



Quarterly News Bulletin of
Baroda Philatelic Society
Vadodara, India

Vadophil

Feb - Mar. 2026 | No. 185

with this issue...



The first Indian Tramway !

A Bullock Tram was started between Dabhoi and Miyagam by Maharaja Khanderao Gaekwad of Baroda State in February 1862. It was the first such attempt by a native ruler anywhere in British dominions. Two Oxen were used to haul the train.

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Dear Friends,

Last year, our Society proudly celebrated its Golden Jubilee, marking fifty remarkable years of dedicated service to philately. As we continue this journey, 27th April 2026 will mark the 51st anniversary of the Baroda Philatelic Society, symbolising continuity, commitment, and renewed responsibility.

To commemorate this occasion, we are pleased to publish a special issue of "Vadophil" as a news bulletin-cum-Coffee Table Book. This publication will highlight our Society's rich history, achievements, awards, and memorable moments, serving as a timeless chronicle for present and future generations.

I am confident that this initiative will be warmly welcomed by all members and readers, and that it will be appreciated as a meaningful gesture by the Baroda Philatelic Society.

Over the past 51 years, our members have earned numerous accolades at district, state, national, and international levels. However, it is a matter of concern that in recent years there has been a decline in members' participation in philatelic exhibitions. Many collectors today remain content as accumulators rather than evolving as active philatelists. Despite having strong collections, there is hesitation in preparing competitive exhibits.

I sincerely urge all members to transform their collections into exhibits and participate in exhibitions. Awards should not be the sole objective; the learning experience and exposure gained through exhibiting are equally valuable. Moreover, it is also the duty of every philatelist to share the knowledge and research behind their collection through their exhibits, thereby educating fellow collectors, and the public at large.

Equally important is our role in nurturing the younger generation. We must encourage students to take up philately and welcome more young members into our Society. Our guiding mantra should be "Each One, Bring One" and "Catch them young and train them well." To achieve this, structured workshops should be organised for beginners, with support from the Department of Posts and guidance from senior and advanced philatelists.

Let us collectively work towards revitalising philately, strengthening participation, and carrying forward the proud legacy of the Baroda Philatelic Society with renewed enthusiasm.

With warm regards and best wishes,

- Jai Philately

- Prashant Pandya
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We welcome our new member who joined our society during last few months.

New Ordinary Member

Shri Prabhakar G. Balinga, 47, Om Nagar, Subhanpura, Vadodara – 390023, (M) +919429310772, pgbaliga10@yahoo.com, General Collection.

New Associate Member

Shri Bhavitavya Singh Malik, A-408, Prestige St. John's Wood, 80 St. John's Cross Road, Koramangla, Bengaluru – 560029, (M) +919819020807, bhavitavya.malik@inventureacademy.com, Post Independence.

Acknowledgments

1. Rainbow Stamp News (e-Magazine): Jan., Feb., Mar. 2026
2. Ananthapuri Stamp Bulletin (e-Magazine): Jan., Feb., Mar. 2026
3. The Fila Capsule (EIPA): Jan, Feb, Mar 26
4. SIPA: Oct-Dec 25
5. Deccan Philatelist: Vol. 26, No.1 2026
6. INDPHIL (Indore Philatelic Society- e-Magazine): Jan., Feb., Mar. 2026
7. Topical Time - ATA (Digital Edition): Mar-Apr 26

Philatelic Display

At the monthly meeting, our Secretary, Shri Timir Shah, presented five framed exhibits on the theme “**Erstwhile Telegram Services in India.**” Shri Shah has provided below a brief introduction along with the plan page of his exhibit.

Plan Page of 'Erstwhile Telegram Services in India'

The word 'telegraph' was first used by a French physician and inventor Claude Chappe in France around 1791 for his pioneering invention of optical-relay semaphore system. It is derived from the Greek word 'tele' meaning 'far' and 'graphein' meaning 'to write'.

Therefore, the world telegraph is concerned with those systems of communication which are employed to write at a distance, whereas telephony is concerned with the communication of spoken words.

Telegraphy is the oldest branch of telecommunication and with the advent of telephony, it continued to prosper.

Telegraph means an electric, galvanic or magnetic telegraph, and includes appliances and apparatus for making, transmitting or receiving telegraphic, or other communications by means of electricity, galvanism or magnetism.

The first official Telegraph line was opened in October 1851. It Connected Calcutta and Diamond Harbour, a distance of 30 miles along the busy shipping route in the Hooghly.

We are thankful to our following members for Page Sponsorship for this issue:

- ▶ Sh. Askok Kumar Bayanwala, Ahmedabad
- ▶ Shri D. K. Puneekar, Vadodara
- ▶ Dr. P. S. Dixit, Nadiad
- ▶ Mr. Imtiaz Chauhan, Karjan
- ▶ Shri Vasudev Ranav Vadodara

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Page 49-57 - Greeting Telegraph

Page 58 - Phonogram

Page 59 - Licensed Telegraph (L.T.)

Page 60 - Telegraphic Money Order

Page 61-65 - Telegraph Stamps & Receipts

Page 66-69 - Telegraph Receipts

Page 70 - End of Telegram gram Services in India.

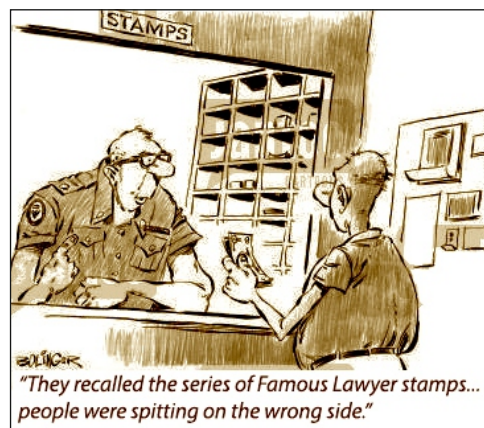
Page 71-78 - Telegram Message Envelops

Page 79 - Gazette Notification

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We congratulate our following members who won awards at philatelic exhibitions

Pragya Kothari Jain, Dubai - 2026 Large Vermeil - Ever changing Dynamics of Mother Earth; Amsipex-26, Gold + Special Prize, Mail transmission during Quetta Earthquake.



Be like a postage stamp. Stick to one thing until you get there.” - Josh Billings quotes (American Humorist)

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Thank you very much for sending this Baroda Special issue. The articles are excellent. But I must congratulate you for the superb editorial. Whatever you are saying in the Editorial is cent per cent true. The quality of philatelic discussion is disappearing.

The issue needs to be preserved as it contains very valuable articles. But why there are no recent articles? Are writers losing interest?

Regards,

Dr. Charles Lobo, Member (O) (Retd.)

Dear Prashantbhai,

It was pleasant reading and I learned more about the philatelic world. The silver jubilee commemoration stamp of Maharaja Sayajirao III was a surprise to me.

Thanks,

Dr. Ashok Luktuke

Dear Friends,

Thank you for sharing the digital version of Vadophil 26. I have gone through it, found very well presented, with current news. My Compliments to the Editor and the entire team of the Baroda Philatelic Society for their dedicated efforts in keeping the spirit alive.

Best wishes,

Pradip Jain, RDP, FRPSL

"The philatelist will tell you that stamps are educational, that they are valuable, that they are beautiful. This is only part of the truth. My notation is that the collection is a hedge, a comfort, a shelter into which the sorely beset mind can withdraw. It is orderly, it grows towards completion, it is something that can't be taken away from us" - Clifton Fadiman

Greeting Telegram from the collection of Mr. Timir Shah
Centenary of Indian Posts and Telegraphs (1851 - 1951)



In *Vadophil*, Vol. 184, I discussed the significant role played by the small and relatively obscure town of Frombork in transforming humanity's understanding of the universe—from the geocentric (Earth-centred) model to the heliocentric (Sun-centred) system—through the seminal work of Nicolaus Copernicus. He presented his revolutionary theory in *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium*, initially circulated as a handwritten manuscript.

During my years of active service, I travelled extensively across Europe and the then Soviet Union. I was posted to Prague (Praha), in Czechoslovakia, a country that has since been divided into the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Today, Prague serves as the capital of the Czech Republic.

Although the work of Copernicus laid the foundation for modern astronomy, it was two later astronomers who rigorously supported and substantiated his heliocentric theory: Tycho Brahe and his assistant, Johannes Kepler. Their meticulous observations and analyses provided empirical evidence that firmly established the Copernican model and reshaped the course of astronomical science.

Tycho Brahe (1546–1601) and Johannes Kepler (1571–1630) formed an unlikely and rather odd partnership. Tycho Brahe was a pre-telescopic Danish astronomer, renowned for the extraordinary precision of his naked-eye astronomical observations, particularly of the planet Mars. In addition to being a scientist, Brahe was a feudal nobleman with a volatile temperament and a fondness for sword duels. During one such encounter, he famously lost the tip of his nose, which he replaced with an artificial one—reputedly made of metal. Popular accounts also associate him with other bodily injuries, adding to his colourful reputation.

Brahe established a private observatory, lavishly equipped with large astronomical instruments of his own design. Using devices such as the sextant and mural quadrant, he meticulously recorded the positions of the visible planets, especially Mars. One unresolved aspect of his work is the precise method by which he time-tagged these daily observations, since the marine chronometer had not yet been invented; John Harrison would develop it in England more than a century later.

Johannes Kepler, a German astronomer of exceptional mathematical insight, worked as Brahe's assistant. Brahe engaged Kepler in Prague around 1600 A.D., fully aware of his intellectual brilliance and—more importantly—of Kepler's need for accurate observational data, particularly of Mars, to test theoretical models. However, Brahe was reluctant to share his data freely. He supplied the observations at irregular intervals, driven in part by the fear that his assistant might surpass him. Ironically, it was precisely this data that later enabled Kepler to formulate his laws of planetary motion and provide decisive support for the Copernican heliocentric system.

After the death of Tycho Brahe in 1601, Johannes Kepler finally gained access to Brahe's observational records, including his invaluable long-term diary of planetary observations, most notably of Mars. Using this unprecedented body of data, Kepler formulated his three laws of planetary motion, thereby laying the foundations of modern astronomy. A crucial outcome of this work was Kepler's demonstration that planetary orbits are elliptical rather than circular, and that the Sun occupies one focus of these ellipses. The formulation of these laws was not immediate; it took Kepler nearly nine years of painstaking analysis to arrive at his conclusions.



▲ Elliptic Orbits of the planets around the Sun, (Paraguay 1960)

These laws later proved instrumental to Isaac Newton, who used them to derive his law of universal gravitation. In simple terms, Kepler explained how the planets move around the Sun, while Newton explained why they do so, providing mathematical and physical reasoning underlying Kepler's empirical laws. Thus, Kepler's planetary laws became a cornerstone upon which Newton built the grand synthesis of classical mechanics.



▲ Issac Newton and reflecting telescope invented by him

During my posting in Prague (Praha), on a Saturday that happened to be a holiday, I visited a famous church located at what was then known as Red Army Square. To my astonishment, I learned that this church was the final resting place of Tycho Brahe. I visited his grave to pay my respects to one of the greatest astronomers of the pre-telescopic era, whose meticulous observations had enabled one of the most profound transformations in human understanding of the cosmos.

The epitaph on Tycho Brahe's gravestone is shown on a picture postcard is reproduced alongside this text. I acquired this postcard from a local vendor selling picture postcards and souvenirs to visitors near the church—a modest yet meaningful memento of a personal encounter with astronomical history.

After the death of Tycho Brahe, Johannes Kepler undertook the monumental task of compiling and analysing Brahe's vast body of astronomical observations. The result was the publication of the *Rudolphine Tables* in 1627, named in honour of Emperor Rudolf II, Kepler's patron. These tables enabled astronomers, for the first time, to predict the positions of the planets with unprecedented accuracy. Their reliability was such that they remained in practical use for more than a century and marked a major milestone in the advancement of astronomical science.



▲ Johannes Kepler and Nicolai Copernicus (Yemen 1969)

Kepler's work on the *Rudolphine Tables* represented the culmination of decades of meticulous observation and mathematical insight, synthesizing empirical data with his laws of planetary motion. Johannes Kepler died on November 15, 1630, in Regensburg, Bavaria, leaving behind a legacy that permanently transformed humanity's understanding of the cosmos. ▼



▲ Johannes Kepler (Hungary 1980)



▲ Epitaph on the grave of Tycho Brahe



▲ Frontispiece from the Rudolphine Tables (Tabulae Rudolphinae)

"Consider the postage stamp: its usefulness consists in the ability to stick to one thing until it gets there." - Josh Billings quotes (American Humorist)

Postage Stamps and Currency Note issued on Issac Newton



- ▲ British 1 £ Currency note, back of the note shows the portrait of Sir Issac Newton (1642 – 1727) with a reflecting telescope invented by him, ellipse with two foci (S and S') explaining the geometry of the figure ellipse. His classical book 'PRINCIPA' on his lap.



- ▲ Germany 1993



- ▲ France 1957



- ▲ Poland 1959



- ▲ Benin 1977

Postage Stamps issued on Johannes Kepler



- ▲ Mali 2010



- ▲ Czech Republic 2009



- ▲ East Germany 1971



- ▲ Mexico 1970



- ▲ Mali 1980



- ▲ Guinea-Bissau 2008



While examining my accumulation of commercial mail covers, I came across an interesting cover bearing a Half Anna Lithographed stamp with wide margins on three sides, which immediately drew my attention. A closer inspection revealed an instructional postmark “ADVERTISED”, enclosed in a large rectangular box and struck in red ink. Although the impression is faint, the letters “TISED” are distinctly visible.

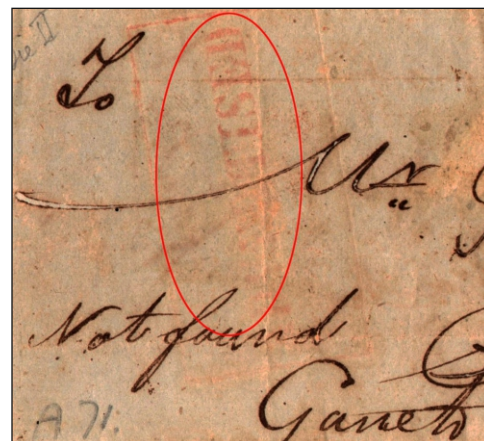
In the August 1983 issue of IND DAK, Col. Shenoi had observed that the “ADVERTISED” handstamp was not known to have been used in India. Subsequent enquiries within the philatelic community failed to confirm its existence. Instead, the discussion shifted to two fundamental questions: Why was the word “Advertised” used at all, and why are so few examples known?

I found the answer to these questions in **Sections XXV and XXVI of the Post Office Act No. XVII of 1837**, which explain the procedure and purpose behind the advertising of undelivered letters, as reproduced below.

Sec. XXV- And it is hereby enacted that all letters and packets which have remained three months unclaimed at any Post Office, shall be transmitted to the General Post Office of the Presidency.

Sec. XXVI- And it is hereby enacted, that at intervals not exceeding three months, list of all unclaimed letters and packets which are in the General Post Office of any Presidency, shall be published in the Official Gazette of that Presidency.

In effect, this meant that every letter remaining unclaimed for three months was required to be officially advertised. The cover under discussion appears to be a direct illustration of this procedure. It was posted from **Madras on 18 January 1855** and addressed to **Salem**. Manuscript endorsements on the cover read “NOT FOUND” and



“Gone to Madras”, while a boxed handstamp “UNCLAIMED” in red ink is applied on the Half Anna lithographed stamp. Beside this appears the boxed instructional handstamp “ADVERTISED”.

These markings strongly suggest that the letter could not be delivered at Salem, was returned to Madras, and subsequently treated as unclaimed, thereby requiring advertisement in accordance with the provisions of the Act. Unfortunately, the date of these proceedings is unclear from the markings on the cover.

The provisions of Section XLIV of the Post Office Act No. XVII of 1854 state as follows:

Section XLIV, Clause 1 - A list of all letters, packets and parcels posted and addressed to persons who cannot be found, shall be prepared daily in every Post Office and exposed for not less than two weeks in most conspicuous part of such Office; and all such letters, packets and parcels, which shall have remained three weeks unclaimed in any Office, shall, if the sender's name and address are written on the cover, be returned to the Posting Office to be delivered to the sender free of all charge; all letters, packets and parcels, of which the sender's name and address cannot be ascertained, unless they be opened, shall, after remaining unclaimed for three weeks as above, be forwarded to the Office of the Post Master General of the Presidency.

Clause 2 - The Postmaster General, or some person duly appointed for the purpose and bound to secrecy, shall immediately open all such letters, packets or parcels, and if the address of the sender can

be discovered, shall enclose them in dead letter covers and return them to the sender. All letters, packets and parcels, of which neither the person addressed, nor the sender can be found, shall, after they have remained unclaimed in the Office of the Postmaster General for one year, be destroyed.

Thus, we see that the *Post Office Act of 1854* abandoned the earlier procedure of advertising unclaimed letters in the Official Gazette. This explains why examples bearing the "ADVERTISED" cachet are seldom encountered today.

