Hall, Shenoy Nagar, Chennai-600030.

The exhibition attracted philatelic enthusiasts, collectors, students and general public, providing an excellent platform to explore the art and history of stamp collecting. The venue, centrally located in Chennai, offered an accessible and engaging space, where visitors could immerse themselves in the diverse world of philately.

With 531 philatelic frames on display, the exhibition featured a variety of themes, including rare stamps and postal history, offering a deep dive into the evolution and cultural significance of stamp collecting.

Experience **TANAPEX 2025** in Virtual Reality! Scan the QR code to explore the exhibition in 360° from anywhere in the world and witness philately like never before—bridging tradition with cutting-edge technology.TANAPEX 2025 also placed a strong emphasis on student engagement and education, with a series of competitions aimed at promoting philately among young people. Organized by the Department of Posts, these competitions viz. Philatelic quiz, Dart the country and Phila Hunt encouraging students to showcase their creativity and knowledge.

Additionally, outreach programs in schools prior to the event sparked interest among students, who were introduced to the fascinating world of stamps through workshops, seminars, and interactive sessions. These initiatives ensured that the exhibition was not only an opportunity to view rare collections of stamps but also a valuable learning experience for the next generation of philatelists.

The exhibition's souvenir was a highlight, offering attendees a comprehensive look into the world of philately. Featuring articles on the history and growth of the hobby, the souvenir also included photographs from the event, profiles of prominent philatelists, and detailed reports on competitions and awards. It served as both a keepsake and a resource, capturing the essence of TANAPEX 2025 while celebrating the achievements of students and stamp collectors.

The souvenir was a testament to the success of the exhibition and its role in inspiring a new generation of philatelic enthusiasts.



Logo of TANAPEX 2025

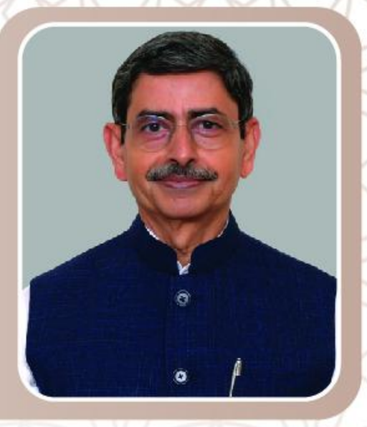


The logo of TANAPEX 2025 embodies the spirit of seamless communication and regal elegance. It showcases a stylized emerald dove, a symbol of peace, hope and unity. The dove, renowned for its gentle nature, represents the flowing exchange of messages, bringing people together across distances. Its vibrant green hue reflects harmony, renewal and the boundless potential of the connections made through communication. Above the dove, a crown-like postal box sits, symbolizing the authority and importance of the postal services in facilitating global connections. This crown, a nod to both tradition and modernity, underscores TANAPEX's role in the Postal Service Together, the dove and crown form a striking emblem that serves not only as a visual mark but as a remind-

Mascot of TANAPEX 2025

The Emerald Dove (Chalcophas indica), Tamil Nadu's state bird is the symbol of peace, serenity and the state's rich natural heritage. As the Mascot of TANAPEX 2025, Muthu (முத்து) represents the delicate balance between nature and modern communication, a connection that resonates deeply with the service provided by the Tamil Nadu Postal Circle. Just as the dove soars across the skies with the grace and purpose, the Postal service ensures that communication flows smoothly throughout the world. The Mascot of TANAPEX 2025 celebrates not only the ecological diversity of Tamil Nadu but also the enduring legacy of the Postal Service, which continues to evolve and adapt to the needs of the people





R.N. Ravi

सत्यमेव जयते

GOVERNOR
TAMIL NADU

RAJ BHAVAN,
Chennai-600 022.

MESSAGE

I am delighted that the Postal Services of the Tamil Nadu Postal Circle is organizing a State-level Philatelic Exhibition – TANAPEX-2025. Stamps exhibit a vibrant tapestry of our national history, encapsulate the spirit of diverse cultures, reflect societal transformations and commemorate milestones in our national journey.

In today's digital age, philately offers an important perspective and a deeper understanding of our rich history. I hope the TANAPEX-2025 will inspire a new generation of enthusiasts to discover the captivating world of philately, demonstrate how philately serves as a unique window into our rich heritage and foster a deeper understanding of our nation's unity in diversity and instile a sense of national pride.

I wish the Exhibition a resounding success and extend my warmest greetings to all the participants and organizers.

(R. N. RAVI)



M.K. STALIN
CHIEF MINISTER OF TAMIL NADU

SECRETARIAT
CHENNAI - 600 009.

MESSAGE

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I wish the Exhibition a grand success and extend my warmest greetings to all the participants and organizers.

(M.K. STALIN)
CHIEF MINISTER



N. MURUGANANDAM
Chief Secretary

Secretariat,
Chennai - 600 009.

Message

I am delighted to extend my warm greetings to all philatelists, participants, organizers, and enthusiasts involved in TANAPEX 2025, the state-level Philately Exhibition organized by the Department of Posts, Tamil Nadu Circle.

This exhibition is an exciting platform for philatelists and enthusiasts to come together and share their passion for stamps and postal history.

"Philately"- the king of hobbies, is a fascinating window into our history, culture and serves as a medium to preserve and promote the diverse and rich traditions that define us as a people.

TANAPEX 2025 aims to promote stamp collecting as a hobby particularly among the younger generation ensuring that they become aware of their cultural legacy and preserve it for future generations.

I commend the efforts of the Tamil Nadu Postal Circle and all stakeholders in organizing this grand event.

Let this exhibition serve as a colourful celebration of the rich cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu.

Wishing the state level philately exhibition TANAPEX 2025 all success.

Phone: 044-25671555 Fax: 044-25672304 e-mail: cs@tn.gov.in



K. Kailashnathan
Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry

Raj Nivas
Puducherry

No. LGS/PRO/MSG/2024

Date : 12-12-2024

MESSAGE

I am pleased to know that Tamilnadu Postal Circle is organizing 'TANAPEX 2025' at Chennai to celebrate the Philately and Philately enthusiasts from Tamilnadu and Puducherry.

Our nation's history, culture and festivals are epitomised in these small, beautiful and fascinatingly shaped stamps. I am confident that the 'TANAPEX 2025' will captivate the visitors with the scale and diversity of such Philatelic products and will be of great knowledge treasure to the students.

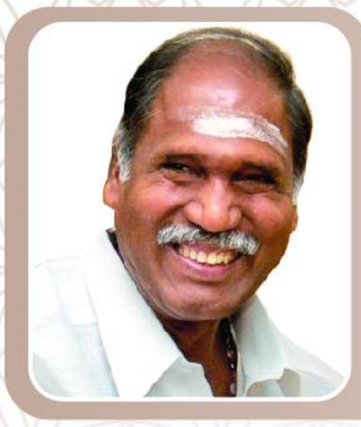
I convey my best wishes for the grand success of event 'TANAPEX 2025'.

(K. Kailashnathan)

To

The Sr. Superintendent of Post,
Puducherry.

0413-2334050 0413-2334025 lgoffice@py.gov.in



N. RANGASAMY
CHIEF MINISTER
GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY

PONDICHERRY

Date : 18.12.2024

MESSAGE

I am happy to learn that the Department of Posts is having its State Level Philatelic Exhibition - TANAPEX 2025 from 29th January to 1st February 2025 and it has proposed to bring out a Souvenir to mark the occasion.

Hobbies help reduce boredom. It helps you develop new skills. Today, people are more fascinated to the digital world, which has distracted them from hobbies. Once known as the "king of hobbies", philately has lost ground in today's digital world, its appeal having waned, particularly among younger generations.

It gives immense pleasure to note that the Department of posts is working to renew interest in the hobby through various activities viz. contacting State Level Philatelic Exhibition, encouraging Philatelic publications and youth classes etc. I hope that this exhibition will definitely help to promote philately and give an opportunity to eminent and budding philatelists to exhibit their stamp collections.

I take this opportunity to wish the success of this exhibition, which reflects the history and cultures of India.

(N. RANGASAMY)

✆ *Off.* : 2333399, 2335530, 2335328, 2335522 *Fax* : 0413 - 2333135
Res. : 2271232



Dr. SHARAT CHAUHAN, I.A.S.
CHIEF SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY

CHIEF SECRETARIAT
GOUBERT AVENUE
PUDUCHERRY – 605 001

20 DEC 2024

Message

I am delighted to know that Tamil Nadu Postal Circle is organizing "TANAPEX 2025" from 29th January 2025 to 1st February 2025 in Chennai.

We take justifiable pride in the fact that India Post is one of the oldest and most extensive postal systems in the world, which plays a crucial role in connecting citizens across the vast expanse of India. Established in 1854, today, India Post operates over 1,50,000 post offices across the country, making it the largest postal network in the world.

Its role has evolved from simply delivering mail to becoming a comprehensive service provider, integrating modern technologies while maintaining its traditional responsibilities. India Post now offers a wide array of services beyond traditional mail delivery, catering to the diverse needs of the population, including parcel services, e-commerce & logistics, banking & financial services, financial inclusion products related to savings, insurance, etc, digital services and philately.

Philately, in particular, is a uniquely interesting subject since 'Stamps' are considered as windows to a country and its people providing information about the rich culture, historical events and heritage timelines.

I am sure that this Circle level exhibition of postal stamps and other philatelic products would offer insights to the participants, exposure to the visitors and an opportunity for all of us to appreciate philatelists and their collections.

I wish "TANAPEX 2025" event a grand success and convey my best wishes to all the organisers and participants.

(Dr. Sharat Chauhan, IAS.)

✆ 0413-2334145, 2335512 *Fax* : 0413-2337575 *e-mail* : cs@py.gov.in

SECRETARIAT COMMITTEE



Ms. Mariamma Thomas
The Chief Postmaster General,
Tamilnadu Circle



Shri. Chitranjan Pradhan
GM (PA&F), Tamilnadu Circle



Shri. V.S. Jayasankar
Postmaster General
Southern Region



Ms. T.Nirmala Devi
Postmaster General
Central Region



Shri G.Natarajan
Postmaster General
Chennai City Region



Shri A. Saravanan
Postmaster General
Western Region



Shri.K.A. Devaraj
DPS (HQ), O/o The CPMG,
Tamilnadu Circle



Shri. Akhil.R. Nair
Director Postal Services,
Western Region



Major Manoj. M
Director Postal Services,
Chennai City Region

THE JURY



Shri. Pratisad Neurgoankar



Dr. (Mrs.) Anjali Dutta



Shri. Shakil Ahmed



Shri. Rajesh Jhunjhunwala



Dr. Vennam Upender,
Postmaster General, Kurnool
Apprentice Juror



Piyush Khaitan
Apprentice Juror



Shri. M.S. Santhosh
Apprentice Juror

MEDAL DESIGNS



Gold



Large Vermeil



Vermeil



Large Silver



Silver



Sliver Bronze



Bronze

TANAPEX 2025 EXHIBITION HALL

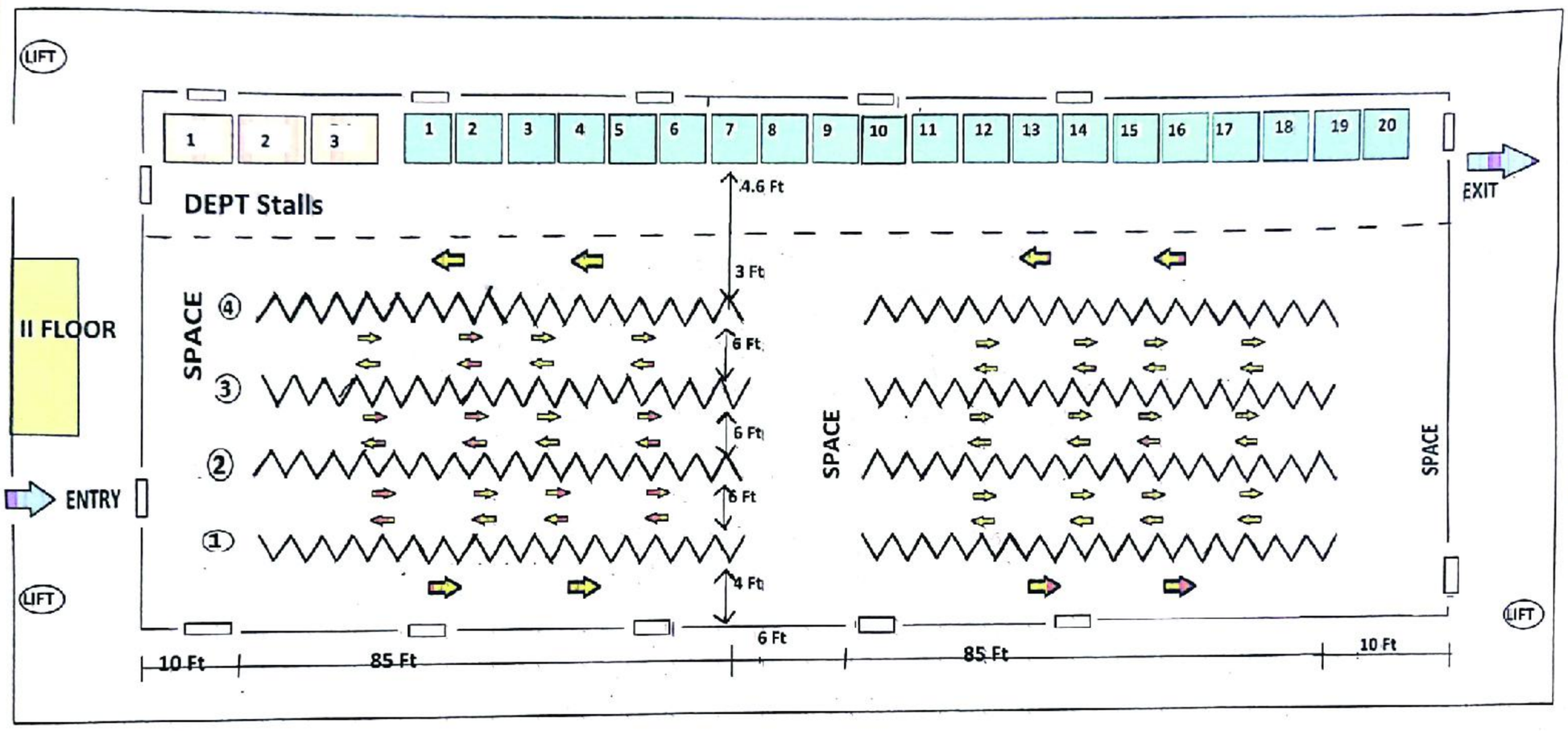








FRAMES LAY OUT



Frames:

Line 1 = 1 to 64 & 65 to 128
Line 2 = 129 to 192 & 193 to 256
Line 3 = 257 to 320 & 321 to 384
Line 4 = 385 to 448 & 443 to 512

Stalls :

Dept Stalls = 10 * 8 = 3 Nos

Dealer Stalls = 8 * 8 = 20 Nos

Tamilnadu Postal Circle

Welcomes you to

தநாபெக்ஸ்-2025
तानापेक्स-२०२५
TANAPEX-2025

State Level Philatelic Exhibition from 29th January to Ist February,2025

Day I: 29/01/2025-Inauguration of TANAPEX-2025(Wednesday)
Theme of the Day-Culture of Tamilnadu

29th Jan
10.00-11.00 hrs

Inauguration of TANAPEX-2025 by
Thiru. N.Muruganandam, IAS
Chief Secretary to the Goverment of Tamilnadu

Releases :

1. Special Covers
   - TANAPEX-2025 VR logo
   - GI Tag Manaparai Murukku
   - GI Tag Rattan Craft
   - GI Tag East India Leather

2. Special Cancellation Cachet "Cultural Hertiage of Tamilnadu"

3. Picture Postcard Album "TAMILNADU 1960s" on drawings by Thiru.Sivakumar, Actor and Artist

4. Picture Postcards of Postcrossing Society on Dance forms from Sangam Era

5. Collector's Pack-Stamps of 2024

Guest of Honour
Thiru.Sivakumar,
Actor and Artist

11.45-12.45 hrs

Workshop
Postcard Calligraphy by Ms.Jayapreethi, Calligraphy Artist

14.00-16.00 hrs

Seminar
Migratory Birds visiting Ramsar sites of Kazhuveli and Conservation of Wetlands
by Ms.Karthikeyani, District Forest Officer, Villupuram

History, Heritage and Monuments
by Dr.Vijay Shankar,
Co-ordinator, Cholamandala Varalatru Thedal Kuzhu

16.30-17.30hrs

Cultural Programme
Veena recital, Bharatanatyam, Iyal Isai, Nadanam & Nadagam

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Day 2: 30/01/2025 (Thursday)
Theme of the Day: Natural Wonders of Tamilnadu

30th Jan
10.00-11.00 hrs

Releases :

1. Special Cancellation Cachet on “Natural Wonders of Tamilnadu”

2. Special Covers
   - Vellode Bird Sanctuary
   - GI Tag Authoor Vetrilai
   - GI Tag Sholavandan Vetrilai

3. Booklet on Orchids and Exotic Birds

4. Picture Postcards on Birds Landscape

Guests of Honour

Thiru.P. Senthil Kumar, IAS,
Principal Secretary to Government,
Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests,
Government of Tamil Nadu

Thiru.Srinivas R. Reddy, IFS,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) & CEO, CAMPA (FAC)

14.00-16.00 hrs

Workshop
Thrill of Philately
by Shri.P.Sreetharan, Philatelist

Therapeutic Brush Calligraphy(for staff)
by Ms.K.Jeyapreethi, Calligraphy Artist

Phila Hunt
CO Philately Team

Seminar
Migratory Birds at Vedanthangal
by Shri.Manish Meena, IFS, Wild Life Warden, Chennai

16.45-17.30 hrs

Cultural Programme
Dances & Song



Day 3: 31/01/2025 (Friday)

Theme of the Day: Contribution of Tamilnadu to Science & Technology

31st Jan
10.00-11.00 hrs

Releases :

1. Special Cancellation Cachet-"Contribution of Tamilnadu to Science & Technology"
2. Booklet of Stamps on Solar System

Guest of Honour
Thiru.Krishnan Vaidyanathan,
Editor, Dinamani Tamil Daily

03.00-03.45hrs

Seminar
World of Postcrossing
by Shri.P.Venkat, Postcrossing Society

Cyclones, its formation and role of Regional Meteorogical Center in weather forecasts

MEGA QUIZ
by Shri.Seshadri, Senior Philatelist

16.30-17.30 hrs

Jury Discussion
With Chairperson of TANAPEX

Cultural Programme
Bharatanatyam and Skit cum Dance



Day 4: 01/02/2025-(Saturday)

Theme of the Day: Celebrating Tamilnadu Postal Circle

1st Feb
10.00 am

Releases :

1. Embroidered Picture Postcard on “Postal Heritage Buildings of Tamilnadu”
2. Booklet of Stamps on Fashion
3. eBook on “Stamps and Special Covers of Tamilnadu”

Guest of Honour

Dr.Divya Satyan,

Director, National Institute of Fashion Technology, Chennai

11.00-12.45 hrs

Activity

Dart the Country on the World Map
by CO Philately Team

Workshop

Fun with Stamps-Art & Craft(Postcard Painting)
by Smt.Padma Malini, Artist

16.00 hrs onwards

Valedictory Ceremony

Jury Report

Distribution of awards and mementos
and
Release of e-Souvenir
by

Smt. Mariamma Thomas, IPoS

Chief Postmaster General, Tamilnadu Circle



CATALOGUE OF EXHIBITS

S.No.	Title of the Exhibit	Frames	Frame No.
	Invitation Class		
	8.1.2. Invitee Class		
1	Art & Culture of India	5	001-005
2	Army Covers	5	006-010
	Traditional Philately		
	8.2.1.A India Upto Independence		
3	Portuguese India	5	011-015
4	India Pre Independence	4	016-019
	8.2.1.B Indian Princely States		
5	Cochin State Stamps	3	020-022
	8.2.1.C India since Independence		
6	Indian Postal Bar Code Labels	5	023-027
7	Post Independence Mint Stamps 1947-1997	5	028-032
8	India's History through the Eyes of Philately	3	033-035
	8.2.1.D Rest of the world		
9	MACHIN : The Queen of Definitive	5	036-040
10	Guernsey	5	041-045
11	India Joint issues with other Countries	3	046-048
12	Royal Mails - Millenium	3	049-051
13	World Miniature Sheets	5	062-056

S.No.	Title of the Exhibit	Frames	Frame No.
	8.2.2.E Postal History- Rest of The Word		
14	Pre Stamp Period - A Study	5	057-061
	Thematic Philately		
	8.2.5.A Indian Themes		
15	Bharat Ratna Award Winners	3	062-064
16	Indian Elements on UNESCO ICH List	4	065-068
17	Mahatma Gandhi	3	069-071
18	Discover India	3	072-074
19	G.I. Tagged Handlooms & Handicrafts	5	075-079
20	Impressions of India : From Peaks to Shores	4	080-083
21	Vibrant India	3	084-086
22	Cinema	5	087-091
23	Guardians of the Nation - Indian Defence Forces	3	092-094
24	Mahatma and the World	3	095-097
25	Philatelic Tribute to Carnatic Music	3	098-100
26	Foreign Personages honoured by India Post	5	101-105
27	Pride of Tamil	3	106-108
28	Freedom Fighters of India	3	109-111
29	Tamil Culture & Personalities	4	112-115
30	Se-tenants	3	116-118

S.No.	Title of the Exhibit	Frames	Frame No.
	8.2.5.B All Other Themes		
31	Fleeting Beauties	5	119-123
32	Medical Discoveries & Inventions	5	124-128
33	Blood Donation - Save More Lives	5	129-133
34	Journey through Philately	5	134-138
35	Mail by Rail	5	139-143
36	Sir Baden Powel - The Universal Man	5	144-148
37	Roosters	3	149-151
38	Atmanirbhar Bharat - Self Reliant India	5	152-156
39	Games Wide Open	5	157-161
40	Mahatma Gandhi - Life & Legacy	5	162-166
41	The Holy Scripture [Bible]	5	167-171
42	Engineering Marvels	5	172-176
43	UNESCO World Heritage Sites	5	177-181
44	Endangered Species	3	182-184
45	World Maritime Heritage	5	185-189
46	Nature's Pallette	5	190-194
47	Earth's largest Mammal on Land	4	195-198
48	Olympic Games	3	199-201
49	Maps in Philately	5	202-206
50	Scientists & Inventors	4	207-210
51	Tin Can Mails	3	211-213
52	The Majestic Tiger : A Philatelic Prowl	5	214-218
53	Evolution of Flights	4	219-222
54	Winged Jewels - Butterflies	4	223-226
55	Hinduism in Philately	5	227-231
56	The History of Sailing Ships	5	232-236
57	Life of Gandhi through Philately	5	237-241
58	Gandhiji Live on every Philately since 1947	5	242-246

S.No.	Title of the Exhibit	Frames	Frame No.
59	From Crystal Sets to Satellite Dishes	5	247-251
60	Symbol of Pride - Flags on the Stamps	3	252-254
61	Longed East - Landed West	5	255-259
62	Let's Go Europe	5	260-264
63	Democracy through the Ages	3	265-267
64	From Dreams to Drones	5	268-272
65	From Mohandas to Mahatma [Noble Soul]	5	273-277
66	The Question of Survival - Butterfly	5	278-282
67	A Healthy Heart is a Happy Heart	5	293-297
68	Green Building	5	298-292
69	Birds in Postcrossing	3	293-295
70	Human Diseases	5	296-300
71	Beauty of Nature - Conserve it	4	301-304
	Maximaphily		
	8.2.6 Maximaphily		
72	Blood Donation	3	305-307
	First Day Covers and Special Covers		
	8.2.8.A India		
73	Incredible India	5	308-312
74	Wonders of Tamilnadu	5	313-317
75	Philately Exhibition Postal Covers	5	318-322
76	Know your Indian Army	3	323-325
77	India's Incredible Diversity	3	326-328
78	Gandhi Special Covers	5	329-333
79	Mahatma Gandhi's Footsteps	4	334-337

S.No.	Title of the Exhibit	Frames	Frame No.
80	G I Tags in Philately	3	338-340
81	A Lovely Catchet linked with Stamp	3	341-343
82	Crafted in Pride : India's G.I. Legacy	5	344-348
83	Enchanting Tamilnadu	5	349-353
84	Performed Covers	5	354-358
85	Salute to the Known and Unknown Heroes of India	3	359-361
86	Banking & Finance FDCs	3	362-364
87	Tanapex Special Covers	3	365-367
	8.2.8.B Rest Of The World		
88	Sprite of Cryce	5	368-372
89	Unusual Covers	5	373-377
90	United Nations	5	378-382
91	The People's Pope - John Paul II	3	383-385
	8.2.10 One Frame - Exhibits		
92	Eye Donation - Only Remedy for Corneal Blindness	1	386
93	Unlocking Mental Health	1	387
94	Ceylon Classics	1	388
95	Philomath : Love of Learning Mathematics	1	389
96	Digital Postage Meter is an Incredible Postal Service	1	390
97	A Journey of 170 years service of the Indian Postal Dept	1	391
98	Crypto Stamps	1	392
99	Perforations with Difference	1	393

S.No.	Title of the Exhibit	Frames	Frame No.
100	Railway Signals	1	394
101	Biodiversity of Butterflies	1	395
102	Rajaraja Chola & Temples	1	396
103	Ink, Paper & Postage	1	397
104	Netaji and I.N.A	1	398
105	Sky is the Limit : 1929 Airmail Stamps of India	1	399
106	Madras Lights	1	400
107	The Indian Elephant in Nature & Culture of India	1	401
108	Musical Instruments	1	402
109	Sikkim Rocket Mail	1	403
	Youth Class		
	8.2.12.A. - Age From 11 Years Upto 14 Years (As On 01.01.2025)		
110	Exploring Tamilnadu through Stamps	2	404-405
111	Cultural Heritage - Unity in Diversity	2	406-407
112	Full Moon on Stamps	1	408
113	Facets of Tamilnadu	2	409-410
114	Diversity in World	2	411-412
115	Gandhiji - A Pillar of our Nation	1	413
116	World of Insects	2	414-415
117	My World Tour	2	416-417
118	The Victories of Peace	2	418-419
119	Welcome to the Exciting World of Stamps	1	420
120	Magnificent Mahatma - The Stamp of Legacy	2	421-422
121	Stamps Across Borders	1	423
122	Flying Jewels of the Sky : Birds	2	424-425
123	Fish	1	426

S.No.	Title of the Exhibit	Frames	Frame No.
124	Amalgamation Bharat	1	427
125	Progress in Postal	1	428
126	Kings of Ocean	1	429
127	Artistic Work	1	430
128	Richness of Bharath	1	431
129	Aesthetic in Culture	1	432
130	Tweet-Tweet	2	433-434
131	World of Sports	2	435-436
132	Army Cover Cancellation	2	437-438
133	Mahatma Gandhiji	2	439-440
134	Philatelic Items	1	441
135	Childrens Day	1	442
136	Women Achievements	1	443
137	Historical Journey	1	444
138	Clean India	1	445
139	Government Policies and Schemes	1	446
140	Geographical Indication	1	447
141	Scientists	1	448
142	Portraits of Prestige : Iconic Figures captured on Stamps	1	449
143	Ideas at 75	1	450
144	Meenakshi Pattinam	1	451
145	Tamilnadu through Stamps	2	452-453
146	United Nations and its Initiatives	2	454-455
147	World Guides	1	456
148	World Scouts Maximaphily	2	457-458
149	Maximaphily	2	459-460

S.No.	Title of the Exhibit	Frames	Frame No.
	8.2.12.B. Age Upto 18 Years (As On 01.01.2025)		
150	Stamps from various Countries	2	461-462
151	Mother is Living God	1	463
152	Mahatma Gandhi - A Life in Stamps	2	464-465
153	My Europe Tour	2	466-467
154	G.I. Tagged Agricultural Products of South India	2	468-469
155	Miniature World Tour	2	470-471
156	Flora & Fauna	1	472
157	Unique is Unique in the World	1	473
158	Significance of Bharat	1	474
159	Intention in Agriculture Beyond Organic Farming	1	475
160	Healthy Lifestyle	1	476
161	Feminism in Bharath	1	477
162	Queen of Flowers - Rose	2	478-479
163	Thanjavur District - The Treasure Trove	2	480-481
164	Divine Prides of Tamilnadu	2	482-483
165	Belle Virtuoso	1	484
	8.2.12.C. School Collections		
166	World Scouts & Guides	5	485-489
167	Christmas	3	490-492
168	Marvelous Piece of Tamilnadu	3	493-495
169	United Kingdom	3	496-498
170	Children's Day	3	499-501
171	Solour History	3	502-504
172	Philately - A Teaching Aid	3	505-507
173	Special and Commemorative Stamps	3	508-510

8.2.11 Philatelic Publications (Literature) Published As On 01.01.2025

S.No.	Class	Category	Title of the Exhibit	Literature No.
174	8.2.11.A.	Books, Phamplets and Studies published within past 5 years	Thala' Ithu Thapalthala	Lit 1
175			Princely States of India	Lit 9
176	8.2.11.C.	Articles published within past 1 year	Olympics Emblems and Mascots on Postage Stamps	Lit 3
177			Toponomy - Study of Place Name in Philately	Lit 4
178			R.B.I. Platinum Jubilee Landmark	Lit 7
179			Philately	Lit 10
180			Madras Lights	Lit 11
181	8.2.11.E.	Websites, Software and other electronic publications- published within past one year	sastikvibes.blogspot.com	Lit 2
182			G.I.Tagged Handloom Products of Tamilnadu	Lit 5
183			www.indiamintstamp.com	Lit 6
184			shipthemegallery.blogspot.com	Lit 8

Stamp collecting dispels boredom, enlarges the vision broadens our knowledge, makes better citizens and innumerable ways enriches our lives

-President Roosevelt



PHILATELIC ACTIVITIES OF THE CIRCLE SINCE 2021

MADURAIPEX 2021 -District Level Virtual Exhibition



MADURAIPEX 2021 was a remarkable exhibition that celebrated India's 75th year of independence. This District Level Virtual Exhibition was organised by Southern Region from 15.12.2021 to 16.12.2021 at Madurai. The theme of this event "India @75 & Aatma Nirbhar Bharat," was showcased through a diverse range of philatelic exhibits, highlighting India's rich cultural heritage, freedom struggle, and journey towards self-reliance. This virtual exhibition was a huge success, featuring an impressive display of 100 frames, 44 exhibits, and 15 special covers. It also attracted a whopping 11,954 visitors, providing a unique platform for philatelists, students, and enthusiasts to come together, share knowledge, and celebrate India's independence.

TN DIGIPEX 2022 – District Level Virtual Exhibition



TN DIGIPEX 2022 was conducted at Chennai from 07.01.2022 to 10.01.2022, showcasing India's rich cultural heritage as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (India@75) program. The event was filled with participation from 82 philatelists, including 33 in the youth category, with 289 frames featuring 16,000 stamps and 1,000 First Day Covers on display. The website of this virtual exhibition received around 20,000 visitors.

Delta Digipex 2022- District Level Philatelic Exhibition



Delta Digipex 2022 was conducted by the Central Region, Trichy from 09/03/2022 to 23/03/2022 under the theme “AatmaNirbhar Bharat,” reflecting India’s vision of self-reliance. The exhibition showcased 182 frames with 92 exhibits, 57 Special Covers highlighting India’s cultural heritage, freedom struggle, and self-reliance journey. This exhibition attracted 7,550 visitors over the period of 15 days and thereby provided a unique platform for philatelists, students, and enthusiasts to share knowledge and appreciate philately.

PE@CE 2023 - District Level Philatelic Exhibition



PE@CE was held at Cuddalore from 11.10.2023 to 12.10.2023 featuring the theme of "Empowering Citizens and Reaching the Last Mile," resonated with visitors. The exhibition showcased 155 displays and exhibits, attracting a total of 613 visitors and 4,971 students who enjoyed and benefited from this exhibition.



Kalanchiyam @79° E - District Level Philatelic Exhibition









Kalanchiyam @79° E was held from 08.10.2024 to 09.10.2024 at Thajavur, Central Region, Trichy. The exhibition, themed around the "**Conservation of environment, tangible and intangible heritage**", showcased 164 frames featuring "thousands of stamps" and exhibits. The event attracted a significant number of visitors, around 1,519 and 8,652 students participating & benefiting from this exhibition which provided a unique platform for philatelists, students and enthusiasts to come together, share knowledge and appreciate the fascinating world of philately.

KOVAIPEX 2024-District Level Philatelic Exhibition

KOVAIPEX 2024 was held from 12.11.2024 to 13.11.2024 at Coimbatore, Western Region under the theme "**Thematic Philately, General collections, Flora & Fauna, and Birds**" showcasing a diverse range of philatelic exhibits. This exhibition had displayed 150 frames consisting of 2400 albums, 7776 stamps and 1016 special covers. A wide range of audience with 4053 students and 863 other visitors were attracted towards this exhibition.



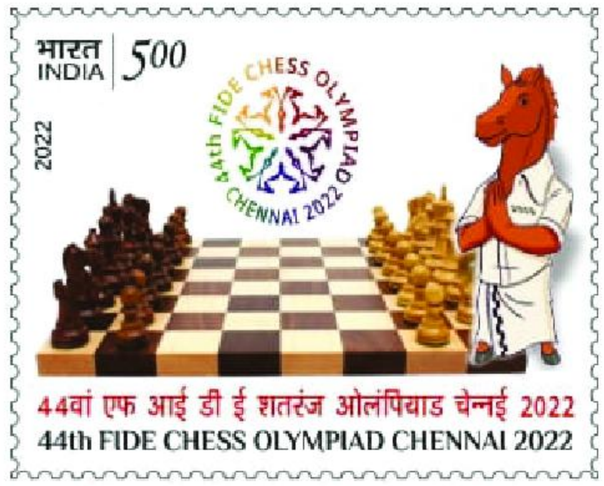


Anna Road Philatelic Bureau

A series of philatelic events took place at Anna Road Philately Bureau between 2022 and 2024. Highlights of events included an online summer camp in May-June 2022 with 67 students; an exhibition from 11.08.2022 to 14.08.2022 for Partition Horror Remembrance Day; a quiz and workshop for students in October 2022. Philapex 2023 was held from 26.01.2023 to 28.01.2023, included the release of booklets, a workshop and a stamp design contest. Other events included summer camps in May 2023 with 64 participants, a postcard release for Khelo India in January 2024 and a World Heritage Day exhibition in April 2024.

Stamps Released (Relating to Tamilnadu) Since 2022

The 44th FIDE Chess Olympiad was held in Mamallapuram, India, from 28.07.2022 to 10.08.2022, featuring players from over 180 countries. This prestigious event marked a significant milestone in the world of chess, promoting the game and recognizing the contributions of the World Chess Federation (FIDE). To commemorate this occasion, the Department of Posts issued a commemorative postage stamp, celebrating the spirit of chess and its global community.



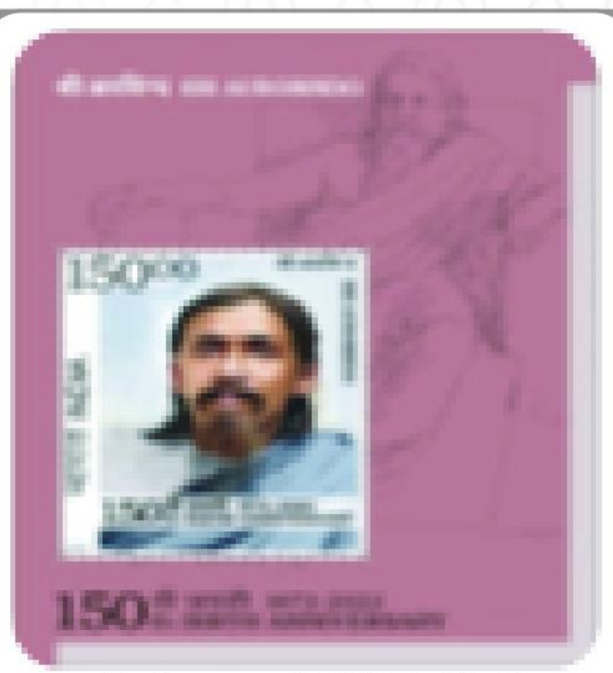
Release of 44TH fide Chess Olympiad Chennai 2022 released on 20.07.2022



Release of Ondiveeran released on 20.08.2022

A stamp on Ondiveeran, an unsung hero of Tamilnadu was released on 20.08.2022. This stamp honors the bravery and legacy of Ondiveeran, recognizing his contributions to Indian history and culture.

Sri Aurobindo, a scholar, philosopher, revolutionary, poet, yogi, and rishi, was born on August 15th 1872 at Calcutta. He played a leading role in India's Nationalist movement, advocating for complete independence from British rule. In 1910, 'he shifted his residence to pondicherry', he withdrew from politics to focus on his spiritual life, developing the Integral Yoga method. He founded the Sri Aurobindo Ashram in 1926 and wrote extensively on spirituality and philosophy. To commemorate his 150th birth anniversary, the Department of Posts has issued a commemorative postage stamp, honoring his contributions to India's spiritual upliftment.