Before concluding, I would urge fellow philatelists to carefully examine their accumulations of commercial mail. I am confident that such scrutiny may reveal hitherto unrecorded or little-known material, adding further depth to our understanding of early postal practices.

- Jai Philately

"As stamp collecting may be indulged in by all ages, and at all seasons, it is becoming more and more the favourite indoor relaxation with brain-workers. It may be taken up or laid down at any time, and at any stage. Its cost may be limited to shillings or pounds, and it may be made a pleasant pursuit or an engrossing study, or it may even be diverted into money-making purposes.

So absorbing is the hobby that in stamp circles there is a saying, "Once a stamp collector, always a stamp collector."

Membership Information

Ordinary Membership

(Ordinary Membership is restricted to the residents of Baroda City and Baroda district only.)

Admission Fees: ₹ 100/-
Annual Fees (Adults): ₹ 200/-
Annual Fees (Juniors): ₹ 100/-

Associate Membership Fees

(Associate Membership is available to residents of India and abroad)

Admission Fees: ₹ 100/-
Annual Fees: ₹ 200/-

Life Membership Fees: ₹ 3000/- (India)
(Subject to approval by G.C.)
Life Membership Fees: ₹ 7500/- (Abroad)

Realisation of Auction No. 45

Lot nos.: 1, 11: ₹ 140/-; 2, 36, 53, 124: ₹ 75/-; 3, 68: ₹ 125/-; 4: ₹ 32/-; 5: ₹ 300/-; 6, 10, 16, 17, 23, 104, 138: ₹ 50/-; 12, 121: ₹ 500/-; 13, 20, 45, 66, 85, 94, 101, 108, 117: ₹ 40/-; 14: ₹ 80/-; 15, 24, 65, 91, 99: ₹ 60/-; 19, 26, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 54, 55, 69, 86, 87, 88, 89: ₹ 25/-; 21, 22: ₹ 100/-; 25, 27, 29, 33, 35, 38, 41, 46, 57, 63, 83, 84, 100, 144, 146: ₹ 30/-; 30, 31: ₹ 150/-; 34, 56: ₹ 27/-; 37, 114: ₹ 600/-; 42, 96, 97: ₹ 70/-; 60, 98: ₹ 32/-; 64: ₹ 210/-; 67: ₹ 67/-; 71, 72: ₹ 160/-; 74: ₹ 250/-; 77: ₹ 45/-; 81: ₹ 52/-; 90: ₹ 37/-; 92: ₹ 77/-; 112: ₹ 95/-; 115, 118: ₹ 400/-; 116, 126: ₹ 35/-; 119: ₹ 180/-; 120: ₹ 760/-; 122: ₹ 310/-; 123: ₹ 950/-; 125: ₹ 205/-; 127: ₹ 31/-; 128: ₹ 36/-; 129: ₹ 750/-; 133: ₹ 64/-; 134: ₹ 54/-; 135: ₹ 55/-; 136: ₹ 60/-; 137: ₹ 55/-; 140: ₹ 200/-.

A postal historian without even a trace of a philatelist is like a skeleton without flesh. This is a bold statement, but one I firmly stand by. Philatelists are the true stakeholders in the survival, growth, and meaningful promotion of philately. Their passion, curiosity, and dedication have played a central role in documenting postal history in all its richness and detail.

Despite this, the invaluable contribution of philatelists to the recording and interpretation of postal history has yet to receive the recognition it deserves from the Department of Posts. Much of what we know today about routes, rates, markings, and postal practices survives because philatelists preserved, studied, and interpreted postal material long before it was considered historically significant.

A *philotherian* is one who loves animals—a term well recognized in the dictionary. But what should we call a philatelist who is also a devoted student of postal history? I propose the term “**Philatarian**” to describe such an individual. A search through dictionaries and standard philatelic glossaries will not reveal this word, but that does not diminish its relevance. Rather, it reflects a reality that exists in practice before it is acknowledged in language.

A *Philatarian*, as I envision it, is one who bridges the passion of philately with the discipline of postal history—collecting not merely for possession, but for understanding, interpretation, and preservation of postal heritage.

Books on the History of the Indian Post Office

There exists a substantial literature on the history of the Post Office in India. The earliest of these is *The Post Office of India*, written by Ananda Gopal Sen in 1875. This was followed by *An Outline of Postal History and Practice with a History of the Post Office of India* by Hamilton (1910), a book specifically written to provide a broad institutional overview of the Post Office for probationary officers.

In 1920, Geoffrey Clarke authored *The Post Office of India and Its Story*, a highly informative work enriched with engaging anecdotes. One particularly striking episode concerns the “taming” of the audit office—memorably described as “that soulless machine”—which initially raised objections to granting financial relief to the family of a postal runner who was killed by a man-eating tiger while on duty.

Lieutenant Colonel Sams, in *The Post Office of India in the Great War* (1922), focused on the participation of the Indian Post Office during the First World War. This book effectively chronicles the operations of the Army Postal Service (APS) during wartime. Much later, in 1954, Mulk Raj Anand edited *The Story of the Indian Post Office* to commemorate the centenary (1854–1954) of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. While this volume records the birth and growth of postal products and services, it does so in a largely descriptive and rather cryptic manner.

Among modern works, *India Post Through the Ages: A Saga of Communications* by Dr. H. Noor Ahmed stands out as perhaps the most valuable reference for researchers. Originating from his Ph.D. work, it meticulously documents sources and references through detailed footnotes, making it indispensable for serious academic study. *From Mail to Email: The Story of Indian Post Office* by Dr. K. C. V. Nair (2018) expands further on various postal products and services—for instance, devoting as many as six pages to Speed Post alone. The contributions of D. S. Virk must also be acknowledged, as his books add significantly to the institutional narrative of Indian postal development.

With respect to Hyderabad, *History of Postal Administration in Hyderabad* deserves special mention as a true masterpiece. M. A. Nayeem rendered an outstanding service to postal history by authoring three comprehensive volumes, the final one dealing extensively with Hyderabad stamps and postal stationery. Familiarity with this work would greatly benefit postal administrators in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana alike.

The purpose of citing these authoritative works is to contrast them with the contributions made by philatelists—what I have termed the **Philatarians**. The books mentioned above provide essential historical information, such as dates of introduction and expansion of postal products and services. However, to truly understand postal history in action—in flesh and blood—one must study postal history exhibits presented at philatelic exhibitions. It is here that the lived reality of postal communication emerges most vividly, preserved and interpreted through original material by dedicated philatelists.

Philatelists as Postal Historians

Under the rules and classifications prescribed by the International Federation of Philately (FIP), Postal History is recognized as a major exhibition category, with several well-defined sub-classifications.

Philately itself began about 180 years ago, in

1840, with the issue of the world's first postage stamp—the Penny Black. In its earliest phase, stamp collecting was informal and even whimsical; it is often recalled that a British lady collected postage stamps to use them as wallpaper. Soon thereafter, interest expanded beyond mere accumulation to include the study of postage stamps and pre-stamp postal material, such as Mulready covers.

As collections grew, philatelists began to examine postal routes, rates, markings, and modes of conveyance by carefully analyzing letters and the cancellations found upon them. Through such systematic study, philatelists gradually reconstructed the operational history of postal systems.

Thus, postal history is not an ancillary pursuit but an essential and intellectually rigorous branch of philately, shaped largely by the sustained efforts of philatelists who evolved naturally into postal historians.

Mobile Post Office

Mobile Post Office is a postal history exhibit prepared by Mr. Jagannath Mani, a philatelist from Bengaluru. While Dr. K. C. V. Nair devotes just two pages (pp. 168–169) to the subject in his book, Mr. Mani explores it in remarkable depth through a 32-page exhibit.

Dr. Nair briefly outlines the role of Mobile Post Offices (MPOs). The first MPO was introduced in Madhya Pradesh in May 1948 and functioned until September 1949. A Night Mobile Post Office was started in Nagpur in 1949 to serve the All-Up Scheme or Night Airmail Service. By 1962–63, nine MPOs were operating in Bombay, Delhi, Madras, Calcutta, and Nagpur, with another introduced in Ahmedabad in 1964.

These MPOs sold postage stamps and postal stationery, accepted



▲ Reverse side of Cover



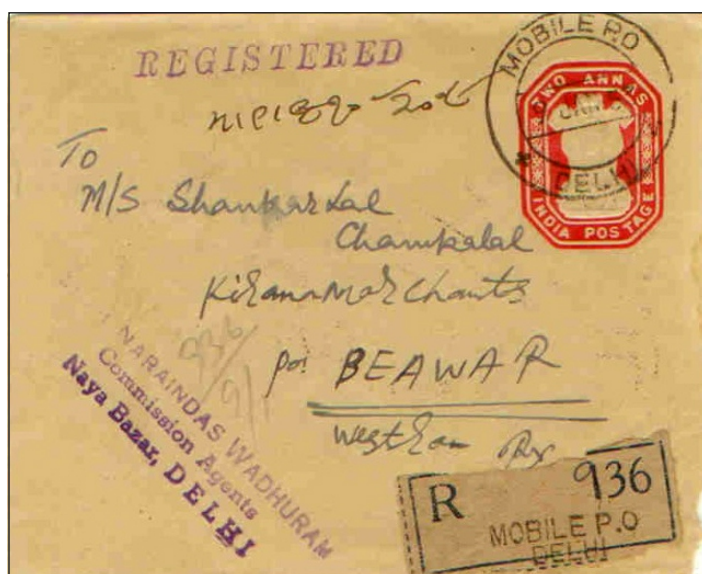
▲ Another example of cover registered from Mobile P. O. Delhi



▲ Reverse side of Cover

registered articles with late fees, booked air parcels, issued money orders, and handled unregistered mail. However, from Dr. Nair's brief account alone, it is difficult to grasp the full scope and operational complexity of a Mobile Post Office. For that vivid, practical understanding, one must turn to the detailed and richly documented work of Mr. Mani.

According to Mr. Jagannath Mani, Mobile Post Offices (MPOs) delivered mail and a wide range of postal services through specially equipped vehicles. Consequently, a



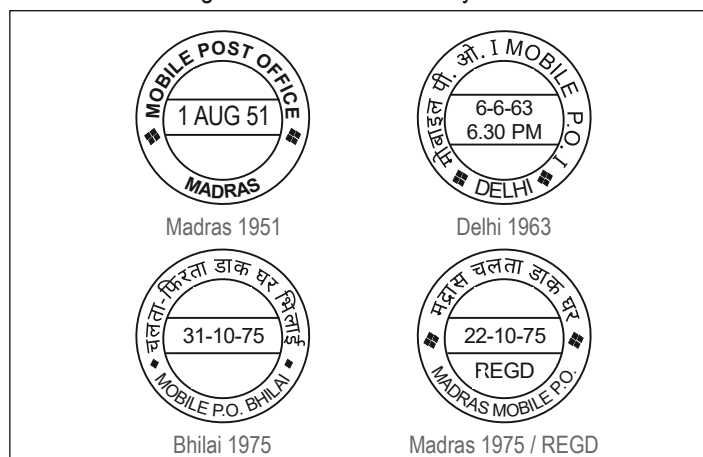
▲ Cover Registered from Mobile P.O. Delhi

comprehensive postal history exhibit on the subject must depict not only the vehicles themselves, but also the products and services they offered. Mr. Mani successfully achieves this in his exhibit.

He illustrates all these aspects, including a rare photograph of MPO No. 1 at Garmukteshwar, dated November 1938, which appears to represent a temporary or seasonal mobile post office. The exhibit also features the cancellation of the Mobile Post Office, Madras, dated 1 August 1951, the very day of its inauguration—an important detail absent from standard postal history books.

Mr. Mani's exhibit goes further by presenting actual letters with their booking and delivery dates, registration numbers, cancellations, and inauguration photographs. Together, these elements vividly bring Mobile Post Office operations to life in a way brief textual descriptions cannot.

A noteworthy detail is found in the North Calcutta Mobile P. O. cancellation of 1956, which appears in Bengali and English. This sets it apart from other MPO cancellations, which are in English and Hindi formats. Significantly, it remains the only known MPO cancellation issued in Bengali. Such subtle distinctions—essential for understanding postal history in practice—have been documented through meticulous research by Mr. Mani.



▲ Mobile P. O. Postmarks

Helicopter Mail Service



Another illuminating example is the Helicopter Mail Service to the Lakshadweep Islands, documented through a detailed postal history exhibit by Mr. Ashok Kumar Bayanwala, a senior philatelist from Ahmedabad. While a traditional postal historian might view a helicopter merely as one of several modes of mail transport, Mr. Bayanwala treats it as a subject worthy of independent and in-depth study.

His exhibit begins with the formation of the Helicopter Corporation of India (HCI) on 15 October 1985, later renamed Pawan Hans Ltd., and proceeds to examine the postal infrastructure of the Lakshadweep Islands. He documents the location, classification, PIN codes, and population served by each island post office. Until 1986, there was no air service between the mainland and the islands; shipping was the only means of communication. Helicopter services commenced on 30 January 1987, when a Dauphin helicopter was leased by the Lakshadweep Administration and operated daily between Kavaratti, Minicoy, Kalpeni, and Cochin.

Mr. Bayanwala demonstrates that all airmail to Lakshadweep during this period necessarily travelled by helicopter. Through carefully contrived covers addressed to himself and redirected via island post offices, he was able to establish authentic mail routes. One such cover bears a Cochin HPO transit mark dated 21 July 1988, confirming helicopter carriage between Kavaratti and Cochin during the monsoon season.

The exhibit is further strengthened by official helicopter mail schedules obtained from island postmasters, detailing arrival and departure times. According to his findings, the service was withdrawn by the end of 1988, but later revived, with limited inter-island connectivity continuing into 2006.

No conventional postal history book has documented this service, even in passing. For this pioneering research, the postal history community owes a great deal to Mr. Bayanwala—our **Philatarian** (Philatelist +

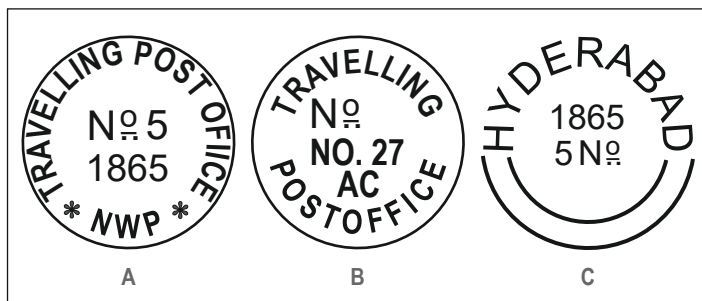
Historian). Without his careful preservation of covers and official correspondence, this important chapter of India's postal history would have remained undocumented.

History of TPO and RMS

The evolution of *Travelling Post Offices (TPO)* and the *Railway Mail Service (RMS)* is vividly brought to life in the exhibit “**TPO and RMS Postmarks**” by Mr. Ananda Murthy, a philatelist from Bengaluru. His exhibit reveals the fascinating operational side of the RMS through its cancellations.

Mr. Murthy begins with the cancellation used by India's first Travelling Post Office, inaugurated on **1 May 1864** between Allahabad and Cawnpore on the East Indian Railway. He explains that this TPO carried three sets of sorters—one each for the Up and Down trains, and a third acting as relief staff. Recognising that many early cancellations are faint or damaged, he has carefully redrawn several of them to aid clarity and understanding. Such a scholarly and interpretative exhibit is rarely encountered.

Importantly, Mr. Murthy goes beyond merely displaying cancellations. He explains their function, evolution, and significance, effectively presenting what may be described as the *biography of a post office* in motion.



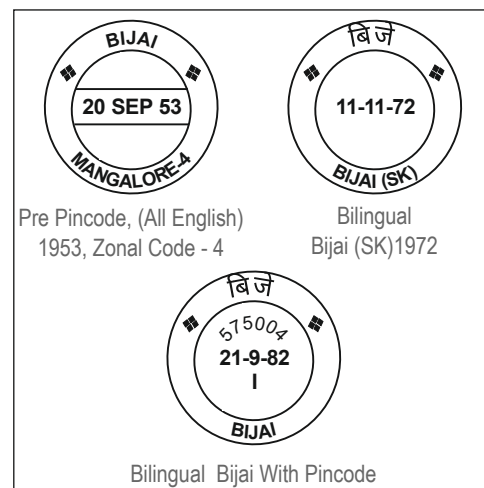
▲ Explanation of A
A - Travelling Post Office T.P.O.
[Sorting Office]
No. 5: Carriage or Car number 5
N.W.P.: North Western Province

▲ Explanation of B & C
B – NO. 27: 27th November:
Date and Month.
AC: Allahabad-Cawnpore Section
C – Hyderabad Sorting Station 1865

Biography of a Post Office

While writing *A Short History of Bejai Post Office (2022)*, I drew inspiration from the methodology adopted by such philatelists. I devoted a separate chapter to postal cancellations, scanning examples from old order books wherever available. Opened in 1928, the Bejai Post Office has now completed nearly a century of existence—94 years, to be precise.