Release of 150th Birth Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo released on 13.12.2022

The Department of Posts released a set of commemorative postage stamps titled "Bridal Costumes of India" on 12.02.2023. This series showcased the diverse and vibrant traditional bridal attire from various regions of India.The stamps feature intricate designs and colors, highlighting the rich cultural heritage of India. Each stamp represents a specific region, including Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, and others.The "Bridal Costumes of India" stamp series aims to promote India's cultural diversity and traditional attire, while also showcasing the country's rich textile heritage.



Release of Bridal Costumes of India-Tamilnadu released on 12.02.2023

Geographical Indications (GIs) are intellectual property rights that recognize products linked to a specific region, known for their unique qualities. The Geographical Indications of Goods Act, 1999, protects such products in India. *A set of stamps on geographical indication-tagged agriculture products, featuring"Eathomozhy Tall Coconut" from Tamilnadu among others were released on 13.02.2023* .. Other GIs in India include Kashmir Saffron, Mahabaleshwar Strawberry, and Shahi Litchi. The Department of Posts has issued stamps to promote these agricultural GIs, highlighting India's diverse and rich agricultural heritage.



Release of Geographical Indications; Agricultural goods- Eathomozhy Tall Coconut released on 13.02.2023



200 Years of Indian Origin Tamils in Sri Lanka released on 30.12.2023

The Indian Origin Tamils (IOT) in Sri Lanka are descendants of Tamil workers from India who arrived in the 19th and 20th centuries. They faced hardships, statelessness, and marginalization. Recent initiatives by the Indian government aim to support the community, recognizing their contributions to Sri Lanka's economic development. On 30.12.2023, Department of Posts had issued a Commemorative Postage Stamp on 200 Years of Indian Origin Tamils in Sri Lanka, recognising the hardships faced by the Indian Origin Tamils and valuing their contribution to the economic development of Sri Lanka.

India's rich democratic history dates back thousands of years, with the concept of democracy deeply ingrained in the country's ethos. Ancient republics like Lichchhavi and the Uttiramerur inscription of the Chola period showcased democratic features, while Sikhism founded by Guru Nanak embodied democratic ideals like equality and justice. As India celebrates its 75th Republic Day, it's an opportune time to reclaim the legacy of its forefathers and great thinkers who sowed the seeds of democracy in the country's DNA, earning India the title of "Mother of Democracy". The Department of Posts is delighted to release a miniature sheet of 3 commemorative postage stamps on “Bharat – The Mother of Democracy”, saluting the democratic spirit of the world's largest democracy.



Bharath -The Mother of Democracy released on 25.01.2024

SPECIAL COVER

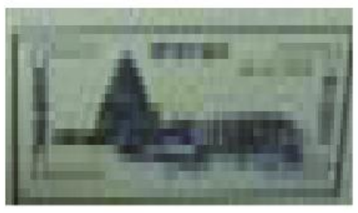
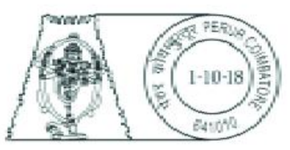
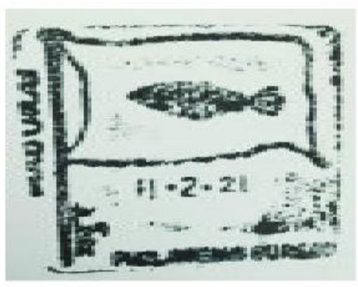
An event, institution, personality (posthumously), occasion or product not significant enough for a Commemorative/Special stamp may be commemorated by issuing a Special Cover with a special cancellation. This cover is issued upon request from an entity with a legitimate connection, provided the proposal is submitted two months in advance and requisite charges are paid. The Department of Posts may also issue Special Covers or Cancellations on its own initiative.

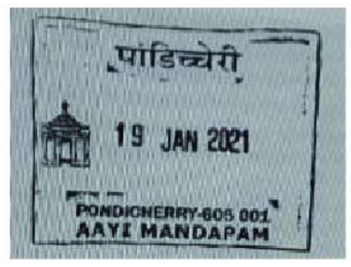
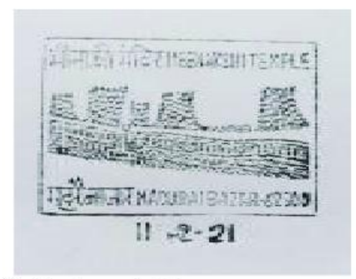
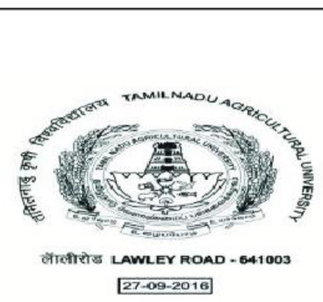
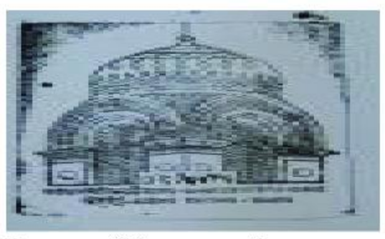
S No	Special Cover	Date of release
1	Silver Jubilee celebration of Nadar Saraswathi College of Arts & Science, Theni	20.04.2022
2	Centenary celebration of VidwanKarukurichi P.Arunachalam, Chennai	25.04.2022
3	Platinum Jubilee celebration of CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute(CLRI)	19.05.2022
4	International Day of Biological Diversity	22.05.2022
5	International Day of Yoga 2022	21.06.2022
6	Platinum Jubilee celebrations of The Girls Higher Secondary School, Srirangam	25.06.2022
7	125th year celebrations of The Higher Secondary School for Boys, Srirangam	25.06.2022
8	Centenary year of Ramakrishna Mission Residential High School	26.06.2022
9	All India Association of Inspectors and Assistant Superintendent Posts corin	27.09.2022
16	Bicentenary Celebration of ThiruarutpraksaVallalar	05.10.2022
17	Platinum Jubilee of Madras School of Social work	06.10.2022
18	Centenary Year of Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Measure	05.12.2022
19	Silver Jubilee Celebration of Rotary Club of Kumbakonam	17.12.2022
20	Centenary Celebration of St. Xaviers College, Palayankottai	19.12.2022
21	Inauguration of Ashok Roy Training Stimulator Complex	25.04.2023
22	Centenary Celebration of Holy Cross College, Trichy	29.03.2023
23	60 Years of existence of IMSc, Chennai	03.01.2023
24	Bicentenary celebration of Sargent Girls Hr. Sec. School, Palayankootai	07.01.2023
25	Golden Jubliee of Women in Tamilnadu Police	17.03.2023
26	Sri Kaliswari Group of Industries, Sivakasi	26.04.2023
27	Centenary Celebrations of Shri T. M Thyagarajan	27.05.2023
28	Chandrayaan-3	01.09.2023
29	Kurumba Paintings	01.09.2023
30	PaniyaChoonthumani	01.09.2023
31	Golden Jubilee Celebration by APC Mahalaxmi College for Women	15.09.2023
32	Tamilnadu Police Museum	29.09.2023
33	Swachh Bharat	02.10.2023
34	Drone Carried Special cover	11.10.2023
35	Post Office @2047	11.10.2023
36	Greater Flamingo	05.01.2024
37	Heuglin's Gull	05.01.2024
38	Bar-Headed Goose	05.01.2024
39	Marsh Sandpiper	05.01.2024
40	Eurasian Curlew	05.01.2024
41	Crab Plover	05.01.2024
42	Golden Jubilee Celebration by PariVallal Matric Hr Sec. School	12.01.2024
43	06 special covers on drawings in Kalki'sPonniyinSelvan by Late Artist ShriManiam	26.01.2024
44	Karaivetti Birds Sanctuary	02.02.2024
45	Centenary Celebrations of Vidyodaya Schools	24.02.2024

S.No	Special Cover	Date of release
42	International Women's Day	08.03.2024
43	Krishi Vigyan Kendra	21.03.2024
44	International Yoga Day & World Music Day	21.06.2024
45	MIT	18.07.2024
46	Conservation efforts of Pichavaram Mangrove Forest	26.07.2024
47	Diamond Jubilee Celebration by Tamilnadu Revenue Official's Association	24.07.2024
48	Commemorate the achievements in olympics 2024	15.08.2024
49	Dugong Conservation Reserve	08.10.2024
50	Tamil University, Thanjavur	08.10.2024
51	Pattukottai Kalyanasundaram	08.10.2024
52	Coconut Research Centre, Veppankulam	08.10.2024
53	Kalamkari – GI tagged item	08.10.2024
54	Set of six special covers for Traditional rice varieties	08.10.2024
55	Thooya malli Rice	08.10.2024
56	Rathasali Rice	08.10.2024
57	Poongar Rice	08.10.2024
58	Garudan Samba Rice	08.10.2024
59	Karungurvai Rice	08.10.2024
60	Illupai Poo Samba Rice	08.10.2024
61	Thanjavur Central Co-operative Bank Ltd,	09.10.2024
62	Introduction of PPC for Darasuram	09.10.2024
63	Introduction of PPC for Gangaikondacholapuram	09.10.2024
64	Karna Sculpture	09.10.2024
65	121 Years of Madras Veterinary College	15.10.2024
66	KOVAIPEX	12.11.2024
67	PSG Sarvajana Hr Sec School Centenary Celebration	12.11.2024
68	128th Birth anniversary celebtration of Dr. Salim Ali	12.11.2024
69	125th year Birth anniversary of Late E. Balakrishna Naidu	12.11.2024
70	Kallakurichi Wood Carving	22.11.2024

Pictorial Cancellations Available In TamilNadu Circle

Permanent Pictorial Cancellations (PPCs) are unique postmarks featuring images that highlight significant tourist, historical, religious, or cultural places, as well as notable individuals or events. These cancellations are typically available at post offices located near such places of national importance, providing both aesthetic appeal and cultural significance. Collectors are drawn to PPCs for their intricate designs and the stories they tell, which offer a glimpse into the history and heritage of different regions.

 Thanjavur 613001 10.12.1974	 Mudumalai Sanctuary-Gudalur Nilgiris 643211 05.04.1975	 Mamallapuram 603104 07.11.1975	 Vedanthangal 603314 21.11.1975	 Kanniyakumari 629702 21.11.1975
 Thiruvaiyaru 613204 20.01.1976	 Nagore 611002 08.10.1976	 Vailankanni 611111 29.11.1976	 Perur 641010 03.12.1976	 Courtallam Waterfalls 627802 01.08.1977
 Bhavani 638301 25.08.1977	 Kodikkarai 614807 02.12.1977	 Rameswaram 623526 07.03.1978	 Palani 624601 08.09.1978	 Kalakad Wildlife sanctuary 627501 03/10/1978
 Kodaikanal Solar Observatory 624101 05.09.1979	 Mylapore 600004 14.11.1979	 Gingee 604202 29.12.1979	 Topslip 642133 14.10.1980	 Srirangam 620006 17.01.1981
 Philatelic Bureau, Madurai 625001 06.09.1981	 Tiruchirappalli 620001 20.12.1981	 Vainu Bappu Observatory-Kavalur 635701 05.12.1986	 Tiruvarur 610001 14.10.1989	 Ettaiyapuram S.O 628902 24.03.1993

 Udagamandalam 643001 15.07.1994	 Hasthampatti 636007 30.01.1997	 Tiruvannamalai 606601 12.12.1997	 Aayi Mandapam, Pondicherry 605001 13.03.1998	 Philatelic Bureau, Anna Road HPO 600002 31.03.1998
 Vadalur 607303 30.01.1999	 Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry 605002 15.08.2013	 Sri Ramanashramam 606603 01.09.2014	 CMC Hospital, Vellore 632004 09.12.2014	 Muttom Light House 629202 05.01.2017
 Manapad Light House 628209 05.01.2017	 Tiruchengode 637211 06.01.2017	 Adiyogi, Ishana Vihar 641114 24.02.2017	 Vellore Fort 632004 03.03.2017	 Madurai Bazaar - Meenakshi Temple 625001 -28.04.2017
 Karumathampatti 641659 29.09.2017	 SACON-Anaikatti BO 641108 06.06.2019	 TNAU-Lawley Road SO 641003 01.07.2019	 Nilgiris Mountain Train Coonoor RS 643102 - 10.08.2019	 Pulicat Light House 601205 21.08.2021
 Kanchipuram 631501 18.04.2023	 Senate House of University of Madras 600005 11.10.2023	 Killai SO 608102 26.07.2024	 Darasuram SO 612702 09.10.2024	 Gangaikondacholapuram SO 612901 09.10.2024
		 Chidambaram HO 608001 12.01.2025		

DhaiAkhar Letter Writing Competition

DhaiAkhar Letter Writing Competition is a celebration of the art of letter writing and an opportunity for individuals across the country to express their thoughts, feelings and ideas in a meaningful & heartfelt manner. It is a National Level Letter Writing Competition on a theme/subject decided by the Department of Posts for the citizens of India. Participants will write a Letter expressing their views on the subject addressing to the Chief Postmaster General concerned and the shortlisted/selected letters will be eligible for cash awards. The theme for 2022 was "India in 2047," focusing on the vision for the nation's future. The theme for 2023 was "Digital India for New India", the theme for 2024 was "The Joy of Writing: Importance of Letters in the Digital Age" emphasizing the enduring value of traditional letter writing in a digital world.

During 2023-2024, Shri.Satyendra Kumar had won a cash prize of Rs. 25,000/- in the ILC (Inland Letter) - above 18 years category at National Level. While Ms. V. Sahana had won Rs. 50,000/- in the ILC - up to 18 years category at the National Level.

SPARSH

DeenDayal SPARSH Yojana (Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude & Research in Stamps as a Hobby) was launched by the Department of Posts on 3.11.2017 to increase the reach of philately and promote the welfare of school children. The objective of the scholarship is to "Promote Philately among children at a young age in a sustainable manner that can reinforce and supplement the academic curriculum in addition to providing a hobby that can help them relax and de-stress".

Regular students from grades VI to IX of a recognised schools in India and are also the members of a philately club at their school are eligible. The program awards annual scholarships of Rs.6,000/- to students with good academic records who pursue philately as a hobby.

During 2022-2023, 14,588 school students has taken part in the written quiz competition for philately scholarship scheme and during 2023-2024 the participation for the scholarship scheme was around 11,157. For the year 2024-2025, a total of 20,013 applications were received.

My Stamp

'My Stamp' is the brand name for personalised sheets of postage stamps of India Post. The Personalization is achieved by printing a thumb nail image of the customer's photo-graphs and logos of institutions or images of artwork, heritage building and famous tourist places, historical cities, wildlife, other animal and birds etc., on a selected template sheet having postage Stamps.

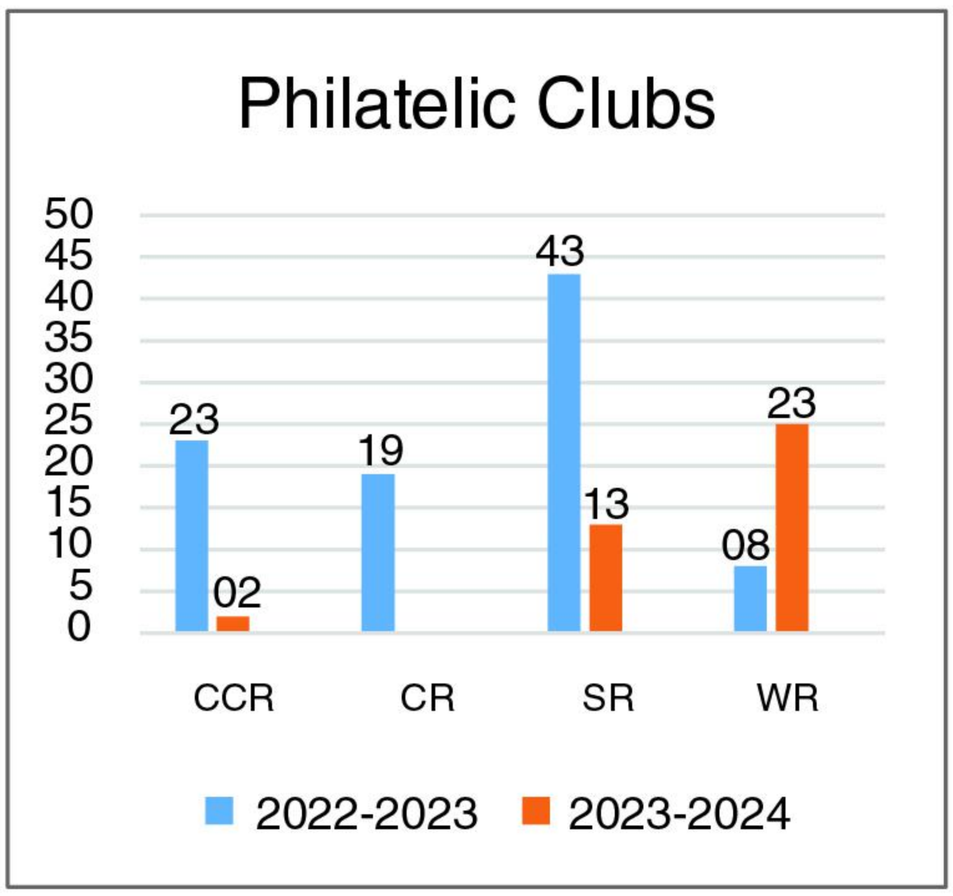
'My Stamp' was first introduced in India during the world Philatelic Exhibition, 'INDIPEX-2011'. This Scheme is available in selected Philatelic Bureaux and counters/Important Post offices/Post Offices situated at tourist places.

The Universal Postal Union (UPU) International Letter Writing Competition for young people.

The UPU organises a letter-witing competition for young people aged 9 to 15. In this competition, participants write a handwritten letter of up to 800 words, sharing their thoughts on the importance of postal services in connecting the world. The UPU chooses the winning entries, giving young people a chance to be creative in this global event. In 2022, total of 9,513 entries were received and in 2023, there were 2,042 entries, while 6,397 entries were received for the year 2024. Ms. A.M. Aathira, D/o S. Manikandan, Bharani Vidhyalaya Sr.Sec.School, Bharani Gardens, Salem by Pass Road, Karur-639006 had won the first prize at the national level in 2024.

PHILATELIC CLUBS

The Tamilnadu Circle has witnessed significant growth in Philatelic Clubs. During the financial year 2022-2023, 93 Philatelic Clubs were established across various regions and during the year 2023-2024, 40 new Philatelic Clubs were established, there are 677 active Philatelic Clubs functioning in the Tamilnadu Circle.



INCREDIBLE INDIA-REFLECTION THROUGHSTAMPS.

Mervin Alexander psc, ndc IPoS (Rtd), Former Member PSB

There are few nations in the world which could match India in terms of its diversity in every possible way, nature's bounty, achievements in multiple fields, unique features, growth potential etc to name a few. India has the unique distinction of an Ocean named after it, a distinction no other country has. The highest mountain range forms the northern boundary of the nation and has played a significant role in shaping its history besides influencing its climate and water resources. For a young nation which got its independence only in the year 1947, India has done extremely well in multiple fields like agriculture, science & technology, education, health care etc.

Key Statistics

Population: 1.2 Bn	No of official languages: 22
Area: 3.2 Mn Sqft (7th largest)	Total No of languages: 325
Length (East-West): 2933 Kms	World Heritage Sites: 35
Length (North-South): 3214 Kms	No of States: 28
Length of coast Line: 7516	Kms No of UTs: 8

Indian Agriculture:

At the time of independence, India's food production was around 50 Mn Tons. It has grown to about 330 Min Tons currently. From being a food importer, India today exports food grains and other agricultural and horticultural products to many countries. India's food production is a result of research for high yielding varieties, increase in irrigated land, better control of pests & diseases etc. Today India is the second largest producer of rice and wheat in the world. India is also the largest producer of milk, jute & pulses. It's the second highest producer of sugarcane, groundnut, vegetables, cotton & spices. India also ranks third in egg production and fish catch. As the 7th largest exporter of agricultural products India has made famines a thing of the past. India's achievement in agriculture therefore is an incredible one to be proud of.



Our agricultural potentials and achievements thus make it an important pillar in Incredible India. To commemorate the big strides India has made in food production, India Post has issued several commemorative stamps including in the definitive series. Some of the key ones are

- Republic of India Stamp issued on 26 Jan 1950 showing Grain head and a plough
- Freedom from Hunger 1963
- Tea Plucking 1966
- Jai Kisan 1967
- Wheat Revolution 1968
- Wheat Research 1978
- International Year of Millets 2023
- 50 th Anniversary ICRISAT 2022

India's IT Revolution

One of the significant achievements of India in the last 2 decades is in the field of IT. IT normally refers to software development and customisation, Business process Management using IT. IT has been one of the important pillars in India's growth story. It is providing employment to about 5.4 million youth of our country. It's pertinent to note that 36% of IT workforce is women which is thus a great tool in woman empowerment. It has also enabled many to take employment in developed countries too. It's a matter of pride that two of the top IT firms in the world (Microsoft& Google) are headed by Indian origin CEOs who had their education in Indian Universities. Some of our cities like Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai and Gurgaon are well known in developed countries as being the hub of much of their outsourced business processes. Other cities too are emerging fast with State Governments competing with each other with attractive incentives. The gross of value of annual IT service of India is about US$ 254 Bn which puts India at the second rank globally. Indian IT software export is about US$126 Bn and that of BPO services is abou

software export is about US$126 Bn and that of BPO services is about US$52 Bn. Engineering services & IT products is about US$ 9 &5 Bn. India's low share in IT products is a matter requiring attention to exploit the high value potential.

Both the Union & State Governments played a significant role in enabling IT industry to grow with least handicaps. Incentives for setting up IT parks, Special Economic zones, education policy for opening private Engineering colleges are few of these. Knowledge of English too is an important factor. With a healthy growth rate, IT industry will continue to play a significant role in India's growth story.

Though India Post has not yet issued a commemorative stamp on India's IT industry, it certainly deserves one soon.

Indian Railways:

From its inaugural run in 1853, Indian Railways has grown into a massive net work and is truly an important factor unifying India. India has the 4th largest Railway net work in the world with a total track length of 1, 32,310 Kms out of which 97% is electrified. With 7335 Stations and employing about 1.2 million employees, it is one of the largest Government organizations in the country. With 13,000 trains a day carrying about 24 million passengers daily, the significance of its operation could be well understood.

Indian Railways operate multiple types of trains from Semi high-speed trains to Suburban trains. Every year tracks are being converted into double or more tracks in major routes. Since Indian Railway train fares are one of the lowest in the world, it's the most popular mode of travel for most Indians.

Indian Railways also operate some of the most luxurious trains in the world. The Deccan Odyssey (Delhi-Mumbai), Maharaja's Express (Delhi-Tvm), Royal Rajasthan on Wheels (From Delhi), Palace on Wheels (from Jaipur) are some of these. These are designed for tourism promotion particularly among the affluent foreign tourists.Some rail routes in India are very scenic too. Kalka-Shimla, Konkan Railway, Mangalore-Hassan, Nilgri Mountain Railway, Darjeeling Railway are through breath taking landscapes.



Railway being a favourite subject for thematic collectors, India Post has issued several stamps on Railways. Some of the earlier ones are listed below:

- 1937 Stamp showing Steam Locomotive with King George VI
- 1953 Railway Centenary stamp showing a steam & diesel locomotive
- 1972 International Union of Railways showing a signal box
- 1976 Indian Locomotives (set of 4 stamps showing locomotives)
- 1982 Centenary of Darjeeling Himalayan Railway
- 1987 Centenary of South Eastern Railway (set of 4)
- 1993 Mountain Railways (set of 4 showing locomotives used in Nigris, Darjeeling, Shimla & Neral-Matheran)
- 1998 Konkan Railway
- 2000 hundred years of Railways in the Doon Valley
- 2002-150 years of Railways in India
- 2003 hundred years of Kalka-Shimla Railway

India's Nuclear & Space Programme:

India embarked on an ambitious nuclear & space programme soon after independence thanks to our visionary Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. In Homi Bhabha & Vikram Sarabhai, India found the ideal scientific leaders to kick start the nuclear & space programmes respectively. India has the credit of setting up the first nuclear research reactor in Asia when 'Apsara' went critical in 1956. The 3-stage nuclear programme of India is the brain child of Dr Bhabha to utilise the huge thorium reserve of the country. Though nuclear contributes only about 3-4% of our electricity generation currently, there are big plans to construct more nuclear power plants using both indigenous know how in pressurised heavy water technology as well as imported technologies. With the increasing realisation of fossil fuel pollution effects in global warming & climate change, the dependence on nuclear power as a green energy is bound to increase globally.

India currently operates about 23 nuclear reactors producing about 8500 MW of power. 10 more reactors are in various stages of development including 4 more PWR type reactors in Kudankulam. India also has the potential for transfer of technology to other nations to build reactors.





Besides its known utility as a deterrence in National Security, nuclear power is used in multifarious fields. In agriculture its use in crop breeding and food preservation is well known. As a diagnostic and therapy too radio isotopes are increasingly popular through nuclear medicine. There are several industrial applications too. There are several emerging fields where nuclear power is being used. Its use is only going to go up since nuclear has features which are unique.

Similarly in the Space field too India's achievements are phenomenal. The vision of India's space research is "space technology in the service of mankind". India's research into space started in 1969 with Russian support. So far ISRO has launched 125 space craft missions and 92 launch missions. India currently has 22 LEO (low earth orbit) and 29 GEO (geosynchronous orbit) satellites. Some of the other achievements are launch of Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) "Mangalyan" in September 2014 to study Mars. In September 2023, ADITYA L1, the first dedicated mission to launch Sun was launched. After 3 successful launches of Gaganyaan Missions, India will be launching its first manned space flight in 2026. The crew selected for this mission are currently undergoing training for the same. While every Indian is hoping for its successful launch, if things go well, India will join as the fourth member in this exclusive club.

Many commemorative stamps have been issued on India's incredible feats in nuclear & space domain. Some of these are mentioned below:

- 1965 Atomic Reactor Trombay
- 1966 Dr Homi Bhabha
- 1969 Man on Moon
- 1972 Arvi Satellite Earth Station
- 1972 Vikram A Sarabhai
- 1975 SITE
- 1979 IAEA
- 1981 SLV 3
- 1982 APPLE Satellite
- 1991 IRSS 1A

Nature's Beauty & Diversity

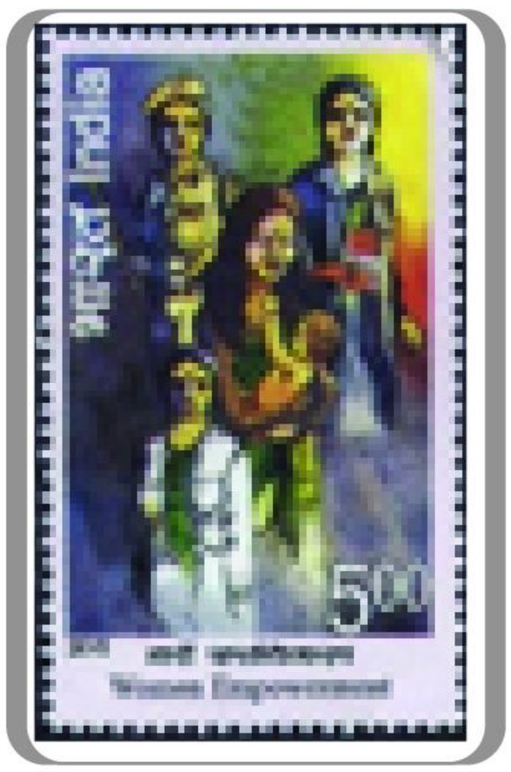
India's unique location with the highest mountain range in the world as its northern boundary, long coast line, high altitude cold deserts, dry desert in the west, perennialrivers, rain shadowed Deccan plateau with mountain ranges on either side, bio diversity rich Western Ghats with high rainfall etc contribute to its rich fauna and flora. Himalayas has some of the highest snow-clad peaks in the world. Himalayas is home for some of the most beautiful hill stations and valleys in the world.

Policy, Governance and Philately

Dr. Charles Lobo, Member, PSB (retd.)

In 1982, United States Postal Service (USPS) issued a Posage Stamp of St. Francis of Assisi who is known as the patron of environment. Commenting on this issue, Samuel B. Towers said the following. “As the Postal Service well knows, stamps inform, educate and influence. It has put out stamps urging people to register and vote, to support youth, for law and order, and a variety of other causes the government endorses. The stamp becomes a medium of endorsement.” The term ‘medium of endorsement’ used in this quote needs to be noted. This article explores how postage stamps have been used as a medium of endorsement- a tool in promoting the ideas of the Government in recent times.





On 22 January 2015, the Department of Posts (DOP) issued a five-rupee postage stamp on the theme Beti Bachao Beti Padhao. Through this stamp the government wanted to popularize its programme for the protection and education of the girl child. To create awareness about the decline of females in the sex ratio due to various societal pressures, the Government used the postage stamp as a ‘medium of endorsement’ of its Scheme. The postage stamp depicts a female doctor, a girl child and children attending school. It is well known that a postage stamp has wide circulation and it can spread the message with maximum gain at minimum cost.

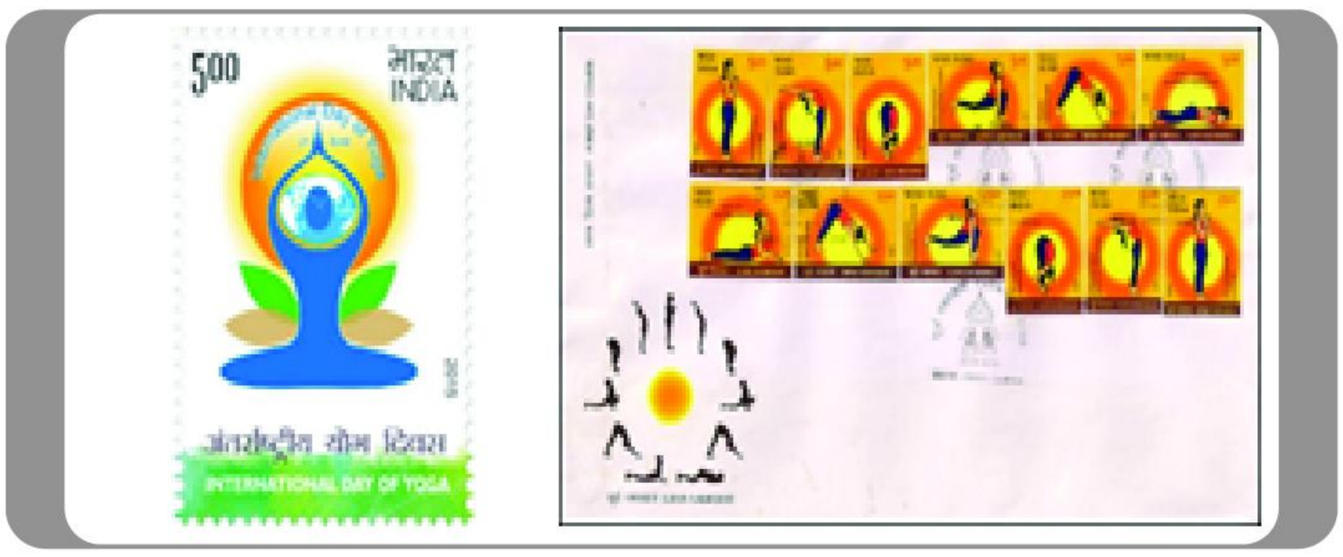
Like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, another area of concern of Government is Women Empowerment. On 2 September 2015, four postage stamps on the theme Women Empowerment were released. These stamps depict women engaged in cooking, women engaged in agriculture, women in various professions like Doctors and Police, and women dreamers including a girl going to school on a bicycle. The role of education in empowerment is once again emphasized. On 8 March 2016, a se-tenant pair on the theme India-UN Women He For She was issued. It consists of two stamps, of Rs 5 in one portion and Rs 25 in another portion.

Swachh Bharat Mission was another prestigious programme of the Government. Since its launch the Government undertook several measures to promote the idea of Swachh Bharat. The cities in India came to be assessed and graded for giving awards for achieving the Swachh Bharat objectives.



Garbage bins were provided in the cities to collect garbage and garbage collection was extended beyond cities and towns to rural areas. On 30 January 2015, three postage stamps were released by DOP showing Sweeping, Sanitation and Cleanliness- three essentials of Swachh Bharat campaign. Tree planting and clean drinking water were also shown in these stamps. The price of each stamp was five-rupee. Continuing the effort to sustain the campaign, Swachh Bharat (2nd Series) Postage Stamps were issued on 2 October 2016 in the denomination of Rs 5 and Rs 25. The former depicts children engaged in the cleaning work while the latter shows hills, water and nature.

United Nations adopted a resolution declaring June 21st as International Yoga day in response to the UN address by the Prime Minister of India in 2014. Since every year Postage stamps are being released on this day on the theme Yoga. In 2015 stamps were released for the first time on the occasion of the First International Day of Yoga. In 2016, the postage stamps showing 12 positions of Surya Namaskar have been issued. Government is promoting and popularizing Yoga across the world.



On 30 January 2017, the DOP issued a postage stamp on the theme India Post Payments Bank of Rs 5 denomination. The Prime Minister himself launched the new initiative in September 2018 after a trial run shows the importance given to the initiative. The objective of the initiative was to take banking to the door step of the customer and the postman was identified as the medium of IPPB to achieve this dream. The Postage Stamp shows the Postman taking banking to the doorstep. This was a great step in the direction of financial inclusion of rural masses. The government had launched the Jan Dhan Scheme earlier with the same objective. IPPB was required to go beyond and provide many more digital services. On 30 January 2019 a five-rupee stamp was issued on the theme Financial Inclusion showing the concern of the Government to financial inclusion.

Other Themes



In addition to promoting the schemes and programmes, the Government uses postage stamps to promote the image of India. The DOP released a postage stamp known as Vibrant India on 25 January 2016. This stamp showcases our art, music, festivals, science, spirituality, transport and development. Kathakali, Bharatanatyam, Veena, Tabla, Metro rail, meditating yogi, decorated elephant, hanging bridge, railway, textiles, etc. can be seen on this stamp. It is priced at Rs 25. Such stamps help to promote tourism. Another stamp on tourism was released on 25 August 2016 showing the monuments and other tourist attractions.



Besides promoting the programmes and schemes of the Government, the Party in power sometimes uses postage stamps to promote its own ideology and icons because as rightly observed by Samuel B. Towers, the postage stamps can become a medium of endorsement. By issuing a postage stamp on the occasion of 800th birth anniversary of Francis of Assisi USPS paid tribute to his humanitarian work. The prefix saint (St.) was omitted in the postage stamp to avoid controversy. The stamp shows Francis addressing birds. The spiritual appeal of St. Francis of Assisi helps to spread awareness about environment.



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WHY WAS PIGEON POST PREFERRED?

-Dr. K. Ramachandiran,
Formerly Post Master General, Chennai.

THE PIGEON'S ORIGIN

Ornithologists suggest that pigeons (Columba livia) likely originated in the regions encompassing Southern Europe, North Africa, and Western Asia. Over time, these birds have adapted to and become widespread in urban environments across the globe, exhibiting significant population density. Within Europe, the estimated population of feral and wild pigeons ranges between 17 and 28 million, while the global population approximates 120 million. Archaeological findings indicate that both Neanderthals and early Homo sapiens utilized rock doves as a dietary resource.

The domestic pigeon, belonging to the family Columbidae within the order Columbiformes, is regarded as one of the earliest avian species domesticated by humans, with evidence tracing back to approximately 4500 BCE in Mesopotamia. In ancient Egypt, pigeons held considerable value as a food source and were integral to communication systems. Artistic representations in the form of figurines, mosaics, and coins from this era frequently highlight the cultural and practical importance of domestic pigeons.

By 1350 BCE, the use of homing pigeons for early forms of postal communication is believed to have emerged in Egypt. From the Middle Ages through the 19th century, carrier pigeons were extensively employed in commerce, navigation, and military operations. These applications were rooted in the recognition of pigeons' extraordinary homing instincts. Studies demonstrated that pigeons, when captured, transported, and released far from their original location, reliably returned to their coops, even from distances spanning hundreds of miles. This remarkable behavior facilitated their role in guiding sailors toward land and delivering messages across vast distances, underscoring their critical contribution to the evolution of communication systems.

PIGEON POST

As human societies evolved, the domestication of animals and birds advanced in sophistication, with each species being utilized to fulfill a variety of roles across numerous domains. Among avian species, pigeons (Columba livia) distinguished themselves due to their trainability and innate homing abilities, which inspired their innovative use as messengers. This development marked the inception of a unique symbiotic relationship



between humans and pigeons in the field of communication. Carrier pigeons, in particular, emerged as pioneers of aerial message delivery, effectively creating the world's first airborne mail system.

Throughout history, different cultures devised diverse methods to facilitate communication. In Africa, resonant drum beats were employed for long-distance messaging, while Native American tribes utilized smoke signals as a means of transmitting information. In India, princely states established organized courier systems using mounted riders to relay messages between monarchs and their generals or administrators. Additionally, harkaras (foot messengers) played a vital role in delivering communications across both plains and mountainous terrains, exemplifying the ingenuity and resourcefulness of early communication networks.

HOW IT WORKS?

Pigeons are widely recognized for their extraordinary homing instincts, enabling them to navigate back to their home coops even after significant displacement or migration. This ability allows them to reliably return over short to moderate distances, making them invaluable in early communication systems. In many urban centers, universities, monasteries, and affluent estates, pigeons were bred and maintained to facilitate message delivery.

The process of utilizing a pigeon for communication was straightforward yet effective. The bird would first be transported from its home coop by an individual embarking on a journey. During the trip, the pigeon would be safely housed until the need to send a message arose. At that time, a brief message would be inscribed, securely fastened to the pigeon's leg, and the bird would be released. Guided by its innate homing ability, the pigeon would instinctively return to its home coop, delivering the message without requiring any external direction.

This system leveraged the pigeon's natural behavior, with the bird itself remaining unaware of the significance of its role in human communication. To the pigeon, the task was merely an instinctual return to a familiar environment.

This inherent behavior rendered pigeons a reliable and efficient medium for transmitting messages over considerable distances, cementing their place in the history of communication



WHY WAS PIGEON POST PREFERRED?

In its early development, mail delivery relied predominantly on human couriers and animals such as horses and camels. While generally effective, these methods posed significant challenges. The reliance on human handlers necessitated a high degree of trust to ensure messages were delivered accurately and securely. Additionally, traditional delivery systems were vulnerable to numerous disruptions, including delays, theft, enemy interference, accidents, and breaches of confidentiality. These limitations underscored the need for a more efficient, secure, and autonomous communication method.

HISTORICAL ORIGINS OF PIGEON MESSENGER NETWORKS

Historical records indicate that the earliest organized network of pigeon messenger services was established in the 5th century BCE by Cyrus the Great within the ancient empires of Assyria (modern-day Syria) and Persia (modern-day Iran). By 1200 BCE, pigeons were utilized for the transmission of critical dispatches, including those sent by the Carthaginian General Hannibal to Rome, highlighting their strategic significance in early communication networks.

DEVELOPMENT OF PIGEON COMMUNICATION DURING THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR

The first formally organized pigeon communication service was established during the Franco-Prussian War (1870–1871). Initially, messages were transmitted using balloons; however, this method proved unreliable as balloons lacked the ability to return, resulting in uncertain message recovery. To overcome this limitation, the military harnessed the exceptional homing instincts of pigeons. These birds were transported in cages attached to balloons and released at designated destinations to carry messages back to their points of origin.

This innovative approach yielded notable success: of the 363 pigeons deployed, 57 successfully returned, demonstrating the feasibility and effectiveness of this system for wartime communication. This development represented a significant advancement in utilizing animal instincts for strategic purposes, enhancing the reliability and efficiency of message delivery under challenging conditions.



PIGEON POST IN INDIA

PIGEON POST UNDER THE MAURYAS

During the reign of Chandragupta Maurya, founder of the Mauryan Dynasty, establishing effective communication across the vast empire—extending from Persia (modern-day Iran) to Southern India—posed a significant challenge. The imperial capital, Pataliputra (modern-day Patna), served as the central administrative hub. To manage the extensive territory, the empire was divided into provinces, each overseen by a provincial governor operating under a standardized code of governance. While this system improved administrative efficiency, it also underscored the complexities of maintaining consistent communication with distant provinces.

This challenge was later addressed during the reign of Emperor Ashoka, Chandragupta's grandson (268–232 BCE). Ashoka implemented and maintained a pigeon post system, which played a pivotal role in facilitating timely and reliable communication with royal officials serving as viceroys across the empire. This innovation greatly enhanced coordination and administrative efficacy, contributing significantly to the effective governance of the Mauryan state.

PIGEONS UNDER THE MUGHALS

Pigeon rearing has historically been a favoured pursuit among monarchs and emperors, with the Mughal Empire serving as a notable example. Within the Mughal courts, pigeon breeding was a highly regarded practice, often involving the importation of pigeons from distant regions. To support this endeavor, a renowned expert in pigeon breeding, Habib, was invited to India to oversee the care and management of these birds.

Abul Fazl, the court historian and poet of Emperor Akbar the Great, extensively documented Akbar's avid interest in pigeon racing, breeding, and the maintenance of high-quality pigeons in his seminal work, Akbar Nama. According to Fazl, Akbar's court housed over 20,000 pigeons, including 500 deemed exceptional. These birds were kept in specialized cages and were transported even during military campaigns. Over time, select pigeons were trained for message delivery, contributing to early communication systems within the empire.



The renowned naturalist Charles Robert Darwin also expressed interest in pigeon breeding and racing, drawing inspiration from Abul Fazl's descriptions in Akbar Nama. Fascinated by Akbar's dedication to pigeons, Darwin later contributed to the scientific study of these birds. In 1867, he donated pigeon bones and skins to the British Museum. Today, these specimens are preserved in the Natural History Museum in the United Kingdom, forming part of its extensive avian collection.

PIGEON POST UNDER TIPU SULTAN

In the late 18th century, Tipu Sultan, the prominent South Indian Muslim ruler known for his resolute resistance against the East India Company, implemented an advanced pigeon post system as part of his strategic communication network. Understanding the necessity of rapid and secure message transmission, he meticulously trained pigeons to ensure their reliable return to his headquarters at the Jamia Masjid mosque in Srirangapatnam.

The mosque's minarets, which are still adorned with pigeonholes, stand as enduring evidence of Tipu Sultan's innovative communication methods. This pigeon post system enabled efficient, direct correspondence and played a critical role in bolstering his military and administrative operations during his campaigns against colonial forces.

PIGEON POST UNDER THE MUGHAL EMPERORS -AKBAR & JAHANGIR:

Emperor Akbar, a pivotal figure in consolidating the Mughal Empire, demonstrated a keen interest in pigeon rearing and established a meticulously organized pigeon post system to facilitate communication across his expansive realm. Pigeons were rigorously trained within the royal palace to carry messages, ensuring the efficient and reliable transmission of information. Abul Fazl, Akbar's court historian and poet, chronicled in the Akbarnama that the emperor imported significant numbers of prized pigeons from Central Asia, providing them with specialized care. In the Ain-i-Akbari, Fazl also highlighted Akbar's enthusiasm for pigeon racing and the establishment of a dedicated department for breeding and maintaining pigeons. The collection included over 20,000 birds, among which 500 were rare breeds. These pigeons played multifaceted roles, serving in communication, royal campaigns, and even in performances such as dancing and diving, alongside their primary function of message delivery.



Emperor Jahangir, Akbar's successor, further refined and expanded the pigeon post system. He commissioned the training of pigeons for long-distance message relay and conducted a notable trial, dispatching pigeons between Mardu (modern-day Jharkhand) and Berhampur (modern-day Odisha). These pigeons successfully completed the journey within three hours under favorable conditions.

Building on this success, Jahangir expanded the pigeon post network, establishing additional routes between Bengal and Odisha and extending the system from Rajmahal to Murshidabad. These advancements significantly enhanced communication between the empire's regional administrative centers, underscoring Jahangir's pivotal contributions to improving the Mughal Empire's communication infrastructure.

PIGEON POST IN ODISHA POLICE SERVICE

The Odisha Police initiated the use of pigeon post in 1946, shortly after the conclusion of World War II. This innovative communication method quickly became an integral component of the Odisha Police service and has remained a vital tool for over seven decades. Today, it is recognized as one of the few remaining pigeon post services in the world.

Pigeon post plays a critical role in delivering messages to remote areas that lack telephone or wireless communication infrastructure. By maintaining this system, the Odisha Police ensure that communication remains reliable and uninterrupted in regions where modern technologies are unavailable. The continued use of pigeon post highlights the resilience and adaptability of the Odisha Police in sustaining effective communication channels in challenging environments.



Title and Plan Decide The Thematic Exhibit Merit

-Dr Vennam Upender
Postmaster
General, Kurnool Region

Thematic exhibit is a fusion of “Image and Text.” Thematic exhibiting is about telling a story through appropriate philatelic material augmented with a telegraphic text. It is a condensed art of various elements such as research ability, story construction, logic, conciseness, and coherent layout. Unlike other exhibiting forms, Thematic Philately demands particular care and treatment. It is easy to build up thematic exhibit but difficult to make it to ‘large vermeil’ and above medal levels at the national level. Though the judging is influenced by a variety of factors including the subjectivity of the judges, there is a lot of scope for improving the exhibit on a continuous basis. Though the medal level is influenced by variety of factors, the ‘first look’ of the Title Page by Jury determines the medal level at sub-conscious level. If the Title Page is promising and interesting, the Jury would spend a few more minutes in assessing the ‘depth’ of the exhibit. Therefore, building up a better Title Page is especially important.

The exhibitor should invest special attention in planning and preparing the ‘Plan’ page. The juror will see the ‘Title’ and ‘gain immediately certain thoughts’ of the exhibit. The juror then spends a few moments in going through the ‘notes’ added below the Title. Thereafter, may have the‘glance’ of the ‘Plan of Exhibit.’ If there is a ‘story line’ as one reads, it attracts the attention of the juror and favourably impacts the score. To score ‘more,’ the exhibitor needs to spend a lot many hours over a period in ‘shaping’ a better Title Page. I feel, it is a never-ending job and as the time passes, one feels that there is always some scope to improve it.

The Department of Posts has published handbook on Philatelic Exhibitions in the year June 2003 and in that as part 2, “India Post Philatelic Awards System” (IP-PAS) was published. Later, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai National Postal Academy has also published the same. This should be carefully studied and applied while constructing the Title Page.

Article 4 Judging of Exhibits

Treatment		**35**
Title and Plan	15	
Development	15	
Innovation	5	
Knowledge,		
Personal Study, and research		**30**
Thematic	15	
Philatelic	15	
Condition and Rarity		**30**
Condition	10	
Rarity	20	
Presentation		**5**
Total		**100**

Experts observed that 75-80% is a 'Normal Judging'. The 2nd generation exhibits were strongly dominated by stamps with fewer stories told through the material. The 3rd generation exhibits contain 'story' but a few philatelic items. The 4th generation exhibit has an every single item has a story line text with proper philatelic description. It is characterised with distinguishable text – font/size, well connected to each other. In these exhibits, the story telling is very advanced.

Experts evaluate the thematic exhibit and may award marks as below:

Title, Plan	:	15 points
No Plan	:	<8 points
Low Level and No story	:	7-9 points
Overall Okay	:	10-11 points

When philatelic items are not clearly connected; bare listing of chapters – No connection/story:

12 points at FIP Levelare awarded. Main defect is that the individual chapters stand alone and do not tell a story. When storytelling, connections are clear, a maximum of 14-15 points are awarded. The takeaway is to 'Make a Plan' with Chapters and Sub-chapters and avoid disconnected, disjointed 'staccato' plans.

The Department of Posts has published handbook on Philatelic Exhibitions in the year June 2003 and in that as part 2, "India Post Philatelic Awards System" (IP-PAS) was published. Later, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai National Postal Academy has also published the same. These instructions are to be carefully followed by the exhibitor to improve the quality of the exhibit.

Under Article 2, '**Competitive Exhibits**' at sub-rule 2.2, it is mentioned that 'an exhibit should have a clear beginning, a central theme, and a logical ending'.
This will continue to be the main challenge to the exhibitor, more so to the thematic exhibitor. Whole life of a thematic exhibitor goes into this as he/she keeps on refining the exhibit year-after-year.



3.2 The exhibit shall clearly show its leading idea developed logically and in a balanced manner according to the characteristics of the respective competitive class. The title must describe the contents of the exhibit. The concept, which may take any form, shall be laid out in an introductory statement. The title and concept form a whole in perfect concordance with the material shown. A material displayed should be fully consistent with the subject chosen. The selection should show the appreciation of the exhibitor as to what is available in the context of chosen subject. It should help the public and Judges to appreciate the significance of key items on display. Exhibits of material that may be regarded as less well known or obscure should make full use of the introductory statement. It should also integrate the fullest range of relevant philatelic material of the highest available quality.

3.4 The display must begin with an introductory page in which the exhibitor defines in full what the subject is, explains how it will be developed, and specifies what the self-imposed limits are. The concept or plan should also be used to provide relevant general information on the subject. It may also include a concise list of the important documentary sources used. It must be subdivided in chapters. A mere list of contents is not enough for a plan. A well thought out plan may avoid otherwise lengthy descriptions later in the exhibit. The judges will use this information to evaluate the material shown in relation to the aims set forth by the exhibitor. Another introductory page may be desirable in certain subjects or classes and for exhibits of eight frames.

Article 4 deals with criteria for evaluation

4.8 … Does the material exhibited properly correspond with the title and plan of the exhibit? … The judges should also assess whether the material exhibited is relevant to the scope of the exhibit.
Under Chapter 2 Guidelines for Competitive Class were given as part of IP-PAS (India Post-Philatelic Awards System).
2.2 Thematic Treatment
The treatment of a thematic exhibit comprises the structure of the work (title and plan) and the elaboration of each point of that structure (development).
2.2.1 Title and Plan:
The title with any subtitle defines the scope of the exhibit. The plan defines the structure of the exhibit and its subdivisions and covers all major aspects relevant to the title. It should be entirely structured according to thematic criteria. The order of the main chapter and their subdivisions should demonstrate the development of the plan rather than list its main aspects.

3.2 Thematic Treatment

Treatment will be evaluated according to the title and the plan, the development, the innovation shown in the exhibit.

3.2.1. The Title and Plan will be evaluated considering the:
a. Consistency between the plan and the title b. Presence of the plan page c. Adequacy of the plan page d. Correct, logical and balanced structure
(divisions and subdivisions) e. Coverage of all major aspects necessary to develop the theme.

3.2.2. The development will be evaluated considering the:
a. Correct assembly and positioning of the items in conformity with the plan b. Connection between the items and the thematic text c. Depth, shown through connections, cross references, ramifications, causes and effects d. Balance, by giving to each thematic point the importance corresponding to its significance within the theme e. Elaboration of all aspects of the plan

The Title with any Sub-Title defines the ‘scope’ of the exhibit. The Plan defines the ‘structure of the exhibit’ and its sub-divisions and covers all major aspects relevant to the Title. It should be entirely structured according to thematic criteria. The order of the main chapters and their sub-divisions should demonstrate the development of the Plan, rather than list its main aspects.

Essentials of the Plan Page – A Synopsis

- The Title represents the synthesis of the work. Therefore, the Title and contents of the pages must match, and the sequence of the philatelic items mounted on the pages should give the full details of the story stated in the Title. Boosting Titles make the exhibit more attractive which can be misleading, if they deviate from the concept developed in the pages. The different chapters should have a good balance, according to their relative thematic weight within the scope of the theme as defined by the Title, rather than by the quantity of material available.

- An adequate Plan page will ensure that the public and jury do not have to “reconstruct” the Plan by browsing through the pages of the exhibit. This will obviously influence evaluation of the exhibit. The depth of Plan may be limited to two or three digits of depth. The Title defines the overall concept, which then is structured through the Plan. Inconsistencies between the Titles and the Plan indicate either an inadequate breakdown of the Title or an inappropriate synthesis of its structure in the selected Title.



- The Plan page that provides an insight into the theme must be shown at the beginning of the exhibit. The Plan should be accurate, scientifically dependable and sound. The sequence of the main chapters and their sub-divisions must follow a rational order, without superfluous or misplaced chapters. The same improvement should be made to the different sections and in accordance with the thematic significance.

- The correct assembly and the position of the items increasing the individual ones on each page are demonstrated by the well understood, correct and fluent thread of development. The misplaced items make development confused and difficult to understand as the thematic exhibit demands 'the story line.'

- This is achieved through fine balance of philatelic and thematic aspects. The thematic exhibit draws materials from postal history, postal stationery, traditional philately etc. The Jury expects a continuous thread-like story line from the title page to the final page. There should not be any jump/discontinuity in the story line. It is the ingenuity of the exhibitor that is instrumental in building up a great thematic exhibit. Each philatelic element in the exhibit needs to advance the story line. The exhibit philatelic items should speak for themselves rather than the text underneath them. Headings (Titles and sub-titles) matching the Plan should present the development of story line along the pages without unnecessary repetitions. The story of each page of the exhibit in the form of 'summary' to be placed on the right top corner of the exhibit pages as the time spent looking the exhibit by the Jury members is limited. This summary of the page story will help understand the story episodes as the Jury quickly looks at the exhibit. The Title, Plan, Development including Innovation are the components of the main criteria named treatment which has a weightage of 35 marks

- It is to be understood that the Jury is evaluating how well you show, what you tell them, that you are showing. In other words, given the subject and scope that you define on your title page, the Jury will evaluate how well you say that philatelic story.

- How challenging is the subject? Have you limited the scope to exclude the material that is most difficult to acquire? Is the presentation "complete" for the given subject and scope? Is the story told in a logical and easy to understand format? Is the condition of the materials as good as can be expected for this subject? Is the display aesthetically appealing? These are some of the questions the exhibitor needs to ask himself/herself.

- It is the exhibitor's responsibility to guide the Jury, for proper appreciation of the exhibit being shown. To ensure this, the exhibitor needs to comply with all the criteria laid down as per the regulations on the subject. There is a responsibility on the Jury also to evaluate the exhibit by looking into the exhibit patiently with open mind and by giving due weightage to the efforts made, rather than penalizing heavily on some perceived short comings.

- The Title should be drafted and chosen carefully after writing possible titles for the chosen theme. The Title and Plan page should be worked out at the end i.e., after completion of the other exhibit pages. Many a time it so happens that the initially chosen theme would branch out into too many areas, complicating and confusing the scope of the exhibit. Therefore, the Title should be specific and represent accurately the whole exhibit.

- Most of the exhibit titles are sketchy and do not reflect the theme being shown. The Title should give an idea of the exhibit in simple language. The required boundaries to be set at this stage so that the Jury will understand the limitations of the exhibit in terms of what is includedin the exhibit and equally important is that what is excluded. The exclusion of certain things spelt out in the scope should not make the Jury disappointed that the exhibitor conveniently chosen the easier subject and avoided certain challenging aspects of a subject. An outline of exhibit organization is required to show as a road map in the form of layout of the presentation. This needs to be summarized as chapters and sub-chapters in the Plan. The layout should be described in the barest minimum detail in one or two depths of digits. If any special efforts are made in doing thematic/philatelic studies, the same is to be outlined in brief in the Introduction.

- The challenge factor in acquiring certain 'difficult to get' items, placed on the so and so exhibit page, may also be indicated. If any great item (killer item) is available, the same can be mentioned on the Title page. In the beginning, one needs to begin with a rough draft of the Title page that need to be developed many

Exhibiting has evolved over a period from displays of rare items to philatelic studies, with well-developed stories that progress from beginning to main body to conclusion. The scope of exhibits has become increasingly narrow, and depth of study has increased. As stated, the 'title page' is the most important page. It is to reiterate that the title page will have an unambiguous title, clear purpose, and scope statement as first words. After the title, an outline or plan of the exhibit describes in paragraph form or list form the sequence of progression of the story. An appropriate item on the title page adds visual interest.



As each philatelic item communicates a thought, and as the entire page communicates a concept, the pages must follow one another in a logical manner. One should avoid title page flaws, poor exhibit organization or insufficient exhibit development. One needs to overcome the treatment issues, focus attention and guide the viewer's eye by hiding unnecessary portion of material.

The story line should flow like a red thread on all the pages. In other words, there should not be any break in the story, and unnecessary items not related to the story are not to be included on the page. The exhibitor needs to check if items on exhibit page are interchanged, whether the story line gets upset or not. If not upset, then it means the poor development.

Suggested font sizes: Exhibit Title on Title Page: Font size 18, bold; Page Heading: 14 point bold; Introductory or descriptive summary in the beginning of page, 12 points; Item description (thematic text) below the item: font size 11; Philatelic description: 11-point italic.

Thematic exhibiting is continuously changing with the items. The international Jury consistently is suggesting the exhibitor to bring in innovation. The current high-level exhibiting is termed as "4th Generation" by Mr. Jonas Hall Strom. In the days to come, more new trends might come. Therefore, the thematic exhibitor should always keep his mind open to constantly update the exhibit.

times as the exhibit construction progresses. As building up the exhibit progresses, the Scope, Plan and the Title may undergo change. One needs to start preparing an exhibit after acquiring most of the material covering the subject across different time periods and geographies. The Jury might frown upon looking at the modern material of Indian origin. They eagerly look for surprise material, if any.

A well-designed Title Page summarizes the story of the exhibit in a concise way. A good exhibit will have a powerful beginning, engaging middle portion and a logical ending. The title page may contain an item appropriate to the main story. Further, though the element 'innovation' has five points, it will have greater importance in impacting the score.

Innovation starts from the ‘Title’ itself. If the chosen ‘Title’ is overly broad or very narrow in its scope, it upsets the understanding of the exhibit and scores low. The Jury will form first impression after reading the title name. The purpose and scope of the exhibit and the introductory text will enable further the Jury to correlate contents with declared title. The division of the story as a ‘Plan’ will further help understand the story well. The plan needs to be a well laid out road that explains the title abundantly. A thematic exhibit develops and uses all kind of philatelic material in its postal aspects. An appropriate postal and philatelic material is that which, for the purpose of transmitting mail or other postal communication, has been issued, intended for issue, or produced in the preparation for issue, used, or treated as valid for postage by governmental, local or private postal agencies, or by other duly commissioned or empowered authorities. The Jury would like to assess these principles by looking into the thematic exhibit.

They also check: a. whether the exhibit reflects the theme implied by the title b. whether the exhibit is prepared in accordance with the plan c. Whether it has new aspects and innovative approaches for known themes

The exhibit is just an expanded version of the title page. The title page briefly explains why you choose the limits of the exhibit and tell the Jury what makes collecting difficult to get the material, so challenging. Were the stamps issued in small quantity? Were that only briefly valid for postal use? Are varieties scarce because of the remarkably high quality of the print? Once you have told them how tough the material is to acquire, then tell them about the gems that you have obtained and that you are presenting in the exhibit. Be frank in using words like ‘rare’ and ‘scarce.’

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A PHILATELIC JOURNEY ON THE FOOTPRINTS OF GANDHI IN TAMIL NADU

-S Balasundaram, APMG (Rtd) ,Chennai.

Mahatma Gandhi was not only a great leader, but a saint and a great social reformer. He was pious, truthful and religious. He believed in simple living and high thinking. Everybody who met him was so deeply influenced by his personality. He was a champion of democracy and was deadly opposed to dictatorial rule. Gandhi showed India and the World the path of truth and non-violence.

As part of his struggle for freedom, Gandhi made a whirlwind tour of several places in the Madras Presidency which comprised the present Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra and Kerala. Each place he went saw a rousing welcome and a large number of followers assembled to carry forward his mantle.

Gandhi's first visit, spanning a fortnight started on 14.10.1896, was undertaken when he was still in South Africa. The purpose of his first visit was mainly to pay tributes to the kith and kin of the Tamilians who fought with him against the evils of apartheid and lost their precious lives in South Africa. The last visit was on 23 February 1934, which lasted till 22 March 1934, and the only idea for undertaking this trip was to meet people and educate them to treat the downtrodden as their equals.

Gandhi's strenuous journeys are for sensitizing people against social evils and kindling the spirit of freedom. These are important for other reasons too; he has taken very important decisions during the visits. It was Madurai, for example, where he opted to change the dress code. On the night of 18.3.1919, at Madras, Gandhi took an important decision to hold General Hartal that changed the course of freedom struggle. The following pages briefly portray the places visited, people met, and events participated in Tamil Nadu, interspersed with philatelic materials.

First visit to Chennai

Gandhi paid his first visit to Chennai when he was 27 years old. On 14 October 1896, Gandhi came to Chennai by train from Pune. During his travel by ship from South Africa which took one month, he learnt Tamil and Urdu. The troubles undergone by the

Tamilians in South Africa at the hands of the Whites were fresh in his memory and the main aim of his visit was to bring home the fact of these innumerable hardships to the world through India. Therefore, wherever he went during this period he propagated through speeches and pamphlets.

During Gandhi's first visit which lasted a fortnight, he spoke at few places, including Mahajana Sabha in Mount Road (now Anna Road) which was attended by several prominent people. Leading dailies like, The Hindu, Madras Mail carried his speeches and advocated people to lend support morally and financially to his ideals. When Gandhi was staying in Rajaji's house and discussing Rowlett Committee's Report with others, Bharati, the great Tamil poet met Gandhi and asked him if he would be able to preside over a meeting at the Marina beach, where he was giving a lecture. Gandhiji gave a negative reply as his programmes were already fixed and there was no space to accommodate. Seeing the enthusiasm of Bharati, Gandhi told Rajaji to take good care of him.

The Second visit

During his second visit to Chennai on 17 April 1915 which lasted for 21 days, Gandhi planned to visit Tranquebar (Tharangambadi), a Danish settlement in Nagapattinam District, and see the kith and kin of Tamilians who fought with him in South Africa and suffered a lot and many lost their precious lives. Accordingly, he visited a nearby village Thillayadi and met the family members of Valliyammai who sacrificed her life at her prime age in Africa, fighting the apartheid. (On 15 July 1914, three days before Gandhi left South Africa, he attended the unveiling of the gravestones of Valliamma and her father Nagappan in the Braamfontein cemetery in Johannesburg.) The appalling conditions in which the families were living and the denial of basic necessaries because of their birth in the 'so-called' lower caste, affected Gandhi very much and he determined to speak against the caste divisions and disparities thereafter. This is one of the reasons for his support to the struggle for temple entry at Vaikom

Gandhi's Third visit to Chennai

The third visit to Chennai of Gandhi started on 13 February 1916 and lasted for 5 days. On 15 February 1916, Gandhi was invited at Madras Christian College, Tambaram, where he elaborately spoke about the preference of the usage of mother tongue and on sathyam, ahimsa, swadeshi and evils of untouchability. On the next day, he addressed students at Madras Social Service League, where he emphasized again the importance of preserving the mother tongue. On 17th night Gandhi entered Madras Central to Pune.

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Fourth and Fifth Visits



Without any prior intimation, Gandhi visited Madras on 14 September 1917and addressed a mammoth meeting at Marina attended by over 10,000 people which was the the largest meeting at that time. In this meeting, Gandhi was called Mahatma, a title given by Rabindranath Tagore. At the end of the meeting, a large number of people signed the satyagraha declaration and the passive resistance to the British was slowly gaining ground. Gandhi's fifth visit was identified with the uprising against the draconian Rowlat Act. All over India there were protests against the Act in a peaceful way.

Satyagraha Sabha

After discussions, Gandhi formed Satyagraha Sabhas all over India and the first one, he inaugurated at Madras. Salem C Vijayaraghavachari and T Prakasam were nominated as vice-presidents and Rajaji as its Secretary. The main purpose of the Satyagraha Sabha was to oversee whether the activities of the satyagrahis are in line with the satyagraha principles.

The Great Dream and Thanjavur visit

While staying in the house of Kasturi Ranga Iyengar, Gandhi had a dream on 23 March 1919, in which, he conceived a General Hartal for one day all over India, which was immediately accepted by others. To start with, Gandhi decided to travel in Tamil Nadu, to propagate the message and visited several places. Wherever he went he cited the examples of the sufferings of Narayanasamy, Nagappan and Valliammai in South Africa in their passive resistance against the racial discrimination and urged the people of all communities to join as one and stand against the mighty British rule.

On 24 March 1919 Gandhi reached Thanjavur and stayed at Besant Lodge. The lecture of Gandhi in Thanjavur was on participation of government servants in the proposed nation-wide hartal. Thanjavur showed the way for other places in undertaking the declaration in large numbers, mostly Muslims. After visiting Trichy, Madurai, Virudhunagar and Tuticorin, Gandhi again visited Thanjavur on 28th March and stayed in the house of Rao Bahadur K.S.Srinivasa Pillai overnight. Mr Pillai was a delegate to the Indian National Congress and served as the President of the Theosophical Society in 1895.Gandhi, again on 15.2.1934 visited Thanjavur and told the gathering that the Sun was not shining for a particular community alone and it is for all, drawing parallel to the entry into Big temple by Harijans. A Thanjavur plate was presented to Gandhi which he auctioned in the meeting. On the next day 26 March 1919, Gandhi visited Madurai and in the meeting, he paid eloquent tribute to ancient Tamils who built temples in every village and city which united people from all walks of life and condemned the man-made barriers. When Gandhi was invited to visit Meenakshi Temple he promptly declined stating that only when Harijans were allowed inside the temple, he would visit.

August 1920 visit

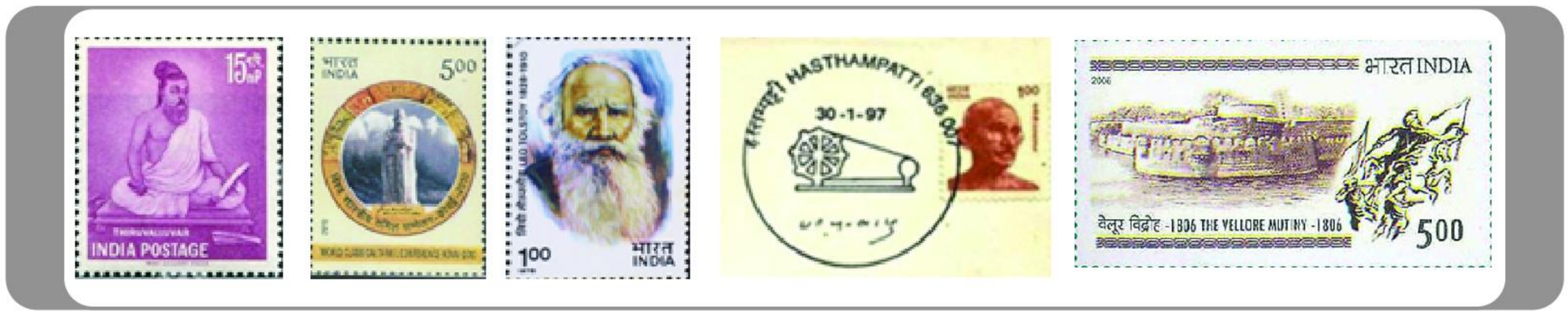
As part of encouraging people who are taking part in the movement Gandhi, visited Chennai on August 12,1920, when he was given a rousing welcome, at Madras Central station. In the evening Gandhi addressed a grand meeting in Marina Beach which was attended by a sea of people and spoke on the ideals of satyagraha and the non-cooperation movement and urged everyone to fight the British rule unitedly unmindful of the personal sufferings and made an appeal to renounce those who held surnames like Rao Bahadur and Diwan Bahadur given by the British.

On 14.8.1920, Gandhi visited Ambur and Vellore where he was given a grand welcome, and over 25,000 attended the meeting at the Vellore Fort Maidan and the speakers outlined the first freedom struggle called Vellore mutiny and praised those who sacrificed their lives in the struggle. Gandhi acknowledged the sacrifice of freedom fighters of Vellore during their struggle during the outbreak against the British on July 10, 1806, and called upon the people of Vellore to show solidarity in peacefully fighting against the mighty British.

Gandhi changes dress code at Madurai

22.9.1921, Gandhi visited Madurai and on seeing the farmers in the fields wearing loin cloth only, he took a vow to follow the same dress code in future. Though initially Gandhi thought of wearing a small cloth around his waist for a small period only, but to show as

a symbol of simplicity and to tide over the shortage of khadi (at that time), Gandhi continued the dress code indefinitely. Later he released a note stating that his dress code will also inculcate a spirit among those who still wear imported clothes despite Congress banned it.



Gandhi and Thirukural

In 1921 Gandhi visited Karaikudi, when Subramania Siva visited him along with Kalki Krishnamurthi and both stayed with Gandhi and engaged in the discussion on Tamil and Thirukkural. Gandhi learnt the concept of non-violence from a letter written to him by famous Russian novelist Leo Tolstoy who quoted couplets on non-violence from German translation of Thirukkural. The Father of the Nation had said that he came to know about Thirukkural first from Tolstoy. Gandhi had high regard for Tiruvalluvar and wherever required he quoted verses from Thirukkural. Once Gandhi said that Thirukural inspired him to take to the path of non-violence to achieve India's independence. In some of his letters to leaders, Gandhi mentions one or two lines from Thirukkural. He also knows about Avvaiyaar and her moral poems.

Gandhi's Salem visit

On 14.2.1934 Gandhi visited Salem, when undertook a Tamil Nadu tour. He stayed in the house of one Nadesa Pandaram and took rest. The building where Gandhi stayed is now housing the Hasthampatti post office. The Department of Posts has set up a small Museum in the precincts of the post office, where the articles used by Gandhi during his stay, like, reclining chair, and rare collections of photos are displayed. A metal statue of Mahatma is placed at the entrance of the Museum. Gandhi had a good opinion on the Post office and the postal staff, as seen from his writings, especially his letters to J.C.Kumarappa

Last visit of Gandhi to Tamil Nadu

Exactly after 50 years of his first visit that is in 1946, he visited Madras to participate in the Silver Jubilee celebrations of Hindi Prachar Sabha and to visit Madurai Meenakshi

Amman and Palani Murugan Temples. The H P Sabha was nicely decorated, erecting arches in three sides naming them after, Kastur Ba, (Jamnalal) Bajaj and Hindustani entries by S S Vasan amount in erecting all these arches. On 21 January 1946, Gandhi alighted from the train at Ambattur railway station, where amidst an uncontrolled crowd, K Kamaraj garlanded and welcomed him. Thereafter, he was taken in procession to some distance and then by car to HP Sabha at T Nagar.

During his visit to H P Sabha, a pose of women welcomed Gandhi and urged him to speak in Tamil, while some wanted him to talk in Telugu. Gandhi replied that he knew Tamil and can speak but he is not that much fluent in Telugu. The next day Gandhi met his good old friend, "Silver Tongue" Srinivasa Sastri, who was in his death bed. On seeing Gandhi, Sastri started a long conversation, making the Doctor intervene, reminding him of his poor health. Sastri urged Gandhi to lead a march for World Peace, and there is no fit person other than Gandhi to undertake this venture.

Gandhi collected stamps

On his experience of collecting stamps, Gandhi wrote as follows, in 1896, when he was in Rajkot:

"But I hit upon a much simpler plan. I gathered all the children in my locality and asked them to volunteer two or three hours labour of a morning, when they had to go to school. This, they willingly agreed to do. I promised to bless them and give them as a reward, used postage stamps that I had collected."

Ref:

'Gandhi's Travels in Tamil Nadu', A Ramasamy, 2023
Encyclopaedia of Indian Literature, Mohan Lal, 1992
'Tamil nattil Gandhi', T S S Rajan, 1944

தபால் தலை: ஒரு வரலாற்றுச் சித்திரம்



N Hariharan, Rtd Postmaster
First Meghdoot awardee in Tamilnadu
1984 Award
winner for 6 suggestions in DOP.

தொடக்கத்தில் தபால் தலைகளைக் கடிதங்களின் மீது ஒட்டி அனுப்பும் முறை இல்லை. தபால்களைக் கொண்டு செல்வோர் ஓரிடத்தில் இருந்து மற்றோர் இடத்துக்குச் சேர்ப்பிக்கும் தூரத்தைக் கணக்கிட்டு கட்டணத்தை வசூல் செய்யும் முறை வெகு காலமாக இருந்தது.

மௌரியர் (கி.மு.321&297) ஆட்சியில் புறாக்களின் மூலம் தபால் அனுப்பும் முறை துவங்கியது. இது அசோகர் ஆட்சிக்காலத்திலும் தொடர்ந்தது. கி.பி.1541ல் குதிரைதபால் சேவை பெங்கால், சிந்து மாகாணங்களுக்கு இடையே 2 ஆயிரம் மைல் தூரத்துக்கு நடைபெறத் துவங்கியது. டாக் டோங்கா (தபால் சாரட் வண்டி) 18ம் நூற்றாண்டு தொடக்கத்தில் தபால் போக்குவரத்துக்குப் பயன்படுத்தப்பட்டு வந்தன. ஷெர்ஷாவின் ஆட்சிக் காலத்தில் கடிதங்களை ஓட்டி அனுப்பும் முறையைப் பின்பற்றியதாக பெரிஷ்டா என்ற யாத்ரீகர் குறிப்பிட்டு உள்ளார்.

1639ம் ஆண்டு மெட்ராஸிலும் (சென்னை) பின்னர் பம்பாயிலும் (மும்பை) 1688 ம் ஆண்டு கல்கத்தாவிலும் (கோல்கத்தா) கிழக்கிந்தியக் கம்பெனி நிறுவப்பட்டது. கிழக்கிந்தியக் கம்பெனியின் கடிதப்போக்குவரத்தை அக்கம்பெனியே நிர்வகித்து செயல்பட ராபர்ட் கிளைவ் 1766-ல் அதற்கென சில நிரந்தரமான ஏற்பாடுகளைச் செய்தார். இருப்பினும் தூரத்தையும் எடையையும் கணக்கிட்டே தபால் கட்டணத்தை வசூலித்து வந்தனர்.
தாமிர ரசீது: 1744ல் இந்தியாவின் முதல் கவர்னர் ஜெனரல் வாரன் ஹேஸ்டிங்ஸ் தபால் கட்டணத்துக்கு தாமிர ரசீதுகளை அறிமுகப்படுத்தினார். 1814ம் ஆண்டு சர்தீனியன் நாட்டு தபால் துறை தபால்களின் பட்டுவாடா தூரத்தைக் கணக்கிட்டு, 15, 25, 50 சென்ட் மதிப்புள்ள தபால் ஸ்டாம்ப் பேப்பரை அறிமுகப்படுத்தியது.