The cancellations alone narrate its evolution. They reveal transitions from the zonal code system to the PIN code system; changes from single-language (English) stamps to bilingual ones; the gradual introduction of Hindi; and variations in cancellation formats—round, oblong, rectangular—each reflecting the administrative practices and postal policies of its time.



▲ Different Bijai Cancellations

Postal History in Exhibitions

Without the work of philatelists, postal products and services would remain nothing more than dates, years, and statistics—facts to be memorised but not visualised. Philatelists breathe life into this information; they give flesh to the otherwise bare skeleton of history.

An exhibit is not formally called a book, as it lacks the usual identifiers such as publisher, printer, or year of publication. Even the exhibitor's name is concealed to prevent any influence on the jury. Yet, despite these constraints, many philatelists have produced work of remarkable scholarly value—through exhibition write-ups, research articles, and compiled studies—thereby making an enduring contribution to postal history.

Some of the prize-winning entries in the Postal History section at INPEX 2008, held in Chennai, are listed below.

Name & Title of Exhibits

Kishor S. Chandak - *Indian Instructional Labels and Markings*

Madhukar Deogawanka - *Postal History of Jaipur State*

G. Amarchand - *Hand struck Stamps of India*

Mohan K. S. - *Postal History of Travancore-Cochin*

Atul Kumar Gupta - *Slogan Postmarks of India*

Jain P. C. - *Slogan Postmark of British India*

E. P. James - *Anchal History of Travancore-Cochin*

S. V. Menon - *Cochin Cancellations and Post Marks*
C. S. Raveendran - *Postal History and Early Cancellations*
Prashanth S. Shah - *Quick Mail Service*
Ananda Murthy - *TPO and RMS Post Marks*

For a student of postal history, the Postal History section is the most engaging part of any philatelic exhibition. It is here that one sees the Post Office truly in action, vividly brought to life across the frames. I served as an apprentice juror at **APPEX-2003**, held in Hyderabad, under the guidance of T. S. Govindarajan, then Chief Postmaster General. That experience marked a turning point in my philatelic journey, from which I gradually evolved into a postal historian.

Post Office in Action: Two Suggestions

It appears that, as far as the Department of Posts is concerned, postal research is no longer viewed as a priority. *Dak Patrika*, once published by the Department and notable for carrying research articles authored by postal officers, has ceased publication. At present, it is only philatelic journals such as *Signet*, *India Post* (India Study Circle), *Vadophil*, *Deccan Philatelist*, and a few others that continue to provide scope and space for the publication of such scholarly work.

(A) Philatelists who have undertaken serious research on postal products and services and who have documented the Post Office in action deserve to be recognised and encouraged. One meaningful way to do so would be for the Department to acquire and promote books authored by such researchers, thereby preserving this valuable knowledge for future generations.

Encouragingly, several philatelists have already been honoured through special covers. These include Dhirubhai Mehta, Dhananjay Desai, and Ashok Kumar Bayanwala. Commemorative postage stamps have been issued in honour of Jal Cooper, D. N. Jatia, and J. R. D. Tata. Two other eminent philatelists, S. D. Saklatvala and P. M. Medhora, have also been recognised through special covers. Brigadier D. S. Virk remains the only philatelist who was also a postal officer to have received such an honour so far. (Among other postal officers honoured with special covers are Ms. Sushila Mary Matthews Chaurasia—the first woman Postmaster General—K. R. Murthy, and S. B. Velankar.)

It is now time to go further. A commemorative postage stamp should be issued in honour of **Rai Bahadur Saligram**, the revered saint of the Radha Soami Satsang, Beas, and the first Indian to become Postmaster General. Such recognition would not only honour an outstanding individual but also signal the Department's renewed commitment to preserving and celebrating its own rich postal heritage.

(B) The Department of Posts should consider introducing a structured scheme to promote research on postal products and services by interested individuals. Such an initiative would

significantly enrich India's postal history and must be implemented urgently, before valuable information is lost forever. Unfortunately, considerable damage has already occurred during initiatives such as the Swachh Bharat campaign, where large quantities of historical postal material were discarded.

A grant-in-aid scheme may be introduced on the lines of *SPARSH*, to provide financial assistance for high-quality published articles and books on postal research. This could be achieved by creating an assessment forum similar to the *Sahitya Akademi* awards. The evaluation process could be entrusted to the **Postal Academy**, which already maintains a well-stocked library and possesses the academic competence required for such assessments. These may be designated as Postal Academy Awards.

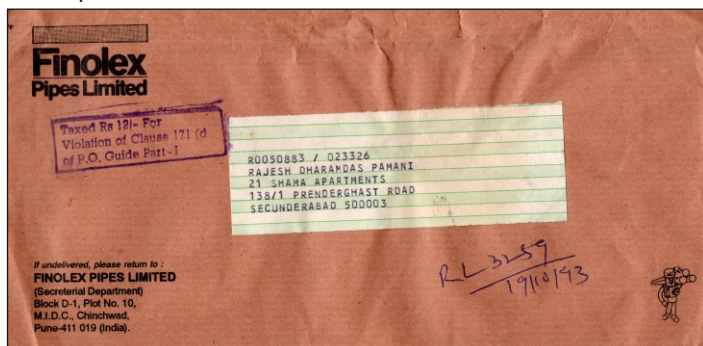
Books and research articles published during a given year could be invited annually for evaluation. In the process, the Academy's library would naturally acquire these works, enriching its collection at minimal additional cost. This approach optimises existing resources: the research is already completed by the author, and only recognition and modest financial support are required. Most importantly, it offers a quick, efficient, and sustainable way to encourage serious postal research and preserve the nation's postal heritage.

References:

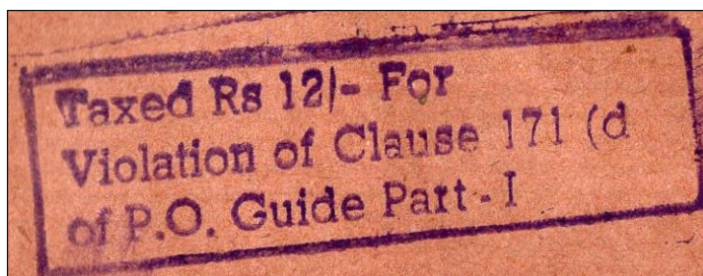
1. Bayanwala, Ashok Kumar: *A Bouquet of Philatelic Articles*, 2005
2. Bayanwala, Ashok Kumar: *Decimalization Redefined*, 2007
3. Nair, Dr. K. C. V.: *From Mail to Email- The Story of the Indian Post Office*, 2018
4. Nayeem, M. A.: *History of Postal Administration in Hyderabad*, 1970
5. Ananda Murthy: *TPO & RMS Post Marks*, 2008
6. Jagannath Mani: *Mobile Post Office*, 2018
7. *APPEX 2003 Souvenir*
8. *Tanapex-2017 Souvenir: Rocket Mail*
9. *INPEX 2008 Bulletin 3*

V

My good friend Rajesh Pamnani of Hyderabad sent me photographs (**Fig. 1, 1a, and 1b**) along with a query: "Why was there a tax of Rs. 12 and a payment of Rs. 1 on the reverse of the envelope?"



▲ Fig. 1



▲ Fig. 1a



▲ Fig. 1b

A close examination revealed that the letter had been posted on 18 October 1993 with the correct postage of Rs. 1, but it was not registered. Since the envelope contained a dividend warrant, registration was mandatory.

Clause 171 of the Post Office Guide, 1985, and earlier **Clause 117** of the *P&T Guide*, 1951, clearly lay down the rules under which registration is compulsory in such cases.

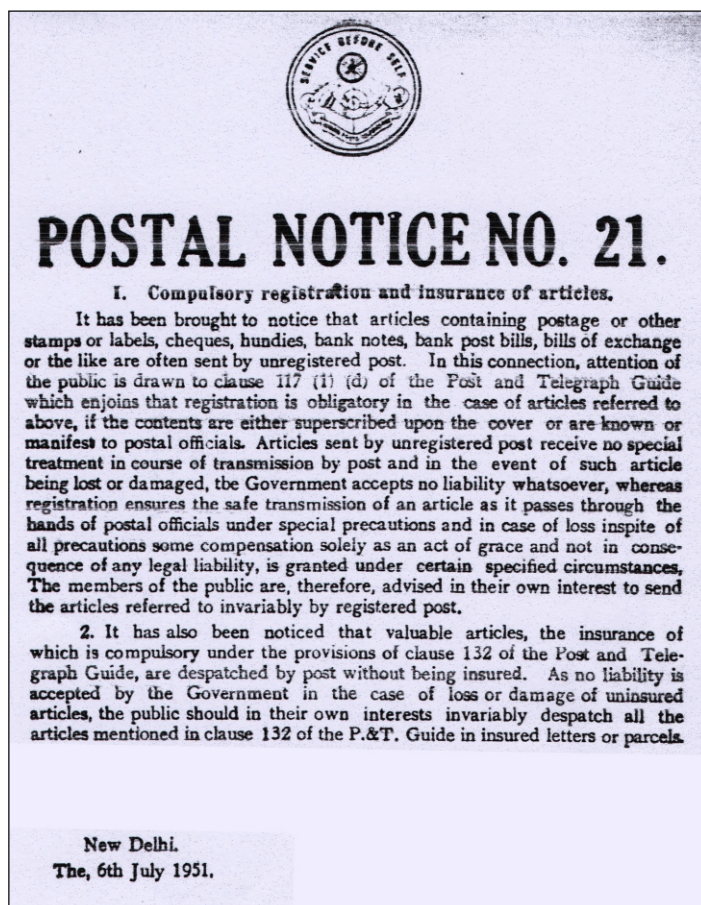
- a. Any parcel exceeding 440 Tolas as per "1951 P&T Guide" and now 4 Kg as per "1985 Postal Guide".
- b. Any insured Parcel.
- c. Any Parcel which needs custom declaration.
- d. Any article containing Cheque, Dividend warrant, Hundi, Bank note, Postage stamps etc.
- e. Any article bearing the word "Registered".
- f. Any Registered article, which is reposted after having been delivered.
- g. Any Value Payable article.

It appeared to me that these rules existed even before Independence. I therefore examined the *Post Office Guides* available with me. The editions of 1943, 1941, 1938, 1935, and 1921 contain these provisions under **Clause 117**. In the *P. O. Guides* of 1920, 1915, and 1909, the same rules appear under **Clause 113**, while the *P.O. Guide* of 1903 lists them under **Clauses 113 and 114**.

A further examination of the *P. O. Guide* of 1882 suggests that compulsory registration originally applied only to articles such as banknotes, hundis, cheques, and similar negotiable instruments, as provided under **Clause 104** and later under **Clause 171(d)**, **Clause 117(d)**, or **Clause 113(d)** in subsequent editions.

In practice, however, these rules were rarely followed by the general public. As a consequence, in 1951 the Postal Department issued Postal Notice No. 21 dated 6 July 1951 (**Fig. 2**). The notice records that it had been brought to the Department's attention that articles containing postage or other stamps or labels, as well as cheques, hundis, banknotes, bank-post bills, bills of exchange, and similar instruments, were frequently being sent by unregistered post. To address this, the notice explicitly drew public attention to **Clause 117(1)(d)** of the Post and Telegraph Guide, 1951, which mandates obligatory registration for the categories of articles specified under **Clause 117(1)**.

Interestingly, the said Postal Notice did not prohibit the transmission of such articles by unregistered post, even though they were required to be sent by registration. It merely



▲ Fig. 2

stated that articles sent by unregistered post would receive no special treatment during transmission, whereas registration ensured safe delivery. The public was therefore advised, in its own interest, to send such articles invariably by Registered Post.

Clause 117(2) of the Post and Telegraph Guide clearly stipulates that “twice the fee for registration shall be levied on the delivery of any postal article which is required under this clause to be registered, but on which the fee for registration has not been prepaid.” In effect, this meant that if such an article was detected, it would be subject to tax. However, a practical question immediately arises: how was the Department to determine whether an unregistered mail contained cheques, hundis, or similar instruments? Owing to this inherent limitation, the rule was seldom enforced, even though the Department was fully aware that the provision was being routinely flouted.

This state of affairs continued without serious consequence until the 1990s, when the share market experienced an abnormal surge. With the increase in financial activity came a corresponding and alarming rise in postal thefts, resulting in numerous complaints to the Department of Posts. Faced with mounting losses and public grievance, the Department was left with little alternative but to strictly enforce the long-existing rule laid down under **Clause 117(1)(d)** of the *P&T Guide*, 1951, later incorporated as **Clause**

171(1)(d) of the Post Office Guide, 1985.

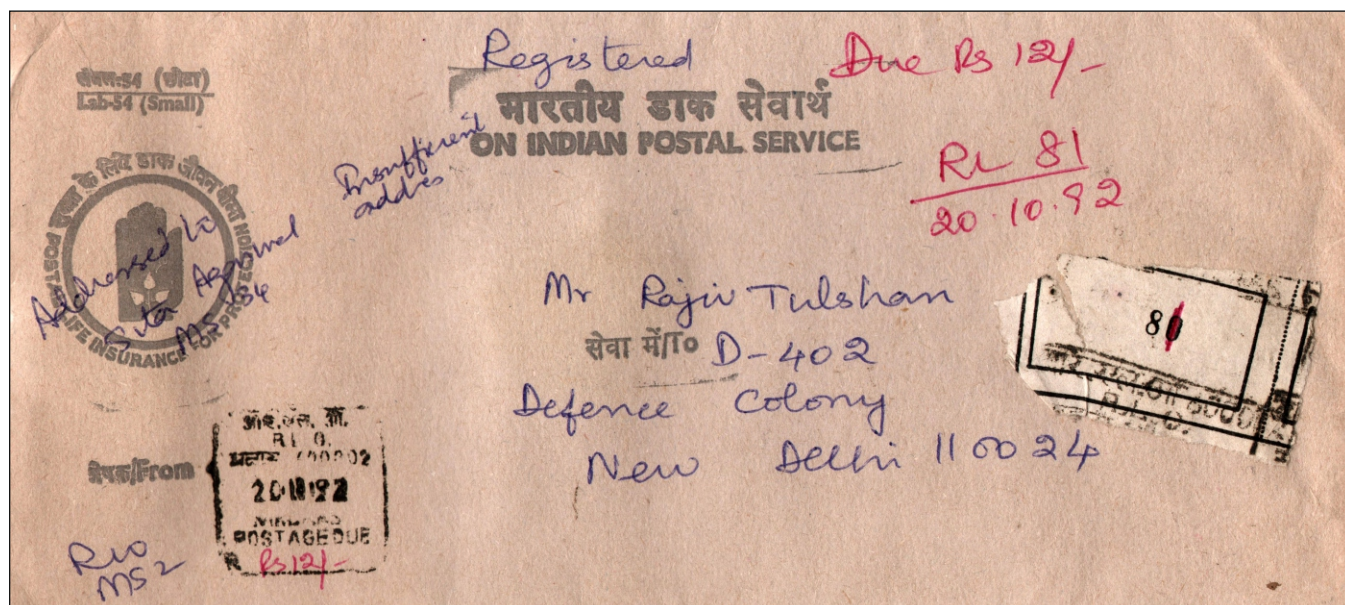
Enforcement of this rule meant that the Post Office would intercept unregistered mail, open it in the presence of the addressee, and examine its contents. If cheques, hundis, dividend warrants, or similar instruments were found, the article would be taxed and **double the registration fee** would be recovered from the addressee.

Prior to the active enforcement of this rule in May–June 1993, its existence was largely confined to the pages of the Post Office Guide. In rare instances where an ordinary mail containing cheques or similar instruments was accidentally opened by the Post Office, the article would be taxed. Such instances are extremely scarce, since a postal article would normally be opened only when it could not be delivered and did not bear the sender's address. Even when such taxed mail arrives in the hands of a collector, it is often difficult to determine the precise reason for taxation.

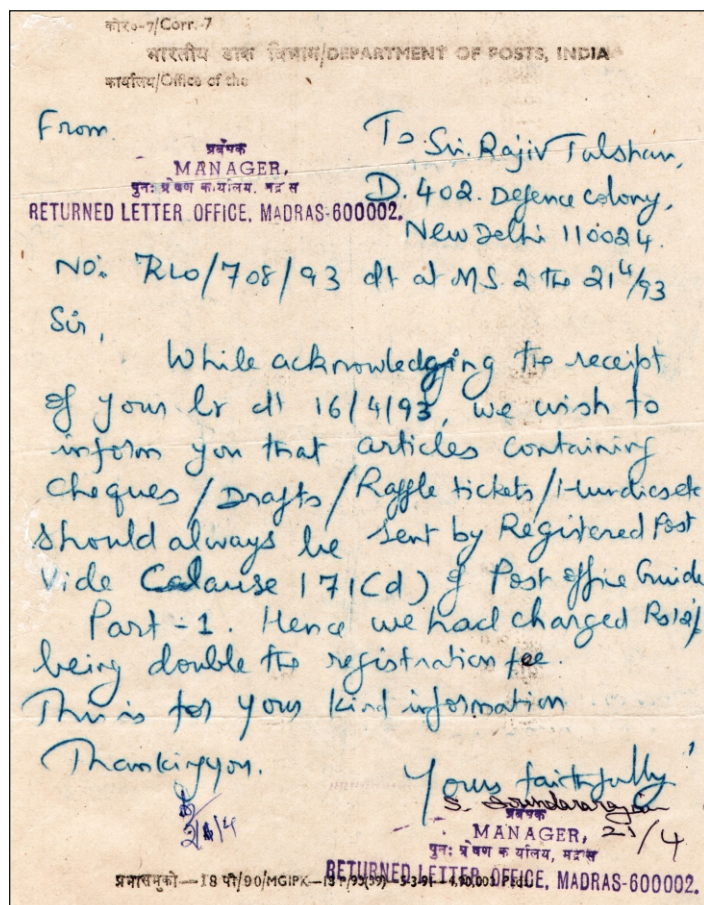
I have one such illustrative example in my collection that clearly explains the rationale behind the levy. In November 1992, a registered article addressed to my cousin, Sri Rajiv Tulshan of New Delhi, was received from the Return Letter Office, Madras – 600 002, bearing postage due of **Rs. 12** (**Fig. 3**). The registered cover enclosed an ordinary letter originally addressed to his sister, which could not be delivered owing to an insufficient address. Upon opening the undelivered letter at the RLO to ascertain the sender's address, a **cheque for Rs. 100** was discovered.

Consequently, the RLO, Madras, returned the article to the sender by Registered Post and recovered **Rs. 12**, being double the registration fee. Upon enquiry, the Manager, RLO Madras-2, issued a letter dated 21 April 1993 (**Fig. 4**), stating that “articles containing cheques/drafts/raffle tickets/hundis etc. should always be sent by Registered Post as per **Clause 171(d)** of the Post Office Guide”. Accordingly, the charge of **Rs. 12** was levied as double the registration fee.

Following the enforcement of **Clause 171(d)** in May–June 1993, the Department of Posts began actively intercepting ordinary mail to detect violations of the compulsory



▲ Fig. 3

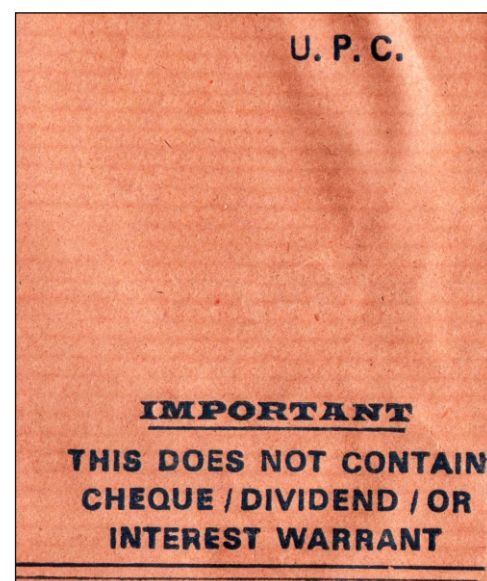


▲ Fig. 4

registration rule. In the course of this drive, the cover illustrated in Fig. 1, 1a, and 1b was detected. As the letter contravened the requirement for compulsory registration, a tax of Rs. 12 — being twice the registration fee of Rs. 6 applicable at that time—was levied.

The rigorous enforcement of this rule in mid-1993 created serious difficulties for large corporate bodies, particularly public companies that routinely dispatched dividend warrants. In response, at least one company resorted to printing a prominent declaration on its envelopes stating:

"IMPORTANT / THIS DOES NOT CONTAIN / CHEQUE, DIVIDEND, OR / INTEREST WARRANT" (Fig. 5).



▲ Fig. 5

"In science there is only physics; all the rest is stamp collecting." – Lord Kelvin quotes (Irish Scientist)

Simultaneously, the Postal Department began issuing warnings to the general public to discourage breaches of **Clause 171**. An instructional cachet was applied to ordinary mail, reading: **“REGISTRATION COMPULSORY / BREACH OF CONDITION / PRESCRIBED UNDER / CLAUSE 171 / OF POST OFFICE GUIDE / PART I”** (Fig. 6).

The compulsory registration of dividend warrants had a dramatic financial impact on corporate mailers. At that time, the basic letter postage was **Rs. 1**, while the registration fee was **Rs. 6**. Thus, sending such articles by Registered Post increased the postal cost from **Rs. 1 to Rs. 7** per article, effectively a sevenfold rise. Understandably, this provision was vehemently opposed by public companies and other large mailers.

As a result of sustained opposition, the Department eventually withdrew and/or deleted this clause, with effect from 14 January 1994, bringing this contentious phase in postal regulations to an end.

Before concluding, I would like to record an example illustrating a violation of **Clause 117(1)(e)**. The item in question is a stamp-less cover bearing the marking **“REGISTERED”**. This cover was sent by Registered Post from Delhi and, upon delivery at Ahmedabad, an amount of **Rs. 14** was recovered from the addressee (Fig. 7). I acquired this cover in December 1993.

At that time, the ordinary letter postage was **Rs. 1**, while the registration fee was **Rs. 6** (effective from 11 June 1990 to 31 May 1997). The amount of **Rs. 14** therefore represents double the deficiency comprising both postage and registration charges.

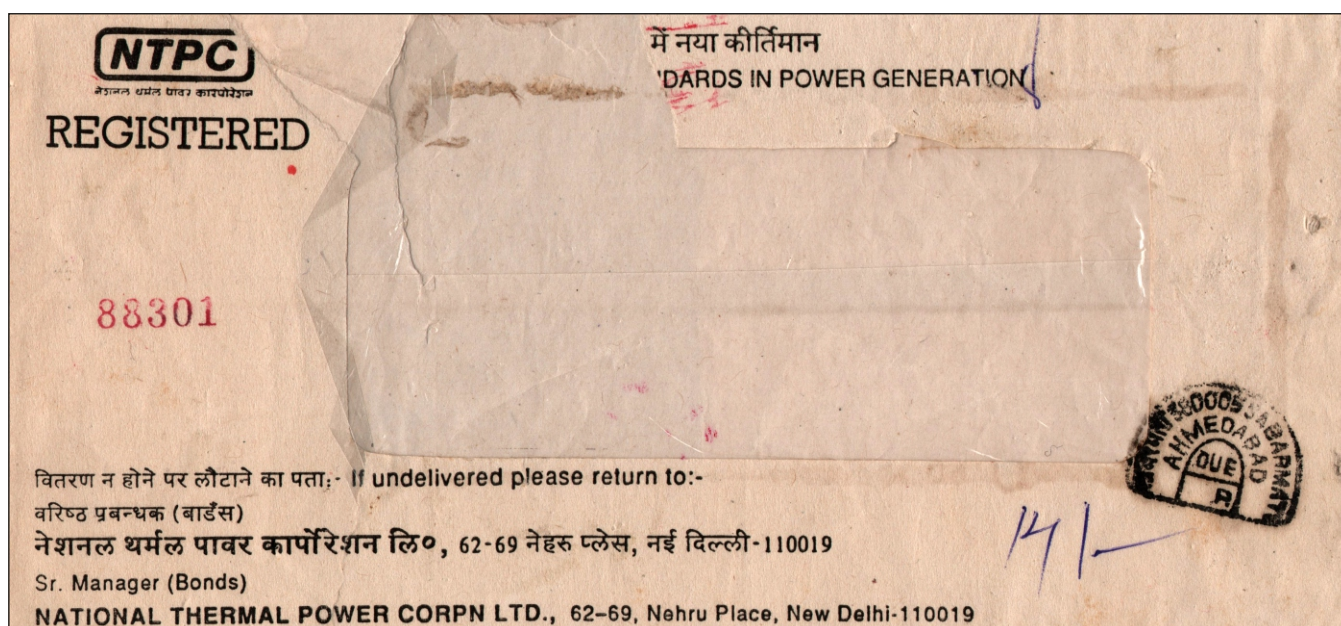
In my opinion, such examples demonstrating violations of Clause



▲ Fig. 6

171(1)(d) and **Clause 117(1)(e)** are extremely rare and difficult to encounter. Their survival provides valuable documentary evidence of the practical application—and occasional enforcement—of these long-standing postal regulations.

- Jai Philately ▣



▲ Fig. 7

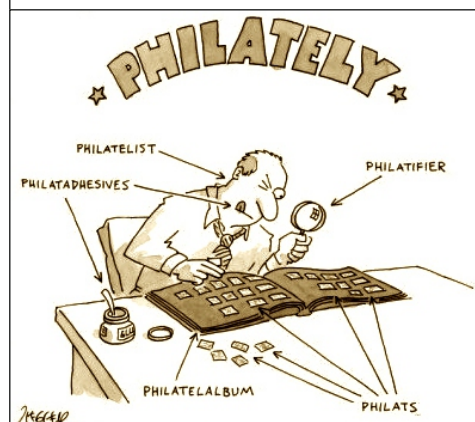
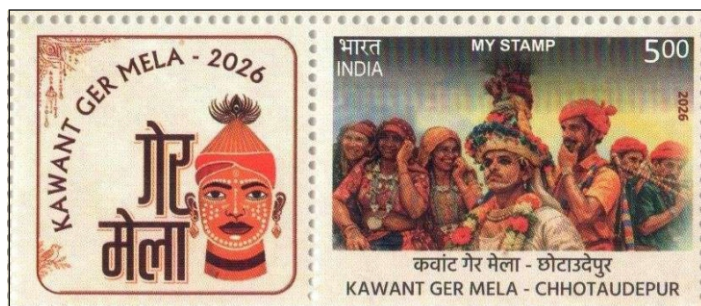
India Post New Issues

New Commemorative Stamps (January - March 2026)

- 1st February 2026, (₹ 5), Bharatiya Tatrakshak Swarnim Jayanti
- 1st February 2026, (₹ 5), Uddhavdas Mehta
- 13rd February 2026, (₹ 5 x 8, Miniature Sheet, ₹ 10 x 4, Sheetlet ₹ 80, Gift Box ₹ 600 (Content: 1 Miniature Sheet, 2 Picture Postcards, 2 Stamp Puzzles, 1 activity bag, 2 fridge magnets, 2 puppets, 1 water colour pouch with brush and 1 information sheet), Puppets of India (Kathputli, Yakshagana Sutrada Gonbeyatta, Daanger Putul, Kathi Kundhei, Benir Putul, Pavakathakali, Ravanachhaya, Tolu Bommalatta)
- 13rd February 2026, (₹ 5), Seva Teerth Sadan
- 16th February 2026, (₹ 5), 100 Years of OI Chiki script by Pandit Raghunath Murmu
- 7th March 2026, (₹ 5), 100 Years of India Security Press, Nashik
- 25th March 2026, (₹ 5 x 4, Miniature Sheet ₹ 20), Women's College of Delhi (Gargi College, Kamla Nehru College, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Miranda House)

My Stamp New issues (January 2026 – March 2026)

- 4th January 2026, LCA Tejas (Customised)
- 9th January 2026, Akhil Bharatvarshiya Maheshwari Mahasabha (Customised)
- 11th January 2026, State Bank of India, Shillong Branch (Customised)
- 5th February 2026, Nestle Maggi (Customised)
- 13th February 2026, The Ashok, New Delhi (Customised)
- 14th February 2026, Dr Neena Mohini Willaims (Customised)
- 17th February 2026, Mumbai Climate Week (Customised)
- 5th March 2026, Kawant Ger Mela Gujarat (Customised)
- 6th March 2026, Dada Gurudev Shri Jinadutt Suri (Customised)
- 24th March 2026, Uttaranchal University (Customised)
- 29th March 2026, Dredging Corporation of India (Customised)



Stamp collecting can be practiced by the whole family

- It promotes quality time
- It promotes talk time
- It improves everybody's general knowledge
- It promotes family unity
- It is nonviolent
- It promotes sharing of mutual interests, and
- It allows for the TV to be switched off !!

Special Cover release on Mirzapur Handmade Dari

A Special Cover with commemorative cancellation highlighting Mirzapur Handmade Dari, a GI-tagged craft, was released at Mirzapur Head Post Office on 2 January 2026. The cover, proposed by the Prayag Philatelic Society, was released by Shri Ashok Kumar Tripathi, Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Mirzapur Division, in the presence of senior postal officials and philatelists.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Tripathi appreciated the initiative to commemorate Mirzapur's age-old weaving tradition and stated that the special cover would help promote awareness of the region's rich cultural heritage.

As part of the programme, four school students were felicitated for their handwritten letters selected under the Deendayal Upadhyaya Letter Writing Competition and were presented miniature stamp sheets. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by the Secretary of the Prayag Philatelic Society and the National Anthem.



Explore our website to learn
more about us
www.vadophil.org

Baroda Philatelic Society's monthly meeting is held on every Second Sunday of the month at
Dr. Ashwin Patel's Nursing Home
Near Tarkeshwar Temple, Opp. Singapore Market, Near Jubilee Baug, Vadodara at 10.00 am
Dr. A. V. Patel Memorial Philatelic Library remains open on
every Sunday between 10.00 AM to 12.00 Noon.

Special Cover release on Magh Mela 2026 at Prayagraj

A Special Cover and Cancellation commemorating Magh Mela 2026 were released at Prayagraj Head Post Office on 13 February 2026. The cover, proposed by the Prayag Philatelic Society, was released by Smt. Preeti Agrawal, Director Postal Services, Prayagraj Region, in the presence of senior postal officials and office-bearers of the society.

The Special Cover highlights the spiritual essence of Magh Mela, depicting key rituals such as Kalpvas, while the special cancellation features a praying sadhu and a Sanskrit shloka.

Magh Mela, held annually at Prayagraj, draws millions of pilgrims who gather at the Sangam for a holy dip and observe spiritual practices from Poush Purnima to Mahashivratri. On this occasion, the Department of Posts also issued a special cancellation and a set of four picture postcards on Magh Mela. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by the Secretary of the Prayag Philatelic Society.

Courtesy: Rahul Ganguli, Secretary Prayag Philatelic Society



Philatelic Items available for Sale

1. Skate Carried Cover issued during Vadophilex 2025 on 11th January 2025. Price Rs 300.
2. Set of 12 Picture Postcards on heritage of Baroda issued during Vadophilex 2025 on 11th January 2025. Price Rs 250 per set.
3. Stampmania 2009 Souvenir Rs 300
4. Mahatma Gandhi Stamp Booklet (Without Stamps) issued on 02.10.2009 (Stamp booklet illustrates Mahatma Gandhi's photographs with foreign personalities and also tells Gandhiji's philosophy of non violence) Rs 50

Postage Extra for all items

Contact Mr. Timir Shah Hon. Secretary of Society for your requirements.

Obituary

We are deeply grieved to hear about the sad demise of our associate life member Shri Suketu Suryakant Jhaveri of Mumbai who left us on 11th May 2026 at Mumbai.

We the members of Baroda Philatelic Society convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and pray the almighty God to give the family members all the strength to bear the blow and may his departed soul rest in peace.

Special Cover Released on Kawant Ger Mela

Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel released a My Stamp and Special Cover dedicated to the Kawant Ger Mela at Gandhinagar on 5 March 2026, highlighting the cultural significance of the renowned tribal festival. The initiative aims to promote national and international awareness of Gujarat's rich tribal heritage.

The My Stamp and Special Cover were presented to the Chief Minister by Shri K. K. Yadav, Postmaster General, North and South Gujarat Regions. The occasion was attended by Shri Jashubhai Rathva, MP (Chhota Udepur), Shri Abhesinh Tadv, MLA, Ms. Gargi Jain, Collector, Chhota Udepur, Shri R. B. Thakor, Senior Superintendent of Posts, and representatives of the Rathva tribal community.

The Kawant Ger Mela symbolizes preservation of tribal traditions, arts, and values, reflecting harmony with nature and social unity, and embodies the spirit of "Vikas Bhi, Virasat Bhi"—development alongside heritage.