உலகின் முதல் தபால் துறை கி.மு.558ல் பெர்சியா நாட்டில் தொடங்கப்பட்டது.- இந்தியாவில் ஒவ்வொரு சமஸ்தானமும் பல்வேறு முறையான தபால் போக்குவரத்தைக் கையாண்டு வந்தன. உலகம் முழுவதும் பல்வேறு தபால் சேவைகள் நடைமுறையில் இருந்தன. இத்தனை சேவைகளிலும் தபால் கட்டணம் வசூலிப்பதில் ஆங்காங்கே சில குறைபாடுகளும் முறைகேடுகளும் நடந்து வந்தன. அதற்கு முற்றுப்புள்ளி வைத்தார். இங்கிலாந்து நாட்டு ஆங்கிலப் பள்ளித்தலைமை ஆசிரியர் சர் ரவுலண்ட் ஹில் (1795-1879). அவர் 1854ம் ஆண்டு தபால் அலுவலகங்களில் செயலாளராக நியமிக்கப்பட்டார். பல்வேறு பரிந்துரைகளை அரசுக்கு அவர் அளித்ததில், தபால் தலையை அறிமுகப்படுத்தும் முறை மிக முக்கியமானது.

தபால் தந்தை:
அவரது தீவிர முயற்சியால் உலகின் முதல் தபால் தலை, 1.5.1840ம் ஆண்டு விற்பனை செய்யப்பட்டு, 6.5.1840 முதல் தபால்களில் ஒட்டி அனுப்பும் முறை துவங்கியது. சர் ரவுலண்ட் ஹில் தபால் தந்தை என்று கௌரிக்கப்பட்டார். விக்டோரியா ராணியின் உருவம் கொண்ட கறுப்புநிற ஒரு பென்னி மதிப்புடைய தபால் தலைதான் உலகின் முதல் தபால் தலை. அதை பென்னி ப்ளாக் என்று அழைத்தார்கள். அந்த ஆண்டு முடிவுக்குள் (1840), 17 கோடி கடிதங்கள் தபால் தலைகள் ஒட்டி அனுப்பப்பட்டன என்பது வரவேற்பு மிக்க செய்தியாக இருந்தது. இவ்வாறு உருவான தபால் தலை பின்னர் உலகம் முழுவதும் பரவி பல நாடுகள் தங்களுக்கென தபால் தலைகளைப் போட்டி போட்டு வெளியிடத் தொடங்கின.

ஆசியாவில் 1852 ஜூலை 1ம் தேதி பார்ட்லே பெர்ரி என்ற சிந்து மாகாண கமிஷனர், முதல் தபால் தலையை அறிமுகப்படுத்தினார். இத்தபால் தலைகள் சிந்த் டாக்ஸ் என்று அழைக்கப்பட்டன. இதுவே இந்தியாவின் முதல் தபால் தலையும் கூட.நம் நாட்டிலேயே முதல் தபால் தலைகள் அரையணா, ஓரணா, இரண்டணா மற்றும் நான்கணா மதிப்புகளில் அச்சிடப்பட்டு 1.10.1854ல் வெளியிடப்பட்டன. கல்கத்தாவில் உள்ள சர்வேயர் ஜெனரல் அலுவலகத்தில் உள்ள அச்சுப்பிரிவில் அ அவை லித்தோ கிராபிக் முறையில் அச்சிடப்பட்டன. முதல் இந்திய தபால் தலைகளை வெளியிட்டவர். இந்திய துணை சர்வேயர் ஜெனரல் கேப்டன் சர்.எச்.எல்.துல்லியர்.

1856 முதல் 1926வரை இந்திய தபால் தலைகள், லண்டனில் உள்ள தாமஸ் டி லா ரியூ என்ற நிறுவனத்தில் அச்சடிக்கப்பட்டன. இந்திய அரசுக்குச் சொந்தமான நாசிக்கில் 1926ம் ஆண்டு முதல் தபால் தலைகள் அச்சிடப்பட்டு வந்தன.

காந்திக்கு கௌரவம்:
சுதந்திர இந்தியாவில் அச்சிடப்பட்ட தபால் தலைகளில் முதலில் இடம்பெற்றவர் மகாத்மா காந்தி. தபால் தலைகளில் தேசத் தந்தை மகாத்மா காந்தி இடம்பெற்றது. அவரது மறைவுக்குப் பின்னர்தான். அவரது நினைவாக 15.8.1948ல் ஒன்றரை அணா, மூன்றரை அணா, பனிரெண்டனா மற்றும் பத்து ரூபாய் மதிப்புள்ள தபால் தலைகளை இந்திய அரசு வெளியிட்டது-. நேருவின் யோசனைப்படி காந்தியின் முதல் தபால் தலைகளில் பாபு (BAPU) என்ற பெயர் ஹிந்தியிலும் உருதிலும் சேர்க்கப்பட்டது. வேறு எந்த இந்தியத்தபால் தலைகளிலும் உருது இடம் பெறவில்லை. காந்தியைக் கௌரவித்து தபால் தலைகளை வெளியிட்ட முதல் வெளிநாடு அமெரிக்கா (26.1.1961) உலகிலேயே மிக அதிக நாடுகளால் தபால்தலைகள் வெளியிடப்பட்டு கௌரவிக்கப்பட்டவரும் மகாத்மாகாந்தியே.

காந்திக்கு அடுத்தபடியாக தபால் தலைகளில் கவிஞர்கள், சுதந்திரப் போராட்ட வீரர்கள் போன்றவர்கள் மட்டுமின்றி பல்வேறு தலைப்புகளில் கூட தபால் தலைகள் வெளிவரத் தொடங்கின. அரசியல் கலாச்சாரம், வன உயிரினம் நதிகள், அணைகள், சிகரங்கள், சினிமா விளையாட்டு சாதனைகள் கண்டுபிடிப்புகள் எனப்பல்வேறு நிகழ்ச்சிகளுக்காக தபால் தலைகள் வெளியிடப்பட்டு வருகின்றன.



சிறப்புத்தபால் தலைகள் முக்கோண வடிவமாகவும் சதுரம் செவ்வகம் நீள்சதுரம் போன்ற பல அளவுகளில் வெளியிடப்படுகின்றன.
வந்தே மாதரம் ஜன கண மன போன்ற தேசிய கீதங்கள் முழங்கி, சுதந்திர இந்தியாவுக்காக மிகப்பெரும் பங்கில் தன்னை ஈடுபடுத்திய கோல்கத்தா நகரமும் தபால் தலையால் கௌரவிக்கப்பட்டது.
திருவள்ளுவன் தமிழ்நாட்டுப் புலவர்கள் வரிசையில் முதன் முதலில் இடம்பெற்றவர் திருவள்ளுவர்தான் (15.2.1960) அதே ஆண்டு செப்டம்பர் 11ம் தேதி மகாகவி சுப்பிரமணிய பாரதியார் நினைவாகவும் தபால் தலை வெளியிடப்பட்டது.
இவ்வாறாக தபால் தலைகள் வழக்கத்தில் இல்லாத நிலை முற்றிலும் மாறி, தபால் தலைகள் புழக்கத்திற்கு பயன்படத் தொடங்கிய போது, வெறும் தபாலுக்காக மட்டுமில்லாது வெவ்வேறு சிறப்புக்காகவும் அவ்வப்போது சிறப்புத் தபால் தலைகள் வெளியிடப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. அவை சேகரிக்கவும் பயன்படுகின்றன. தபால் தலைகளில் இடம்பெறுவது இப்போது ஒரு முக்கிய நிகழ்ச்சியாகக் கருதப்படுகிறது. தபால் தலைகளில் இடம்பெறுவோர் பல அரிய தியாகங்களையும் சாதனைகளையும் படைத்துள்ளவர்களாக இருப்பது மிக முக்கியமாகக் கவனத்தில் கொள்ள வேண்டும். தனது இளம் வயதிலேயே (28) தாய்நாட்டுக்காக உயிர் நீத்த கொடிகாத்த குமரனுக்குத் தபால் தலை வெளியிட 72 ஆண்டுகளாயிற்று சிறப்புத்தபால் தலைகள் குறிப்பிட்ட அளவே அச்சடிக்கப்படுகின்றன. அதனால் அவற்றைச் சேகரிப்பதால் பிற்காலத்தில் அவை அரிய விலை மதிப்புள்ள பொருளாகிவிடுகின்றன.
தபால் தலைகளில் வெளிவராத விஷயங்களே இல்லை எனலாம். தபால் தலைகள் உலகின் மூலை முடுக்கெல்லாம் சென்றடையக்கூடியது. தபால் தலைகளை ஒரு நாட்டின் ஜன்னல் என்றும் வரலாற்றுச்சித்திரம் என்றும் அறிஞர்கள் கூறியுள்ளனர்.

(கட்டுரையாளர், தேசிய விருது பெற்ற முன்னாள் போஸ்ட்மாஸ்டர்)

Unexpected Treasures

Dr Anjali Dutta & Late Col J Dutta

Legendary postage stamps probably will never feature prominently in a Lara Croft or Indiana Jones movie, such as Tomb Raider or Raiders of the Lost Ark. It's unlikely that you will ever see a movie in which a bosomy or stubble-faced, khaki-clad adventurer scrambles up a grotesque pagan idol in an exotic land to pluck a highly coveted stamp from the idol's scowling brow.



Three schilling banco error of colour - The normal blue-green colour of 3 skilling stamp and 8 skilling yellow stamp

This doesn't mean, however, that the stamp hobby lacks its own Lost Ark, King Tut's treasure, Holy Grail, Hope Diamond or Kohinoor. Many stamps are legends of the hobby, some as rare as rare can be — the only one known. We will tell you about two such stamps — the rarest of the rare and certainly worth a king's ransom.

The first is the Swedish Tre Skilling Bancoorthree schilling error of colour (Swedish: Gul tre skilling banco, literally means "yellow three skilling banco"). It is a Swedish postage stamp of which only one example is known to exist. This stamp was canceled at Nya Kopparberget (now known as Kopparberg), about 150 kilometers from Uppsala, on 13 July 1857.

In 1855, Sweden issued its first postage stamps, in a set of five values depicting the Swedish coat of arms, with denominations ranging from three to 24 Swedish Skillings. The three-skilling stamp was normally printed in a blue green colour, with the eight-skilling stamp being printed in yellowish orange.

Stamps those days were printed in sheets from blocks made of the same design repeated multiple times in columns and rows. It is not known exactly what went wrong, but the most likely explanation is that a stereotype of the eight-skilling printing plate (which consisted of 100 stereotypes assembled into a 10 × 10 array) was damaged or broken, and it was mistakenly replaced with a three-skilling.

The number of stamps printed in the wrong color is unknown, but so far only one example has been found. Somehow, this error went entirely unnoticed at the time, and by 1873 the Swedish currency was changed. The skilling stamps were replaced by new stamps denominated in "öre".

At Christmas 1885 a 14-year-old Swedish schoolboy Georg Wilhelm Backman visited his grandmother and, due to his passion for stamp collecting, asked her if she had any old letters with stamps on them. Several of the stamps he steamed off envelopes were the 3 (Tre) skilling banco denomination for the local letter rate. These stamps were normally green in colour but one that Georg found was yellow! He later recalled that he damaged some of the perforation when removing the stamp and later ironed it out. The schoolboy, who had no idea of its rarity or value, sold the stamp in a batch to the dealer Heinrich Lichtenstein for seven kronor.

The other values 4,6 and 24 skilling stamps

Georg Wilhelm Backman

Sometime later Backman was reading the Swedish philatelic publication Svenska Dagbladet which told of an exhibition, being organised by Lichtenstein, which featured the yellow Tre Skilling Banco and described it as: 'The pearl of the collection'. Although annoyed by the fact that he clearly had been taken advantage of, Backman's mother told him to be happy with what he had got for the stamps. Later Backman confirmed that the stamp originally came from a letter sent by his brother, a travelling botanist in his spare time, and that this could explain the 'KNOPP' cancellation which indicated the letter had been posted at Nya Kopparberget on July 13, 1857.







Georg Wilhelm Backman - Count Philip Ferrari de La Renotière *King Carol II*

After it had changed hands several times, Sigmund Friedl sold it to Philipp von Ferrariin 1894, who at that time had the largest known stamp collection in the world, and he paid the breathtaking sum of 4,000 Austro-Hungarian gulden. As time passed, and no other "yellows" surfaced despite vigorous searching, it became clear that the stamp was not only rare, but quite possibly the only surviving example.

When Ferrari's collection was auctioned in the 1920s, Swedish Baron Eric Leijonhufvud bought the three-skilling yellow stamp. Later Claes A. Tamm bought it in 1926 for £1,500 to complete his collection of Swedish stamps. In 1928, the stamp was sold to a lawyer, Johan Ramberg for £2,000, and he kept it for nine years. In 1937, King Carol II of Romania purchased it from London auction house H. R. Harmer for £5,000, and in 1950 it went to Rene Berlingen for an unknown amount of money.

In 1978 it was sold through Edgar Mohrmann for £270,000; then the Swiss auction house Feldman sold it in 1984 for £314,309. The same auctioneer sold it to Sven-Olof Karlsson in 1990 for £800,633 (then a world record for a stamp off cover). However, Karlsson failed to complete the purchase and so the item was again sold by Feldman (for the third time) on November 8, 1996. The auction was solely for the stamp and a beautiful hard-backed catalogue told the full story of its provenance and history. In this event it sold for a world record £1,400,000 to a Scandinavian group

On 22 May 2010, the yellow stamp was auctioned once again by David Feldman in Geneva, Switzerland. It sold "for at least the $2.3 million price it set a record for in 1996". The buyer reportedly was an "international consortium" called The Box AB, which included Hans Lernestal and Tom Josephsonand. The exact price and the identity of the buyer were not disclosed, however, and all bidders reportedly were sworn to secrecy. The buyer has subsequently been identified as Armand Rousso, described as a colorful philatelic player known for a number of high-profile activities. In May 2013 the stamp was acquired in a private sale .

by Count Gustaf Douglas, a Swedish nobleman and politician. Each successive sale was a world record price.

The present owner of the stamp



Count Gustaf Archibald Siegwart Douglas, present owner of the stamp

In the 1970s, the Swedish Postal Museum caused controversy by declaring the stamp to be a forgery, but after examinations by two different commissions, it was agreed that this was a genuine stamp.
Before 2012, Baron Jean-Claude Pierre Ferdinand Gunther Andre and his wife Jane Andre brought a lawsuit in the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, London, against Clydesdale Bank PLC, claiming that he had stored a locked trunk at the bank in which there allegedly were six covers bearing a total of nine Treskilling Yellow stamps, along with other less valuable items. Andre claimed that he had left the trunk undisturbed from 1986 to 2004, but when he sought to retrieve it the lock had been removed and the covers and stamps taken.

Philatelic dealer David Feldman testified that the covers would have been worth some 3.7 million pounds sterling. After a lengthy trial, the court pronounced judgment in 2013, in which it rejected Andre's claim, finding him and his wife unreliable witnesses and their claim suffering from "sheer inherent implausibility".

The second is the British Guiana one-cent magenta, amongst the most valuable stamps in the world. And it is unique, since again only one copy is known to exist. In 1856, the Postmaster of the British colony of Guyana, E T E Dalton, got frustrated when he heard that a cargo which included the British colonial stamps, had failed to arrive in Georgetown. He believed that he could not leave the people of the colony without this much needed and still relatively new postal service facility. He approached local Georgetown printers, Baum and Dallas to produce an emergency ‘provisional’ supply of stamps. The print was in black ink on various colours of paper depending on the denomination. These prints, which are quite rare, are also known as “cotton-reels”, because of the printing press used.

T

he three types of stamps printed were 4 cents on blue paper, 4 cents on magenta paper and 1 cent on magenta paper, the last for posting local newspapers. These provisional issues were in use for a very brief time and most were destroyed over time. In 1873 a schoolboy, Louis Vernon Vaughan from Georgetown, British Guiana, found a rather dull looking stamp. It was an octagonal British Guiana, showing a crude outline of a three

masted barque, printed on magenta paper. Around the ship were the colony's motto "Damus Petimus Que Vicissim" (We Give and We Seek in Turn), the words "British Guiana" and "One Cent". e destroyed over time. It had been authenticated with the initials of the postal clerk, E D Wright

Vernon took the stamp to a local collector Neil Mckinnon and sold it for six shillings. Mckinnon realized that the stamp was one of its kind! The stamp that Vernon parted with for a pittance rose in value over the years to thousands of dollars with a king desperately wanting its possession. Mckinnon returned to Glasgow in 1882 and sold his collection, including the British Guiana 1 Cent to Thomas Ridpath for 110 pounds. Ridpath sold the 1-cent magenta, soon thereafter to Europe's famous philatelist Baron von Ferrari for 750 dollars.





The British Guiana One-Cent Magenta & The details of the stamp can be better seen in this image of the 4 cent stamp of the same issue

The Baron left his collections to the Berlin Postal Museum and after World War I it was expropriated by the French Government and sold for reparations in 1922. At the auction there were four serious bidders for the stamp, namely King George V, a keen collector specializing in British Empire stamps, Arthur Hind a wealthy collector from New York, Monsieur Burros a tobacco manufacturer from Mulhouse, France and the British collector EL Pemberton.

The bidding opened at $ 5000 and moved briskly in jumps of $1000 to $10000. At this point Permberton dropped out. At the $ 20000 mark surprisingly King George V's agent dropped out. At $ 30000 Burros hesitated but accepted. At $ 35000 both men hesitated until the American finally nodded. The final price was $ 37000 including taxes.

Arthur Hind (1856–1933)

Soon collectors and dealers in Europe and America headed for British Guiana to make a systematic search to unearth more such stamps. A Georgetown resident wrote to his family in Lancashire "I doubt if there has been anything quite as frenzied since the Gold Rush in California". In spite of the hectic search no other similar stamp was found. In the 1920s a rumour developed that a second copy of the stamp had been discovered by Arthur Hind, who quietly purchased the supposed second copy and subsequently destroyed it and proclaimed: 'There's only one magenta One Cent Guiana'. The rumour has not been substantiated. Arthur Hind insured the stamp for $50,000.

When Hind died in 1933 he bequeathed his collection to his relatives. Mrs. Ann Hind maintained that her husband had meant her to inherit it. The stamp became the object of bitter litigation, which ended in a Supreme Court decision in favour of the widow. On August 7, 1940, Mrs. Hind sold the stamp, which was purchased by a collector for $45,000, who maintained strict anonymity. It was next auctioned in 1970, and the identity of the owner was revealed to be Frederic Small, an Australian living in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Frederic T. Small



Arthur Hind



Frederic T. Small



John Du Pont

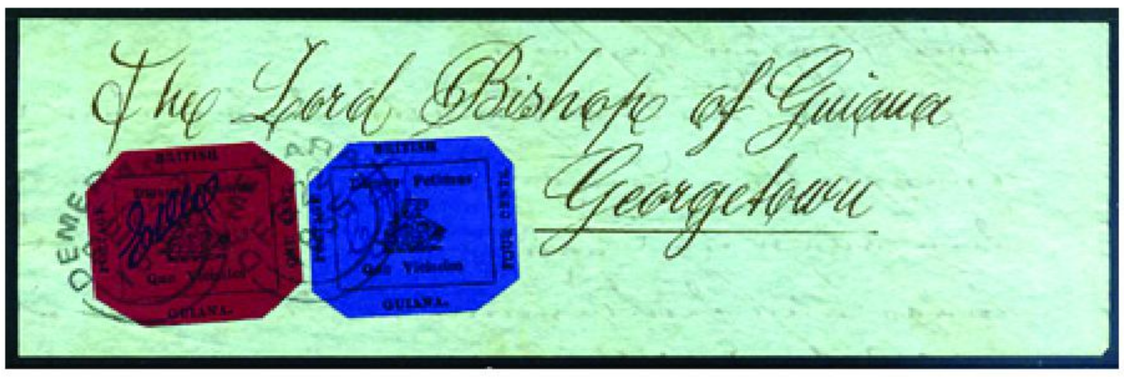
A syndicate of investors from Pennsylvania, headed by Irwin Weinberg, bought the stamp for $280,000 and spent much of the decade, presenting it in a world tour. In 1980, the US heir to John Du Pont fortune bought the stamp for $935,000! John Du Pont got a 30-year jail term for the murder of Olympic gold medal winning wrestler Dave Schultz in 1996. The 1-cent British Guiana magenta was put in a bank vault in Philadelphia. Du Pont died while still incarcerated on 9 December 2010.

It was sold from the DuPont estate on 17 June 2014 at a Sotheby's New York auction, for $9,480,000, including buyer's premium. It took only two minutes to sell to an anonymous bidder and was the fourth time the stamp had broken the world record for a single-stamp bid. This time the sale broke the 1996 record of $2,300,000 for the Treskilling Yellow, an 1855 Swedish stamp. The purchaser was shoe designer and businessman Stuart Weitzman who collected stamps as a child.



British Guiana with an infrared filter, the stamp's red surface is removed to better view the marking

This rare stamp came to India once during Indipex-80 World Philatelic Exhibition. At midnight of January 24, 1980, the renowned Indian philatelists DN Jatia and SP Chatterjea received Irwin Weinberg who landed in Delhi from an Air India flight carrying the rarest stamp of the world for display at the exhibition. The stamp was displayed under tight security behind bullet proof glass. It evoked great excitement among Indian philatelists and the lay public. Since it was such a rare and expensive stamp many forgeries are known. Here is one example. There are many such stories from stampdom but they must wait for another day



British Guiana stamps forgeries of the 1856 1c black/magenta (world's rarest stamp) and 1856 4c black/blue tied to piece by forged DEMERARA FE 22 1856

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Nudity in Philately: It's an Art, not Vulgarity

Shakil Ahmed

Philately, the art and practice of stamp collecting, is more than just a simple hobby. It is a fascinating intersection of history, culture, and artistic expression. Stamps, often referred to as "miniature art galleries," serve as canvases for depicting a wide range of subjects, from historical milestones to landscapes, mythology, and portraits. Among these themes, the depiction of nudity has emerged as one of the most controversial and thought-provoking. While some regard nudity on stamps as inappropriate or vulgar, others embrace it as a celebration of the human form, rooted in artistic and cultural traditions.

The depiction of nudity on stamps dates back to the early 20th century when stamps began to transcend their role as functional objects and became tools for promoting art and culture. Countries like Spain and Italy led the way, featuring stamps inspired by famous works of art that celebrated the human body. One notable example is Spain's series of stamps showcasing Francisco Goya's La Maja Desnuda. This painting, created between 1795 and 1800, was revolutionary for its time. It portrayed a reclining nude woman with a confident, direct gaze—an unapologetic defiance of traditional modesty in depictions of female nudes. Similarly, Italy issued stamps honoring Amedeo Modigliani's iconic nude studies, known for their elongated forms and emotional depth. Classical

mythology has also been a recurring source of inspiration, with stamps featuring figures such as Venus, Apollo, and Diana. These designs, rooted in ancient Greek and Roman art, reflect a long-standing tradition of celebrating the human form as a symbol of divine beauty and perfection.



Among the most iconic and controversial examples of nudity in philately is Francisco Goya's La Maja Desnuda. Commissioned by Spanish Prime Minister Manuel de Godoy, the painting was groundbreaking for its naturalistic portrayal of the female body. Unlike idealized depictions of women in earlier art, Goya's subject exuded confidence and realism, challenging societal norms. The painting was not without its critics. During the

Spanish Inquisition, Goya was summoned and questioned about its provocative nature. He defended it as a tribute to classical art traditions, emphasizing its artistic value over any perceived indecency. When La Maja Desnuda appeared on Spanish stamps in the mid-20th century, it reignited debates about the appropriateness of nudity in public art. While some celebrated the stamps as masterpieces, others criticized their circulation in everyday contexts, particularly given the accessibility of stamps to children and families.



The controversy surrounding nudity on stamps reflects broader societal debates about art, morality, and cultural values. Proponents of nude imagery on stamps argue that it is a legitimate form of artistic expression. They point to humanity's long history of celebrating the human body in art, from ancient Greek sculptures to Renaissance masterpieces. For them, stamps featuring nudity are not provocative but educational, introducing collectors to significant works of art and fostering a deeper appreciation for artistic traditions. On the other hand, critics view nudity on stamps as inappropriate for a medium used in everyday correspondence. They argue that stamps are visible to people of all ages and should avoid controversial or potentially offensive imagery. Concerns about cultural and religious sensitivities also come into play, as nudity is taboo in many societies. Critics further contend that depicting nudity on stamps risks trivializing the human body, reducing it to an object of curiosity rather than a subject of artistic reverence.



Despite the controversy, stamps featuring nudity remain highly valued by collectors and art enthusiasts alike. These stamps often showcase the works of renowned painters and sculptors, offering a glimpse into their creative genius on a miniature scale. For instance, Italian stamps featuring Modigliani's nudes are celebrated for capturing the artist's emotional depth and distinctive style. Similarly, stamps inspired by classical mythology honor the enduring legacy of ancient civilizations, linking contemporary philately to a rich artistic heritage.



different societies engage with art and morality

The acceptance of nudity in philately varies widely across cultures. In Europe, where nude art has a long and celebrated history, stamps featuring nudity are often viewed as natural extensions of cultural heritage. Countries like France, Spain, and Italy have consistently issued such stamps without significant public backlash. In contrast, more conservative societies tend to avoid nudity on stamps altogether. For these cultures, the inclusion of nude imagery might provoke outrage or be seen as a violation of societal norms. This divergence highlights the role of philately as a reflection of cultural values, showcasing the ways

As societal attitudes toward nudity continue to evolve, so too does the discussion about its role in philately. Advances in technology and globalization have made art more accessible, potentially broadening public perceptions of what is acceptable or meaningful in stamp design. While some may always view nudity on stamps as provocative or offensive, others will continue to appreciate it as an expression of artistic freedom and historical significance. These stamps challenge conventional norms and provoke thought, reminding us of the enduring



Nudity in philately is no more controversial than the sculptor's art work on stone or artist's work on canvas —it is a testament to the medium's unique ability to bridge art, history, and culture. Whether celebrated for their artistic merit or criticized for their perceived indecency, stamps featuring nudity remain an integral part of philatelic history. Ultimately, the decision to collect such stamps is a personal one, reflecting individual values and perspectives. Yet their continued presence in philately underscores the role of stamps as more than just postage—they are miniature works of art that challenge societal boundaries and celebrate humanity's creative spirit.



HI-STORY OF A MINIATURE SHEET

Rolands Nelson.J, Chennai-600041

" Every Stamp has a story behind" is a familiar anecdote used to be quoted in the philatelic circles from the days of the first adhesive postage stamp created by Sir Rowland Hill in 1840 AD. If a small square or rectangular paper itseld has got an interesting story to tell, why not a miniature sheet of bigger dimension having two stamps with decorated borders all around?

With every miniature sheet having a tall story behind from its designer let us enjoy not only the story but also a small bit of history behind the miniature sheet innovatively designed by Mr.Sakthi Samanta and issued by India Post on 14th December 2008 to commemorate the centenary of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
Let us travel back a century and three decades from now



On a sunny day in 1893, by name SS.Peninsular a steamship built in 1888 belonging to the British Peninsular and Oriental Conpany was smoothly cruising along the blue waters of the Japanese part of the Pacific Ocean. Actually it was sailing from Yokahama (Japan) to Vancoover (U.S.A.). On the deck on a carved wooden bench, an Indian young sanyasi meditating in the early morning breeze was recognized by a long bearded and turbaned Indian who was walking on the deck enjoying the flights of the sea-birds. Through they were known about each other, but not known to each other and meeting for the first time. Plunged into conversation about each other's life which then moved about the plight of the Indian youth. The sanyasi who was deeply interested on the development and well being of young Indians requested the wealthy Indian who was hell-bent upon improving the economy of India, to start an institution to educate and train the brainy young Indian students to attain greater heights in basic sciences and afterwards in their career.

At this stage of the write-up you will be delighted to know who are these two Indians. They are,

Narendra Dutta turned Vivekananda and Jamshedji Nusservanji Tata. Immediately without any hesitation Tata promised Vivekananda that he will put his heart and soul to the request and complete the project in the earliest. Five years later Tata wrote to Vivekananda, "I trust you remember me as a fellow traveler on your voyage from Japan to Chicago. I very much recall at this moment your viewson the growth of the ascetic sprit in India. I recall these ideas in connection with my scheme of Research Institute of Science for India, of which you have doubtless heard or

read". Further, Tata requested Swami Vivekananda to suggest a name for the institute and Swami immediately assigned the name as Indian Institute of Science which is locally known as Tata Institute.



In the intervening years, Tata had acquired land of about 440 acres which included a fabulous land donation by the Maharaja of Mysore. Monetary



contributions by Tata (Major), Maharaja of Mysore and Nizam of Hyderabad Osman Afi Khan brought the required infrastructure into reality and the institute was established in Bangalore in 1909, even though the project met with a set back in the form of the unfortunate demise of J.N. Tata in 1904.



To commemorate the centenary of this institute, this well designed miniature sheet, was issued by India Post on 14th December 2008. It has got two stamps with values of Rs.20/- and Rs.5/-. The 2000 value stamp is an unique one having nine personalities connected with the institute in one way or another.

All the nine famous people are recognizable in the stamp out of whom four are having different headgears – headgear (theme) collectors to note. Indeed a stamp design with nine people recognizable with naked eyes is a real credit to India Post and the multicolour printing to India Security Press. Naming the nine personalities correctly can be one of the toughest question to be answered in philately quiz.

Frontrow-lefttoright
1. Jnan Chandra Ghosh –
   Dr.HomiJ Babha. 5thdirectorofIISc.
2. BurjorjiJ.Padshah–
2. Dr.SatishDhawan.
3. Sir.C.V.Raman.
4. JamsetjiN.Tata.
5. KrishnarajaWodeyarIV
-MaharajaofMysore
SwamiVivekananda



BackRow
1.

Educationistandclose
associateofTata.
3.LordCurzon–
ViceroyofIndia.

For the sake of information and conclusion, it is recorded that starting from the first miniature sheet issued on 14th November 1973 during the International philatelic exhibition, INDIPEX – 73 at New Delhi till the end of the year 2021, India Post has issued 212 miniature sheets making the life of collectors thrilling and enjoyable

JERUSALAM – A Philatelic Journey

C.G.Bhaskar, Philatelist, Treasurer, South India Philatelists Association (SIPA), Chennai



The Golden City, The Eternal City, The City of David – each name rings more poetic than the previous one. At one time considered the centre of the world, Jerusalem is indeed timeless.

Jerusalem plays a central role in the spiritual and emotional perspective of the three major mono-theistic religions.

For Jews throughout the world it is the focus of age-old yearnings, a living proof of ancient grandeur & independence and a center of national renaissance; where Abraham went to sacrifice Isaac, the site of David's glory & Solomon's Temple, the eternal capital of the Jewish people.

for Christians it is the scene of Jesus' agony and triumph; where Jesus spent his last days on earth, the site of the Last Supper, the Crucifixion and Resurrection.

for Muslims it is Al Quds, the place where Mohammed is said to have ascended to Heaven on his steed, their third holiest city after Mecca and Medina.

For all three faiths, it is a holy city, a center of pilgrimage, and an object of devotion.

The initial mention to Jerusalem is as Salem when King Melchidezek greeted with bread and wine, Abraham journeying with Sarah from Ur of the Chaldees in the Land of Two Rivers.
[Bulgaria 2512, Austria 1880 Israel 657]

Abraham took his son Isaac to Mount Moriah [Temple Mount, Jerusalem] obeying God's commands to sacrifice him.
[Israel 728 and 657]

In 1000 BC, King David seized Jerusalem and made it his capital.
Israel SG430
His son Solomon gained the throne who built the first temple
Israel 193, France 2653 and Ethiopia 578

Nebuchadnezzar army captured Jerusalem in 586 BC who destroyed the city and took the Holy Ark, Temple treasures and surviving people to Babylon. In 539 BC Babylon was taken over by

King Cyrus of Persia who allowed the exiles to return to Jerusalem alongwith Temple treasures except The Holy Ark
Ethiopia SG 812-814

The City's next invasion was by the Greeks in 322 BC followed by the Syrians in 198 BC. In 63 BC, Rome occupied Jerusalem and annexed it as a Roman province but in 40 BC it regained independence. Herod was appointed King of Judea by Ceaser and Augustus and recaptured Jerusalem in 37 BC. During his reign, the Temple Mount was rebuilt with enormous scale decorated with elaborate carvings; it is known as the Second Temple

Jesus was born in Bethlehem and his circumcision, naming, presentation to the Lord in the Temple at Jerusalem and showing to Elders as per Jewish traditions.
Spain SG 1973, 2025, 1527, 1528

Easter has been illustrated in many stamps by renowned painters as shown in Bophuthatswana and Turks & Caicos Islands

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John made records of Jesus' life were portrayed in Switzerland stamps SG 655-658



Hadrian was Roman Emperor from 117 to 138, crushed the second rebellion by Simon Bar Kochba and rebuilt Jerusalem as a new Roman city called Aelia Capitolina, with a temple to Jupiter on Temple Mount, banned Jews from living in the city and renamed Judea as Palaestina
Golden Gate, Arches and external front are of Roman origin which refers it to this period.
Israel SG 93, 528

The seven gates of the city are often a source of fascination in themselves. Clockwise from the Western Wall, they are : the Dung Gate, the Zion Gate, the Jaffa Gate, the New Gate, the Damascus Gate – grandest of all the entrances opening to East Jerusalem, the Herod's Gate and St. Stephen's [or Lion's] Gate at the Via Dolorosa. The Golden Gate

facing the Mount of Olives has been sealed since 1530 and said to be that through which the Messiah will one day enter Jerusalem.



Constantine became the Emperor of Rome in 324 AD and made Christianity as the official religion of the Empire. His mother Queen

Helena visited Jerusalem with a view to find out location of various events associated with Jesus' last days. She ordered Churches to be built thereon, notably the Church of Holy Sepulchre. …..

In 395 AD, the Roman Empire split and Jerusalem was administered by Byzantium, it became the largest Christian city. Jews were allowed once a year to pray at the foot of the wall around Temple Mount, popularly known as Western Wall or Wailing Wall, revered by Jews throughout the world. Israel MS



Western Wall, in the Old City of Jerusalem, a place of prayer and pilgrimage sacred to the Jewish people. It is the only remains of the retaining wall surrounding the western side of the Temple Mount, the site of the First and Second Temples of Jerusalem, held to be uniquely holy by the ancient Jews. Texts explaining the survival of the wall vary; one suggests that God saved this fragment for the Jewish people, while another holds that Titus left it as a painful reminder of the Roman defeat of Judea. Nevertheless, it has inspired the reverence of Jews for nearly 2000 years. Because the Jews also gather here to bemoan the loss of the Temple, the place earned the sobriquet "Wailing Wall"

In 614 AD an army of Persian Empire occupied Jerusalem, but the Byzantines took over the city in 629 AD. They were now attacked by Muslims, the followers of the new religion Islam and in 638 AD Jerusalem fell to them. Christians and Jews were allowed to reside in the city.

Temple Mount was cleared of refuse and a wooden mosque built which was later replaced by the Dome of the Rock or Mosque of Omar in 619 AD.

In 1059 AD Crusades were active to free Jerusalem and the Holy Land of infidels; in 1099 AD. Crusaders led by Godfrey de Bouillon captured Jerusalem and established the Kingdom of Jerusalem. The Dome of Rock was consecrated as a Christian Church and the Al Aqsa Mosque became the headquarters of Knights Templar. Only Christians were allowed to live inside the city; Jews were allowed to enter city during the middle of the 12th century.

In 1187 Saladin defeated the Crusader army and took possession of Jerusalem. He occupied the Temple Mount after purifying the mosques with rose water.
Jordan 1987

Turkish Mamelukes took control of Jerusalem from 1250 till 1516. In 1492, the expelled Jews from Spain were allowed to settle in the city.

Ottoman Sultan Selim I captured the city in 1516 and it became part of the Ottoman Empire for the next 400 years. His successor Suleiman the Great built the new Damascus Gate. Jewish traditions narrate that on the Day of Judgement, the Messiah will enter Jerusalem through the Golden Gate, so it was completely sealed till date. Israel SG 478

Jerusalem enters a dark age of misfortune, penury, extortion and decline. Pasha of Egypt rebelled against the rulers and controlled Jerusalem and Palestine, thus opening the city to western visitors.

Britain opened a Consulate in 1838 followed by France and Prussia and then by Greece, Austria, and Spain. They operated postal services with their own stamps surcharged with Turkish currency values. A Travelling Post Office operated as soon as first railway line was built in 1892 between Jerusalem and Jaffa. Later Germany, Russia and Italy operated the Consular Post.
In 1914, all the foreign operated post offices were closed down due to the First World War.



British forces captured Jerusalem in 1917 and General Allenby marched to the city through the Jaffa Gate. Israel SG 1195

Britain started printing the only stamps in Palestine – Palestine overprint to EEF [Egyptian Expeditionary Forces] in three languages.

League of Nations gave Britain in 1922 the mandate to govern Palestine which saw economic growth and development for Jerusalem. It once again became a vibrant multi-ethnic city attracting tourists and pilgrims. Hebrew University was opened and Museum was set up.

It was also a period of communal tension when the design of a stamp would cause protests – a date stamp with Maltese Cross cancelled the Dome of Rock mosque, Arabs were infuriated that mosque was being desecrated with the Christian symbol. Palestine

Due to the displacement of Jews in Europe from 1933 – which peaked thro the Second World War during 1939-1944, Jews started to arrive in Jerusalem in large numbers. At the end of the Second World War, after much deliberations, the United Nations voted in favour of dividing Palestine into two separate Jewish and Arab countries with Jerusalem kept under International Trusteeship.

After the British mandate ended, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and expeditionary forces from Iraq entered Palestine. The invading forces took control of the Arab areas and attacked Israeli forces and several Jewish settlements. Jerusalem was divided; Jordan occupied the Old City and controlled many Holy Places and banned Jews from praying at the Wailing Western Wall.

Jordan started overprinting Palestine in their stamps, but after their King Abdullah was assassinated at the Al Aqsa Mosque in 1951, the occupied territory was absorbed into the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Jordan SG P34 SG 451 356

Alongside, Jerusalem was declared as the capital of Israel and government machinery started moving in. Israeli Parliament –Knesset was built, a new Museum, Hadassah Hospital were also constructed and rebuilt the ancient Synagogues and other religious places in the Old City which was destroyed or vandalised.

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During the Six Days War in 1967, Israel army stormed thro the Lion's Gate and captured the Old City; Jews could once again pray at the Wailing Western Wall.

In 1969, an Australian set fire to the Al Aqsa Mosque causing severe damage. Jordan undertook its restoration by issuing Tax stamps to raise funds. SG 1479 Syria SG 1115

In 1979, a Peace Treaty was signed between Egypt & Israel followed with Palestine Liberation Organisation and with Jordan in 1994; but regrettably fundamentalists, extremists and terrorists are still active.



Mount of Olives separates the Temple Mount, the most holy place in Judaism, from the Judean Desert. We know it to be the place from which Jesus the Messiah ascended into heaven



Yad Vashem Holocaust History Museum, in Jerusalem remembers the six million victims of the Holocaust, personal diaries, artifacts, survivor testimonies and personal stories It also venerates the heroism and fortitude of the Jewish partisans and the fighters in the ghetto revolts, as well as the actions of the "Righteous Among the Nations" [non- Jews who saved the lives of Jews]



Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat in Lithuania, issued transit visas for Japan to hundreds of Jewish refugees from occupied Poland and even to those without any travel papers for onward journey to Curacao, a Dutch island in the Carribean where no visa was required. It is estimated that about 6000 visas were issued and 40,000 descendants of his visa recipients are alive today



Sir Nicholas Winton has been hailed as a hero of the Holocaust. He oversaw the Czech Kindertransport, which brought 669 Jewish children from German-occupied Czechoslovakia to safety in the UK. He worked tirelessly to ensure money was raised and homes were found for the young refugees. Yet, amazingly, his self-effacing manner meant that it was 50 years before the full story of his heroic efforts became public knowledge.

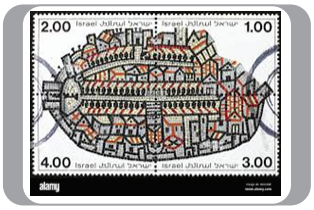
Even after 57 years after the unification of Jerusalem, it seems David's prayer for Peace in the Holy City is needed as much today as it was about 3000 years ago, when he composed Psalm 122: Verse 6 & 7

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee.

Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity in thy palaces".

Sources:
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O Jerusalem – Larry Collins & Dominique Lapierre
Stanley Gibbons Stamp Magazines
Lonely Planet Magazine
Insight Guiude
Internet







The wide stone steps at the end of the Tiferet Israel lead down to the most important site – not only within the quarter but in all of the Jewish civilization. This of course is the Kotel Ha-Ma'aravi or the Western Wall. Contrary to popular belief, it was not part of the Temple itself, but mererly the retaining wall for the western side of the Temple Mount. Nevertheless, because it was the only remnant of the Temple complex to survive the Roman onslaught of the city, it has inspired the reverence of Jews for more than 1900 years. Because the Jews also gather here to bemoan the loss of the Temple, the place earned the sobriquet "Wailing Wall"

Knesset Building in Jerusalem .. 1966
Gates of Jerusalem
Jerusalem – City of Gold
The Citadel
Israel Museum
Church of the Holy Sepulchre
Temple Mount
Mount of Olives
Mount Zion
Mahane Yehuda Market
Russian quarters – Sergei's Compound, Holy Trinity Church

INDIAN POSTAGE STAMPS AND THE UNESCO NILGIRI BIOSPHERE RESERVE

Abhijit De, Life Member - SIPA, and Philatelist, Chennai

UNESCO Biosphere Reserves, have been created to ensure that the natural heritage of the concerned nation can be conserved and remain a part of a nation on the long run, whether structures, monuments or natural riches, so these legacies should not get lost to the mother nation and its people. This UNESCO initiative aims to identify and designate Biosphere Reserves to promote solutions to balancing biodiversity, conservation and sustainable use of a nation's natural wealth.

Over the decades, conservation efforts have been initiated, starting with initiatives like Project Tiger and Project Elephant, followed by creation of sustainable initiatives like National Forests, National wildlife Parks and then these Biosphere Reserves. Presently there are 18 notified Biosphere Reserves in India, out of which 12 are UNESCO Biosphere Reserves.



Nilgiris - UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in India

The first UNESCO Biosphere Reserve created and notified in India was the NILGIRI BIOSPHERE RESERVE, which is spread over the States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka, where it covers the hill ranges of Nilgiris and its surrounding environments. It was established in 1986.
The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve is the largest protected forest area in India. This article is about the flora and fauna in this Reserve, with illustrations through postal stamps and other materials.

The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve also help conserve the traditional activities of the native/ tribal / indigenous people who have been sustained by the products provided by these forests and grasslands for centuries, like the Toda, Badaga, Kota, Irula, Kurumba, etc. so that their traditional economic and conservation activities can continue without interruption or loss.

Most Biosphere Reserves have a core zone and a buffer zone. They also may have some National Parks included within it. The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve has a cumulative core zone of 1240 sq. Kms, and a buffer zone of 4280 sq. Kms. The activities like forest treks, recreation and tourism, as well as plantations for tea or coffee, etc. are found only in the buffer zones, whereas the core zones are created to conserve and protect biodiversity.

As part of the UNESCO Western Ghats (Natural)World Heritage Site (see the Maxi card, which shows a typical terrain of this region, and some of the threatened and endemic wildlife like Nilgiri Flycatcher and Nilgiri Tahr), with a variety and wealth of such wildlife, the Nilgiri area perhaps enjoys the highest bio-diversity among such Reserves in India. This area also enjoys a very important status, due to the international importance given to all UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

The fauna within the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve includes 100 species of mammals, 370 species of birds, 80 species of reptiles, about 40 species of fish, 31 amphibians, etc. with newer species being found nearly every year.

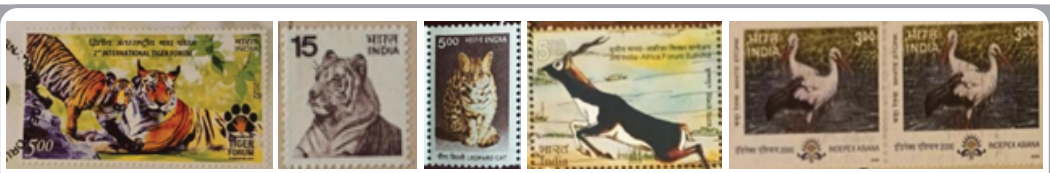
Indian Elephants form a major protected mammal within this Reserve, with an estimated 5750 individuals in the year 2007. This makes it the largest Asian Elephant Population in India, with herds moving in a 562-800 Sq. Km range, which includes perennial water source areas. The famous, endemic mammals in Tamil Na Nadu State with in this Biosphere Reserves are the Nilgiri Tahr and Lion-tailed Macaque.



The Wildlife Sanctuaries within the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserves, each have their own unique wildlife and vegetation are as follows.

I.Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary (The stamp issued for this Sanctuary shows leopard, sloth bear, Sambar deer, and flora and butterfly found there in) . It is located on the N.W. corner of the Nilgiri Plateau, at elevations between 800 to 1250 meters, with most of the vegetation being dry, deciduous scrub. Indian Elephants, Indian Sambar, Indian Gaur (also called Indian Bison), Sloth Bear, Indian Giant Squirrel, Nilgiri Langur and bonnet macaque are mainly found in the National Park, which is spread over an area of 321 Sq. Kms. Surveys in between 2008-09 reveal that there are about 29 Indian

Leopards and 19 Bengal Tigers resident here, and by 2018, the Tiger population had grown to 103 resident individuals. Other cats include the Jungle cat, Rusty-spotted cat and Leopard cat.



A growing population of The Royal Bengal Tiger, shown on the 2 stamps here, as well as the Leopard Cat, Black Buck and white stork can be found within Mudumalai.

There are about 213 resident species of birds, including Malabar Grey Hornbill, Indian Peafowl, Crested Serpent Eagle, Crested Goshawk, Indian Roller, White Naped and White Bellied Woodpecker, and a few other species of Woodpeckers, Indian Pond Heron, Nilgiri Wood Pigeon, Painted Bush Quail, a few species of Wagtails, and Eurasian Golden Oriole. addition some black buck, wild boar, Indian Pangolin and Indian Crested Porcupine are spotted here.

Some migratory birds spotted at this Park include Booted and the Rufous-bellied Eagles. Common Buzzard, Western Marsh Harrier, Knob-billed duck, Northern Pintail, Rosy Starling, and White Heron. This Park is drained by the Moyar River and its tributaries. Teak and Axel wood are the dominant tree species found in this Sanctuary.

II. Mukurthi National Park is famous for housing and preserving the rare Nilgiri Tahr, which is the State Animal of Tamil Nadu. Located in the Western Corner of the Nilgiri Plateau with a size of about 78.6 sq



Elephants and Nilgiri Take are seen on a typical grassland on the slopes within Mukurthi, on the cover of the India Post Information Brochure issued for the UNESCO World Heritage site in India -series 2; and on the stamp in the center is the threatened Black and Orange Flycatcher found within this National Park, and on the right is a Royal Bengal Tiger, also found here.

Kms., and at an average elevation of about 2400 metres, the National Park area consists mainly of shola forests and montane grasslands and shrub-lands, with high rainfall, near freezing temperatures and high winds. It was created to preserve the endangered Nilgiri Tahr. Some Elephants (see Information Brochure Cover showing Nilgiri Tahr and Elephants)and Royal Bengal Tiger are found here. It is a fully protected area, with no permits allowed for casual tourists, and therefore only specialized study groups are allowed.

Some other animals found here include Nilgiri Marten, Nilgiri Langur,Sambar deer, barking deer, mouse deer, otter, and among birds can be found Nilgiri Laughing Thrush , Malabar Whistling thrush , Nilgiri Wood Pigeon, Black and Orange Flycatcher, Black Bulbul, and Nilgiri Pipit, many of which are endemic only to this region. This park has a harsh environment with annual rainfall varying from 79-249 inches, freezing night temperatures and winter wind speeds up to 120 kmph. Therefore, butterflies which can be found in the Himalayas, like Blue Admiral, Indian Red Admiral and Indian Cabbage White can be spotted here.



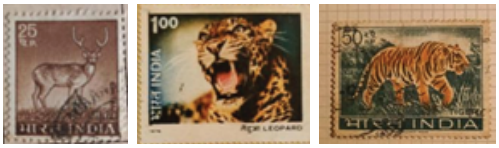
A stamps was issued for Bandipur National Park, which was initially a Project Tiger site, and in the center is a stamp that had been issued for Project Tiger.Predator birds like Osprey, shown on the stamp on the right , are seen at Bandipur



A stamps was issued for Bandipur National Park, which was initially a Project Tiger site, and in the center is a stamp that had been issued for Project Tiger.Predator birds like Osprey, shown on the stamp on the right , are seen at Bandipur

III. Bandipur National Park (see stamp issued for this park which shows animals like Gaur and Elephants apart from flora and possibly a Hornbill bird in flight.) -It is located at heights of around 800 meters and is in the geographical area in Karnataka where the Western and Eastern Ghats converge. Located within a geographical area of 868.63 Sq.

Nagarhole protect animals like Chital deer, Leopard and Royal Bengal Tigers within it, and these animals have been shown on such stamps issued by India Post .



Nagarhole protect animals like Chital deer, Leopard and Royal Bengal Tigers within it, and these animals have been shown on such stamps issued by India Post .Kms

It has vegetation ranging from moist deciduous forests to scrub areas. It started as a part of Project Tiger in 1973, before becoming a part of this Biosphere Reserve in 1986. Animals like the Indian Elephant, Indian Gaur, Sambar, Barking Deer, Sloth Bear, Jackal, Wild Boar, Indian Giant Squirrel, Chow Singha (four horned antelope), etc. are found in this area.

IV.Nagarhole National Park, covers about 572 sq.kms. and it is located in the S.E. part of Kodagu dist., Karnataka.The animals found here are mammals like Elephant, Chital Deer, Sambar Deer, Munjtac (Southern Red Barking Deer) , Tiger, Leopard and wild dogs(D-hole).



These items show the rich and varied flora and fauna found within the Silent Valley National Park

The Silent Valley National Park (The cover of the Information Brochure shared here, shows the dense forested area this National Park was created to conserve. The stamp issued for this is put over the one printed on the Brochure Cover, which normally is typically slightly bigger than the stamp issued, as this example shows.) The Miniature Sheet given here adds to the importance of the Silent Valley area by fully illustrating the untouched beauty of the forest and the river shown here.

Although it has a relatively small area for a National Park, with a core area of only 89.52 sq. Km, and a zone of 148 Sq. Kms.it is very rich in natural resources. Many rivers, like the Bhavani River, and Kuntipuzha river originate in this area. It is one of the last undisturbed tracts in Western Ghats and was saved by a people's movement in the 1970s, thus retaining its mountain rain forests and tropical moist evergreen forests. The Silent Valley National Park has about 16 threatened or restricted birds, among which are the very rare Ceylon Frogmouth and Great Indian Hornbill. (N.E. India is also famous for its Greater Hornbill population.) , and endemic species like Black and Orange Flycatcher, and Broad tailed Grass Warbler . Endangered endemic species like Lion tailed Macaque, Nilgiri Marten and Nilgiri Tahr are sustained in these primal forests and grasslands. On average the elevation is 2700 m. within this park.



Broad Tailed Grass Warbler, Nilgiri Flycatcher, Nilgiri Pipit, and Indian Laughting Thrush

here are many species of birds in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserves, which include 14 (endemic) bird species, like the Nilgiri Laughing Thrush, Nilgiri Wood Pigeon, Malabar Grey Hornbill, Malabar Parakeet, Grey Headed Bulbul, Nilgiri Flycatcher, Black and Orange Flycatcher, Nilgiri Pipit and Broad Tailed Grass Warbler. The Paradise Flycatcher is a winter visitor to the higher reaches of the Nilgiri area.

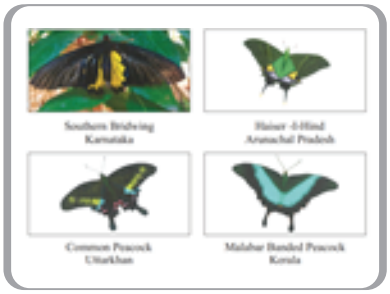
Amphibians include Purple Frog, Silent Valley Bush Frog which was first described only in 2016, Malabar Gliding Frog Some of the threats faced in this area are deforestation due to encroachment of livestock or for farming, illegal poaching of animals, and those wildlife killed by farmers that threaten or kill their live-stocks, and of course forest fires, etc.

As can be seen from the many stamps shared here above, India Post has been gradually, but systematically sharing the rich and diverse natural wealth including wildlife, geography, landscapes, etc. of India, on issued Stamps and Covers, in last 75 years since Independence. Therefore, this article is a small tribute to this initiative by India Post.
The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve area is not contiguous, as urban and semi-urban areas have been left out and only the core areas where dense forests and grass lands survive, and a denser concentration of wildlife is found, are taken as part of this Reserve. All tourist areas are left out. Another point to be noted is that often there is the movement of wildlife from one National Park to another, and therefore the above details are approximate, at any given point of time.

Acknowledgements
1.Relevant India Post Information Brochures.
2.Phila India Guide Books.
3.Wikipedia articles on Indian Biosphere Reserves and on various National Parks/wildlife sanctuaries.
4.Salim Ali's The Book of Indian Birds, published by Bombay Natural History Society.

STATE BUTTERFLIES AND STAMPS

Dr. M.Swamiappan



Butterflies and moths belong to the order: Lepidoptera, Class : Insecta. It is estimated there are 2,00,000Species of butterflies existing since 40 million years in this planet Earth. Among them around 18,630 butterflies have been described.

Many butterfly fauna becoming rare and some totally extinct due to many reasons such as deforestation, urbanization, habitat destruction, Pollution due to factory waste, Pesticides spray etc., Tropical countries like India offer suitable environment like climate, habitat availability of food for growth and development of butterfly biodiversity.

In India around 1200 Species of butterflies are described. In Tamil Nadu various groups of butterfly survey and recording have reported 325 species in Eastern and Western Ghats and some in plains .

Based on rarity citing in interior forest ecosystems and their diversity a few butterfly species have been declared as state butterflies of India by Govt State Departments of Forestry and Environment and support by NGO Organization.

1. Haiser-I-Hind , Teinopalpus imperialis (Papilionidae), State Butterfly of Arunachal pradesh.

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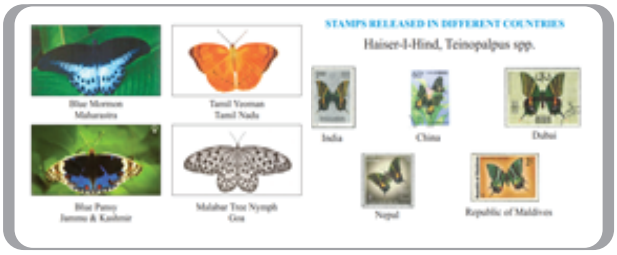
It was declared as a state Butterfly in 2020. Since it is a very rare butterfly it is already protected under schedule II of wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. It is mostly seen in Northern States of Himalaya region in high elevation. It is found distributed from Nepal and North India to Northern Vietnam, also in Bhutan Myanmar, Lao's Vietnam and South China.

The Dept. of Posts, Government of India has issued a stamp for this butterfly (Rs. 2 Denomination) in 1981. Besides Maldives, Dubai, Nepal have also issued stamps for Haiser-I-Hind.

2. Common Peacock, Papilio bianor (Papilionidae). It is declared state butterfly of Uttarakhand. It is also called as black swallowtail, Emerald (or) Chinese Peacock. This resembles to Paris Peacock. Besides India, It is found in Southeast Russia, China, Vietnam, Myanmar, Japan and Thailand. Many Countries have issued stamps for this butterfly.

3. Malabar banded Peacock, Papilio Buddha. It is a state butterfly of Kerala. It is endemic to the Western Ghats of Kerala.

4. Southern Birdwing , Troides minos (Papilionidae) It is state butterfly of Karnataka formerly thought to be endemic to Western Ghats forests. Now since 2009 it has been recorded in Tamil Nadu in Chennai and Surrounding areas.



Normally seen flying high in forest areas above tree canopy. It is the largest butterfly of India, endemic to South India.

Number of countries issued stamps for this bird wing butterfly species. Jersey, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Palau, Philipines, Malaysia and Repub. De cote Divoire have issued stamps on Triodes Species and SubSpecies. The stamp (1 cent denomination) for Troides brookiana by Sarawak, Malaysia is considered as first butterfly stamp of world.

World over birdwing butterflies are considered as largest butterflies and are also very beautiful.

There is a need for a stamp for the largest butterfly of India to be issued by Dept. of Posts.

5. Tamil yeoman, Cirrochroa thais (Nymphalidae). It is declared as state butterfly of Tamilnadu State in June 2019 by Tamilnadu Forest Dept with support from NGO's including Tamil Nadu Butterfly Society (TNBS) Coimbatore and ROAR Rajapalayam. It is found mostly seen in Western ghats, Sri lanka and south Eastern ghats of Tamil Nadu like Yercaud. It is restricted to moist evergreen forest in hill areas.

6.Malabar tree nymph, Idea malabaricus (Nymphalidae) It is declared as state butterfly of Goa. It is also endemic to the Western ghats. It is very unique butterfly with graceful flight fluttering the wings slowly. Hence it is called "Paperkite". Recently a Permanent Pictorial Cancellation (PPC) was issued by Valpoi, Goa.

7. Blue Mormon, Papilio polymnester. It is notified as state Butterfly of Maharashtra . It is second largest butterfly of Peninsular India.

8. Blue Pansy, Junonia orithya (Nymphalidae) It is notified in 2023 as state butterfly of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. It is one of the most prettiest butterfly. It is also found commonly in plains.

9. Blue duke, Bassarona durga. It is notified as state butterfly of Sikkim in 2022.

10. Common Birdwing Troides helena (Papilionidae). It is notified as state butterfly of Tiripura in 2019. Many World Countries have issued stamps for Troides helena and subspecies including Srilanka.

References and Photo Courtesy:

1. Nelson Rodrigues Butterfly of Mumbai
2. Vikas Madhav Nagarajan and Team Butterfly of Chennai
3. Sharan V Butterfly of Tamilnadu
4. Tamil Nadu Butterfly Society Butterfly of Tamilnadu

About the author :
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Philatelist and Thematic Collector of stamps on Butterflies
President, Madurai Philatelists and Numismatists Association Madurai



ASTROPHILATELY

(UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF SPACE PHILATELIC MEDIA)

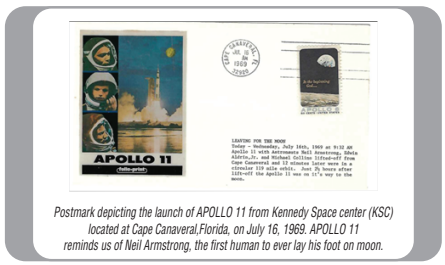
-BHAGYA SHREE PREMKUMAR
Green House Apartments, Trichy-620001

Having explored international philatelic exhibitions as a visitor and participant, I came across a notableentry centered on a 'SPACE' theme.Through discussions with fellow enthusiasts, I realized many have a common misconception that all space-themed stamps fall under Astrophilately. This is incorrect. I also noticed a striking scarcity of Astrophilately entries, which adds to the allure and exclusivity of the subject for those involved. To succeed in this area, one must recognize the distinctions between Astrophilately and topical collections. This understanding is crucial for exhibitors, as experienced jurors tend to be quite discerning, making you feel more informed and knowledgeable in the field.

So, what are these distinctions? How can we, as exhibitors,overcome the challenges? Let's embark on this journey together!

Unlike a First-Day Cover (FDC), a space event cover is stamped to commemorate significant events like launches or splashdowns.The date and location of the cancellation are both crucial.

David S. Ball is an accredited astrophilatelist and the only American Philatelic Expertizing Service (APEX) member specializing in this field. He also serves as the U.S. delegate on Astrophilately for the International Federation of Philately (FIP).According to him, “Astrophilately tells the story of the conquest of space through philatelic media.”

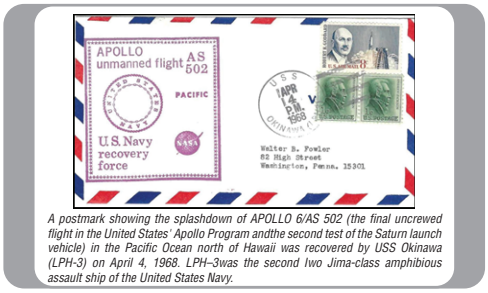


Postmark depicting the launch of APOLLO 11 from Kennedy Space center (KSC) located at Cape Canaveral,Florida, on July 16, 1969. APOLLO 11 reminds us of Neil Armstrong, the first human to ever lay his foot on moon.

Every space mission, such as a rocket launch, can have various motifs and agendas. Regardless, the processes involved from the rocket's launch to its landing—including recovery in case of a water landing—follow specific standardized procedures that are vital and represent the "core" of Astrophilately. Ball further says, “Postal envelopes cancelled on the day and nearest the place where a significant event occurred become mementos of the exploration of the heavens.”

Have you ever wondered why an astrophilatelist might kick off their tale at a post office right by a launch pad?

Until the rocket has cleared the launch tower, the team in charge of the mission is the Launch Control. Approximately six seconds after the launch, Mission Control takes over. In the USA, before the Shuttle era, the US Navy Recovery Task Force handled the duties



A postmark showing the splashdown of APOLLO 6/AS 502 (the final uncrewed flight in the United States' Apollo Program andthe second test of the Saturn launch vehicle) in the Pacific Ocean north of Hawaii was recovered by USS Okinawa (LPH-3) on April 4, 1968. LPH–3was the second Iwo Jima-class amphibious assault ship of the United States Navy.

following the splashdown. Each astrophilatelic cancel reflects the location of the controlling entity at that time. Thus, the post office closer to the launch pad is the initial setting for the mission's story.

Astrophilatelic materials are categorized into two types:Postal astrophilatelic items, which commemorate events and have been processed through the mail with stamps and postmarks and include preparatory materials like vignettes and proofs; and Rocket-Flown astrophilatelic items, which feature onboard cachets(designs or drawings usually applied to the left side of a cover)or special cancellations to verify their presence in a rocket or spacecraft.

A timely postmark is crucial for showcasing an astrophilatelic story. Control is exercised at each mission stage, which should be reflected in the postmark.

Here's a surprise: astrophilatelic items can have postmarks from sources beyond standard terrestrial post offices! Postal services aboard Prime Recovery Ships (PRS) have stamped envelopes during spacecraft recovery missions. Crews at the Russian Space Station (MIR) and the International Space Station (ISS) have also cancelled their cover while orbiting the Earth. Furthermore, missions to various planets within our Solar System and beyond have been meticulously documented with envelopes designed for astrophilately.

Envelopes documenting events such as Launch, Docking, Undocking, EVA (Extravehicular Activity), Landing, Launch Aborts, Test Launches, and Launch Failures may be displayed in an exhibition.

The FIP Astrophilately Commission is crucial in aiding exhibitors in preparing their displays and assisting judges in evaluating astrophilatelic exhibits. This support and guidance ensure that your astrophilatelic journey is smooth and Successful.Now, let's dive into some key guidelines from the FIP that you won't want to miss!

Signatures from the Launch Director, Principal Investigators, PRS captains, and esteemed astronauts are not mandatory, but relying solely on postmarks may become monotonous. Although postmarks connect us to the event, autographs add a human touch to history.

While it is preferred that cancellations occur within the designated timeframe, this is not mandatory. If the post office is closed on the day of the event, a postmark from the following day is acceptable.

In the event of a spacecraft crash, a postmark from the local post office near the crash site or mission control is acceptable. Covers bearing postmarks from space mission support facilities—such as tracking stations, recovery ships, and helicopters—are allowed if postmarked during the mission, with official cachets preferred.

Covers depicting testing or significant milestones for space flights, such as important meetings and the completion of key rocket and spacecraft components, may also be included, but this should be a secondary focus.

If no event covers are available, the cover should bear a date that closely aligns with the event. If the accurate date can only be represented this way, a location farther from the nearest post office may be acceptable. In cases where no event cover with the correct date can be obtained, a special cancellation from a relevant country issued within the past 12 months may be accepted.

The FIP recommends that participating countriesissuing stamps/postal stationery within a year of the event should not bear the term "ANNIVERSARY." However, in rare cases, stamps issued later than 12 months or anniversary issues may be accepted, provided they come from the country where the event occurred and be supported by a thorough justification.



This postmark shows the space-ground communication of APOLLO 17 at the Fairbanks, Alaska Spacecraft Tracking and Data (Acquisition) Network (STADAN or STDN) station on December 7, 1972.APOLLO 17, the crewed lunar landing mission, was the final mission of NASA's Apollo program. The STDN station's officer has signed the cover, which can be seen on the left side.

First Day of Issue (FDI) postmarks should only be included in an exhibit if the date coincides with the event. The FIP stipulates this material should not dominate the exhibition, even if the FDI postmark matches the event date.

Jeff Dugdale, the editor ofOrbit, convincingly argues that non-FIP materials should be included in space collections. While not part of the official FIP guidelines, these materials can add depth and variety to a collection, providing a more comprehensive view of the history and culture of space exploration.In conclusion, "Astrophilately fundamentally centers on the art of exhibition rather than mere collection."

A Global Connection: The Story of Postcrossing

Dr.T.Jaisakthivel
Postcrossing Ambassador who is working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Journalism and Communication, University



In the age of digital communication, where emails and instant messages reign supreme, a unique movement has been quietly thriving – Postcrossing. This global community, born from a simple idea, has connected millions of people across the world through the timeless charm of postcards.

The story of Postcrossing begins in 2005, when a Portuguese software engineer named Paulo Magalhães, a lover of postcards, envisioned a platform to connect people through this traditional medium. The idea was simple: send a postcard to a random person and receive one in return.

The initial concept quickly gained traction, and Postcrossing grew exponentially. People from all corners of the globe registered on the website, eager to participate in this unique exchange. The platform's ease of use and the thrill of receiving a surprise postcard from a stranger contributed to its rapid growth.

The Magic of Postcards

Postcrossing has captivated people for various reasons: It evokes a sense of nostalgia, reminiscent of a time when letters and postcards were the primary means of long-distance communication. Unlike digital messages, postcards are physical objects that can be cherished and collected. It fosters cultural exchange, allowing people to learn about different countries, customs, and languages. It creates a sense of community and connection, bridging geographical and cultural divides.

Today, Postcrossing remains a vibrant community with millions of registered members. It has evolved into more than just a platform for exchanging postcards; it's a cultural phenomenon that celebrates the joy of snail mail and human connection.

As the world becomes increasingly digital, Postcrossing offers a refreshing alternative, reminding us of the simple pleasures of receiving a handwritten message from a distant

Postcrossing in Tamil Nadu

In the heart of Chennai, an unexpected wave of nostalgia is sweeping through the city. It's a movement driven by a simple yet profound concept: the joy of receiving a handwrit

ten postcard from a stranger across the globe. This is the world of Postcrossing, a global community of enthusiasts who exchange postcards, forging connections across borders.



At the epicenter of this movement in Chennai is the Madras Postcrossing Commune (MPC). Founded by passionate individuals like Vignesh Kumar and Dr. T. Jaisakthivel, a renowned radio broadcaster and philatelist, MPC has become a vibrant community for postcrossers. Regular meetups are organized, where enthusiasts gather to share their experiences, swap postcards, and discuss their latest finds.

The resurgence of postcards in the digital age may seem paradoxical, but it's the very tangibility of postcards that makes them so appealing. Unlike emails or social media messages, postcards are physical objects that can be cherished and collected. They offer a tangible connection to the sender, a glimpse into their world, and a reminder of the beauty of writing letters

Postcard Renaissance

A number of local businesses in Chennai are playing a crucial role in fueling this postcard renaissance. Here are a few notable names:

- The Original Postcards: This store is a haven for postcard enthusiasts, offering a wide range of postcards featuring iconic landmarks, cultural symbols, and artistic designs. Their collection caters to diverse tastes, from vintage-inspired postcards to contemporary designs.
- PhilaPhile: Known for its extensive collection of postal stationery, PhilaPhile also offers a selection of postcards. Their postcards often feature unique themes, such as historical events, wildlife, and local art.
- Postal Hut: This store specializes in postal supplies such as postcards. They offer a variety of postcards featuring Indian themes, as well as international designs.
- Postally: This online store offers a curated collection of postcards from around the world. They focus on high-quality, artistic postcards that are sure to delight any postcrosser.

As the world becomes increasingly digitized, the appeal of tangible connections like postcards is only growing stronger. The Chennai Postcrossing movement is a testament

to the enduring power of human connection, one postcard at a time. As the community continues to thrive, it is poised to inspire others to embrace the simple pleasures of writing letters and rediscover the magic of handwritten messages.

Postcrossing was founded in 2005 by a group of Portuguese friends. It has since grown into a global community with over 1 million registered members from over 200 countries. Postcrossing has been shown to have a number of benefits, including reducing stress, improving mental health, and fostering cultural understanding.

Postcrossing Meetups

A vibrant community of postcard enthusiasts has been gathering in Chennai, bringing together individuals who share a passion for the timeless charm of postcard writing. Postcrossing, a global movement that connects people through physical postcards, has found a dedicated following in the city.



Regular meetups are organized by the Madras Postcrossing Commune, where enthusiasts gather to exchange postcards, share their experiences, and discuss their latest finds. These meetups have become a platform for like-minded individuals to connect, learn about different cultures, and foster friendships.

Postcrossing is more than just sending and receiving postcards, It's about connecting with people from different cultures, learning about their lives, and fostering global friendships.

These meetups often involve postcard swaps, where participants bring a collection of postcards to exchange with others. They also discuss various aspects of postcrossing, such as the best practices for writing postcards, the most interesting stamps to collect, and the most beautiful postcards to send.

As the Postcrossing community in Chennai continues to grow, it is inspiring more and more people to embrace the joy of letter writing and rediscover the magic of handwritten messages.

Postcrossing Forum

The Postcrossing Forum is a vibrant online community for enthusiasts of the global postcard exchange phenomenon. It's a place to connect with fellow postcrossers, share experiences, ask questions, and offer advice.

To make the most of your forum experience, it's helpful to understand some key terms:

- Topic: A discussion thread centered around a specific subject.
- Post: An individual message within a topic.
- Category: A broad category that groups related topics together.
- Tag: A keyword or label used to categorize topics.



Getting Started

1. Create an Account: Sign up for a free account to access all forum features.
2. Explore the Categories: Familiarize yourself with the different categories, such as "General Discussion," "Technical Issues," and "Country-Specific Discussions."
3. Start a New Topic: If you have a question or want to initiate a discussion, click the "New Topic" button and choose the appropriate category.
4. Reply to Posts: To respond to a post, simply click the "Reply" button.
5. Use Tags: Tags help organize topics and make them easier to find. Use relevant tags when creating new topics.

By following these guidelines, you can contribute positively to the Postcrossing Forum and enhance your overall postcrossing experience.

The future of Postcrossing is bright. As the world becomes more interconnected, the demand for tangible connections is only going to increase. In the heart of Chennai, an unexpected wave of nostalgia is sweeping through the city. It's a movement driven by a simple yet profound concept: the joy of receiving a handwritten postcard from a stranger across the globe. This is the world of Postcrossing, a global community of enthusiasts who exchange postcards, forging connections across borders.

POST OFFICES IN TAMIL NADU- DIFFERENT NAMES IN DIFFERENT TIMES

--Shruthikaa Balaji, Chennai

India Post with 1,64,972 post offices, is the largest postal network in the world as on 1.4.2024. The first post office in India was established in Kolkata in 1727, followed by two post offices in the Presidency towns of Chennai in 1786 and Mumbai in 1793. At the time of independence, there were 23,344 Post Offices, which were primarily in urban areas. Thus, the network has registered a seven-fold growth since Independence, with the focus of this expansion primarily in rural areas.

Tamil Nadu scenario

Tamil Nadu can boast of having 11,866 post offices and stands third after Uttar Pradesh (17953) and Maharashtra (14032). However, it tops in the total number of Head Post Offices (94) and Sub Post offices (2499). The area and population served per post office in Tamil Nadu is comparably high.

Name of a Post office

As per the extant rules of the Department of Posts, each post office is named according to the name in the revenue record. It has become customary that if a name is changed for any reason the post office of that area also adapts to the changed name. E.g. Madras GPO became Chennai GPO, when the Tamil Nadu government changed the name as Madras in 1996.

Study of place names

It is interesting to study the origin of the naming of a place and subsequent changes. A place-name is a word or words used to identify a geographic locality such as a village, town, river, or mountain and the taxonomic study about this is called toponymy. Study of place name uncovers important historical information about a place, such as the original language of the inhabitants, settlement history, population dispersal and political changes.

Changes in the place names in Tamil Nadu

During the British rule, the Tamil names of the cities and towns were transliterated and tweaked to suit the English usage in an anglicized form. E.g. Tiruchirappalli was called Trichinopoly and Thanjavur as Tanjore. After independence, these place names were reverted to their original nomenclature.
The post offices in Tamil Nadu adapted to the changes, whenever there is change in the name of a city or town or street as per the government records. Some



examples with postal articles are shown below.

Mahabalipuram to Mamallapuram

The name Mahabalipuram is associated with a mythological king 'Mahabali'. The town was also known as Mamallapuram, deriving its name from its 7th century Pallava ruler, Narasimhavarman I, who was also called Mamallan, the great wrestler. In 1957, Mahabalipuram was renamed as Mamallapuram.
Foreign travellers referred this place as "City of Seven Pagodas" (of which only two are surviving). National Institute of Oceanography's underwater archaeological explorations in 2002 revealed vast extent of submerged ruins of the city off the coast.

Conjeevaram – Kanchipuram



Conjeevaram – Kanchipuram *Trichinopoly*

The word "Kanchipuram" is combination of two words, "kanchi" and "puram," meaning "the city of kaanchi flowers" (due to the abundance of kaanchi flowers in this region).

Kanchipuram is a traditional centre of silk weaving and handloom industries for producing Kanchipuram Sarees, which is conferred with Geographical Indication tag. The British called it Conjeevaram and later it was renamed as Kanchipuram. The municipal administration has renamed the city as Kancheepuram after some time.