Designs in connection with postage stamps and coinage may be described, I think, as the silent ambassadors on national taste." - William Butler Yeats (Irish prose Writer, Dramatist and Poet)

Special Covers and cancellations issued on various occasions from various places in India:

1. Durga Puja, Kolkata, 19th September 2025
2. Zoological Garden, Alipore, Kolkata, 24th September 2025
3. 100 Years of Indian Chamber of Commerce, Kolkata, 25th September 2025
4. National cGMP Day, Manipal, 10th October 2025
5. Vigilance Awareness Week 2025, Kolkata, 30th October 2025
6. 36th All India Postal Athletics & Cycling Tournament, Porbandar, 1st November 2025
7. India - Champions of ICC Women's World Cup, Kolkata, 3rd November 2025
8. SBI - 25 Years of Samridhi Bhavan, Kolkata, 13th November 2025
9. Tribal Dances of Telangana, Hyderabad GPO, 15th November 2025
10. Musical Instruments of Telangana Tribes, Hyderabad GPO, 15th November 2025
11. 250th Birth Anniversary of Maharaja Yashwantrao Holkar, Wafgaon, 3rd December 2025
12. 100 Years of Bhatkhande Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya, Lucknow, 18th December 2025
13. Shri Chhatrapati Sambhaji Raje (Horse Rider carried cover), Saswad S.O., 18th December 2025
14. Apeejay School, Kharghar, 20th December 2025
15. World Meditation Day, Mumbai 21st December 2025
16. Inaugural Flight from Navi Mumbai to Goa (Flight Carried Cover), Panvel, 25th December 2025
17. 29th Karnataka State Scouts & Guides Jamborette, Belagavi, 27th December 2025
18. Golden Jubilee of Philatelic Bureau Indore GPO, Indore, 1st January 2026
19. Mirzapur Handmade Dari, Mirzapur, 2nd January 2026
20. 25 Years of Maiden Flight of Light Combat Aircraft-Tejas, Bengaluru, 4th January 2026
21. 3rd World Telugu Conference, Guntur – Amaravati, 5th January 2026

22. Pithora Painting – A Traditional Tribal Art of Gujarat, Vadodara, 09th January 2026
23. Gangasagar Meala, Kolkata, 15th January 2026
24. E-Bike Carried Special Cover, Mumbai 21st January 2026
25. Battle of Longewala, Mumbai 21st January 2026
26. Launch of Permanent Pictorial Cancellation, Rubber Board, 22nd January 2026
27. Centenary of St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral, Ernakulum North, 22nd January 2026
28. Netaji Birthplace Museum, Kolkata, 23rd January 2026
29. KERAPEX-2026 - 150 Years of Vande Mataram, Ernakulum North, 23rd January 2026
30. Martyrs' Day, New Delhi, 30th January 2026
31. Babu Tower, Patna, 30th January 2026
31. Maa Ashapuri Temple, Ghosrawan, Nalanda, Pawapuri, 31st January 2026
33. Blackbuck, Kodaikanal, 2nd February 2026
34. World Stamp Exhibition Dubai, 5th – 7th February 2026
35. Magh Mela Prayagraj-2026, 13th February 2026
36. DHARMAPEX2026 - Cycle Carried Mail, Kadamatla, 16th February 2026
37. International Shivratri Festival, Mandi, 19th February 2026

38. IIM Bodh Gaya - 10 Years of Excellence, Gaya, 20th February 2026
39. Jagat Taran Girls' Degree College, Prayagraj, George Town, 23rd February 2026
40. Bhojpatra Or Himalayan Birch, Dehradun, 27th February 2026
41. Kawant Ger Mela, Chhota Udepur, 5th March 2026
42. Birth centenary of Music Maestro Annapurna Devi, Kolkata, 9th March 2026
43. India: ICC Men's t20 Cricket World Cup Champion, Indore, 9th March 2026
44. Pamtong Pulit, Gangtok, 10th March 2026
45. Tungbuk, Gangtok, 10th March 2026
46. 25 Years of Legacy, from Resolve to Realization, Dehradun, 24th March 2026
47. Gau Tech 2026, Shivajinagar, 20th – 23rd March 2026

With Best Wishes and Compliments



PRAYAG PHILATELIC SOCIETY PRAYAGRAJ

Registered under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860
Affiliated to Philatelic Congress of India

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✆91-9415214897

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for Indian residents and for NRIs.

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www.prayagphilatelicsociety.org

to download the membership form or send an email to
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- ▶ www.indianpostagestamps.com
- ▶ www.philaticcongressofindia.com
- ▶ <https://philaliterature.com/>
- ▶ www.f-i-p.ch
- ▶ www.exponet.info

Vadophil's Auction No. 46 - Last Date: 30th June 2026

Thematic:

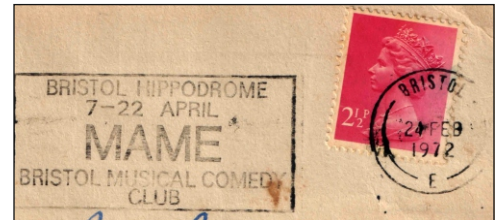
1. Gandhi: Gandhi Centenary 1969 Blank Folder in Hindi, ₹ 50/-
2. Gandhi: GJ of Khadi & Village Industries adv. On 50 p PC Mint, ₹ 30/-
3. Gandhi: 75 Years Salt Satyagraha comm. Used MS (05.04.2005), ₹ 100/-
4. Music, Spain: Narciso Yepes, Spanish Guitarist, comm. Used cover, ₹ 50/-
5. Music: G.B. - 'MAME' - Bristol Musical Comedy Club- Bristol Hippodrome - (7-22 April), Slogan Cancellation, Cut Size, ₹ 30/-
6. Medicine: Rs. 5/- Comm. Used Envelope with advt. of Jago Grahak Jago in Hindi, ₹ 30/-
7. Medicine: WHO-OMS Charity Label (India-1952) Mint, ₹ 50/-
8. Airmail: Registered Letter from 'Air Terminal, Bombay' (03.12.1992) to Baroda, ₹ 30/-
9. Cricket: Autograph of Kiran More on Invitation Card on World Environment Day Exhibition, ₹ 250/-
10. Railway: Vadopex- 87, Special cover on Bullock Driven Tram between Miyagam & Dabhoi built in 1870-1875 with Early cancellation of Baroda May 2, ₹ 125/-
11. Heritage & Medicine: 250 p Panchmahal Fatehpur Sikri motif ILC (3 flap)- SPP 2002 with advt. On 'Cataract' in Hindi, ₹ 40/-
12. Heritage: 200 p Ellora-Maharashtra Motif ILC (3 flap) - CSP 2001 Mint, with advt. On 'Buy India Handicrafts', ₹ 30/-
13. Heritage: 200 p Pattadakal - Karnataka motif ILC (3 flap)- MSP 2002 Mint with advt. On 'Sonata Watches', ₹ 30/-
14. Heritage: 850 p Panchmahal Fatehpur Sikri motif Aerogramme - ISP 2002 Mint, ₹ 75/-
15. Health: 50 Years of Family Planning Association of India FDC (18.12.1999), ₹ 30/-

Pre Independence India

16. KG V: I.E.F. Overprinted on 3 ps. Slate (M 338) Mint Stamp, ₹ 25/-
17. KG VI: 9 pies & 12 Annas- Victory stamps, Ahmedabad to Pilani on Registered Mail (12.02.1946), ₹ 75/-
18. 'NABHA' overprinted in black used on ½ Anna Red Brown (SG No. 96) on K.G.VI Service 1941-1945, ₹ 300/-
19. 'PATIALA' overprinted in black with Type T 7 used on ½ Anna, 1 Anna, 1 ½ Anna & 2 Anna (SG No. 96) on K.G. VI Service 1939-1944, ₹ 300/-
20. 'Saurashtra' 1 anna Postage & Revenue, SG No. 57, (1935) used, ₹ 75/-
21. Jaipur: ¼ anna Black & Brown, Postage (1931) Mint with hinge (S.G. 58), ₹ 75/-



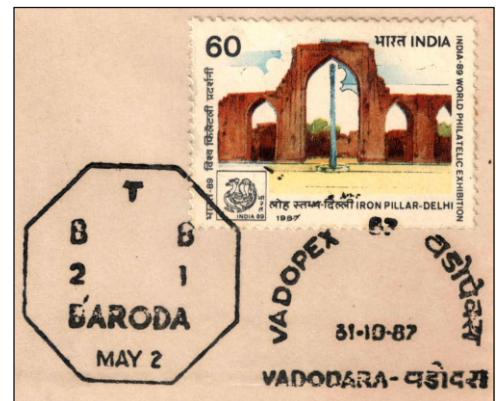
▲ Lot No. 2



▲ Lot No. 5



▲ Lot No. 7



▲ Lot No. 10



▲ Lot No. 12

22. Travancore Anchal: 1 Chuckram yellow green used, Lake Ashtamadi (S.G.No.64), ₹ 30/-
23. Patiala: K.G.VI Service overprinted T 8 in black, ½ a, 1 a, 1 ½ a, & 2 anna Used (S.G. 99,101,108,109), ₹ 300/-

24. Patiala: Q.V. Service overprinted Type O4 in black, 1 a Plum & 1 a Carmine Used (S.G. 09, 020), ₹ 50/-
25. Nabha: K.G.VI Service overprinted T 6 in black on ½ a brown used (S. G. No. 96), ₹ 300/-
26. Travancore Anchal: Maharaja Bala Varma XI, 8 Cash Carmine used, S.G.NO.76 (24-10-1946), ₹ 200/-
27. Travancore Anchal: 10 Cash Pink used, S. G. No.12 (1920), ₹ 225/-
28. Travancore Anchal: 1 anna overprint on 2 Chuckram Orange Mint, S.G.4, ₹ 200/-
29. 1921, K.G. V, 1 ½ anna, over printed with '1 Anna Service', star watermark, Brown gum, Mint, ₹ 50/-
30. 1927, K.G. V, 12 anna, 'Service overprint', Brownish Gum, Mint, ₹ 150/-
31. 1937, K.G. V, 1 Re, 'Service Over printed' Fine Mint, ₹ 70/-
32. 1937-1940, K.G. VI, 1 Re, Used, ₹ 30/-
33. 1939, K.G. VI, 1½ anna, Dark purple, SERVICE, Used, ₹ 30/-
34. 1940, K.G.VI, 3 pies, Green, Brownish Gum, Mint, ₹ 30/-
35. 1940, K.G. VI, 1/2 anna, Mint, ₹ 30/-
36. 1940, K.G.VI, 1/2 anna, Fine used, very light cancellation, negligible hinge traces, ₹ 30 /-
37. 1940, K.G. VI, 1 anna, Mint, / Negligibl trace of hinge, ₹ 30 /-
38. Chamba State: 1840 Q.V. 1 Anna, Service/ Chamba State Overprint, Star Watermark, brown Gum, Mint, ₹ 90 /-
39. Rajpipla State: 1880, 1 Paiso, Vertical Strip of 3 stamps, unused 1 stamp damage condition as per Scan, ₹ 900 /-
40. Portuguese India: 1938, Vasco Da Gama, 2 Ries and 1 Ries, Used, ₹ 50 /-
41. Portuguese India: 1946, Vasco Da Gam Definitive 3 ½ tg overprinted with 80 \$, (8 centavos), Mint, Paper stuck on reverse, Condition as per scan, Cat. Val.10 USD, ₹ 180 /-

Post-Independence India

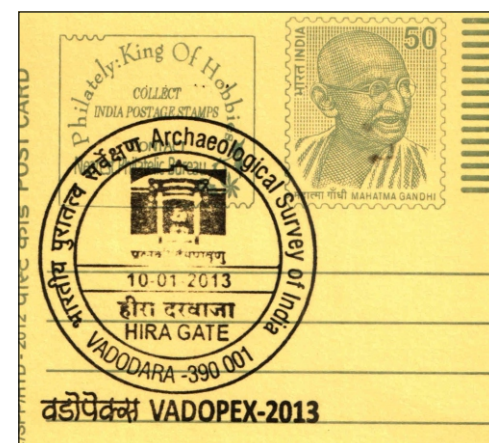
42. Comm. Used Block of 4 on paper, Bhikaji Cama, All India Radio, P. C. Roy, Dayanand Saraswati, Sardar Patel, Dr. W. M. Haffkine, Motilal Nehru, Madan Mohan Malviya, Each, ₹ 30/-
43. FDC Block of 4, Children's Day (1961), India Industries Fair (1961), Each, ₹ 50/-
44. INDIPEX 73 Mint SS with few yellow spot-on top side, ₹ 500/-
45. Collector's Pack 1977, ₹ 2000/-
46. Indian Army Postal Service (1856-1946) A-4 Size Brochure 2 Nos. ₹ 300/-
47. Vadopex- 77, Set of 3 Special Covers in Presentation Folder, ₹ 600/-
48. Vadopex -13, Set of 3 special cancellations on 50 p PC (Music, Hira Gate-ASI, Lion- Gujarat Tourism), ₹ 100/-



▲ Lot No. 39



▲ Lot No. 41



▲ Lot No. 48

49. Head P.O. Building of Vadodara (Started on 01.09.1934), Blank Cover of Vadopex 2005, ₹ 40/-
50. World Food Day (16.10.1999), Formula ILC of 200 p. with WFD advt. On back, ₹ 30/-

51. Centenary of the Indian National Congress Blank FDC ₹ 30/-
52. Roses: 'Fragrance of Roses' Mint MS, (07.02.2007), ₹ 100/-
53. Sandal Wood Mint MS, (13.12.2006), ₹ 50/-
54. First Flight Cover: Air India BOMBAY. RAS AL KHAYMAH (16.11.1978), ₹ 400/-
55. Army Cover – 13 th BN The Punjab Regiment (Jind), 150th Anniversary - The Surajmukhi Battalion (01.12.1988), ₹ 50/-
56. India 80 Booklet – 10 different blocks of four stamps, ₹ 700/-
57. 125th Birth Anniversary of H. H. Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad 3rd (11.03.1989) Sp. Cancellation, ₹ 100/-
58. Sp. Cancellation of Mandvi Gate, Vadodara – Opening of Vadodara Philatelic Bureau (28.02.1983), Laxmi Vilas Palace on cover, ₹ 100/-
59. 2016, Customised My Stamp Sheet on 'Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel', Full sheet, MNH, Fine Gum, (Issue Price ₹ 500/- at ePost), (Qty 3 sheets available), ₹ 350/-
60. 6th Definitive Series FDC – 5 p (Fish), 25 p (Egg hatching) (26.11.1979), ₹ 50/-

Postal Stationery

61. Saurashtra State (Sansthan Junagarh) ½ Anna Comm. Used PC (4 Jun 1947), Saurashtra Post – Junagarh CDS, ₹ 200/-
62. India Post – Swan Logo Meter Franking Rs. 3.00 (31.V.00), ₹ 30/-
63. On Indian Postal Service envelope - PPC of Kanyakumari (15.01.05) with 'Wishes you a very happy PONGAL' sticker, ₹ 50/-
64. EMS Speed Post Envelope Comm. Used with advt. Of 'Solar Energy on back' from Port Blair, ₹ 100/-
65. Greetings Telegram with 60 p. postage Envelope (Indian Post & Telegraphs) - 04.12.1978, ₹ 75/-
66. Greetings Telegram by Gujarat Circle on "Somnath Temple", ₹ 100/-
67. Rakhi Envelope-2004, Gujarat Circle, Small size, ₹ 30/-
68. Rakhi Envelope-2004, Maharashtra Circle, Small size, ₹ 30/-
69. 2 annas envelope - "DLO-BOMBAY" square cancellation – 2 Jun 1954, Letter despatched from Baroda Residency to Bhavnagar- 3 CDS of Bhavnagar (May1954), ₹ 75/-
70. Formula Inland Letter, Text in Hindi & English, Blue printing on greyish blue paper, (1979), Mint, ₹ 30/-
71. Commemorative 500 p Postal Stationery Envelopes on different GPO of India – set of 5, issued on 09.10.2017, Mint, ₹ 90/-
72. 15 p Inland Letter Card with square and circled pin boxes, Mint, Upated with 5 p stamp, ₹ 20/-
73. 75 p Inland Letter Card with advt. "Rashtriya Saksharta Mission" in Hindi Mint, ₹ 20/-



▲ Lot No. 54



▲ Lot No. 57



▲ Lot No. 58

74. 500 p Postal Stationery Envelopes – 6 Nos. with advt. On "Renewable Energy" in different languages, Mint, 120/-
75. 300 p Postal Stationery Envelope, Ashoka Capital motif, buff paper, SPP Hyderabad, Mint, (Qty. 4), Each ₹ 20/-
76. 300 p Postal Stationery Envelope, Ashoka Capital, ISP, Mint, (Qty. 2), Each ₹ 20/-
77. 500 p Postal Stationery Envelopes, Panchmahal Fatehpur Sikri Motif, Pink Paper, SPP 2002, Mint, (Qty. 2), ₹ 20/-
78. 400 p Postal Stationery Envelopes, Panchmahal Fatehpur Sikri Motif, Buff Paper, ISP 2002, Mint, ₹ 20/-

Postal History

79. Santh Piplod, Nadiad (Nadiad H.O.) CDS of 2 Dec 1937, 6.00 PM on KG VI 1 Anna stamp envelope, Delivered to Girgaon on 3 Dec, ₹ 50/-
80. KASAUJI to Worcester, England cover, 18 SEP. 1884, affixed with QV 2 x1 & ½ a stamps CDS cancelled with an additional manuscript cancelled across stamps for

security, ₹175/-

81. 2 A. Embossed Envelope, with V.P. Label from TRIPLICANE, MADRAS to Bangalore with an additional 5 Yr Plan 1 a x 2 & 8 as adhesive on reverse, ₹80/-
82. Madras Sorting / R.M.S./ 4 JAN 47/ to MOULMEINGYUN Burma, 3AS. KG VI adhesive & AIRMAIL label on front, ₹ 80/-
83. KG V ¼ Anna PC affixed with an additional KG V ½ Surcharge ¼ As from FEROZPORE to Churu. 11 JAN 23, ₹ 50/-
84. KG V embossed HALF ANNA Envelope surcharge NINE/PIES with an additional 3 ps. Adhesive & 1 A.x2 adhesives on back, Registered Cover with Urdu Slip, from BARALLY to SAWAI MADHOPUR /9 JAN/27, ₹125/-
85. East India QV ¼ As. PC. Cancelled Sq. circle JODHPUR/SE11/91 to JEYPORE. Postage Due ½ as in manuscript. Bottom LH corner slightly clipped, ₹ 100/-
86. QV India PC, DHANURA/MORABAD/B.O./28 MA 01 to Jaipur City / 30 MA 01/ 9. A.M. DELY., ₹ 100/-
87. Great Britain: 31 Aug 1847, Stamp less Entire Ship Letter from Hull (Formally Kingston upon Hull, historic maritime city of UK) mailed to Elsenor (Elsinore) in Denmark, with Hand stuck stamp 'HULL SHIP LETTER D.31.AUG.1847, charged 10 centimes at arrival, ₹ 3000/-