Trichinopoly to Tiruchirappalli

In 1971, Trichinopoly was renamed as Tiruchirappalli. Its ancient name was Uraiyur, which served as the capital of the early Cholas for 600 years from the 3rd century BCE onwards and the place was referred to as Orthoura by the Greek historian Ptolemy. It is widely believed that the name Tiruchirappalli originated as a tribute to Jain monks who are popularly called 'Chira'. 'Tiru-chira-palli' means 'the town of respected monk'. Palli refers to a Jain centre of learning.

Tanjore to Thanjavur

The city's name is believed to be derived from a portmanteau of "thanjam puguntha oor" (தஞ்சம்புகுந்தஊர்) which means "the town where refugees' influx happened", referring to the town's history of providing hospitality to newcomers. Thanjavur was the

Negapatam – Nagapattinam *Mayavaram - Mayiladuthurai*









imperial capital of the later Cholas, who ruled between the 9th and 13th centuries CE. The Brihadishvara Temple, also known as the Big Temple or Rajarajeshvara, after the king Rajaraja Chola I who built it between 995 and 1025 CE is one of the UNESCO Heritage sites. The British referred the city as Tanjore, which after independence renamed as Thanjavur.

Negapatam to Nagapattinam

Nagapattinam is derived from Nagar, referring to people, and pattinam referring to town. Noted as Nigamos by Ptolemy and Malifatan by Rashid-al-din, a Persian traveller in their accounts, Nagapattinam, was a famous port city during the Sangam period. There are

urn burials excavated in and around the city, dates back to the Sangam period indicating human habitation from 3rd century BCE. After a period of lull, the city rose to prominence again during the period of later Cholas, particularly, Rajaraja I, who embarked on his naval expedition from this port.

Though he was an ardent Saivite, he permitted Javanese king Sri Vijaya Soolamanivarman to build a Buddhist monastery (Chudamani Vihara) during11th century, the remnants of which are still found in the city's suburb,

Point Calimere-Kodiakkarai Tranquebar- Tarangambadi



Velipalayam. The British who took control of the city in 1781 called it Negapatam or Negapatnam to suit their English usage. After independence the name was changed to Nagapattinam

Tranquebar to Tharangambadi

Nestled in the Coromandel coastline of Tamil Nadu, Tranquebar was originally called Tharangambadi, which literally translates to 'land of singing waves.', Declared as the only ozone-rich beach in India, Tharangambadi was the first Danish colonial possession in India. The Danes were unable to pronounce the word 'Tharangambadi' and instead distorted its name as Tranquebar. After independence the place was renamed as Tharangambadi, while spelling in postal records is Tarangambadi.

Tuticorin to Thuthukudi

Thuthukudi (Thoothukudi) is known as "Pearl City" due to the pearl fishing carried out in the town. It is a commercial seaport that serves the inland cities of southern India and is one of the sea gateways of Tamil Nadu, with a history dating back to the 6th century BCE.

Tuticorin- Thoothukudy *Cape Comorin - Kanniyakumari Thuthukudi*



Exploring the World of Stamps

Swathi.N
Postwoman, Sri Ramanashramam So

Stamps have been an integral part of global communication and a cherished collectible for philatelists worldwide. Each stamp carries a story, reflecting the history, culture, and artistic expressions of its origin. Let's delve into the fascinating categories of stamps and related philatelic items.

Definitive Stamps



Definitive stamps are the backbone of postal systems, issued for everyday mail. These stamps are produced in large quantities and remain in circulation for several years. They often feature simple designs, such as national symbols, prominent leaders, or scenic landscapes, emphasizing functionality over artistic extravagance.

Commemorative Stamps



Commemorative stamps celebrate significant events, anniversaries, or notable individuals. Issued for a limited time, they often boast intricate designs and vibrant colors. These stamps serve as miniature tributes to milestones like independence anniversaries, scientific breakthroughs, or cultural festivals.

Stamps of Various Shapes



Breaking away from the traditional rectangular format, modern stamps come in a variety of shapes, including triangles, circles, and hexagons. Some countries have even issued stamps in the shape of national icons, such as leaves, animals, or landmarks, enhancing their appeal among collectors.

Smelling Stamps



A unique innovation in philately is the introduction of scented stamps. These stamps are infused with fragrances, such as roses, coffee, or chocolate, offering a multisensory experience. They combine artistic design with olfactory charm, making them memorable collectibles.

Sheetlets



Sheetlets are smaller panes of stamps, typically containing fewer stamps than a standard sheet. Often accompanied by decorative borders, they are designed to appeal to collectors. These mini sheets frequently highlight themes like flora, fauna, or historical events.

Miniature Sheets



Miniature sheets feature a few stamps integrated into a single artistic composition. Unlike sheetlets, the design often extends beyond the stamps, creating a cohesive visual narrative. These sheets are prized for their aesthetic value and thematic storytelling.

First Day Covers (FDCs)



First Day Covers are specially prepared envelopes bearing a newly issued stamp canceled on the first day of its release. Often adorned with artistic illustrations and a commemorative postmark, FDCs offer a snapshot of the stamp's theme and origin.

Special Covers



Special Covers are philatelic items issued to mark specific events or occasions. They often feature unique designs, embossing, or thematic artwork, and are canceled with special postmarks. These covers provide a tangible connection to the events they commemorate.

Carried Covers



Carried covers are envelopes or postcards transported on special journeys, such as first flights, sea voyages, or space missions. These covers bear markings and cachets indicating their unique voyage, adding historical and collectible value.

The Joy of Collecting Stamps

Whether definitive or commemorative, triangular or scented, stamps and their related collectibles open a window into the world's diverse cultures and histories. Each item is a piece of art and a fragment of history, making philately a hobby that's both educational and endlessly rewarding.

தபால்தலையில் மிளிரும் தகைசால் தமிழ்ச் சான்றோர்கள்

இரா.தியாகராஜன், M.A.,M.Phil.,B.Sc.,B.Ed.,RBP.,TTC(Drg.),TTC(Mus.),DCA.,DCH.,DCS.,
48, வ.உ.சி., நகர் 11வதுதெரு,
திருவண்ணாமலை.

பல்வேறு துறைகளில் சிறந்து விளங்கும் ஆளுமைகளுக்கும், சேவைச் செம்மல்களுக்கும் அவர்களது தொண்டினைப் பாராட்டும் விதமாகவும் அவர்களை மேன்மைப் படுத்தும் வகையிலும் இந்திய அரசின் அஞ்சல்துறை தபால்தலைகளை வெளியிட்டு வருகிறது. தரணி போற்றும் தமிழ்மொழியின் வளர்ச்சிக்குப் பங்காற்றிய பலஅறிஞர்களுக்கும் அஞ்சல்துறை நினைவு அஞ்சல்தலைகளை வெளியிட்டுப் பெருமைப் படுத்தியுள்ளது. அத்தகைசால் தமிழ்ச் சான்றோர்களில் சில அறிஞர்களைக் குறித்திங்கு நோக்குவோம்!

திருவள்ளுவர்

'உலகப் பொதுமறை' யெனப் போற்றப்படும் திருக்குறளை இயற்றிய பெருந்தகை திருவள்ளுவர். 'தெய்வப்புலவர்', 'பொய்யாமொழிப் புலவர்'உள்ளிட்ட ஏராளமான சிறப்புப் பெயர்களால் அழைக்கப் படுகிறார். சென்னையில் வள்ளுவர் நினைவாக வள்ளுவர்கோட்டம் தமிழ்நாடு அரசால் 1973-ஆம் ஆண்டு அமைக்கப்பட்டது. திருக்குறளின் அதிகாரங்களைக் குறிக்கும் விதமாக 133 அடி உயரம் கொண்ட திருவள்ளுவர்சிலை குமரிக்கடலில் அமைக்கப்பட்டு 01.01.2000 அன்று திறந்து வைக்கப்பட்டது. இந்திய அஞ்சல் துறை 1960-ஆம் ஆண்டு திருவள்ளுவருக்கு ஒரு நினைவு அஞ்சல்தலை வெளியிட்டது.



கம்பர்

கம்பர், தமிழ்க் கவிஞரும், நூலாசிரியரும் ஆவார். இவர் எழுதிய இராமாயண நூலுக்கு 'இராமாவதாரம்' என்று பெயரிட்டார். பின்பு அது 'கம்பராமாயணம்' என அழைக்கப் பட்டது. "கல்வியிற் பெரியோன் கம்பன்", "கவிச்சக்ரவர்த்தி" உள்ளிட்ட புகழுரைகள் இவருக்குப் பெருமை சேர்க்கின்றன. தமிழ் இலக்கியத்தில் கம்ப இராமாயணமே மிகப்பெரிய இதிகாசம் எனக்கருதப்படுகிறது. சிலையெழுபது, சடகோபர் அந்தாதி, சரசுவதி அந்தாதி, திருக்கை வழக்கம், ஏரெழுபது ஆகியவை இவரது பிற நூல்கள் ஆகும். 1966-ஆம் ஆண்டு கம்பருக்கு அஞ்சல்தலை வெளியிடப் பட்டது.
'வள்ளலார்' இராமலிங்க அடிகளார்

‘வள்ளலார்' என அழைக்கப்படும் இராமலிங்க அடிகளார் ஒரு சைவசமய ஆன்மீகவாதி எனப்பரவலாக அறியப்பட்டாலும், இவர்பன்முக ஆற்றல் படைத்தவர். சிறந்த தமிழ்மொழி ஆய்வாளராகவும் திகழ்ந்தார். "வாடிய பயிரைக் கண்ட போதெல்லாம், வாடினேன்" என்று ஜீவகாருண்யத்தைத் தனது தமிழின் வழியே பரப்பியவர். இவரது படைப்புக்களுள் குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது “திருவருட்பா”ஆகும். வள்ளலார் அஞ்சல் தலை 2007-ஆம் ஆண்டு வெளியானது.

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'தமிழ்த்தாத்தா' உ.வே.சாமிநாதர்

ஓலைச்சுவடிகளாக இருந்த சங்ககால நூல்கள், பல்வேறு காரணங்களால் அழிந்து கொண்டிருந்தபோது அவற்றை ஊர்ஊராகச் சென்று, தேடிக்கண்டறிந்து,

பதிப்பித்து அன்னைத் தமிழுக்கு அழகு சேர்த்தவர் உ.வே.சா. 3000-க்கும் மேற்பட்ட ஏட்டுச் சுவடிகளையும் கையெழுத் தேடுகளையும் சேகரித்துள்ளார். இவரைத் ‘தமிழ்த்தாத்தா’ எனப்புகழ்ந்தனர் தமிழோர். உத்தம தான புரத்தில் இவர் வாழ்ந்த இல்லம் தமிழ்நாடு அரசால் ‘உ. வே. சா. நினைவு இல்லம்’-ஆகப் பராமரிக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. தமிழறிஞர்களின் சேவைகளைப் பாராட்டும் விதமாக “உ.வே.சா. விருது” தமிழ்நாடு அரசின் தமிழ்வளர்ச்சித் துறையின் மூலம் ஆண்டு தோறும் அளிக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. உ.வே.சா. அஞ்சல்தலை 2006-ஆம் ஆண்டு வெளியானது.

“மகாகவி” சுப்ரமணிய பாரதியார்

பாரதியார் ஒரு கவிஞர், எழுத்தாளர், இதழாசிரியர், விடுதலைப் போராட்ட வீரர் மற்றும் சமூக சீர்திருத்தவாதி ஆவார். “மகாகவி” எனப்படும் இவர், நவீனத் தமிழ்க் கவிதைக்கு வித்திட்டவர். இவர் தன் படைப்புகள் மூலமாக மக்கள் மத்தியில் விடுதலை யுணர்வைத் தூண்டியவர். பாரதியாரின் நூல்கள் மதராஸ் அரசினால் 1949-ஆம் ஆண்டில் நாட்டுடைமை ஆக்கப்பட்டன. இந்தியாவிலேயே முதன்முதலாக நாட்டுடைமை ஆக்கப்பட்ட இலக்கியம் இவருடையதே. இவரைச் ‘சிந்துக்குத் தந்தை’, ‘செந்தமிழ்த் தேனீ’, ‘புதிய அறம் பாட வந்த அறிஞர், ‘மறம் பாட வந்த மறவன்’

என்றெல்லாம் பாரதிதாசன் புகழ்ந்துள்ளார். இவருக்கு அஞ்சல்தலை 1960-இல் வெளியானது

செய்குத்தம்பிப் பாவலர்

நூறு செயல்களை ஒரே நேரத்தில் செய்து 'சதாவதானி' என்னும் பட்டம் பெற்ற செய்குதம்பிப் பாவலர் சிறந்த கவிஞர், தமிழார்வலர். தமிழ்ச் செய்யுள் இலக்கியத்தை வளப்படுத்தியவர்களில் ஒருவர். மரபுக் கவிதைகளைப் புனைவதில் சதாவதானி வல்லவர். இவர் சம்சுத்தாசீன் கோவை, திருநாகூர் திரிபந்தாதி, திருக்கோட்டாற்றுப் பதிற்றுப்பத் தந்தாதி, நபிகள் நாயக மான்மிய மஞ்சரி, நீதிவெண்பா, அழகப்பக் கோவை போன்ற நூல்களை இயற்றியுள்ளார். சிலேடைப் பாக்கள் இயற்றுவதில் தேர்ந்த இவருக்கு அஞ்சல்தலை 2008-இல் வெளியிடப் பட்டது.



மறைமலைஅடிகளார்

தனித்தமிழ் இயக்கத்தைத் தொடங்கித் தமிழைச் செழுமையுற வளர்த்தவர் மறைமலையடிகள். சிறந்த சொற்பொழிவாளர் மற்றும் தமிழ் ஆய்வாளர். இவரது இயற்பெயர் வேதாசலம். தமிழ், ஆங்கிலம் மற்றும் வடமொழிகளில் புலமை பெற்ற இவர் தமிழ் மற்றும் ஆங்கில மொழிகளில் 50-க்கும் மேற்பட்ட நூல்களைப் படைத்துள்ளார். இந்திய அஞ்சல் துறை 2007-ஆம் ஆண்டு மறைமலையடிகளாருக்கு ஒரு நினைவு அஞ்சல்தலை வெளியிட்டது.

பாவேந்தர்'பாரதிதாசன்

கனக சுப்புரத்தினம் என்ற இயற் பெயர் கொண்ட இவர், மகாகவி பாரதியாரின் மீது கொண்ட அளவற்ற ஈடுபாட்டினால் தனது பெயரைப் "பாரதிதாசன்" என்று மாற்றிக் கொண்டார். தமிழாசிரியர், கவிஞர், அரசியல்வாதி,திரைக் கதாசிரியர், எழுத்தாளர், கவிஞர், என்று பல்வேறு துறைகளின் வழியே தமிழ்மொழியினை வளர்த்தவர். "புரட்சிக் கவிஞர்" எனப்புகழப் பெற்றவர்.

பாண்டியன் பரிசு, குடும்ப விளக்கு, இருண்ட வீடு, அழகின் சிரிப்பு, இசையமுது உள்ளிட்டஅற்புதப் படைப்புகள் பலவற்றைத் தமிழுலகிற்கு ஈந்தவர். சாகித்திய அகாதமி பரிசினைப் பெற்றவர். இவரது நினைவாகத் தமிழக அரசு ஆண்டு தோறும் ஒரு கவிஞருக்குப் "பாரதிதாசன் விருது" வழங்கிப் பெருமைப்படுத்தி வருகிறது. இந்திய அஞ்சல் துறை 2001-ஆம் ஆண்டு பாவேந்தருக்கு அஞ்சல்தலை வெளியிட்டுச் சிறப்பித்தது.

"மொழி ஞாயிறு" தேவநேயப் பாவாணர்

தேவநேயப் பாவாணர் ஒரு சிறந்த தமிழறிஞரும், தமிழ்ச் சொல்லாராய்ச்சி வல்லுநருமாவார். இவர் தனித்தமிழ் இயக்கத்தில் தன்னை இணைத்துக் கொண்டு, தமிழ்மொழியின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்காகப் பாடுபட்டார். எனப் புகழ்ந்துரைக்கப்பட்ட பாவாணர் தமிழின் வேர்ச்சொல் வளத்தையும் செழுமையையும் உலகறிய எடுத்தியம்பியதனால் இவர் "மொழி ஞாயிறு" என்று அழைக்கப்பட்டார். இவர் பெற்ற "செந்தமிழ்ச் செல்வர்", "திராவிட மொழிநூல் ஞாயிறு", "தமிழ்ப் பெருங்காவலர்", 'மொழிநூல் மூதறிஞர்", "செந்தமிழ் ஞாயிறு" போன்ற விருதுகள் இவரது பெருமையைப் பறைசாற்றுகின்றன. இந்திய அஞ்சல் துறை 2006-ஆம் ஆண்டு இவரது நினைவைப் போற்றும் வகையில் அஞ்சல் தலை வெளியிட்டுச் சிறப்பித்தது..



கிருபானந்தவாரியார்

சிறந்த ஆன்மிகச் சொற்பொழிவாளராக அறியப்படும் திருமுருக கிருபானந்த வாரியார் சிறந்த தமிழறிஞருமாவார். தனது ஆன்மீகச் சொற்பொழிவுகளின் மூலம் மொழி, சமயம், இலக்கியம், இசை என பல்துறைகளிலும் வளர்ச்சியை ஏற்படுத்தியவர். இவரது பேச்சுத்திறன், எழுத்துத் திறன் பல்துறைப் புலமை இவற்றின் காரணமாக "அருள்மொழி அரசு",

என்றும் "திருப்புகழ் ஜோதி" என்றும் புகழப்பட்டவர். எளிய மக்களும் அறிந்துணரும் வகையில் 500-க்கும் மேற்பட்ட ஆன்மிக மணம் கமழும் கட்டுரைகளையும், ஏறக்குறைய 150 நூல்களையும் வெளியிட்டுள்ளார். 2006-இல் இந்திய அஞ்சல் துறை இவருக்கு நினைவு அஞ்சல்தலை வெளியிட்டது.

ம.பொ.சிவஞானம்

“தமிழ்நாடு” என்னும் தனிமாநிலம் உருவாக காரணமாக இருந்தவர்களுள் மயிலாப்பூர் பொன்னுசாமி சிவஞானம் முதன்மையானவர். இதனால் இவர் தமிழ்த் “தேசத்தந்தை”யாகப் போற்றப் படுகிறார். இவர் இந்திய விடுதலைப் போராட்ட வீரரும் சிறந்த தமிழறிஞரும் ஆவார். சிலப்பதிகாரத்தின் மீது இவர் கொண்டிருந்த பற்றின் காரணமாக “சிலம்புச் செல்வர்“ என அழைக்கப்பட்டார். “வள்ளலார் கண்ட ஒருமைப்பாடு“ எனும் நூலுக்காக “சாகித்ய அகாதமி” பரிசு பெற்றவர். மத்திய அரசின் “பத்மஶ்ரீ” விருதும் பெற்றவர். இவரின் அஞ்சல்தலை 2006-இல் வெளியானது.

“தமிழவேள்”உமாமகேசுவரர்

தஞ்சையில் கரந்தைத் தமிழ்ச் சங்கத்தைத் தோற்றுவித்து அதன் தலைவராக இருந்தவர். வழக்கறிஞர், தமிழ் வல்லுநர். ஆயிரக்கணக்கான நூல்களைப் பெற்று விளங்கும் கரந்தைத் தமிழ்ச்சங்க நூல்நிலையமும் புலவர் கல்லூரியும் இவரது முயற்சியால் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டது. “தமிழவேள்” என்ற பட்டம் பெற்ற இவரது சீரிய முயற்சியால் தமிழ்ச் சங்கம் வாயிலாக அதிக அளவில் தமிழ்நூல்கள் வெளியிடப்பட்டன. 2006-இல் இவரின் நினைவு அஞ்சல்தலை வெளியானது.

இந்தக் கட்டுரை அஞ்சல்துறையெனும் கடலில் விளைந்த முத்துக்களில் சிலவற்றைக் காட்சிப்படுத்தி யுள்ளது. இன்னும் ஏராளமான செல்வங்கள் அக்கடலில் உள்ளன. நித்தம்பல நித்திலங்கள் நிறைவாய்த் தோன்றிய வண்ணம் உள்ளன. ஆழ்ந்த சேவையில் தன்னை ஈடுபடுத்திக் கொண்டுள்ள அஞ்சல்துறை ‘ஆழியுள்ளளவும் வாழி’ என வாழ்த்துவோம்!

Celebrating Heritage in Style
Temple Towers in Postal Cancellations

V.ANANTHAVALLI
PS to DPS
Chennai City Region

A pictorial cancellation transcends the mundane functionality of a postal mark, becoming a medium that immortalizes cultural heritage, historical grandeur, and natural beauty. These artistic postmarks, featuring illustrations of significant landmarks, social reformers, endangered species and vibrant festivals, serve as miniature ambassadors of a nation's diverse legacy. Recognized by the Postal Department, these cancellations are more than post marks.They are conduits of history and culture, offering recipients across the globe a glimpse into a nation's rich tapestry.

Tamil Nadu, celebrated for its resplendent Dravidian architecture and spiritual fervour, stands as a beacon of heritage in the realm of pictorial cancellations. The Tamil Nadu circle has issued permanent pictorial cancellations (PPC) that immortalize the awe-inspiring temple towers of the State. These cancellations, imprinted on postcards, inland letters and covers, eliminate the need for conventional postal marks, transforming every piece of correspondence into an artistic statement and a collector's treasure.

Each cancellation portraying temple towers celebrates Tamil Nadu's architectural marvels, embodying the craftsmanship, devotion, and timeless significance. For instance, the Meenakshi Temple in Madurai, with its exquisitely craftedtowers teeming with mythological motifs, is captured in a seal that echoes its splendour. The Brihadeeswarar Temple in Thanjavur, a Chola-era masterpiece and UNESCO World Heritage Site is represented with a mark that conveys its architectural marvel and historical importance.

Beyond their visual beauty, these cancellations are powerful tools for cultural promotion. They highlight Tamil Nadu's legacy of architectural excellence, religious fervour and historical significance, inspiring curiosity and fostering a deep appreciation for its contributions to India's heritage. When affixed to postal articles, they serve as geographical and cultural sentinels, offering recipients a sense of connection to the sender's place. A letter bearing the seal of the iconic Meenakshi Temple, for instance, does not merely convey a message; it offers a fragment of Tamil Nadu's cultural identity to the recipient, evoking both wonder and delight.

For philatelists, these cancellations are invaluable artifacts that blend artistry with narrative. They invite collectors to embark on a journey through Tamil Nadu's glorious past, exploring its artistic splendour and spiritual legacy. Each cancellation tells a story,

not just of the structure it depicts but also of the cultural and historical ethos it represents. Beside being a fascinating pastime,collecting these post marks becomes an enriching pursuit, insightful experience of diverse traditions and perspectives.

The issuance of pictorial cancellations on Tamil Nadu's temple towers reflects a commitment to preserving and promoting the region's matchless cultural heritage. These postal imprints, far exceeding the utility of ordinary cancellations, transform the humble act of correspondence into an experience of cultural discovery. They are enduring symbols of Tamil Nadu's architectural grandeur and a testament to its timeless contribution to India's rich and diverse heritage.

The pictorial cancellation of the "Thanjavur Temple" celebrates the grandeur of Brihadeeswara Temple or Big Temple, built by King Raja Raja Chola between 1003 and 1010 CE. Being one of the Great Living Chola Temples recognised as a World Heritage Site by the UNESCO, this temple exemplifies the architectural style of the Chola era.Located on the southern bank of the Cauvery River in Thanjavur, the temple is constructed entirely of stone without bricks or mortar. Its 216-ft (66 m) vimanam is one of the world's tallest temple tower, crowned by an 80-ton kumbhamthought to have been carved from a single stone. The entrance features a colossal monolithic Nandi statue, 16 ft (4.9 m) long and 13 ft (4.0 m) high, adding to its magnificence.



1.Brihadeeswara Temple at Thanjavur 613 001 - Date of introduction: 16.12.1974

2. Rock Fort Temple at Tiruchirappalli 620 001 - Date of introduction: 17.12.1974



Old and New PPCs- Different spellings in name of PO

This masterpiece reflects the engineering brilliance and artistic legacy of the Chola dynasty, making it a fitting subject for Pictorial Cancellation.

The Pictorial Cancellation showcases the iconic Rockfort Temple, also known as Ucchi Pillaiyar Kovil, a crowning jewel of Trichy. Nestled in the heart of the city, this remarkable structure rises 275 feet above the ground, embodying the timeless grandeur of South Indian temple architecture.Carved into the ancient rock, the temple is accessed via a flight of 437 intricately-hewn steps, leading to a masterpiece of design and craftsmanship. Its 100-pillared hall with exquisitely-carvedvimana stands as enduring symbol of the artistic and architectural ingenuity of man.

Steeped in history and surrounded by stunning vistas, the Rockfort Temple exudes a serene and spiritual aura, making it a landmark of cultural and architectural significance.

Its depiction in the pictorial cancellation immortalizes its status as a must-visit destination for those journeying through Trichy.

Perur Pateeswarar Temple at Coimbatore 641 010 - Date of introduction: 03.02.1976

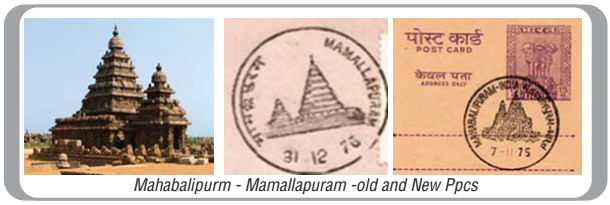
The Pictorial Cancellation highlights the renowned Pateeswarar Temple at Perur, a singular testament to Tamil Nadu's rich architectural and spiritual heritage. Built in the 2nd century CE by the illustrious Karikala Chola, this temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva, venerated here as Pateeswarar. Situated on the western banks of the Noyyal River near Coimbatore, the temple holds immense spiritual significance as the site where Lord Shiva is believed to have performed the divine Ananda Thandava, the dance of bliss. The intricately-sculpted images of deities adorning the temple's pillars showcase the unparalleled craftsmanship and artistic excellence of Tamil sculptors, reflecting a high degree of skill and craftsmanship.



This iconic temple stands as a sublime representation of Tamil Nadu's architectural grandeur and cultural legacy, immortalized in this exquisite Pictorial Cancellation.

Mamallapuram Shore Temple 603 104 - Date of introduction: 07.11.1975

Mahabalipuram, traditionally known as Mamallapuram, stands as an enduring testament to the artistic and architectural brilliance of ancient Tamil Nadu. Renowned for its iconic Shore Temple, this UNESCO World Heritage Site graces the Coromandel Coast in Tamil Nadu, embodying the grandeur of the Pallava dynasty, which flourished between 6th and 9th century CE.



Mahabalipurm - Mamallapuram -old and New Ppcs

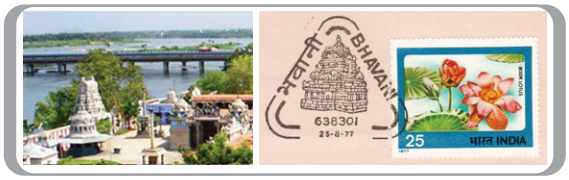
The monuments of Mamallapuram are remarkable for their variety and intricacy, categorized into five distinct types: rock-cut caves, monolithic temples, sculpted bas-reliefs, structural temples, and the excavated remnants of temples. These are artistic and creative legacy of Narasimha Varman I (Mamalla). Among its most celebrated features are the 'Rathas' (monolithic chariot-shaped temples), 'Mandapas' (rock-cut and cave temples-குடைவரைக்கோவில்), and the awe-inspiring open-air reliefs, including the renowned Descent of the River Ganga. The Shore Temple, or the Temple of Rivage, adorned with myriad sculptures glorifies Lord Shiva.

T

he multi-tiered pyramidical structures and intricate carvings, hallmarks of the Pallava artisans' unparalleled skill, continue to awe-inspire and admiration, making Mamallapuram a treasure trove of India's rich cultural and architectural heritage.

Sangameswarar Temple at Bhavani 638 301 - Date of introduction: 25.08.1977

The Bhavani Sangameswarar Temple, located in Erode, Tamil Nadu, is a revered shrine dedicated to Lord Shiva, known here as Sangameswarar. This architectural marvel exemplifies traditional South Indian temple design, featuring a magnificent five-tiered 'Rajagopuram' that greets visitors with its grandeur.



The temple is situated at the confluence of three rivers—Kaveri, Bhavani, and the mystical Amutha Nadhi, forming the sacred Southern Triveni Sangamam. Spanning approximately 4 acres, it stands on the northern banks of this holy confluence, offering a serene and spiritually uplifting ambiance. Nestled at the foothill of Padma Giri and encircled by the three hills of Naga Giri, Veda Giri and Sanga Giri, the temple's surroundings are captivating.

The architectural splendour of Bhavani Sangameswarar Temple eminently blendswith its spiritual significance.

Meenakshi Temple at Madurai 625 001 – Date of introduction 28.4.2014

The Meenakshi Temple in Madurai, situated on the southern bank of the Vaigai River, is a crowning jewel of South Indian heritage and an icon of Dravidian architecture. This architectural marvel is not only a spiritual sanctuary but also a testament to the region's artistic excellence.Renowned for its intricately adorned gopurams, the temple boasts of 14 majestic towers, soaring to heights of 45-50 meters. These gopurams, including 4 Rajagopurams, 2 golden gopurams, and others with varying floors, are adorned with vibrant sculptures depicting mythological scenes, displaying wonderful craftsmanship. Central to the temple complex is the exquisitely-carved 1,000-pillared hall, where the columns reveal intricate designs and include musical pillars that resonant musical tones of varying scales when struck.



A large tank, called golden lotus tank (பொற்றாமரைக்குளம்)surrounded by the temple's corridors, enhances its serene atmosphere. These corridors are further adorned with magnificent murals depicting stories from the Thiruvilaiyadal Puranam. The temple's grandeur owes much to the contributions of King Thirumalai Naick (1623–1659), who played a pivotal role in its reconstruction ensuring its vibrancy.Located in the heart of Madurai, the Meenakshi Temple is one of the largest temple complexes in Tamil Nadu.

In essence, the permanent pictorial cancellations of Tamil Nadu, immortalize the state's rich cultural, architectural and spiritual heritage, serving as timeless symbols.Each cancellation stands as a tribute to the artistry and devotion of ancient times, offering a glimpse into the ageless traditions and achievements that define the state's legacy. Furthermore, these cancellations are of great interest to the philatelists and its search, collection, study and variety have a lot of scope in enduring hobby of philately.

The Stamp Collector's Odyssey

Muhammad Irfan Khan L
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PHILATELYis the term coined for the study and collection of postage stamps.It was derived from the Greek word 'philos' which means 'love' and 'ateleia' means 'tax free'.

Postage stamp is not just a piece of paper affixed on an envelope, but is a pre-payment of postage to send letters from one place to another.The word 'PHILATELY' resembles like a jargon to many, but it has imprinted everlasting memories in people of all ages. One can imbibe a lot of information by inculcating the art of stamp collection. You and I can't travel across the globe easily, but a stamp does, that's why it is referred as brand ambassador of the nation, as it represents the country of origin, and also promotes cultural exchanges and mutual understanding among the countries.

The hobby of stamp collection which was started by the Gilded generation in mid-19thcentury was indeed costlier due to the limited access. The Monarchs and members of royal families pursued philately as their hobby and thus it became as the 'Hobby of Kings'.Following the reigns of King George V, who started the Royal Philatelic Collection, and King George VI, Queen Elizabeth II has continued to build on its legacy. Stamp collection requires meticulous planning and proper preservation,and it can also make a person feel like a king as they see their collection grow not just in quantity but in value too.

20thcentury witnessed therapid expansion of philately as many countries started issuing stamps. Professional philatelists & numerous stamp dealers emerged during the era. The stamps became easily available to commoner and people started to collect stamps based on thematic and country collection.

The advent of internet and digital technology had a considerable impact on philately. Online platforms pave the way to buy and sell stamps beyond the geographical boundaries, exhibit stamps through virtual stampex, auctions etc., take place. At the same time, itposes certain challenge like decline of letter/mail communication, as a result stamp issues reduced too. Despite these, philately continues to thrive.

Stamp collection remains a passionate hobby, as both novice and experienced collectors can learn about the art and significance of stamp collection. It is a traditional ed-tool for its resourceful data and rewarding for its investment strategy in many countries. Also, it provides aesthetic enjoyment,creates an opportunity to interact with like-minded people to exchange the ideas & collections, irrespective of the age boundaries, gender & field of interest.Thematic philately is practised avidly by many enthusiasts who gather stamps related to the specific theme of their choice. Without stirring from the place, one

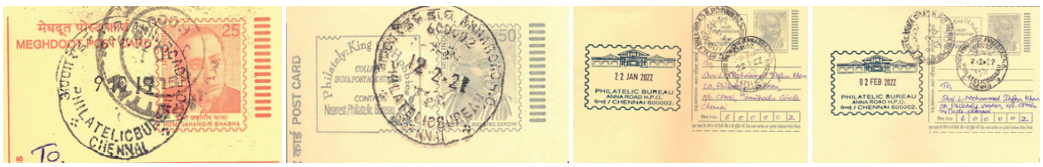
can learn much about the history behind the stamps. The academic pressure and influence of social media on students leaves them with less time for hobbies.

Stamp albums are useful for organizing and initial framing, they can be transferred and mounted on thicker sheets at later stage for final display. Philatelic exhibitions provide an opportunity to collectors for showcasing their collection.Each stamp tells a story, and each stamp collector use the medium to learn and acquire knowledge on varied spectrums viz., art, culture, flora & fauna, history, geography, science & technology, armed forces, sports, prominent personalities etc.,

While I was introduced to collect stamps at the age of 7, I used to peel off the stampon the right corner of an envelope and preserve it in my school notebook. It took almost two decades down the line to realise the intrinsic value of a postage stamp which serves as a cost-effective educative tool.

The commemorative postage stamp on Rapid Action Force (RAF) which was released in the year 2017 struck my mind and it was the first postage stamp which I placed in my stamp album after two decades. The Pride and love towards Indian Defence Forces made me to collect stamps on defence forces theme. More than 75 commemorative postage stamps and 75 Army Special covers have been added to my collection till date. It is a privilege to be among the winners of the“First collected stamp and the story behind it” contest conducted by the Department of Posts on MyGov platform on the occasion of Philately Day during National Postal Week 2021.

To collect, preserve and own a rare piece of stamp or philatelic stationery makes one significantly unique due to several factors like authenticity, quality, rarity, appreciation value etc., To make philately more appealing among the budding minds, a lot of interesting and unique collectibles using postal stationeries & postmarks have been collected in personal interest.



9-10-19 *12-2-21* *22-1-22* *2-2-22*

Few images have been displayed in order to promote philately and to attract more youths to embrace philately as their hobby.Postmarks with unique date cancellations - palindrome& ambigrame.g. 9-10-19, 12-2-21, 22-1-22, 2-2-22, 22-2-22, 22-8-22, 22-11-22 etc., have been collected in the wider interest to make younger generations to explore and learn the classy art of collecting postal stationery.


22-02-22


23-8-22


22-02-22


22-11-22


22-08-22

The sky has no limits, similarly there is no age barrier to collect philatelic materials.- Stamps & Postal stationeryof different countries can be exchanged andcollected randomly through Postcrossing.Several nations across the world has issued unusual shaped and innovative stamps made of unique materials viz., Talking(Record stamps) & Steel stamps of Bhutan, Meteorite dust stamp of Austria, Cork stamp of Portugal, Chocolate stamps of UK Royal mail, Glowing stamps of Malaysia, Lenticular stamps of New Zealand, Wooden stamps of Switzerland,3-D stamps,Scented fragrant stamps, Silver foil stamps, Embroidered stamps etc.,Older stamps are generallymore valuable than modern stamps.

Though billions of stamps have been issued in the world, the first postage stamp of Independent India, debuted in 1947, depicting the Indian Flag with the patriotic slogan,"- Jai Hind". I feel honoured to possess one of the scarce Indian stamp and owning the first stamp of Independent India bearing tricolour flag is a dream come true for me, and I am delighted to share the image here. I extend my sincere thanks to Mr.P.S.Seshadri, Senior Philatelist for presenting the priceless stamp, which motivated me to adventure and enjoy stamp collecting.


Furthermore, stamps can be collected in different ways like Block of four stamps with colour codes, Top margin, Bottom margin, etc.,

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SIR POST!

N.Subramanian, Superintendent , Railways (Rtd)
Virugambakkam, Chennai

"SIR POST!" are the two small words no bigger than a minute but they have a world of meaning and appreciations in them. And, if "Amma, Paal (Milk in Tamil)" wakes up people in the early morning like the cocks crowing before dawn, "Sir, Post" makes the people curious at noon to those awaits to know whether there is one for them, though they may be well aware that they will not be getting a letter every day.

Without bothering whether it is a Sunday or a holiday, due to over general anxiety, common people used to expect eagerly the postman's majestic tone followed by its synonymous rings of cycle bell on every day afternoon. To whomever it may be this call, people in all the houses of the street to whom it is heard, will immediately peep put eagerly to know who gets what. This anxiety still exists also with city people living in individual houses, the moment they find the entry of a postman in their street. In villages, it is a common phenomenon to share all kinds of news among all people considering themselves as one family. However, immediately on seeing the postman, everyone will ask him "Do I have anything?" and usually get a spontaneous response from him "No, Sir, you don't have anything"—He would be able to say so because he already knew the handful of letters meant to whom, while sorting them in the Post Office itself.Even after this initial response, he will be asked to check once again and the postman too will check his bag sincerely for the person's satisfaction and respond, "No Sir, you do have nothing". [In fact, when this conversation takes place in Tamil language, it becomes a joke to mean that the asker doesn't have anything in his brain and gets it confirmed].

Anyway, the pleasure of expecting letters by eagerly anticipating the postman's arrival is always unique to every individual. How can we forget the romance of the post card and our 'eager-wait' for the postman. No village house is used to keep a 'letter box' as in the city but invariably constructed with a "Thinnai"—a rectangular shaped & raised mud or cement platform at its frontage for people to sit and relax. Whenever a letter or Money Order comes to a family, the postman will sit for a while on "Thinnai" and deliver it. He will also make cordial enquiries of the family members. If needed he will read the message and also help to write a reply letter for which purpose, he will be keeping post cards & inland letters etc., readily in his worn-out and weather beaten leather bag patiently, though it was not his duty.

Well or Ill, he will tell it in an appropriate way to double the joy of happy news and to reduce the tension of sad news. Depending upon the type of message he has delivered,

he would never fail to appreciate, pacify, console or suggest “to wait with hope” for good things to happen. He is well aware who is expecting what and as such, the moment he gets in his hand the letter meant to the person who has been anticipating it so deeply for days, he will go in search of that person on top priority in whichever corner he is and hand it over and feel happy on seeing the receiver’s face brightening.

During his routine rounds, the affectionate people will kindly offer him hot or cold water, milk or butter milk, tender coconut, etc.. Being considered as a member of extended family of the entire village, he will be compelled to take part in all common festivals of the village, besides individual family’s functions like marriage, birthday, etc.. It is the postman’s humanity towards the innocent village people with unadulterated love. The intimacy and confidence in between these two has got its own sanctity and goes beyond any comparison. These sentiments weigh a lot heavily on me whenever I compare such dedicated postmen with the present day courier people for whom no one is ‘personal’.



அஞ்சல்தலை சேகரிப்பு - சாளரத்தி ன்வழியே உலகம்

காடும் மலையும்,
ஆறும் வயலும்,
கர்ஜிக்கும் சிங்கமும்,
காற்று வீசும் மரங்களும்,
ரீங்காரமிடும் வண்டும்,
நடனமிடும் மயிலும்,
காந்தியின் சிரிப்பும்
கவின்மிகு மலர்களும்
ஆழ்கடலும்,
அதிசயங்களும்
நிலவொளிபோல் பட்டுத்தெறித்து பிரகாசிக்கின்றன
அஞ்சல் தலைகளில்..

அவை இயம்புகின்றன போர்களையும் சமாதானத்தையும் .
பறைசாற்றுகின்றன மன்னராட்சியையும் சரித்திரத்தையும் .
நினைவுகூர்கின்றன தியாகிகளின் தியாகங்களை. நிலைநிறுத்துகின்றன
வளர்ச்சிகளையும் சாதனைகளையும்.
நம்கைப்பிடித்து அழைத்துச்செல்கின்றன,
கண்டங்க ள்வழியே,
கடலின்ஊடே,
விண்வெளிக்கு அப்பால்,
பிரபஞ்ச ம்முழுதும்..

பொழுது போக்கென சுருக்கிடமுடியாது.
வரலாற்றின்சுடர்..
கலையின் செழுமை..
மனிதக்கைகளால் சிருஷ்டிக்கப்பட்ட
பேருலகம்..
காலமான காலத்தைக்
கண்ணில் காட்டும்பாலம்..
ஒளிக்காட்டிவழி நடத்திடும் ஆசான்..
அள்ளக்குறையா அற்புதப் பொக்கிஷம்..

அஞ்சல்தலைகள் அளவில் சிறியவை - அவை
காட்டுகின்றன பெரும் உலகினை !
அஞ்சல்தலைகள் எளிமையானவை - அவை
சொல்கின்றன ஆயிரமாயிரம் கதைகளை !

இணைய உலகிலும் குன்றா இனிமையுடன்
மிளிர்கின்றன
கண்காட்சியில் அணிவகுத்து நின்று
கதைசொல்லிக்களி கூறுகின்றன
தாள்வடிவில் தரணியைச் சுற்றிக்காட்டுகின்றன..
நேற்றைய கனவுகளையும்
நாளைய நம்பிக்கைகளையும்
சிறப்பு அஞ்ச ல்உறைகளாகவும்
மினியேச்சர்களாகவும் நம்கரங்களுக்குள் திணிக்கின்றன
கண்காட்சிக்குவாருங்கள்!
அஞ்சல்தலைகள் சொல்லும் கதைகளில்
அமிழ்ந்திடுங்கள்
தேடிக்கிடைக்காத பொக்கிஷங்களைக்
கண்டடையுங்கள்.
சிறுசதுரசாளர ம்திறந்து
இம்மா பெரும்பிரபஞ்சத்தைக்
கண்விரியக் கண்டிடுங்கள்.

ச. சீதாபாரதி
கன்னியாகுமரிஅஞ்ல்கோட்டம்

வணக்கம். நான்முத்துபேசுகிறேன்

S. Prema, Office Assistant,
O/o SPOs, Kanniyakumari Division 629 001

வணக்கம். நான் முத்து பேசுகிறேன்.

அன்பர்களே. நான் கொஞ்சமே கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சல் மொழியில் உங்களோடு கொஞ்சி பேச விரும்புகிறேன். உங்கள் முன்பு காக்கி சட்டையும் கையில் பையும் வைத்துக் கொண்டு மரகதப் (மனிதப்) புறாவாக நான் ஏன் இங்கு உங்களை வரவேற்க நிற்கிறேன் தெரியுமா? என் சிறகுகள் கொண்டு உங்கள் வார்த்தைகளுக்கு சிறகுகள் கொடுத்து தூரத்திலிருக்கும் உறவுகளுக்கு உங்களுடைய உள்ள உணர்வின் உன்னதத்தை உள்ளதை உள்ளபடியே அளித்திடவே நிற்கிறேன். ஆலம் விழுதில் ஊஞ்சல் கட்டிடும் போது விழுந்திடுவோமோ என்கிற ஐயமேதும் இருக்காதல்லவா. அதுபோலத்தான் உங்கள் வார்த்தை ஊஞ்சல்களை எங்கள் அஞ்சலகங்கள் எனும் விழுது வழி நீங்கள் அனுப்பிடும் போது அஞ்சல்காரர்களாகிய எங்களுக்கு பல மைல் தூரமோ அல்லது தாங்க முடியா பாரமோ ஒரு பொருட்டல்ல.

வட்ட பந்தாய் சுழலும் பூமிக்கு அணுக்கமாய் இருக்கும் சூரியனும் நிலவும் போல நாங்களும் இரவு பகல் பாராது மழை வெயில் பாராது உங்கள் வார்த்தைகளோடு வட்டமடித்துக் கொண்டு கன்னியாகுமரி முதல் காஷ்மீர் வரை பயணிக்கிறோம். தென்றல் காற்றும் ஃபெஞ்சல் புயலும் எங்களை என்றும் கலங்கடித்ததில்லை. வரமாட்டேன் வெளியே என அநேகம் பேர் உள்ளேயே முடங்கிக் கிடந்த கொரோனா காலத்திலும் படிதாண்டி பயணித்து உரிய மருந்துகளை உரிய நேரத்தில் சேர்த்திட்டோம் நாங்கள்.

செந்தமிழும் நாடகத் தமிழும் செழுமை கொண்டிருந்த சங்க காலத்தில் ஒரு தலைவன் தன் தலைவிக்கும் ஒரு மன்னன் தன் பக்கத்து தேச மன்னனுக்கும் வார்த்தைகளைப் புறா விடு தூதில் அனுப்பினர். ஆம். அந்த புறாக்கள் அனைத்தும் மறுபிறவி எடுத்து இதோ நாடெங்கிலும் அஞ்சல்காரர்களாய் அவதரித்திருக்கிறோம். "சாகாவரம் போலொரு சோகம் உண்டோ" மனிதனுக்கு. ஆனால் அதற்கு நேர்மாறாய் "சாகாவரம் போல் யோகம்" கொண்டவை மனிதன் எழுதிடும் எழுத்துக்கள் மட்டுமே.

நான் ஒன்று சொல்கிறேன். கேட்பீர்களா. "தயைசெய்து எழுதிடுங்கள். தினமும் எழுதிடுங்கள். இல்லையேல் மாதத்தில் ஒரு முறையேனும் கடிதம் எழுதிடுங்கள். உங்கள் கையெழுத்தில் உருட்டி உருட்டி எழுதிடுங்கள். அதனை அழகாய் உறையிலிட்டு எங்கள் அஞ்சல் தலையினை ஒட்டி அஞ்சல் வழி அனுப்பிடுங்கள். உங்கள் விரல்பட்டு ஒட்டப்பட்ட அஞ்சல்தலையில் நாங்கள் அஞ்சல்முத்திரையிட்டு பத்திரமாய் உங்கள் அன்பானவர்களிடம் சேர்த்திடுவோம். Nothing like a nice letter". உங்கள் எழுத்தின் வழி வந்த வார்த்தைகளைக் கண்டு உங்கள் அன்பானவர்கள் புன்னகைக்கட்டும். அந்த புன்னகை பூவின் மகரந்தம் காற்றோடு காற்றாகக் கலந்து மகிழ்ச்சியாய் விரியட்டும்.

ஒவ்வோரு அஞ்சல் தலைக்கும் ஒரு கதை உண்டு. பொழுதுபோக்காய் எங்கள் கதைகளை (அஞ்சல் தலைகளை) சேகரித்திடுங்கள். உங்கள் விரல் பட்டதால் அஞ்சல் தலைகள் தன்னுடைய இல்லாத வாய் கொண்டு இனிமையாய் இனி உங்கள் கதையும் சொல்லும். கதைகளாலும் நினைவலைகளாலும் உங்களை நிரப்பிடுங்கள். நினைவுகளைக் கரங்கள் கொண்டு அணைத்திடுங்கள்.

அரசியல், வரலாறு, முக்கிய நபர்கள், தேசிய மற்றும் சர்வதேச நிகழ்வுகள், புவியியல், தாவரங்கள், விலங்கினங்கள், விவசாயம், அறிவியல், நினைவுச்சின்னங்கள், இன்னுயிர் ஈன்ற இராணுவ வீரர்கள், வியத்தகு விஞ்ஞானிகள் என சகலத்தைப் பற்றியும் சகாப்தம் தாண்டியும் கதை கூறிடும் அஞ்சல்தலைகளை தலைபணிந்து வணங்குகிறோம். அப்படிப்பட்ட அஞ்சல்தலைகளைக் காண 29.01.2025 முதல் 01.02.2025 வரை சென்னையில் சிறப்பாகவும் செம்மையாகவும் நடைபெறப் போகும் எங்கள் TANAPEX-2025 இனை காண வருகை புரிந்திடுங்கள். உங்களுக்காக வழி மேல் விழி வைத்து TANAPEX இன் MASCOT ஆக நான் விழா அரங்கின் வாயிலில் காத்து நிற்பேன். வருவீர்கள் தானே!!

இப்படிக்கு
உங்கள் முத்து



Ode to Philately

A world unfolds on a paper square,
Of art and history, rich and rare.
A tiny canvas, a tale to tell,
Of journeys traveled and places that dwell.

From oceans deep to mountain high,
Each stamp whispers a nation's cry.
Kings and queens, and battles fought,
Cultures preserved, and lessons taught.

The penny black, the story's start,
A philatelist's joy, a collector's heart.
Postmarks speak of time and space,
A fleeting glimpse of a bygone trace.

Embossed in colors, etched in grace,
Geography mapped on a humble face.
Flowers bloom and creatures soar,
Heritage captured forevermore.

Olympic dreams and festival cheer,
Each stamp records a passing year.
From Gandhi's smile to monuments grand,
India's treasures in your hand.

Across the globe, through every land,
Stamps unite, a timeless strand.
A hobby cherished, a passion's fire,
A love that time could not retire.

So hail to philately, art refined,
A mirror of humankind.
In each small piece, a world you see—
A journey through eternity.

P. Yuvaanesh
48, V.O.C Nagar, Tiruvannamalai

A philatelic exhibition, a treasure to behold,
Stories of nations in hues so bold.

Borders dissolve in this vibrant display
Uniting the world in a singular way

From the first Penny Black to modern art,
Each stamp crafted with a collector's heart.

A glimpse of leaders, a bird in flight,
Events and moments frozen in sight.

Here lies the charm of a bygone age,
Wars and triumphs inked on a page.

Explorers' tales and festivals cheer,
In philately's realm, the world feels near.

A tiny square, a paper frame,
Each one tells a tale, a name,

Of lands afar, of times gone by,
Of soaring eagles, or a moonlit sky.

Pressed with ink, yet boundless in reach,
A stamp is a lesson that history can teach.

From kings and queens to battles won,
To flowers that bloom beneath the sun.

In albums bound with care and pride,
Philately keeps the past alive.

It's not just paper, it's art, it's lore,
It's the key to a million stories or more.

Shri Sanjay Roy
PA Anna Road HO
A Philatelic Dreamscape TANAPEX



"தபால்காரர்" வாழ்வின் உயிர் எழுத்துக்கள்

அ அஞ்சல் தலைகளுடன் கூடிய
அஞ்சல் உறைகள் மற்றும் அலுவலகத்
தபால்களை அன்புடன் சேகரித்து

ஆ ஆழ்ந்த அக்கறையுடன்
ஆர்வமுடன் அதிகமான அஞ்சல் கட்டுகளை
சினம் கொள்ளாமல்

இ இன்றைய தலைமுறையினருக்கு ஏற்றவாறு
இணையத்திலும் சேவை மேற்க்கொண்டு

ஈ ஈவை PDA Account -ல் கணக்கிட்டு
ஈகை மனப்பான்மையுடன் ஈந்து

உ உலகத்திலிருந்து வரும் அனைத்து
அஞ்சல் உறைகளையும் உற்சாகமாக
எடுத்துக்கொண்டு

ஊ ஊர் ஊராக
ஊக்கமுடன் மிதிவண்டி,
மோட்டார் வாகனம் எனச் சென்று

எ எண்ணி, எண்ணி அதிக அஞ்சல் உறைகளை வெயில், மழை
என்று பாராமல் எல்லா காலங்களிலும் அலைந்து

ஏ ஏற்பட்ட களைப்பில் மீண்டும்
ஏற்றம் கொண்டு, ஏறு வரிசையில் (ஒவ்வொரு வீடாக)

ஐ ஐயமில்லாமல்
ஐந்து விரல்கள், பத்தாக மாற்றி வேலைப்பார்த்து

ஒ ஒன்று, இரண்டு, மூன்று ..... என
ஒருவருடன் ஒருவர் இணைந்து கைக்கோர்த்து,
ஒற்றுமையாக (அனைத்து தபால்காரர்களும்)

ஓ ஓருள்ளமாக
ஓடிச்சென்று

ஔ ஔவியம் பேசாமல் அனைவருக்கும்
அஞ்சல் உறைகளை வழங்கி தடங்கல் இல்லாமல்
தர வேண்டியவர் மற்றும் தகவல்
அளிப்பவரே "தபால் காரர்"

ஃ HOW IS IT ?

G. Rajesh Kumar,
Philatelist from Madurai

Stamped in Freedom's Legacy
On paper wings, through time they soar,
Stamps that honor those who bore
The weight of chains, the fight for right,
Unsung heroes who sparked the light.
The postal hand, both swift and true,
Carried their dreams the world anew.
Through silent nights and stormy skies,
They bridged the distance where courage lies.
Each stamp a tribute, a canvas small,
Telling the tale of their mighty call.
The rebel's stand, the quiet flame,
Their valor sealed in history's name.
From fields of battle to cells of stone,
Their sacrifice was seldom known.
Yet the postal threads, with care and grace,
Ensured their stories found their place.
No laurels crowned their weary brow,
But the postal service honors them now.
Through stamps they live, their spirits rise,
Immortalized beneath our skies.
So let us hail both hands and ink,
The ones who fought, the ones who link.
For freedom's fire, their paths align,
Unsung heroes, through stamps, we enshrine.

R.Vanathy B.Ed

சிறு தபால் தலையே!

ஒவ்வொருநாளும் - நீ இலக்கோடு
(புதிது புதிதாக) வருகின்றாய் உனது
வரலாறுகளை உயர்த்தி அதில் பொது
அறிவுகளை வைத்து குழந்தைகளைஈர்த்து,
அறிவுவிருந்துபடைக்கின்றாய் உனது
எல்லைகளைப் பரப்பி பலநாட்டிற்குச்
செல்கின்றாய் Philately - எனும் பொழுது
போக்கினை க்கொடுத்து சிறியவர்கள்
முதல் பெரியவர்கள் வரை - உன் மீது
ஓர் நாட்டத்தினை ஏற்படுத்துகின்றாய் -
அவர்கள் மீது Philatelist எனு ம்பட்டத்தை
மாட்டிச் சென்று TANAPEX - 2025 ல்
பலசாதனைகள் படைக்க அனுப்பிவைக்கிறாய்
பூமியில் உள்ள ஒவ்வொரு பொழுது
போக்கிற்க்கும் இல்லாத ஓர்தனித்துவம்
உனக்கு உண்டு - அதனாலே நீ பொழுது
போக்குகளின் பெருமைமிகு அரசனாக
உள்ளாய்
நீஎந்த மனிதனையும் பண்புள்ளவனாக
மாற்றுகின்றாய் உன்னிடம் வந்தபிறகு

அவர்களை பக்குவப்படுத்தி பண்படுத்துகின்றாய்!
குறும்பும் செய்யும் குழந்தைகளுக்குக்
கூட - உன்னிடம் அமைதியாகின்றனர்
நமக்காகவாழும் இந்த உலகில் - நீ
பிறருக்காக வாழ்ந்து கொண்டிருக்கின்றாய்!

தபால்தலை - அழகானது
தபால்தலை - இனிமையானது
தபால்சேகரிப்பு - சுகமானது

தபால்தலைகளை பாதுகாப்போம்
PHILATELY - ஐ வாழ்த்திடுவோம்!
வளர்த்திடுவோம்!!

T.MULLIPALLAM PHILETELY CLUB
மாணவர்கள்
GOVT HR.SEC.SCHOOL.
MADURAI.

My First Sight

Unkempt, Unconcerned, faraway
Sharp announcement, someone's on the way
Salutations all around
A grand old man, addressing the crowd
Album he displays, full of colors
Heads of many and of towers
Stamps! He called them
They seemed to me, Hall of fame
Picked one, he explained
Wealth of information, I gained
Tidy, concerned, nearby
A leisure activity, he proclaimed
King of hobbies, he gave it a name
Took this with both hands, ready to game

Muhammed Zahiruddin
Office Assistant, CCS DO

That's Philately

The face is a miniature sheet
The words are mint
The Smiles are the colours
The whole makes the design-

The Path is a procedure-
That takes to a destination -
The stops are few, for you
To release First day, you cover

You are an exhibition-
The Differences in frame-
Everyone may visit – you
May have a Name –

You speak History
In a broucher
That remains in History
As we Nurture

You stick to envelopes –
That carry many hopes –
The Seal on you, I view
The Date I got my interview –
All that I keep in safe –
You stick to it always –

I Saw all my leaders – in you
The struggle for freedom-
I saw all the birds - in you
The ones really free
I saw all the animals - in you
The one's I have never seen

All that was in one Place
The TANAPEX –
No heart to leave early –
And That's Philately

L.SURESH BABU,
HSG I Postmaster,
Mylapore Ho

அஞ்சல் முத்திரைகள்

அன்று ஒரு நாள் அழகிய காலை
செவ்வக வடிவத்தில் செதுக்கிய பதுமைகளாய்
அஞ்சல் தலைகள் அணி வகுத்த காட்சி
துண்டு காகிதங்கள் அல்ல - அவை
ஒவ்வொன்றும் காவியங்கள்

பென்னி பிளாக் தொடங்கி இன்று
பரபரப்பு பாரீஸ் ஒலிம்பிக் வரை
விதவிதமான தபால் தலைகள்
ஒவ்வொன்றும் வரலாற்று சேகரங்கள்

தேசப்பிதா முதல் தேசிய தலைவர் வரை
நாட்டுக்காய் உழைத்திட்ட நல்லவர்கள் புகழ் பாடும்
அன்பின் வெளிப்பாடாய் அஞ்சல் முத்திரைகள்

பருவநிலை மாற்றம், பண்பாட்டு தோற்றம்
இருந்த நாடுகள், மறைந்த நாடுகள்
போர்வரி, அகதிகள்நிவாரண நிதி இப்படி
அத்தனைக்குமாய் தபால் தலைகள்
அவை நம் கலாச்சார தூதுவர்கள்

ஆசியாவின் ஆதி தபால்தலை சிந்தே டாக்
அகமகிழும் சுதந்திரத்தை போற்றிட்ட தேசியக்கொடி
நாடுகளுக்கிடையே நல்லுணர்வை வளர்த்திடும்
-கூட்டு தபால் தலைகள் கொண்டாடி மகிழ்கின்றோம்
சொல்ல என்றும் பல உண்டு சொல்லில்
அடங்கா உணர்வுகளும் இதில் உண்டு

அத்தனையும் அலைபேசி என ஆகிவிட்ட போதினிலும்
இந்த துளையிட்ட துண்டு காகிதத்தை
துடிப்பாய் படிப்பதினால்
பண்டு பெற்ற பாரதத்தின் பக்கங்கள் தெரிவதுடன்
பரந்த உலகத்தின் படிப்பினையும் பெற்றிடலாம்

அஞ்சல் முத்திரைகள் அறிந்தே தெரிந்திடுவீர்
உங்கள் எண்ணங்கள் உயிரோட்டம் கொண்டிடவே

சௌகற்பகம்
சென்னைபொதுஅஞ்சலகம்

“Tanapex 2025: Tamil Nadu in Focus"
On paper squares, stories unfold,
A treasure trove, more precious than gold.
Philately sings of a world so vast,
A bridge connecting the future and past.

From Tamil Nadu, where culture thrives,
A legacy rich, where history survives.
Temples rise in intricate art,
Each stamp reflects a beating heart.

The Chola bronzes, the Sangam lore,
Craft and beauty from every shore.
Thanjavur’sBrihadeeswarar’s towering might,
On stamps, it gleams with eternal light.

The festivals grand, the jasmine’s scent,
Tamil Nadu’s essence, stamps represent.
The shores of Kanyakumari gleam,
In philately’s art, they forever dream.

Tanapex 2025, a grand affair,
Collectors gather, a vision to share.
A showcase of stamps, old and new,
Tamil Nadu shines in every hue.

Postmarks trace the paths we tread,
Legends of kings and words once said.
Through stamps, the world comes to see,
Tamil Nadu’s vibrant history.

So hail to philately, a timeless art,
Binding nations, a collector's heart.
In Tanapex’s halls, the passion stays,
Celebrating Tamil Nadu in countless ways.

M. Mallikadevi
Postal Assistant
Madurai HO

KING OF HOBBIES.

Down the Rabbit Hole, lost in dream
I woke up to a stamp looking at me.
I gasped in awe to what I saw
Hall with all the stamps ever printed to see.

Made me wonder, what tiny papers they are
So fragile and faint for a touch harsh.
Yet centuries they have crossed
Stories they hold and miles they have passed.

To many eyes they remain trifling
Just a bearer of charges they would pay.
Only to keen eyes they remain
A prized possession for life to maintain.

Some are small, some large,
Some scented, most are not,
Of different shapes you’ll find
But a line out of the ordinary
And they go to the collector’s trove.

Filled with notable individuals, flora and fauna
They are our fame to behold,
Collect by one, many or by theme,
‘King of Hobbies’ is the name.

By.
Sunitha Devi S
Postal Assistant
Mylapore HPOb
Chennai 600004



Philately – Connecting Voices across Nation
Oh Philo's…. The king of Hobbies,
A glance into world history.
Researching another country,
Unearths so many mysteries.

The study of a small squared paper,
Inscribed with abundant gist and identification.
Imprints on every letter,
Connects every voice acrossnation.

It's not just thoughtful,
Of what a culture is about.
But learning to speak the language is delightful,
Will be a challenge no doubt.

It's a wonderful task,
And one that is well worth while.
Each stamp from all folks,
Has an interesting and unique style.

Enjoy the stories they express,
With description on everyone.
They go way back in stretch,
When stamps had first begun.

This is the hobby and chance,
that hold fascination.
With their mystery and certainly romance,
That spreads across the Nation.

-S Ramasubramanian,
Postal Assistant,

TANAPEX 2025
முதல் தபால் தலையாய்
1840ல் மே மாதம் பிறந்தாய்

இங்கிலாந்தின் பென்னி பிளாக்
விக்டோரியா அரசியின்
முகம் சுமந்து வந்தாய்
அதனாலோ என்னவோ
பொழுதுபோக்குகளின் அரசி
எப்போதும் நீதான்

200 வருடங்களாய் அந்த
இருக்கையை விட்டு இறங்கவில்லை நீ!

கடினமான வரலாற்றைக் கூட
சில மில்லி மீட்டர்
சதுர, செவ்வகங்களில்
படங்களாய் காட்டுவாய்

கடந்த காலத்துக்குக்
கூட்டிச்செல்லும்கால எந்திரம் நீ!
இறந்தவரையும் நினைத்துக்
கொள்ளச் செய்யும் இறை மந்திரம் நீ!

சேகரிப்பவர்களுக்குப் பொழுதுபோக்கு மட்டுமல்ல
பொக்கிஷ பேழை தான்
பார்ப்பவர்களுக்கோ மகிழ்ச்சி மட்டுமல்ல
கணநேர போதிமரம்

பார்வையாளர்களையும் சேகரிப்பாளராக்கும்
கொரோனாவை விடக்
கொடிய தொற்றுக்கிருமி தான் நீ!

சந்தன மணம் கமழும்தபால் தலைகள்,
நினைவு தபால் தலைகள்,
சிறப்புத்தபால் தலைகள்,
முதல் நாள் அஞ்சல் உறைகள்
மற்றும் என் தபால் தலைஎன
வகைக்கொன்றாய்
வளர்ந்து கொண்டே செல்கிறாய்

தபால் தலையில் தலை காட்டுவது
தலைவர்களுக்குக் கிடைக்கும்
ஆகச்சிறந்த மாண்பு

எழில் கொஞ்சும் இயற்கை,
அரிய தாவர, விலங்கினம்
சீர்மிகு தலைவர்கள், இன்ன பிற நிகழ்வுகள்
அனைத்தையும் பதிவு செய்கிறாய்

பொது அறிவு பெருக்கும்
தகவல் களஞ்சியம் நீ!
வரலாற்று அறிவையும்
வளர்க்கும் என்சைக்ளோபீடியா நீ!

செல்லிட பேசியில் கண்கள் நிலைகுத்தி
நின்றாலும் கடிதங்கள் சுமந்து வந்த
அன்பையும் பண்பையும் ஈராயிரத் தலைமுறை
திரும்பிப் பார்க்க தான் செய்கிறது

ஆண்ட்ராய்டு மோகம் இருந்தாலும் தக்கது
நிலைக்கும் எனும் டார்வின் கொள்கைப்படி
AI யுகத்திலும் புது பரிமாணத்தில் மிளிர்கிறாய்
மெண்ணுணர்வு மனிதர்களின்
நுண்ணுணர்வை மெருகூட்டிச் செல்கிறாய்.

அஞ்சல் துறையின்
அங்கமான
அஞ்சல்தலை சேகரிப்பு
மணிமகுடமாய் என்றும்
மிளிரட்டும்.
உன்னை அரியணையேற்றி
தமிழ்நாடு அஞ்சல் வட்டம் பெருமைப் படுகிறது.
வாழிய நீ..!
TANAPEXவைர விழாவும் காண்பாய் நீ!

P.Indira Gandhi,
SPM,Kalkurichi SO

பாசமான அஞ்சல் தலை.. பாலமான அஞ்சல் தலை..

அயல் நாட்டில் இருந்து வந்த கடிதத்தை பிரித்தெடுத்து ஆர்வமாக படித்துக் கொண்டிருந்த அன்பு நெஞ்சங்களின் நடுவே நாற்காலியில் வைக்கப்பட்ட அஞ்சல் உறையை நாட்டத்துடன் நோட்டம் விட்டபடி எட்டு வைத்தது ஒரு வாண்டு..
அஞ்சல் உறையின் மீது அம்சமாக அமர்ந்திருந்த பட்டாம்பூச்சியைப் பறந்து விடுவதற்குள் பிடித்து விடுவது என தொட்டு பார்த்தது.. ஏனோ அது பறக்கவில்லை..
தனது சுட்டி விரல்களால் சுரண்டி பார்த்த வேளையில்
தான் ஒட்டிக் கொண்டிருந்த உறையிலிருந்து பக்குவமாக பிரிந்து வந்து பாசத்தோடு அவள் கரம் சேர்ந்தது அந்த பட்டாம்பூச்சி.
அஞ்சல் தலை என்று அறியாமலேயே அவள் எடுத்து தன் தலையணைக்குள் பத்திரமாய் சேமித்த முதல் அஞ்சல் தலை அதுவே..
அதன் பின்னர் அவளுக்காக அஞ்சல் தலை எடுத்த அவதாரங்கள் இங்கே..
நேர்த்தியாக மடிக்கப்பட்ட உறையின் நெற்றியில் ஒய்யாரமாக ஒட்டிக்கொண்டு நெடுந்தூரம் சென்று வந்தது அஞ்சல் தலை..
தேசங்கள் தாண்டினும் தாய் மண்ணின் வாசம் மாறாத நேசத்தை ஏந்தி சென்றது அஞ்சல் தலை..
வண்ணங்களால் கண்சிமிட்டி வாசத்தினால் வழிநடத்தி அவள் மனதில் வேரூன்றிக் கொண்ட அஞ்சல் தலை..
எண்ணையும் எழுத்தையும் இரு கண்ணெனக் கொண்டு என்றும் எளிமையோடு இருந்தது அஞ்சல் தலை..
உறுதி மிக்க தலைவர்களின் உருவப்படங்களை ஏந்தி வீர நடை போட்டு வீட்டுக்குள் வந்தது அஞ்சல் தலை..
ஆர்வத்தையும் தேடலையும் துருப்புச் சீட்டுகள் எனத் தந்து அறிவின் பாதையைக் காட்டிக் கொடுத்தது அஞ்சல் தலை..
சித்திர சேமிப்பிற்காக செய்த முதலீட்டில் சித்தரிக்கும் திறனையும் சேர்த்தே வளர்த்தது அஞ்சல் தலை..
தொல்லியல் புரட்சி முதல் தொழிற்புரட்சி வரை தோளிலே சுமந்து வந்தது அஞ்சல் தலை..
அறிவியல் அறிஞர்களையும் அரசியல் தலைவர்களையும் அறிமுகம் செய்தது அஞ்சல் தலை..
வரலாற்று நிகழ்வுகளையும் வற்றாத நினைவுகளையும் வகையாய்ப் பரிசளித்தது அஞ்சல் தலை..
இதிகாச நாயகர்கள் முதல் இன்னிசைக் கலைஞர்கள் வரை இயல்பாய் பிரதிபலித்தது அஞ்சல் தலை..
பாடப்புத்தகத்தை தாண்டிய பரந்த பொது அறிவைப் பருகிட வைத்தது அஞ்சல் தலை..
அறிஞர்கள் அரங்கிற்கும் அருங்காட்சியகத்திற்கும் அவளை அழைத்துச் சென்றது அஞ்சல் தலை..
செலவிட்ட பொழுது சிறிதே ஆயினும் அவளுக்கு சிறப்பு சேர்த்த நண்பன் அஞ்சல் தலை..
சேகரிப்பில் அவள் செலுத்திய அக்கறையால் ஈர்க்கப்பட்டு செல்வமென வந்து சேர்ந்து கொண்டது அஞ்சல் தலை..
தனது நாற்பது வயதில் தேசிய அளவிலான அஞ்சல் தலை கண்காட்சியைக் காண வரும் சிறார்களுடன் கலந்துரையாட சிறப்பு விருந்தினராகச் சென்றிருந்தாள்..
உற்சாகமாகப் பங்கு பெற்ற குழந்தைகளோடு தனது அனுபவங்களைப் பகிர்ந்து கொண்டாள்..
ஆர்வத்துடன் பதிலளித்த சிறார்களுக்கு தனது சேகரிப்பில் இருந்து சில அஞ்சல் தலைகளைப் பரிசாகக் கொடுத்து பாராட்டினாள்..
நறுமணமூட்டப்பெற்ற அஞ்சல் தலை ஒன்றை முகர்ந்து பார்த்து "ரோஜாப்பூ" என்று சரியாக கணித்த ஆறு வயதான பட்டாம்பூச்சி ஒன்று அதையே பரிசாகப் பெற்று துள்ளிச் சென்ற போது..
தனக்கே உரிய தனித்துவத்தோடு
தன்னை சேகரித்தவரின் முத்திரையையும்
தலைமுறைகள் தாண்டி
கடத்தி சென்று கொண்டிருக்கும்

அன்பு பாலமானது அஞ்சல் தலை..
அறிவு பாலமானது அஞ்சல் தலை..
நினைவு பாலமானது அஞ்சல் தலை..

கி.மீனாகுமாரி என்ற
நந்தினி,
அஞ்சல் உதவியாளர்,
கன்னியாகுமரி அஞ்சல் கோட்டம்.

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அஞ்சல் தலை

அஞ்சல் தலைகளின் அரங்கம், அது அள்ள சுரக்கும் சுரங்கம்
அறிய செயல்கள் பலவும், பலர் அறிய செய்திட முழங்கும்
அஞ்சா வீரர்கள் தியாகம்,நம் அஞ்சல் தலைகள் அறியும்
நெஞ்சுரம் மிக்கவர் தீரம், நம் நினைவில் நித்தமும் சேரும்

அஞ்சல் தலைகளின் காட்சி, நம் ஆற்றல் மிக்க சாட்சி
தலைமுறை கடந்தும் நிற்கும் நம் அஞ்சல் தலைக்கில்லை வீழ்ச்சி
அருமைத் தலைவர்கள் வாழ்வை, நம் அஞ்சல் தலைகள் சொல்லும்
அறியா தலைமுறை பிறர்க்கும் அது அழகாய் கொண்டு செல்லும்
பழைய நினைவுகள் எல்லாம் நாம் மீண்டும் பார்க்கத் தூண்டும்
இளைய தலைமுறை மக்கள் இதை பேணிக் காத்திடல் வேண்டும்.

மழலையர் மனங்களில் கூட நம் அஞ்சல் தலைகள் நிற்கும்-அவர்
அறிவு சுடரை தூண்டி பல அரிய தகவல்கள் சேர்க்கும்
சரித்திரம் சொல்லிடும் நீதி-அஞ்சல் தலைகள் சொல்லிடும் செய்தி அதை
இன்றே பேணிக்காத்தால்- நம் வாழ்வில் அது சரிபாதி

சான்றோர் வாழ்க்கை பாடம்- அது அழியா அறிவு பீடம்- அதை
நம் மக்கள் மனங்களில் சேர்க்கும் நம் அஞ்சல் பள்ளிக்கூடம்
அஞ்சல் துறையது இமயம்- அதில் அஞ்சல் தலையது சிகரம்
இவ்வுலகம் இருக்கும் வரையில் - அது ஆழ்கடல் அலையாய் விரியும்

அஞ்சல் தலைகளின் காட்சி - அதை கண்டிட கடலெனத் திரள்வோம்
ஆயக்கலைகளின் வளர்ச்சி - அதை அகிலம் சேர்த்திட முயல்வோம்
அஞ்சல் தலைகள் சேர்ப்போம்- அந்த அறிவு பொக்கிஷம் காப்போம்
நம் தேசிய ஒருமைப்பாட்டை அந்த அஞ்சல் தலைகளில் காண்போம்

ரா. பாலாஜி
PA, CPC
மதுரை தலைமை அஞ்சலகம்.

A STAMP TELLS ITS STORY

ISP is my birth place,
I come with different faces.
Have the privilege to wander,
Around the world with ponder.

Carrying colorful bright images,
Exciting people of all ages.
As definitive I exist for common man,
Commemorative for collector men.

Knowledge on any field can be enriched,
I have not left any subject untouched.
All times, leaving a story I emerge,
At times I boom with a festive splurge.

My Stamp a boon with a privilege,
A good honour or gift for all age.
Seeing their image brings smile,
Connecting happy emotions for a while.

Scinde dawk was my forefather,
Have taken all shapes rather.
Blessed with a status of immortal,
Honoured ever in Philatelists portal.