Fiscal

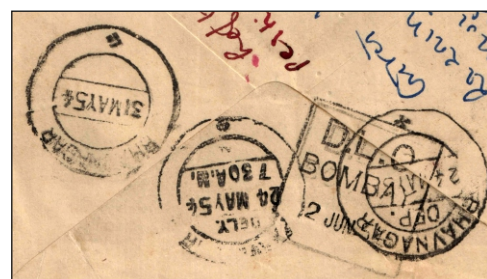
88. Hundi: Queen Victoria, 2 annas, Used on 16 Oct 1895, Aligarh District, ₹ 300/-
89. Hundi: King Edward VII, 2 anna, Used, ₹ 250/-
90. Bar Council of Gujarat – Advocates Welfare Fund Stamp Rs. 4/-, 3 different, ₹ 75/-
91. Bhavnagar: Maharaja Krishnakumarsinhji Gohil Court Fee used Stamps, 1 a (Deep Violet), 2a (Teal Blue), 1 r (Violet Brown-slight damage from Top), 5 r (orange), 1904, Type 3, each ₹ 50/-
92. Bhavnagar: Bhavnagar Durbar Court Fee Used Stamp (Side Face) Type-4 (1935-40), 1 a (Violet), 4 a (yellow brown), 8 a (Brown), each ₹ 50/-
93. Bhavnagar: Bhavnagar Durbar Court Fee Used Stamp (Side Face), 2 a (Teal Blue) overprinted with 'SAURASHTRA' in English, ₹ 75/-

Foreign Countries

94. Pakistan: Birth Centenary of M. A. Jinah (2nd Issue- 25.12.1976), S G No. 436, Rs. 10/- 22 k Gold Plated Mint Stamp. ₹ 500/-
95. Bhutan: Mask Series 2 D stamps Mint – Set of 7, ₹ 500/-
96. Bhutan: 3 different Round Stamp with gold colored (11.11.1975), ₹ 500/-
97. Bhutan: 2 different stamps on Aluminum Foil, ₹ 500/-
98. Bhutan: 2 different stamps Embossed on US Presidents, ₹ 400/-



▲ Lot No.61



▲ Lot No.69



▲ Lot No.74

99. Switzerland: 1949 Grimsel Reservoir, Tete-Beche pair with Gutter Margin, Fine used, ₹ 30/-
100. Bhutan: 1970 Paintings, 2 different, thick cardboard stamps with Embossing having appearance of rough texture, Mint, self adhesive, Negligible traces of Hinge on back, ₹ 100/-
101. Brazil: 1990 S/S stamp world London 150th Anniversary, Penny Black, Sir Rowland Hill, slightly stained, MNH, ₹ 70/-
102. Japan: 2025, Culture to Leave for future generations series no. 3. S/S sticker stamps featuring 10 stamps, each with a face value of 110 Japanese yen, depicting various traditional Japanese crafts and festivals from different prefectures. (Aizu lacquerware, Chichibu Meisen silk, Shigaraki ware pottery, & Kumano brushes, etc., ₹ 500
103. Tuvalu: 1982 Royal Wedding Overprint, Tonga Cyclone Relief, Mint, Negligible stain, (2 stamps), ₹ 40/-
104. Germany: 1920/1923 Surcharged inflation period stamps, 800 Tausend O/p on 10 & 75 Tausend O/on 400, (2 stamps), Mint, ₹ 40/-
105. Isle of Man: 1996 Europa- Famous Women – Regina Elizabeth II, MNH, ₹ 30/-

Picture Postcards

106. Deepawali Greetings on Rag Dhanshree, Rajasthan, 19th Cent. AD on Picture PC used, ₹ 25/-
107. Modern Switzerland – 22 Colour Photographs (13 x 18.5 cm), ₹ 600/-
108. Science & Natural History Museum, State of Kuwait, Minister of Education Set of 4 Picture PC, ₹ 100/-
109. 'BELUR' -Chennakeshava Temple (Heaven of Art) – Set of 10 Colour PC + 1 Color PC, ₹ 550/-
110. KHAJURAHO: 4 Colour PC & 1 B & W PC, 250/-
111. 'BOMBAY': 17 Colour Different PC (Gateway of India, Flora fountain, Taj Hotel, etc.), & 2 B & W PC Unused & Used, ₹ 800/-
112. 'MANDU': 12 B & W pc, issued by Department of Archaeology, India, ₹ 600/-

Miscellaneous

113. Indipex 73 – Season Ticket (8/-) with 5 nos. Complimentary Coupons, ₹ 300/-
114. Literature on Rao Jodha Park (The Ecology of a Rocky Desert), ₹ 25/-
115. Entry Ticket of Musical Night (18th May 1975), Vadodara, ₹ 50/-
116. Buddha & Buddhism – Performance of Postage Stamps as Historical Documents, Images on Buddha Stamps, ₹ 30/-
117. Bookmark: 'Visit INDEPEX ASIANA 2000' & feel the Romance of Philately, ₹ 30/-
118. Lothal – Book by ASI (1985) B & W, 48 p., ₹ 150/-
119. Junagadh – Book by ASI, (1985) B & W, 49 p. ₹ 150/-



▲ Lot No.88



▲ Lot No.90



▲ Lot No.93

Join Baroda Philatelic Society. Membership form and other details are available at our website.

120. Ahmedabad – Book by ASI (1980) B & W, 71 p. ₹ 200/-
 121. See Gujarat – Book by Dept. Of Information, Govt. Of Gujarat (1960), B & W, 80 p. ₹ 200/-
 122. India Victory in World Cup 83 Sp. Cover release function photograph- Capt. Vijay Hazare, G. Kishanchand, ₹ 30/-
 123. Folk Dances of Gujarat, Ahmedabad round stickers, 25 nos., ₹ 150/-
 124. Entry Ticket: Janjira Fort, Murd, ₹ 25/-
 125. Entry Ticket: Alibaug Beach Boating (MTDC), ₹ 25/-
 126. Entry Ticket: Ferry Boat Ticket – Khora Bandar to Janjira Fort, ₹ 25/-
 127. Ahimsapex –2012 Mahatma Gandhi Labels issued by Lucknow Philatelic Society and GPO Lucknow, 4 pairs of 2 each label, Total 8 labels, ₹ 100 /-
 128. Freeze Magnet, 'Madhubala Stamp Image' (size app. 2" x 2"), ₹ 80 /-
 129. Acrylic decorative frame with Madhubala Stamp image, (size app. 3.75" x 3.75") with stand, ₹ 120 /-
 130. Allahabad Museum, Prayagraj Entry Ticket, ₹ 50 /-

Literature

131. SIGNET: Apr 98 to Mar 22 (4 Years) Hard Bound, Each ₹ 125/-
 132. INDDAK: 1998, 1999 (2 Years) Hard Bound, Each ₹ 125/-
 133. ISJ: Assorted 3 issue (Jan – Apr 2002, May-Aug 2002, Jan –Mar 2011 INDIPEX 2011 Sp. Issue), ₹ 100/-
 134. INDIA POST: 6 Assorted (1991, 1992, 1993, 2010), ₹ 300/-
 135. American Philatelists- Oct 98 to Dec 98, Hard Bound, ₹ 300/-

Last Date for Bidding: 30th June 2026

Terms & Conditions for Bidding:

1. Bids are to be sent by Post/Hand Delivery/ email / WhatsApp or SMS.
2. The highest bidder for each lot shall be the purchaser thereof. If highest bids of the same amount are received from more than one person, 'First come first served' policy will be observed.
3. Each lot shall be at the purchaser's risk from the Auction date and must be taken away at his or her expense by purchaser within 15 days from the date of sale.
4. Unless otherwise indicated each lot is sold as genuine and properly described.
5. Payment may be sent in favour of Baroda Philatelic Society by MO. Postage will be charged extra on actual basis.
6. Minimum bids at 80% of the estimate will be accepted.
7. For Fiscals & Revenues lower bids will be accepted by the permission of Vendor.
8. All bids are confidential and will not be disclosed to third parties.



▲ Lot No.94



▲ Lot No.96



▲ Lot No.98

"Stamp Collecting dispels boredom, enlarges our vision, broadens our knowledge, makes us better citizens and in innumerable ways, enriches our lives" - President Roosevelt

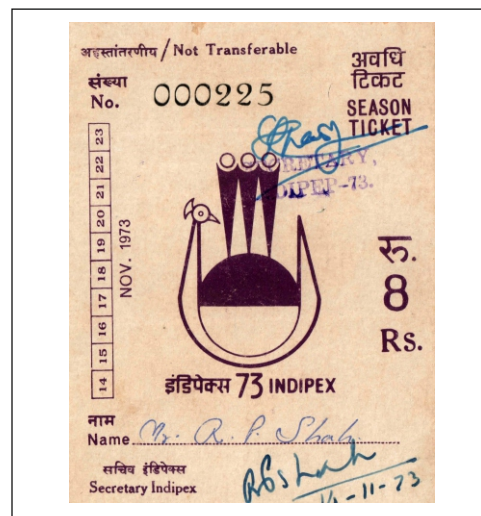
9. Bidding will increase in the following manner.: Up to ₹ 50/- by ₹ 2 steps, ₹ 51/- to ₹ 100/- by ₹ 5 steps, ₹ 101/- to ₹ 250/- by ₹ 10 steps, ₹ 251/- to ₹ 1000/- by ₹ 25/- steps.
10. 5% of total sale amount will be deducted from the realisation of Sellers' lots.
11. Scanned images of selected lots will be sent on request.

Contact for sending bids:

Mr. Timir R. Shah
Secretary, Baroda Philatelic Society

✉ trs.shah19@gmail.com

☎ +919426724794

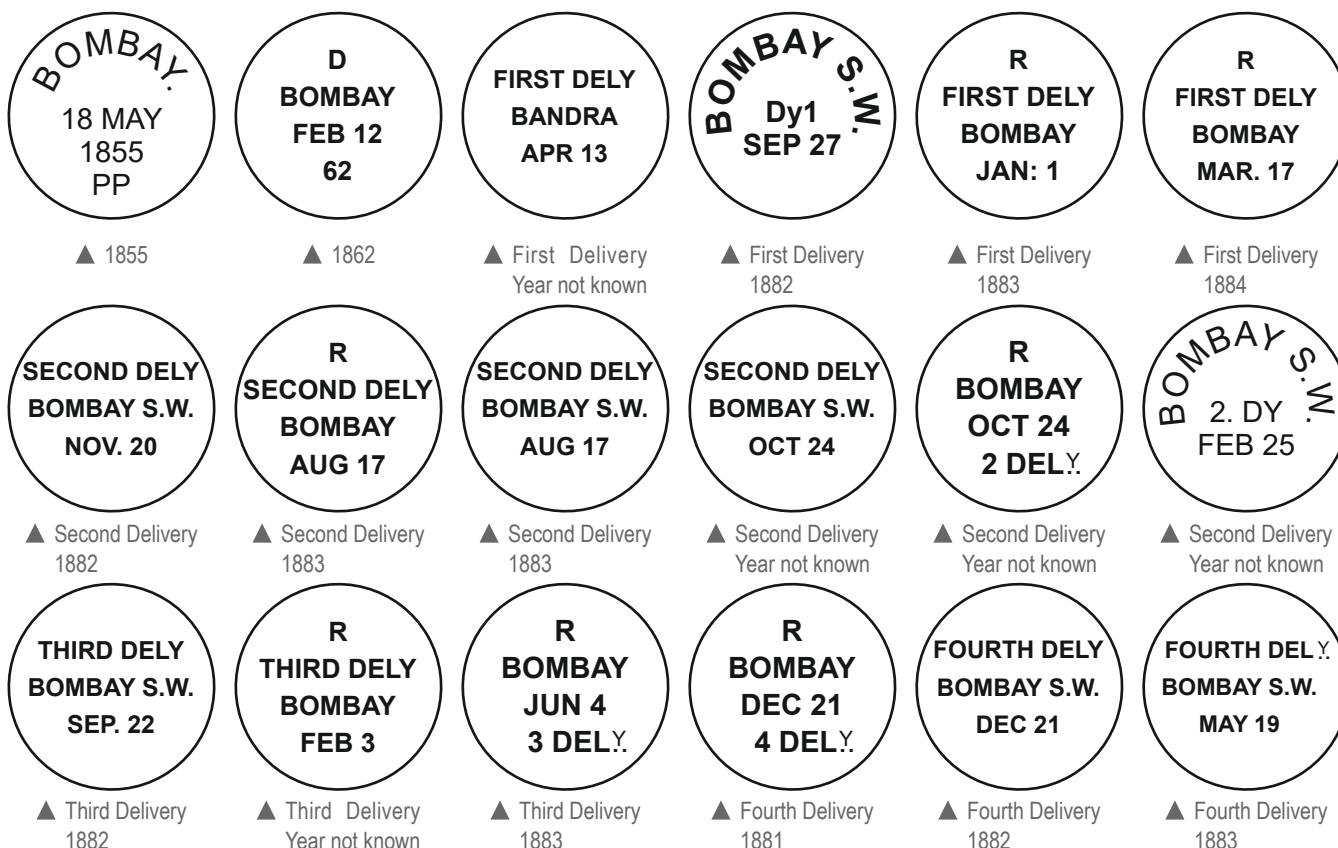


▲ Lot No.113

From the Archives

Drawings of Some Delivery Marks of Bombay by Late Col. L. G. Shenoi (Circa 1855–1884)

These are recreations of the some of the original drawings made by Late Col. L. G. Shenoi concerning his study of Bombay delivery marks dating circa 1855–1884. Owing to illness and his subsequent demise, the work remained incomplete. The original drawings were later discovered by Dr. Punit Dixit in the Ind Dak archives and is reproduced here for the historical record



As of today, the subject has been studied extensively. These reproductions are presented solely for the record and as a tribute to Late Col. L. G. Shenoi

Thailand Commemorative Stamp on Lord Ganesh

Thailand Post issued a commemorative postage stamp on 27 March 2026 to mark the 115th anniversary of the Fine Arts Department, underscoring its role in preserving art, culture, and Thai values for sustainable national development. The 5.00 Baht denomination stamp features a watercolour painting of a Ganesh statue set against the Fine Arts Department building at Thevej. The stamp was designed by Mr. Kiattisak Suwannaphong and printed by T.K.S. Technologies Public Company Limited, Thailand.

In Buddhist-majority Thailand, Lord Ganesh (Phra Phikanet) is widely revered as the patron of arts, education, and commerce, and as the remover of obstacles. His worship, seamlessly integrated with Buddhist traditions, reflects the deep cultural harmony and the deity's significance in Thai spiritual and cultural life.

New Commemorative issues from Romania

National Culture Day

As observed every year on 15 January 2026, Romania celebrated National Culture Day with a special stamp issue titled National Culture Day, honoring eminent figures who have shaped the country's cultural legacy. The 2026 issue pays tribute to Nicolae Iorga, a towering historian, literary critic, documentalist, and encyclopaedist; Andrei Mureșanu, Greek-Catholic priest and author of the Romanian national anthem "Deșteaptă-te, Române!", marking the 210th anniversary of his birth; and Ștefan Luchian, the renowned painter whose works vividly capture the beauty of the Romanian landscape.

Constantin Brâncuși

The year 2026 has been officially designated as the "Year of Constantin Brâncuși" by the President of Romania, Nicușor Dan, in honour of the legendary sculptor's enduring artistic legacy.

Marking this occasion, Romanian Post issued a commemorative set of postage stamps titled "CONSTANTIN BRÂNCUȘI – 150 Years Since Birth" on 19 February 2026, coinciding with the anniversary of the artist's birth.

Born on 19 February 1876 in Hobița, Gorj County, Constantin Brâncuși is regarded as one of the most influential sculptors of the 20th century and a pioneer of modern art. Through this philatelic tribute, Romania celebrates Brâncuși's global contribution to art and his lasting impact on cultural history.