-V. ANUJA
DPM (SB)
ANNA ROAD HO



Release of Special Cover
on Vellode Bird Sanctuary



Release of Booklets on Orchids



Release of Booklets on Exotic Birds



Release of GI Tag Special Covers
on AuthoorVetrilai



Release of GI Tag Special
Covers on SholavandanVetrilai



Release of Picture Post Card
on Birds Landscape

Glimpse of an Exhibition

Day 1



Inauguration of TANAPEX 2025



Chief Guest of the day - Shri.N.Muruganandam,
Chief Secretary of Govt. of Tamilnadu



Shri.Sivakumar, Artist & Actor
Speech by Guest of Honour



Release of Picture Post Card Album
on drawings depicting the Heritage of Tamilnadu



Release of GI Tag
Special Cover on Manaparai Murukku



Release of Picture Post Card
on Dance forms from Sangam Era



Release of special cancellation cachet
on the theme Cultural heritage of Tamilnadu



Release of Collectors Pack- Stamps of 2024



Release of GI Tag Special
Cover on Rattan Craft



Students attended the seminar on
Migratory Birds visiting Ramsar Sites
of Kazhuveli and Conservation of wetlands.

Day 2



Welcome Speech by DPS



Release of Special Cancellation cachet
on the theme “Natural Wonders of Tamilnadu”



Guest of Honour - Mr.P. Senthil Kumar, IAS,
Principal Secretary to Government,
Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests,
Government of Tamil Nadu.



Guest of Honour - Mr.Srinivas R. Reddy, IFS,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) ,
& CEO, CAMPA (FAC)

Day 3



Guest of Honour- Shri.
Krishnan Vaidiyanathan, Editor Dinamani Tamil Daily



Release of Booklet of
Stamps on Solar System



Release of Special Cancellation cachet on the
theme contribution of Tamilnadu
to Science & Technology



Speech by PMG,
Southern Region

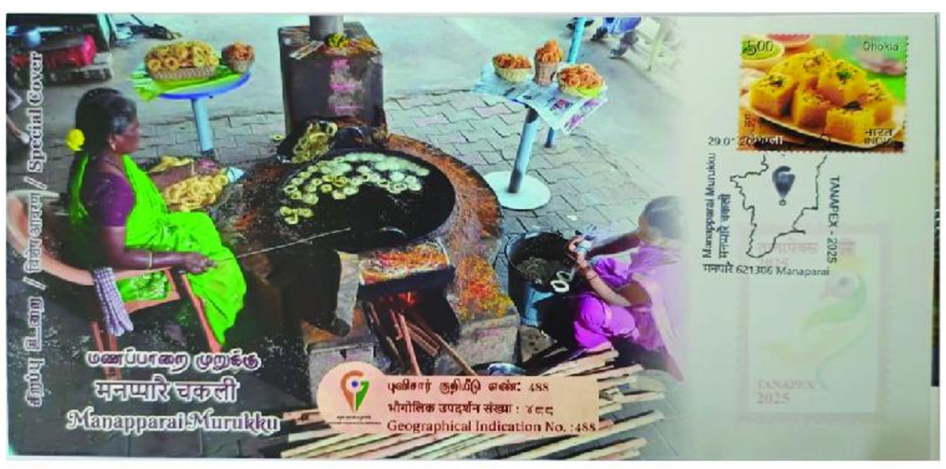
Release of Special Covers









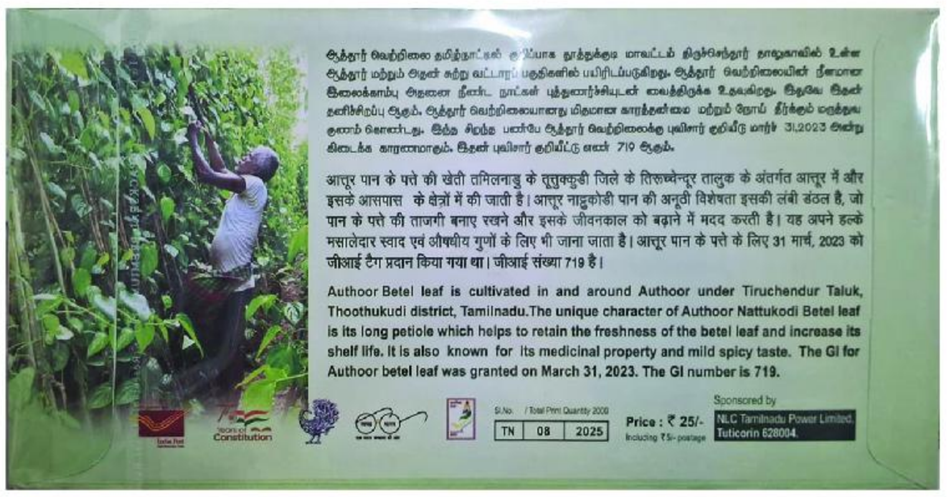





தபால்தலை 2025
தானபெக்ஸ் 2025
TANAPEX 2025
500
भारत
India
चेन्नई Chennai 600030
29-01-2025
TANAPEX 2025 - VR
चेन्नई CHENNAI 600030
29.01.2025

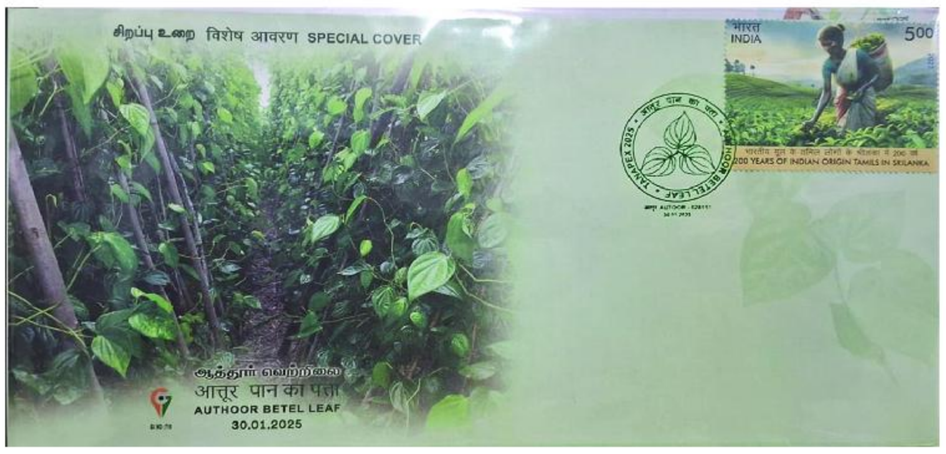

தானபெக்ஸ் 2025 தமிழ்நாடு மாநில அஞ்சல் தலை கண்காட்சியை கண்டு மகிழுங்கள்! தானபெக்ஸ் 2025-ன் சின்னத்தில் தமிழ்நாட்டின் மாநிலப் பறவையான மரகதப்புறா, மாநிலத்தின் பாரம்பரியம் மற்றும் கலாச்சாரத்தை குறிக்கும் வகையில் மரபுரீதியாக அலங்கரிக்கப்பட்டு அதன் மேல் அஞ்சல் சேவையின் வளமான வரலாற்றை பிரதிபலிக்கும் வண்ணம் அஞ்சல் பெட்டி அமைந்துள்ளது. இத்தனித்துவமான வடிவமைப்பு பாரம்பரியம் மற்றும் தனித்துவத்தை ஒருங்கிணைந்து இந்நிகழ்வின் சாராம்சத்தை மிகச்சிறப்பாக எடுத்துரைக்கிறது. இந்த சிறப்பு உறை மெய்நிகர் தொழில்நுட்ப உலகாவில் அற்புதமான தபாபெக்ஸ் 2025-ன் வாயிலாக வெளிக்கொணர்கிறது. இதில் உள்ள விசைப குறியீட்டை (QR Code) வருக 360° இக்கண்காட்சியை உலகில் எந்த மூலையில் இருந்தும் கண்டுகளிக்கலாம். முதன்முறையாக அந்தவின தொழில்நுட்பமும், பாரம்பரியமும் ஒன்றிணைந்து மெய்மக்கல் பெற்ற இந்நிகழ்வில் அஞ்சல் தலை தொகுப்புகளை காணலாம்.
एपुअल रियलिटी में TANAPEX 2025 का अनुभव लें! TANAPEX 2025 के लोगो में तमिलनाडु का राज्य पक्षी, एमराल्ड डव, राज्य की विरासत और संस्कृति का प्रतीक मुकुट से सुसज्जित है और उसके सिर पर एक पोस्ट बॉक्स है, जो डाक सेवाओं के समृद्ध इतिहास का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है। यह अनूठा डिज़ाइन परंपरा और आधुनिकता को खूबसूरती से जोड़ता है, जो इस आयोजन के सार को पूरी तरह से दर्शाता है। यह विशेष आवरण TANAPEX 2025 में VR की अद्भुत दुनिया का जश्न मनाता है। दुनिया के किसी भी कोने से 360° में प्रदर्शनी का मज़ा लेने के लिए QR कोड को स्कैन करें। परंपरा को अत्याधुनिक तकनीक से जोड़ते हुए फिलैटली के अद्भुत दुनिया का आनन्द लें ।
Experience TANAPEX 2025 in Virtual Reality! The logo of TANAPEX 2025 features Tamil Nadu's state bird, the Emerald Dove, adorned with a crown symbolizing the state's heritage and culture, and a post box on its head, representing the rich history of postal services. This unique design beautifully merges tradition and modernity, perfectly capturing the essence of the event. This Special Cover celebrates the immersive world of VR at TANAPEX 2025. Scan the QR code to explore the exhibition in 360° from anywhere in the world. Witness philately like never before—bridging tradition with cutting-edge technology.
TN / 05 / 2025
भारतीय डाक विभाग
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS, INDIA
तमिलनाडु परिमंडल
Tamilnadu Circle
Price
₹150

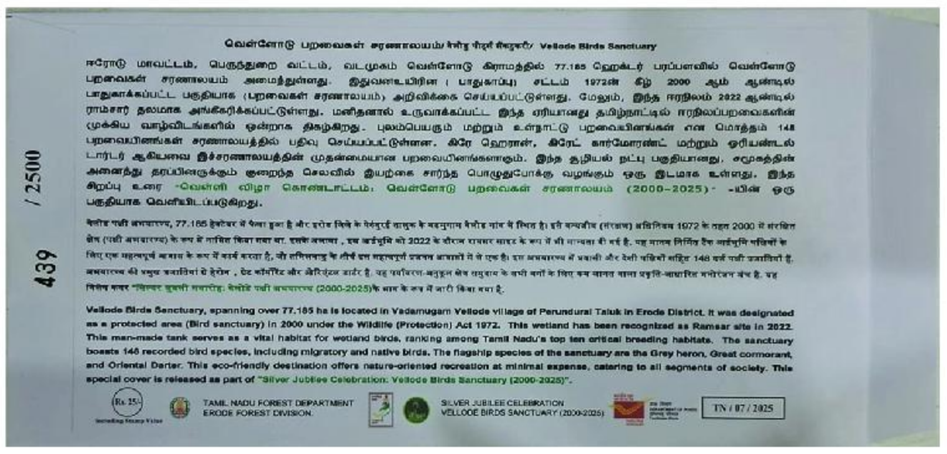

" 2000 - 2025 रजत जयंती वर्ष " 2000 - 2025 Silver Jubilee year
500
भारत
India
Vellode Birds Sanctuary, Erode District, Erode
वेल्लोड पक्षी अभयारण्य, इरोड जिला, इरोड
VELLODE
चेन्नई Chennai 600 030
30.01.2025


ஆத்தூர் வெற்றிலை தமிழ்நாட்டின் ஒரே இடமாக தூத்துக்குடி மாவட்டம் திருச்செந்தூர் தாலுகாவில் உள்ள ஆத்தூர் மற்றும் அதன் சுற்று வட்டாரப் பகுதிகளில் பயிரிடப்படுகிறது. ஆத்தூர் வெற்றிலையின் நீளமான இலைக்காம்பு அதனை நீண்ட நாட்கள் புத்துணர்ச்சியுடன் வைத்திருக்க உதவுகிறது. இதுவே இதன் தனிச்சிறப்பு ஆகும். ஆத்தூர் வெற்றிலையானது மிகுமான காரத்தன்மை மற்றும் நோய் தீர்க்கும் மருத்துவ குணம் கொண்டது. இந்த சிறந்த பயிரே ஆத்தூர் வெற்றிலைக்கு புவிசார் குறியீடு மார்ச் 31,2023 அன்று கிடைக்க காரணமாகும். இதன் புவிசார் குறியீட்டு எண் 719 ஆகும்.
आत्तूर पान के पत्ते की खेती तमिलनाडु के तूतुक्कुडी जिले के तिरूचेन्दूर तालुक के अंतर्गत आत्तूर में और इसके आसपास के क्षेत्रों में की जाती है। आत्तूर नाट्टुकोडी पान की अनूठी विशेषता इसकी लंबी डंठल है, जो पान के पत्ते की ताजगी बनाए रखने और इसके जीवनकाल को बढ़ाने में मदद करती है। यह अपने हल्के मसालेदार स्वाद एवं औषधीय गुणों के लिए भी जाना जाता है। आत्तूर पान के पत्ते के लिए 31 मार्च, 2023 को जीआई टैग प्रदान किया गया था। जीआई संख्या 719 है।
Authoor Betel leaf is cultivated in and around Authoor under Tiruchendur Taluk, Thoothukudi district, Tamilnadu.The unique character of Authoor Nattukodi Betel leaf is its long petiole which helps to retain the freshness of the betel leaf and increase its shelf life. It is also known for its medicinal property and mild spicy taste. The GI for Authoor betel leaf was granted on March 31, 2023. The GI number is 719.
Sl.No. / Total Print Quantity 2000
TN 08 2025
Price : ₹ 25/-
Including ₹5/- postage
Sponsored by
NLC Tamilnadu Power Limited, Tuticorin 628004.


சிறப்பு உறை विशेष आवरण SPECIAL COVER
भारत
INDIA
500
சோழவந்தான் வெற்றிலை
शोलवन्दान पान का पत्ता
SHOLAVANDHAN BETEL LEAF
30.01.2025


சோழவந்தான் வெற்றிலை தமிழ்நாட்டின் மதுரை மாவட்டத்தில் உள்ள சோழவந்தானில் பயிரிடப்படும் ஒரு வெற்றிலை வகையாகும். இவ்வெற்றிலையின் சுவை மற்றும் மருத்துவ குணம் குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது. ஆன்மீக விழாக்கள் மற்றும் பாரம்பரிய சடங்குகளில் இவ்வெற்றிலையானது சிறப்பிடம் வகிக்கிறது. சோழவந்தான் வெற்றிலை மார்ச் 31, 2023 அன்று புவிசார் குறியீட்டினை பெற்றது.
शोलवन्दान पान तमिलनाडु के मदुरै जिले के शोलवन्दान में उगाई जाने वाली पान की एक किस्म है। यह पान अपने स्वाद एवं औषधीय गुणों के लिए प्रसिद्ध है। धार्मिक समारोहों एवं अनुष्ठानों में इसका विशेष स्थान है। शोलवन्दान पान को ३१ मार्च, २०२३ में भौगोलिक संकेत का दर्जा मिला।
Sholavandhan Vetrilai is a variety of Betel leaf cultivated in Sholavandhan in Madurai district, Tamil Nadu. This vetrilai is noted for its taste and medicinal properties. It occupies a special place in religious ceremonies and rituals. The Sholavandhan Vetrilai got Geographical Indication Status on March 31, 2023.
SL.No. 011 / 2000
TN 09 2025
Price : ₹ 25/-
Including ₹5/- postage
Sponsored by
1) Vellalar Uravin Murai Sangam
2) Vertilai Kodikkal Vivasayigal Sangam


சிறப்பு உறை विशेष आवरण SPECIAL COVER
भारत
INDIA
500
ஆத்தூர் வெற்றிலை
आत्तूर पान का पत्ता
AUTHOOR BETEL LEAF
30.01.2025


வெள்ளோடு பறவைகள் சரணாலயம்/ வேளு வீரர் வேலுரின்/ Vellode Birds Sanctuary
ஈரோடு மாவட்டம், பெருந்துறை வட்டம், வடமுகம் வெள்ளோடு கிராமத்தில் 77.165 ஹெக்டர் பரப்பளவில் வெள்ளோடு பறவைகள் சரணாலயம் அமைந்துள்ளது. இதுவன்உயிரின (பாதுகாப்பு) சட்டம் 1972ன் கீழ் 2000 ஆம் ஆண்டில் பாதுகாக்கப்பட்ட பகுதியாக (பறவைகள் சரணாலயம்) அறிவிக்கை செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது. மேலும், இந்த ஈரநிலம் 2022 ஆண்டில் ராம்சார் தலமாக அங்கீகரிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. மனிதனால் உருவாக்கப்பட்ட இந்த ஏரியானது தமிழ்நாட்டில் ஈரநிலப்பறவைகளின் முக்கிய வாழ்விடங்களில் ஒன்றாக திகழ்கிறது. புலம்பெயரும் மற்றும் உள்நாட்டு பறவையினங்கள் என மொத்தம் 148 பறவையினங்கள் சரணாலயத்தில் பதிவு செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளன. கிரே ஹெரான், கிரேட் கார்மோரண்ட் மற்றும் ஓரியண்டல் டார்டர் ஆகியவை இச்சரணாலயத்தின் முதன்மையான பறவையினங்களாகும். இந்த தூநியல் நட்பு பகுதியானது, சமூகத்தின் அனைத்து தரப்பினருக்கும் ஏற்ற வகையில் இயற்கை சார்ந்த பொழுதுபோக்கு வழங்கும் ஒரு இடமாக உள்ளது. இந்த சிறப்பு உரை "வெள்ளி விழா கொண்டாட்டம்: வெள்ளோடு பறவைகள் சரணாலயம் (2000–2025)" -யின் ஒரு பகுதியாக வெளியிடப்படுகிறது.
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Vellode Birds Sanctuary, spanning over 77.165 ha is located in Vadamugam Vellode village of Perundural Taluk in Erode District. It was designated as a protected area (Bird sanctuary) in 2000 under the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. This wetland has been recognized as Ramsar site in 2022. This man-made tank serves as a vital habitat for wetland birds, ranking among Tamil Nadu's top ten critical breeding habitats. The sanctuary boasts 148 recorded bird species, including migratory and native birds. The flagship species of the sanctuary are the Grey heron, Great cormorant, and Oriental Darter. This eco-friendly destination offers nature-oriented recreation at minimal expense, catering to all segments of society. This special cover is released as part of "Silver Jubilee Celebration: Vellode Birds Sanctuary (2000-2025)".
TAMIL NADU FOREST DEPARTMENT
ERODE FOREST DIVISION.
SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION
VELLODE BIRDS SANCTUARY (2000-2025)
TN / 87 / 2025



TANAPEX 2025 – Award list
29th January to 01st February, 2025, Chennai

Sl. No.	Entry No.	Frame No.	Class	No. of Frames	Name of the Exhibitor	Title of the Exhibit	Total Marks	Medal	Remarks
1	E001	036-040	8.2.1.D	5	S.K. Lakshmanan	MACHIN : The Queen of Definitive	81	G	SP-1
2	E170	296-300	8.2.5.B	5	Revathi.K	Human Diseases	77	LV	SP-3
3	E003	124-128	8.2.5.B	5	Shanmugam.K	Medical Discoveries & Inventions	76	LV	
4	E026	157-161	8.2.5.B	5	Senthilkumar Chandrasekaran	Games Wide Open	75	LV	
5	E165	011-015	8.2.1.A	5	Vineet Saboo	Portuguese India	74	V	
6	E161	057-061	8.2.2.E	5	M.T.Karunakaran	Pre Stamp Period - A Study	70	V	SP-2
7	E058	195-198	8.2.5.B	4	S.R.Arunkumar	Earth's largest Mammal on Land	70	V	SPTH
8	E002	119-123	8.2.5.B	5	S.K. Lakshmanan	Fleeting Beauties	70	V	
9	E079	211-213	8.2.5.B	3	Ranaganathan.B.Raju	Tin Can Mails	69	LS	
10	E051	016-019	8.2.1.A	4	P.Surendran	India Pre Independence	68	LS	
11	E035	162-166	8.2.5.B	5	K.J.Harikrishnan	Mahatma Gandhi - Life & Legacy	68	LS	
12	E007	129-133	8.2.5.B	5	Asokan Sellamuthu	Blood Donation - Save More Lives	65	LS	
13	E009	134-138	8.2.5.B	5	Abilashini.N	Journey through Philately	65	LS	
14	E029	023-027	8.2.1.C	5	C.Madhavan	Indian Postal Bar Code Labels	65	LS	
15	E105	223-226	8.2.5.B	4	M.Swamiappan	Winged Jewels - Butterflies	65	LS	
16	E050	020-022	8.2.1.B	3	S.Harisudhan	Cochin State Stamps	64	S	
17	E163	041-045	8.2.1.D	5	G.Amarchand	Guernsey	63	S	
18	E046	028-032	8.2.1.C	5	V.Murali	India Post Independence Mint Stamps 1947-1997	62	S	
19	E124	Literature	8.2.11.A		Rolands Nelson J	Princely States of India	62	S	SP-4
20	E018	144-148	8.2.5.B	5	G.Rajeshkumar	Sir Baden Powel - The Universal Man	60	S	
21	E097	219-222	8.2.5.B	4	Deepthi Sudharsan	Evolution of Flights	60	S	
22	E012	139-143	8.2.5.B	5	P.Sreetharan	Mail by Rail	60	S	
23	E020	485-489	8.2.12.C	5	Govt. Hr. Sec.School, T.Mullipallam	World Scouts & Guides	60	S	SCH-1
24	E042	Literature	8.2.11.E		V.Gunasekar	www.indiamintstamp.com	60	S	
25	E047	414-415	8.2.12.A	2	V.S.Sree Thaniya	World of Insects	60	S	SP-5
26	E098	Literature	8.2.11.E		Kasinath.R	shipthemegallery.blogspot.com	57	SB	

27	E107	232-236	8.2.5.B	5	S.Vijayakumar	The History of Sailing Ships	56	SB	
28	E118	247-251	8.2.5.B	5	Dr.T.Jaisakthivel	From Crystal Sets to Satellite Dishes	56	SB	
29	E177	354-358	8.2.8.A	5	Rolands Nelson J	Performed Covers	55	SB	
30	E027	Literature	8.2.11.E		Senthilkumar Chandrasekaran	sastikvibes.blogspot.com	55	SB	
31	E048	182-184	8.2.5.B	3	V.S.Rajeni Annamalai	Endangered mammals	55	SB	
32	E081	214-218	8.2.5.B	5	T.Murugavel	The Majestic Tiger : A Philatelic Prowl	55	SB	
33	E045	368-372	8.2.8.B	5	G.Rajeshkumar	Sprite of Cryce	55	SB	
34	E125	255-259	8.2.5.B	5	Rolands Nelson J	Longed East - Landed West	55	SB	
35	E157	482-483	8.2.12.B	2	Anbu S Chidambaram	Divine Prides of Tamilnadu	55	SB	SP-6
36	E186	456	8.2.12.A	1	K.Anbarasi	World Guides	54	B	
37	E043	177-181	8.2.5.B	5	R.Seetharaman	UNESCO World Heritage Sites	53	B	
38	E148	098-100	8.2.5.A	3	R Vidhya	Philatelic Tribute to Carnatic Music	53	B	
39	E152	101-105	8.2.5.A	5	B Ravikumar	Foreign Personages honoured by India Post	53	B	
40	E056	318-322	8.2.8.A	5	M.Pavithra	Philately Exhibition Postal Covers	53	B	
41	E121	373-377	8.2.8.B	5	K Ramarathnam	Unusual Covers	53	B	
42	E034	464-465	8.2.12.B	2	Santhosh.S	Mahatma Gandhi - A Life in Stamps	53	B	
43	E167	288-292	8.2.5.B	5	A Bhrito Rajkumar	Green Building	52	B	
44	E119	478-479	8.2.12.B	2	F Nandita	Queen of Flowers - Rose	52	B	
45	E128	505-507	8.2.12.C	3	National Matric.Hr.Sec.School	Philately - A Marvelous Teaching Aid	52	B	SCH-2
46	E004	Literature	8.2.11.A		N.Arunkumar	Thala' Ithu Thapalthala	52	B	
47	E187	052-056	8.2.1.D	5	P.V.M.Srikanth	World Miniature Sheets	51	B	
48	E109	116-118	8.2.5.A	3	E.Raja swathika	Se-tenants	51	B	
49	E143	268-272	8.2.5.B	5	Prakash Raj G	From Dreams to Drones	51	B	
50	E150	278-282	8.2.5.B	5	Kanagarajan V	The Question of Survival - Butterfly	51	B	
51	E005	305-307	8.2.6	3	Asokan Sellamuthu	Blood Donation	51	B	
52	E019	149-151	8.2.5.B	3	M.Ramaraj	Roosters	51	B	
53	E037	167-171	8.2.5.B	5	L.Joseph Peter	The Holy Scripture [Bible]	51	B	
54	E065	202-206	8.2.5.B	5	C.G.Bhaskar	Maps in Philately	51	B	
55	E041	075-079	8.2.5.A	5	S.Balasundaram	G.I. Tagged Handlooms & Handicrafts	51	B	
56	E068	080-083	8.2.5.A	4	P.Meghaasri	Impressions of India : From Peaks to Shores	51	B	
57	E072	323-325	8.2.8.A	3	LT COL M. Sundaram(Retd),APS	Know your Indian Army	51	B	
58	E169	508-510	8.2.12.C	3	The Principal	Special and Commemorative Cancellation	51	B	SCH-3
59	E108	237-241	8.2.5.B	5	R.Dhamodaran	Life of Gandhi through Philately	50	B	
60	E113	242-246	8.2.5.B	5	G.Satheeshbabu	Gandhiji Live on every Philately since 1947	50	B	

61	E179	301-304	8.2.5.B	4	T Mathan	Beauty of Nature - Conserve it	50	B	
62	E022	152-156	8.2.5.B	5	R.Murali	Atmanirbhar Bharat - Self Reliant India	50	B	
63	E032	072-074	8.2.5.A	3	T.Balasundaram	Discover India	50	B	
64	E126	087-091	8.2.5.A	5	A Nelson Koildoss	Cinema	50	B	
65	E159	106-108	8.2.5.A	3	K.S.Saravanan	Pride of Tamil	50	B	
66	E147	359-361	8.2.8.A	3	S Priyadarshini	Salute to the Known and Unknown Heroes of India	50	B	
67	E164	378-382	8.2.8.B	5	Sheetal Jain	United Nations	50	B	
68	E178	383-385	8.2.8.B	3	Kottai Surendran Palani	The People's Pope - John Paul II	50	B	
69	E008	404-405	8.2.12.A	2	Krithikka Shanmugam	Exploring Tamilnadu through Stamps	50	B	
70	E083	493-495	8.2.12.C	3	John Dewey Matriculation Hr. Sec.School	Marvelous Piece of Tamilnadu	50	B	
71	E111	499-501	8.2.12.C	3	Headmaster, Corporation Middle School, Housing Unit, Thanjavur	National Children's Day	50	B	
72	E144	273-276	8.2.5.B	4	Sundaresan T	From Mohandas to Mahatma [Noble Soul]	50	B	
73	E070	308-312	8.2.8.A	5	P.Yuvaanesh	Incredible India	50	B	
74	E049	313-317	8.2.8.A	5	K.Thaslima Nasreen	Wonders of Tamilnadu	50	B	
75	E073	490-492	8.2.12.C	3	ST.Joseph's Matric Hr.Sec School	Christmas	50	B	
76	E116	084-086	8.2.5.A	3	Dr.G.S.Kalyana Sundaram Memorial	Vibrant India	50	B	
					School, Chozhan Maligai				
77	E172	457-458	8.2.12.A	2	S.Dhivakar	World Scouts Maximaphily	50	B	
78	E184	484	8.2.12.B	1	Bakkiya.B	Belle Virtuoso	50	B	
79	E076	424-425	8.2.12.A	2	Jishnu.KJ	Flying Jewels of the Sky : Birds	50	B	
80	E093	477	8.2.12.B	1	A.Manibarathi	Feminism in Bharath	50	B	
81	E137	480-481	8.2.12.B	2	G Shreyas	Thanjavur District - The Treasure Trove	50	B	
82	E168	033-035	8.2.1.C	3	B Srishalini	India's History through the Eyes of Philately	48	CP	
83	E096	049-051	8.2.1.D	3	G.Arunachalam	Royal Mails - Millenium	48	CP	
84	E127	092-094	8.2.5.A	3	Muhammad Irfan Khan L	Guardians of the Nation - Indian Defence Forces	48	CP	
85	E033	046-048	8.2.1.D	3	A.Ganesan	India Joint issues with other Countries	47	CP	
86	E130	260-264	8.2.5.B	5	Kottai Surendran Palani	Let's Go Europe	47	CP	
87	E139	095-097	8.2.5.A	3	Rajagopal T D	Mahatma and the World	47	CP	
88	E101	496-498	8.2.12.C	3	Dr.G.S.Kalyana Sundaram Memorial School,Pazhaya Gudalur	United Kingdom	47	CP	
89	E112	502-504	8.2.12.C	3	Headmaster, Panchayat Union Middle school, Kodalor, Thanjavur	Creators of the Raja Rajeccuram Prime minister of India The Solar System	47	CP	
90	E120	252-254	8.2.5.B	3	C Prem	Symbol of Pride - Flags on the Stamps	46	CP	
91	E142	265-267	8.2.5.B	3	Srinivas Prasad B.S	Democracy through the Ages	46	CP	

92	E014	062-064	8.2.5.A	3	A.N.Duraisamy	Bharat Ratna Award Winners	46	CP	
93	E039	Literature	8.2.11.C		S.Balasundaram	Toponomy - Study of Place Name in Philately	46	CP	
94	E183	293-295	8.2.5.B	3	S.Ranganathan	Birds in Postcrossing	45	CP	
95	E015	065-068	8.2.5.A	4	M.K.Sudhakar	Indian Elements on UNESCO ICH List	45	CP	
96	E040	Literature	8.2.11.E		S.Balasundaram	G.I.Tagged Handloom Products of Tamilnadu	45	CP	
97	E038	172-176	8.2.5.B	5	S.V.Ramakrishnan	Engineering Marvels	44	CP	
98	E054	185-189	8.2.5.B	5	R.Soundara Rajan	World Maritime Heritage	44	CP	
99	E025	408	8.2.12.A	1	C.M.Dilshan	Full Moon on Stamps	44	CP	
100	E028	Literature	8.2.11.C		Senthilkumar Chandrasekaran	Olympics Emblems and Mascots on Postage Stamps	44	CP	
101	E151	Literature	8.2.11.C		B.Ravikumar	Madras Lights	44	CP	
102	E013	365-367	8.2.8.A	3	A.Babu Dominic Sekar	Sign of Ahimsa	43	CP	
103	E057	190-194	8.2.5.B	5	DR.K.Sathianarayanan	Nature's Pallette	43	CP	
104	E062	199-201	8.2.5.B	3	Sudarsan.C.J	Olympic Games	43	CP	
105	E173	341-343	8.2.8.A	3	C.Madhavan	A Lovely Catchet linked with Stamp	43	CP	
106	E044	413	8.2.12.A	1	R.NagaArjun	Gandhiji - A Pillar of our Nation	43	CP	
107	E078	Literature	8.2.11.C		Mr.Abhijit De	R.B.I. Platinum Jubilee Landmark	43	CP	
108	E021	406-407	8.2.12.A	2	R.Vikirthan	Cultural Heritage - Unity in Diversity	42	CP	
109	E089	474	8.2.12.B	1	Harinath.D	Significance of Bharat	42	CP	
110	E090	475	8.2.12.B	1	M.Dhesika	Intention in Agriculture Beyond Organic Farming	42	CP	
111	E092	476	8.2.12.B	1	Aathifaa.C	Healthy Lifestyle - A sepsis of healthy intervention	42	CP	
112	E129	Literature	8.2.11.C		Rolands Nelson J	Philately	42	CP	
113	E106	227-231	8.2.5.B	5	G.Sekar	Hinduism in Philately	41	CP	
114	E016	069-071	8.2.5.A	3	M.Bharathi	Mahatma Gandhi	41	CP	
115	E175	349-353	8.2.8.A	5	S.Vijayakumar	Enchanting Tamilnadu	41	CP	
116	E031	409-410	8.2.12.A	2	J.S.Joshnaa	Facets of Tamilnadu	41	CP	
117	E036	411-412	8.2.12.A	2	Nithiksha.A.M	Diversity in World	41	CP	
118	E069	423	8.2.12.A	1	Neha.S	Stamps Across Borders	41	CP	
119	E115	441	8.2.12.A	1	Omar Azeem.H	Philatelic Terms	41	CP	
120	E024	463	8.2.12.B	1	K.Mani Sri Ram	Mother is Living God	41	CP	
121	E185	112-115	8.2.5.A	4	R.Dhanush	Tamil Culture & Personalities	40	CP	
122	E100	326-328	8.2.8.A	3	B.Srishalini	India's Incredible Diversity	40	CP	
123	E138	329-333	8.2.8.A	5	C Varadharaja Perumal	Gandhi Special Covers	40	CP	
124	E146	334-337	8.2.8.A	4	K.Muthumanikanda Karthikeyan	Mahatma Gandhi's Footsteps	40	CP	
125	E059	418-419	8.2.12.A	2	RM.Shyam valliappan	The Victories of Peace	40	CP	

126	E082	426	8.2.12.A	1	V.Easwar	Fish	40	CP	
127	E085	427	8.2.12.A	1	Girinarayanan.M	Amalgamation Bharat	40	CP	
128	E075	207-210	8.2.5.B	4	S.S.Bharani	Scientists & Inventors	39	CP	
129	E052	416-417	8.2.12.A	2	R.Harshitha	My World Tour	39	CP	
130	E086	428	8.2.12.A	1	Vishwapriyan.S.K	Progress in Postal	39	CP	
131	E091	430	8.2.12.A	1	S.Vasanthavel	Artistic Work	39	CP	
132	E094	431	8.2.12.A	1	R.Ashwinraj	Richness of Bharath	39	CP	
133	E099	433-434	8.2.12.A	2	S.Kavinkumar	Tweet-Tweet	39	CP	
134	E103	437-438	8.2.12.A	2	R.Miruthula	Army Cover Cancellation	39	CP	
135	E110	439-440	8.2.12.A	2	M.Satharvesh	Mahatma Gandhiji	39	CP	
136	E135	447	8.2.12.A	1	Srinidhi B	Geographical Indication	39	CP	
137	E023	461-462	8.2.12.B	2	C.M.Dhanuj	Stamps from various Countries	39	CP	
138	E066	470-471	8.2.12.B	2	U.Rishi Gurubaran	Miniature World Tour	39	CP	
139	E084	472	8.2.12.B	1	S.Haasini	Flora & Fauna	39	CP	
140	E088	473	8.2.12.B	1	G.Harshni	Unique is Unique in the World	39	CP	
141	E174	344-348	8.2.8.A	5	R.Vanathy	Crafted in Pride : India's G.I. Legacy	38	CP	
142	E102	435-436	8.2.12.A	2	S.Balaganesh	World of Sports	38	CP	
143	E055	468-469	8.2.12.B	2	Shruthikaa Balaji	G.I.Tagged Agricultural Products of South India	38	CP	
144	E067	421-422	8.2.12.A	2	T.Athulya	Magnificent Mahatma - The Stamp of Legacy	37	CP	
145	E095	432	8.2.12.A	1	S.Indhumathi	Aesthetic in Culture	37	CP	
146	E136	448	8.2.12.A	1	Ramya M	Scientists	37	CP	
147	E060	420	8.2.12.A	1	T.R.Sayinath	Welcome to the Exciting World of Stamps	36	CP	
148	E087	429	8.2.12.A	1	Devadharshini V.S	Kings of Ocean	36	CP	
149	E132	444	8.2.12.A	1	Dhanuja S	Historical Journey	36	CP	
150	E166	452-453	8.2.12.A	2	Rudransh Saboo	Tamilnadu through Stamps	36	CP	
151	E053	466-467	8.2.12.B	2	C.A.Kanishka	My Europe Tour	36	CP	
152	E155	450	8.2.12.A	1	Akshara S	Ideas at 75	35	CP	
153	E131	443	8.2.12.A	1	Roshan S	Women Achievers	34	CP	
154	E133	445	8.2.12.A	1	Gokul Raj G	Clean India	34	CP	
155	E158	451	8.2.12.A	1	S Kannammai	Meenakshi Pattinam	34	CP	
156	E180	454-455	8.2.12.A	2	Elakiyah Raman Suresh	United Nations and its Initiatives	34	CP	
157	E171	459-460	8.2.12.A	2	M.Sabarivasan	Maximaphily	34	CP	
158	E064	109-111	8.2.5.A	3	G.Ramesh	Freedom Fighters of India	33	CP	
159	E134	446	8.2.12.A	1	Jumana Thahsin M	Government Policies and Schemes	33	CP	

160	E140	449	8.2.12.A	1	Bhuvanesh.R	Portraits of Prestige : Iconic Figures captured on Stamps	32	CP	

One Frame Exhibit

161	E030	390	8.2.10	1	C.Madhavan	Digital Postage Meter is an Incredible Postal Service	79		
162	E006	386	8.2.10	1	Asokan Sellamuthu	Eye Donation - Only Remedy for Corneal Blindness	74		
163	E074	393	8.2.10	1	P.Sreetharan	Perforations with Difference	70		
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