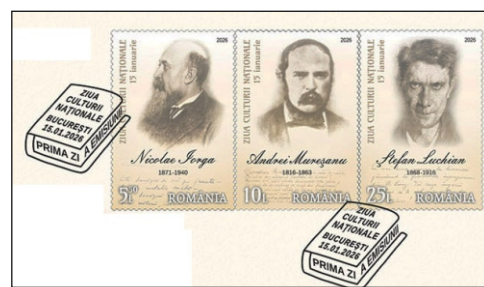
The Chinese Zodiac – The Year of the Fire Horse

Romanian Post issued its traditional philatelic release "The Chinese Zodiac – The Year of the Fire Horse" on 17 February 2026. The stamp features a striking design, with the stylised year 2026 harmoniously integrated into the flowing mane of the horse, symbolising elegance and dynamism.

In Chinese symbolism, the horse represents strength, vitality, and success, long associated with courage and the spirit of victory.



▲ 115th anniversary of the Fine Arts Department



▲ National Culture Day



▲ Constantin Brâncuși



▲ The Chinese Zodiac

Revered as a powerful and loyal companion, the horse has historically been a symbol of strength and support for warriors and leaders. Through this issue, Romanian Post continues its tradition of celebrating the Chinese Zodiac with artistic and cultural finesse.

Carnivorous Plants

Romanian Post issued a set of three postage stamps on 21 January 2026 under the flora theme titled "Carnivorous Plants." The issue highlights fascinating insectivorous plants known for their unique adaptations.

The set features *Nepenthes*, the sole genus of the family *Nepenthaceae*, comprising around 150 species native to Southeast Asia, Australia, and Madagascar. Also depicted is *Sarracenia*, commonly known as the pitcher plant, a genus of the family *Sarraceniaceae* with 34 herbaceous species found in marshy regions of North and South America. The third stamp showcases *Drosera*, or sundews, belonging to the family *Droseraceae*, which includes three genera and about 130 species.

International Federation of Philately (FIP)

On 26 February 2026, the Romanian Post issued a commemorative postage stamp marking the centenary of the International Federation of Philately (FIP), one of the most prominent organizations in the international philatelic community.

The issue comprises a single postage stamp, a perforated souvenir sheet, a First Day Cover in Liliput format (130 × 90 mm), and a specially designed philatelic folder containing limited-edition products. This release represents a world philatelic premiere, featuring the smallest postage stamp ever issued.

Irises

On 5 March 2026, Romanian Post issued a set of four postage stamps dedicated to iris flowers. Irises are admired for their distinctive form and vibrant, intense colours, which evoke optimism and bring joy both to those who cultivate them and to those who receive them as gifts.

The iris has long been a symbol of royalty and holds an important place in Greek mythology, where Iris appears as the goddess of the rainbow and the messenger of the gods. The name of the flower is derived from the Greek words "iris" meaning "rainbow," and "eiris," meaning "messenger."

Easter 2026

On 12 March 2026, Romanian Post issued a set of two postage stamps dedicated to Easter 2026. Graphic designer Emi Balint has incorporated an original concept into the design of the postage stamps: alongside the bunny, the red egg as a Paschal symbol is represented by the beautiful red flower of a tulip, one of the most known and beloved flower in the world.

Rotary District Romania, 90 Years

To mark the 90th anniversary of the establishment of the first Rotary District in Romania, the Romanian Post issued a commemorative



▲ Carnivorous Plants



▲ International Federation of Philately (FIP)



▲ Irises



▲ Easter 2026

"All science is either physics or stamp collecting." - Ernest Rutherford

postage stamp on 20 March 2026.

The Rotary movement was founded in 1905 in Chicago by American lawyer Paul Percy Harris, together with three associates, with the aim of fostering friendship, ethical values, and community service. Rotary made its debut in Romania in 1929 with the establishment of the first club. On 1 March 1936, Rotary District 84 Romania was officially formed, uniting nine clubs located in Bucharest, Timișoara, Brașov, Cernăuți, Arad, Câmpina, Iași, Cluj, and Ploiești. The district's first Governor was Christian Penescu-Kertsch, an engineer and President of the Bucharest Rotary Club, Romania's inaugural Rotary club.

Romanian Boxing Federation – 100 Years

On 26 March 2026, Romanian Post issued a set of two postage stamps commemorating the centenary of the Romanian Boxing Federation, celebrating a sport that has been practised for millennia and has enjoyed enduring popularity in Romania among both amateurs and professionals.

One stamp features Nicolae Linca, the Olympic champion who secured Romania's first-ever Olympic boxing gold medal at the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games. The second stamp depicts Francisc Vaștag, a distinguished boxer and three-time world champion, whose achievements further reinforced Romania's prominence on the international boxing stage.

Aland

18 March 2026, Summer Shimmer

Austria

9 January 2026, Ledl AS 160 (sports car)

14 March 2026, Northern Lapwing

Estonia

23 January 2026, XXV Olympic Winter Games

13 March 2026, Genetic Estonia - Biobank 25

12 March 2026, Estonia Flora and Fauna

France

23 March 2026, Street Arts

Finland

14 January 2026, Floral Greetings

14 January 2026, Friendship

Great Britain

13 January 2026, Stranger Things

20 March 2026, Lord of the Rings

Greenland

28 March 2026, National Dog Sled Championship

Iraq

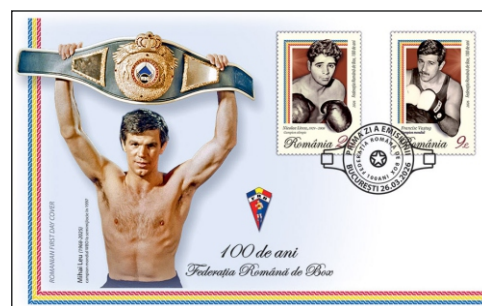
25 January 2026, The 1500th Birth Anniversary of Prophet Muhammad

28 January 2026, Court of Cassation

5 March 2026, Easter



▲ Rotary District Romania, 90 Years



▲ Romanian Boxing Federation, 100 Years

Isle of Man

7 January 2026, Wild Guide Isle of Man

20 January 2026, Year of the Horse

Kyrgyzstan

29 December 2025, Kyrgyz Musical Instruments

29 December 2025, Uzun-Akhmat Grape

Latvia

2 February 2026, Rose

Netherlands

5 January 2026, Experience Nature - Birds Saba

1 April 2026, World Pride Amsterdam

San Marino

3 March 2026, San Marino Song Contest

3 March 2026, Medical Oncology

Serbia

17 March 2026, 125 Years of organized Mountaineering in Serbia

Spain

13 March 2026, Rugby

25 March 2026, Collecting - Trading Card Exchange

Switzerland

5 March 2026, Animal of the Year - European Hedgehog

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INDIAN STATES

Long before India became a unified republic, the subcontinent was a mosaic of more than 560 princely states, each with its own ruler, traditions, and identity. Among the most fascinating legacies they left behind are the stamps & postal stationery issued by the Indian Princely States.

These small pieces of paper are far more than postage. They are miniature historical documents that tell the story of India before independence. Each stamp reflects the character of its state, whether the bright watercolors of Jammu & Kashmir, the elegant designs of Jaipur, or the primitive typeset issues of smaller states like Bamra or Dhar. They reveal how rulers communicated with their people, how trade and administration functioned, and how these kingdoms interacted with the vast network of the Imperial Post.

Collecting these items allows us to rediscover a forgotten chapter of our own heritage. The stamps carry the names of states, scripts, and symbols that reflect regional languages, cultures, and political histories. They remind us that India's diversity, so often celebrated today, was already alive in these states more than a century ago.

Each stamp, postcard, or cover is more than a collectible; it is a small historical witness. It connects us to the courts of Maharajas, to the officials who administered these kingdoms, and to the early postal routes that linked distant towns and villages. Through these fragile pieces of paper we glimpse the daily lives of people who lived in princely India, merchants sending invoices, families exchanging letters, and administrators managing the affairs of their states.

The designs themselves often reflect the cultural and spiritual world of the states that issued them. Many incorporate traditional symbols, royal emblems, and religious imagery. Some even depict deities and mythical figures drawn from India's rich heritage, for example, the appearance of Lord Ganesha on the stamps of Duttia, demonstrating how closely religion, art, and governance were intertwined in these kingdoms.

The issues of the Princely States also reflect remarkable ingenuity. Many were produced locally with limited resources, using handstamps, crude presses, or small local printings. As a result, each item often carries distinctive characteristics; unusual designs, printing varieties, and rare postal usages; that make the field both intellectually rewarding and historically rich.

By collecting and preserving the philatelic heritage of the Indian Feudatory States, we help safeguard the memory of these kingdoms and the postal systems they created. In doing so, we ensure that this unique and fascinating chapter of India's history continues to be studied, appreciated, and passed on to future generations.



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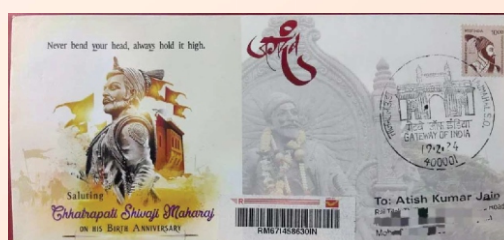
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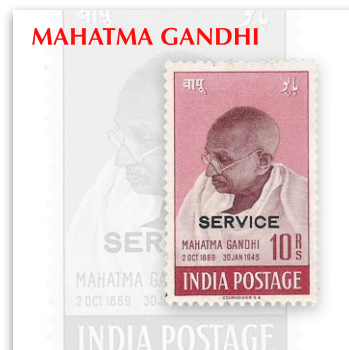
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MAHATMA GANDHI



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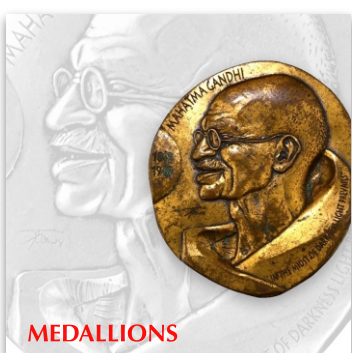
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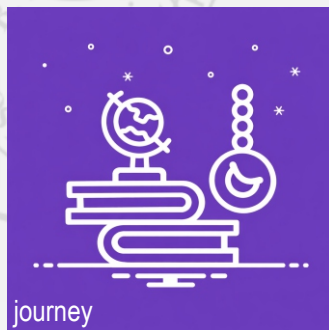


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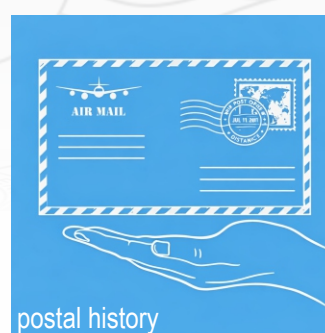
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Baroda Philatelic Society Fifty Years of Legacy, and the Journey Forward

॥ समर्पणम् ॥

स्मृतिः परम्परा चैव ज्ञानं यत्र प्रवर्तते ।
अतीतस्य संरक्षणं भविष्याय प्रकाशते ॥
यत्र सेवाभिरताः सन्तो ध्येयं नित्यं समर्पिताः ।
स संस्था वर्धते नित्यं स्वर्णसूत्रेण संयुता ॥



Dedicated to
Those visionaries who began the journey, those members
who sustained it, and those future philatelists
who will carry the legacy forward.





Bhupendra Patel

Chief Minister, Gujarat State

Dt. 07-05-2026

Message

Humans are wired for both stability and novelty. While routines provide structure, security, and efficiency in daily life, the mind simultaneously seeks variation, stimulation and new experiences. This is where hobbies play an essential role. Unlike routine obligations, hobbies are chosen freely and pursued without external pressure. They allow individuals to reconnect with curiosity, creativity and intrinsic motivation—the simple joy of doing something because one *wants* to, not because one *has* to. Whether it is in any form, hobbies create a mental space that refreshes the mind and restores emotional balance. In a deeper sense, hobbies are not just diversions; they are expressions of individuality. They reflect personal interests, nurture hidden talents and often become a source of inner satisfaction and even identity. By engaging in hobbies, individuals break the monotony of routine and re-energize themselves which ultimately enhances their overall well-being and productivity. **Hon'ble Prime Minister Shree Narendra Modi ji** advocates for pursuing hobbies to reduce stress and foster holistic development, frequently urging people to embrace creative, skill-based activities like collecting postal tickets, ancient-artistic coins and art pieces.

I am much pleased to learn that the **Baroda Philatelic Society** is bringing out a commemorative edition of '**Vadophil**' on the occasion of its **51st Anniversary**. I hope, the topics covered in the publication by the editorial team will be most useful among the philatelic fraternity. I, hereby, extend my heartiest best wishes to all the members including all the stakeholders for the success of the publication and for a bright future ahead.

(Bhupendra Patel)

Shree Prashantbhai Pandya, President,
Baroda Philatelic Society,
A-5, Yoginagar Township,
Nr. Gayatrinagar, Gotri, Vadodara-390021.
Email: info@vadophil.org, edesk@prashantpandya.com
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Harsh Sanghavi

Deputy Chief Minister
Gujarat State



727126

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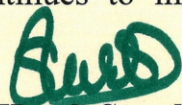
I extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the Baroda Philatelic Society on its 51st Anniversary and the publication of the commemorative edition of Vadophil.

It is indeed commendable that the Society has consistently promoted philately and encouraged awareness of India's rich cultural, historical and postal heritage among citizens, especially the younger generation. Over the decades, your organization has played a significant role in nurturing creativity, learning and the spirit of collection through this meaningful hobby.

Philately is not merely the collection of stamps; it is a gateway to knowledge, history, culture and national pride. The dedicated efforts of the Baroda Philatelic Society in preserving and promoting this tradition are truly appreciable.

I convey my sincere appreciation to all office bearers, members and contributors associated with the Society for their continued commitment and valuable contribution toward educational and cultural activities.

I wish the Baroda Philatelic Society great success in all its future endeavours and hope that it continues to inspire generations of philatelists across the country.


(Harsh Sanghavi)

To,
Shri Prashant Pandya,
President, Baroda Philatelic Society,
A-5, Yoginagar Township, Gotri,
Vadodara-390021.

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DO No.: Philately/Misc/2026

Date : 17.04.2026

Dear Shri Prashantji,

Completing 50 years is an important milestone for any organization. To continue to remain committed to the cause of actively pursuing the objective of promoting philately by helping the philatelists to connect and network with each other for over 5 decades, is in itself a great achievement. The Baroda Philatelic Society is a vibrant organization which has contributed immensely in guiding budding philatelists and enriching young minds by introducing them to the exciting and educative world of Philately. A postage stamp, though as small as thumbnail, is a window through which the vast world of knowledge is accessible and is within reach of everyone. Further, the obscure of postmark on a fading letter carries imprints of the times when letters were the only convenient form of long distance communication. The postal system is a marvel of civilization that has enabled the humans not only to connect with each other but also to exchange their feelings, thoughts, knowledge and wisdom.

When we collect stamps and other philately items we are collecting the remnants of history on the one hand and on the other are creating a framework through which different aspects of a subject are collated into a single frame. Although only a hobby, philately is an enriching pursuit providing information, education and joy together. It is not surprising that the hobby of philately is considered as a King of Hobbies and Hobbies of Kings; for philatelist is a king of the topic or the area of his collection and develops expertise in that subject.

I am fortunate that being an officer of Indian Postal Service provided me a unique opportunity to meet, interact and closely observe senior philatelists over the past 30 years. I could see that these people, though senior in age were childlike when they were around their collection of stamps. Philately never allowed them to grow old. I remember from the days of Indipex 1997, and thereafter in many state exhibitions and world exhibitions and numerous district exhibitions that I was associated with, that every such occasion enriched me from my close interactions with senior philatelists from all over India. I am happy that for the past 17 years, I am a witness to the vibrant activities and the proactive initiatives of Baroda Philatelic Society.

I wish all the members of the society great success on this occasion and I am sure that the society will continue this good work by being a guide and a friend of all the young and budding philatelists in Vadodara and Gujarat.

warm regards...

Yours sincerely,

Ganesh V. Sawaleshwarkar
(Ganesh V Sawaleshwarkar) 17/04/26

Shri Prashant Pandya
President
Baroda Philatelic Society
A-5, Yoginagar Township
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Pratapganj, Vadodara-390 002

08th April, 2026

MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to extend my warm greetings to the Baroda Philatelic Society on the occasion of its 51st Anniversary and the release of the commemorative edition of *Vadophil*.

Over the past five decades, the Society has played a remarkable role in promoting philately and nurturing interest among students, youth, and enthusiasts. Its dedicated efforts in organizing exhibitions, workshops, and maintaining a rich philatelic library have significantly contributed to preserving and popularizing this meaningful hobby.

Philately is not merely the collection of stamps; it is a window to history, culture, and heritage. The Society's continuous initiatives have helped in educating and inspiring generations, thereby strengthening the cultural fabric of our nation.

I commend the unwavering commitment of all members and office bearers of the Society. I am confident that this milestone publication will serve as a valuable chronicle of its glorious journey and inspire many more to take up philately.

I convey my best wishes for the continued success and growth of the Society in the years to come.

(Dinesh Kumar Sharma)
Postmaster General,
Vadodara Region, Vadodara-390002

To-
Shri Prashant Pandya,
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Published by Baroda Philatelic Society, Vadodara
Editing, Design & Layout: Prashant Pandya | Compilation: Timir R. Shah

From the President's Desk

The Baroda Philatelic Society was founded on 27 April 1975 by 17 dedicated enthusiasts united by a shared vision—one that continues to guide us today: to popularize philately among the younger generation, support active collectors in Vadodara, and provide a vibrant platform for learning, exchange, and fellowship.



Today, the Society comprises 3 Honorary Life Members, 61 Life Members, 28 Ordinary Members, 24 Associate Life Members, and 33 Associate Ordinary Members. Members meet every Sunday at Dr. Kirtiben Amin Nursing Home (formerly Dr. A. V. Patel's Nursing Home) near Tarkeshwar Temple, Vadodara. Our monthly meetings, held unfailingly on the second Sunday of each month since inception, stand as a testament to our continuity and commitment.

Over the years, the Baroda Philatelic Society has organized numerous philatelic exhibitions aimed at inspiring and educating collectors across generations. The Society has sponsored special covers, special cancellations, and other philatelic issues; conducted workshops for schoolchildren; and promoted philatelic awareness through structured programmes and outreach activities.

Our members have consistently brought distinction to the Society through their individual achievements at district, state, national, and international exhibitions, including prestigious Invitee Class honours. Many have served as Jury Members at District, State, and National levels, reflecting their expertise and standing. Members' profiles and collections have also been featured in newspapers and philatelic magazines, extending their influence to a wider audience.

Beyond traditional platforms, members have represented philately at non-philatelic exhibitions, cultural fairs, public events, and educational forums—serving as ambassadors of the hobby and introducing diverse audiences to postal history and thematic collecting.

Our library stands as one of Gujarat's finest philatelic resources, supporting research and reinforcing philately as a deeply rewarding pursuit.

The Society's legacy has been shaped by the dedication of senior philatelists, past presidents, and secretaries whose vision and service laid strong foundations. Notably, Shri K.P. Karamchandani, Dr. Vitthalbhai G. Patel, Dr. Dipak De, Shri R.P. Shah, Prof. A.S. Loiwal, Dr. Ashwin V. Patel, Shri R. Y. Bhagwat, and many others guided key initiatives and inspired generations of collectors in Vadodara.

A special tribute is due to Late Shri Rajnikant P. Shah (fondly known as R.P. Shah), the Founder Secretary of the Baroda Philatelic Society. His association with philately spanned several decades, including his service as Honorary Secretary of the Indore Philatelic Society in 1971 and 1973. He played a pivotal role in establishing our Society in 1975 and served as Secretary from 1975 to 1982, Vice President in 1983, and President with distinction from 1985 to 2002.

At the national level, Shri R.P. Shah served on the M.P. Philatelic Advisory Committee, the Governing Council of the Philatelic Congress of India, and various exhibition organizing committees in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. Through workshops, lectures—including sessions at the Postal Training Center in Vadodara—and mentorship, he nurtured generations of philatelists. Ever selfless in service, he gave generously of his time, energy, and health. His humility, warmth, and gracious nature endeared him to all. Though he left us on 8 August 2003, his enduring legacy continues to inspire the Society.

In recognition of exceptional service, the Society has conferred Honorary Life Membership upon distinguished philatelists of Gujarat: Late Shri H.C. Mehta, Dr. Punit Dixit, Shri Ashok Kumar Bayanwala, and Shri Sapan Jhaveri, who continue to guide and inspire us with their wisdom and experience.

Last year, we proudly celebrated our 50th anniversary, marking five decades of dedicated service to philately. Our quarterly bulletin Vadophil now reaches readers worldwide through print, digital editions, and social media platforms. As an extension of these celebrations, we are pleased to present this special 51st anniversary edition of Vadophil, conceived as a coffee table book, capturing our rich history, milestones, and achievements.

Lastly, I warmly invite every member and philately enthusiast to join us in carrying this legacy forward. Let us continue to keep the stamps turning and the stories alive—together.

Prashant Pandya
President, Baroda Philatelic Society

First Governing Council and Founder Members (1975)

On 27 April 1975, a group of visionary pioneers came together to establish the Baroda Philatelic Society, sowing the seeds of a legacy that today **proudly marks fifty golden years of enduring philatelic excellence.**

1. Shri K. P. Karamchandani (President)

Provided inspiring leadership and organizational foresight during the Society's formative years.

2. Shri Vamanbhai B. Patel (Vice President)

Offered steadfast support and guidance in shaping the Society's early direction.

3. Shri R. P. Shah (Secretary)

Spearheaded administration and played a vital role in the Society's growth and continuity.

4. Shri D. T. Desai (Treasurer – Continuing Member)

Entrusted with financial stewardship from the outset and continues to safeguard the Society's finances to this day.

5. Shri G. N. Mundkar (Committee Member)

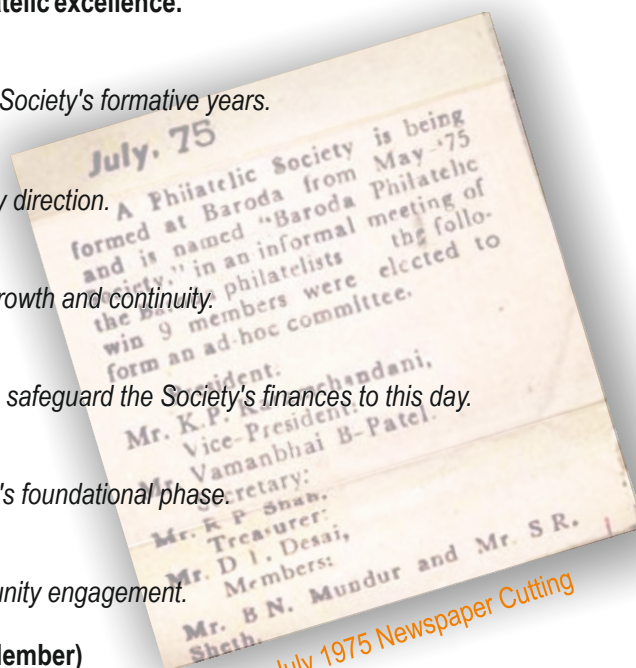
Contributed valuable momentum and commitment during the Society's foundational phase.

6. Shri Sumanbhai R. Sheth (Committee Member)

Strengthened the Society through dedicated involvement and community engagement.

7. Shri Digant Mehta (Youngest Founder Member – Continuing Member)

Infused youthful energy and enthusiasm that remain an enduring part of the Society's spirit.



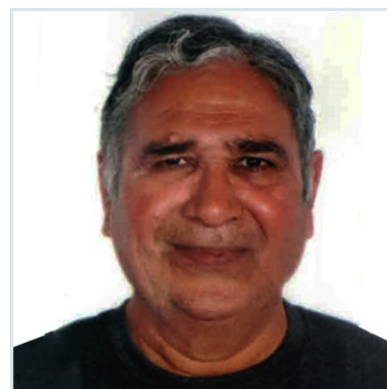
July 1975 Newspaper Cutting



Shri K. P. Karamchandani



Shri R. P. Shah



Shri D. T. Desai



Shri G. N. Mundkar



Shri Digant Mehta

“Their collective vision, dedication, and passion ignited a legacy that the Baroda Philatelic Society proudly cherishes and carries forward into its Golden Jubilee and beyond.”

Society Logo & Symbolism



The logo of the **Baroda Philatelic Society** draws its inspiration from India's rich postal history and reflects the Society's enduring commitment to the study and preservation of philately.

The All India Series of obliterators, introduced in 1873 and used until 1884, assigned each postal circle an identifying letter and number. Baroda was allotted the number "17", while the letter "B" denoted the Bombay Postal Circle, under whose jurisdiction Baroda then fell. The Society's logo is based on the historic "B-17" cancellation, featuring two horizontal bars broken at the centre to accommodate the numeral "1", a

distinctive characteristic of the **Baroda R. H. (Receiving House)** postmark.

Recognising its historical significance, the **Baroda Philatelic Society** adopted this cancellation as its official logo. The image of the Baroda R. H. postmark used for this purpose was contributed by **Shri R. S. Golerkeri**, a respected member of the Society, whose dedicated collection and study of the postal history of Baroda Post Offices has greatly enriched the Society's philatelic heritage. More than a graphic symbol, the logo stands as a tribute to Baroda's postal legacy and the Society's mission to preserve it for future generations.



Example of B-17/1 and Baroda R.H. Postmarks on Cover and Postcard

"By adopting the historic B-17 cancellation as its logo, the Baroda Philatelic Society honours Baroda's postal heritage and reaffirms its commitment to preserving and promoting philatelic history for future generations."

Presidents and Secretaries (1975 - 2025)

Over the past five decades, the Baroda Philatelic Society has been guided by devoted office-bearers whose leadership, vision, and service have steered the Society through periods of growth, notable exhibitions, and significant milestones. This chronicle honours the Presidents and Secretaries who have upheld the Society's values and nurtured its progress over **fifty glorious years**.

Long-serving stalwarts such as **Shri R. P. Shah**, and the present leadership that continues this tradition, stand as shining examples of unwavering commitment to philately and institutional continuity.

Tenure of Office-Bearers

Year	President	Secretary
1975 - 1976	Shri K. P. Karamchandani	Shri R. P. Shah (<i>Founder Secretary</i>)
1977 - 1980	Dr. V. G. Patel	Shri R. P. Shah
1981 - 1982	Dr. Dipak De	Shri R. P. Shah
1983	Dr. Dipak De	Prof. A. S. Loiwal
1984	Dr. Dipak De	Dr. Ashwin V. Patel
1985 - 1992	Shri R. P. Shah	Dr. Ashwin V. Patel
1993 - 1997	Shri R. P. Shah	Shri R. Y. Bhagwat
1998 - 2002	Shri R. P. Shah	Shri Timir R. Shah
2003 - 2025	Shri Prashant H. Pandya (<i>Current, 23+ years</i>)	Shri Timir R. Shah (<i>Counting</i>)



Shri K. P. Karamchandani



Shri R. P. Shah



Dr. V. G. Patel



Dr. Dipak De



Prof. A. S. Loiwal



Dr. Ashwin V. Patel

Presidents and Secretaries (1975 - 2025)



Shri R. Y. Bhagwat



Shri Timir R. Shah



Shri Prashant H. Pandya

The visionary 17-year presidency of Shri R. P. Shah (1985–2002) marked a defining era, firmly consolidating the Society's legacy and stature. The present leadership, with Shri Prashant H. Pandya and Shri Timir R. Shah, continues to uphold and carry forward this distinguished tradition as the Society steps into its 51st year of service to philately.

Present Governing Council (2022 - 2025)

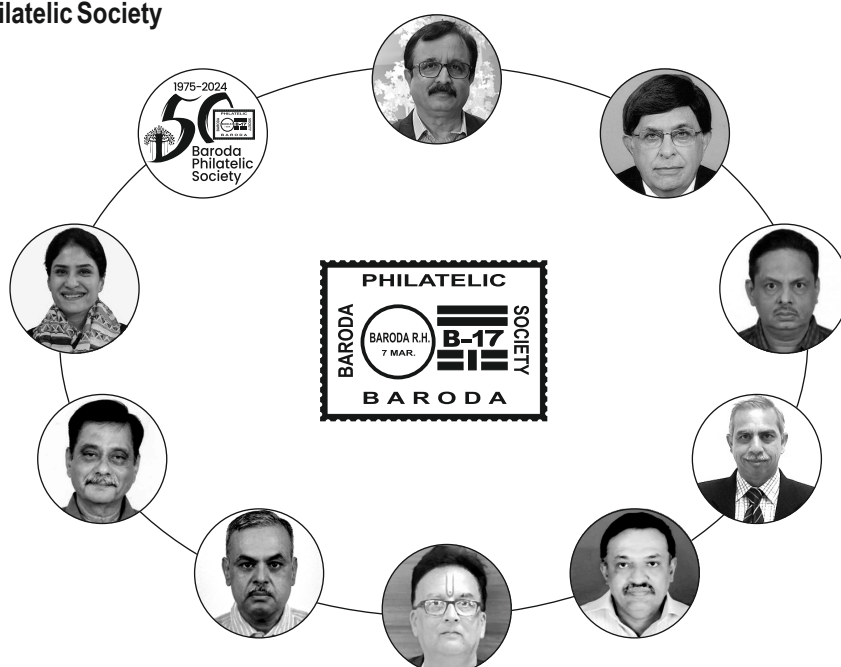
Present Governing Council of the Baroda Philatelic Society

- **President:** Shri Prashant H. Pandya
- **Vice President:** Shri Suresh Thakkar
- **Honorary Secretary:** Shri Timir R. Shah
- **Joint Secretary:** Shri Mohan P. Vaze
- **Treasurer:** Shri Ashwin C. Shah
- **Member:** Shri Mihir R. Shah

Internal Auditors

- Shri Yogesh K. Shah
- Shri Digant R. Mehta

Office Co-ordinator: Smt. Parul H. Shah



“The present Governing Council of the Baroda Philatelic Society reflects a dedicated team of experienced philatelists and committed administrators working together to guide the Society's activities. Their collective efforts continue to strengthen the Society's role in promoting philatelic knowledge, fostering fellowship among collectors, and preserving Baroda's rich postal heritage.”

Present Governing Council (2022 - 2025)



Shri Prashant H. Pandya
President



Shri Suresh Thakkar
Vice President



Shri Timir R. Shah
Hon. Secretary



Shri Mohan P. Vaze
Joint Secretary



Shri Ashwin C. Shah
Treasurer



Shri Mihir R. Shah
Member



Shri Yogesh K. Shah
Internal Auditor



Shri Digant R. Mehta
Internal Auditor



Smt. Parul H. Shah
Office Co-ordinator

As stamp collecting may be indulged in by all ages, and at all seasons, it is becoming more and more the favourite indoor relaxation with brain-workers. It may be taken up or laid down at any time, and at any stage. Its cost may be limited to shillings or pounds, and it may be made a pleasant pursuit or an engrossing study, or it may even be diverted into money-making purposes.

So absorbing is the hobby that in stamp circles there is a saying, "Once a stamp collector, always a stamp collector."

Membership Overview

Membership of the **Baroda Philatelic Society** is open to residents of **Baroda City and Baroda District**, reflecting the Society's strong local roots and community spirit. Philatelists residing outside Baroda District may join the Society as Associate Members.

The Society offers **Ordinary Membership** and **Life Membership**, enabling collectors, researchers, and enthusiasts of all ages to participate meaningfully in its activities and traditions.

Monthly Meetings

Members of the Society meet regularly on the **second Sunday of every month**. Notably, **not a single meeting has been cancelled since the Society's inception**, a testament to its members' dedication and continuity.

Venue:

Dr. A. V. Patel's Nursing Home

Near Tarkeshwar Temple, Jubilee Baug, Vadodara

Membership Privileges and Facilities

Members of the Baroda Philatelic Society enjoy the following privileges:

- Regular information and timely updates on philatelic activities, exhibitions, and events
- Participation in monthly meetings, exhibitions, workshops, and functions organised by the Society
- Opportunity to **display their philatelic collections during monthly meetings**, encouraging learning, discussion, and appreciation among fellow members
- Access to the **New Issue Service**
- Use of the Society's well-maintained **Philatelic Library** for reference and research
- Facilities of the **Philatelic Selling Counter**
- Privilege to **exchange or offer surplus philatelic material for sale** with fellow members, fostering camaraderie and mutual benefit
- Receipt of the **Quarterly News Bulletin (Vadophil)** and other publications issued by the Society

Membership Fees

Ordinary Membership

- Admission Fee: ₹100.00
- Annual Fees (Adults): ₹200.00
- Annual Fees (Juniors): ₹100.00
- Life Membership Fees: ₹3,000.00 (Subject to approval by the Governing Council)

Associate Membership

- Admission Fee: ₹100.00
- Annual Fees: ₹200.00
- Life Membership Fees: ₹3,000.00 (Subject to approval by the Governing Council)

Membership for Philatelists Residing Abroad

- Life Membership Fees: ₹7,500.00



“Membership of the Baroda Philatelic Society is more than an affiliation—it is participation in a living tradition that celebrates history, culture, and fellowship through philately. As the Society marks its 51st Anniversary, its members continue to form the vital link between a rich legacy and an ever-evolving future, carrying forward the spirit of learning, camaraderie, and service that has defined the Society since 1975.”

Journey of Vadophil — Quarterly New Bulletin

The Baroda Philatelic Society publishes **Vadophil**, its quarterly news bulletin circulated to all members, featuring articles, research notes, Society news, and updates on philatelic activities. Over nearly five decades, **Vadophil** has evolved into a quiet yet enduring chronicle of the Society's intellectual life, faithfully reflecting its growth, thought leadership, and deepening engagement with philately—an evolution shaped by dedication, enriched through innovation, and sustained by a strong sense of fellowship.

The Society's first News Bulletin was issued in **January 1977** under the editorship of **Shri K. P. Shah**, in a **cyclostyled format**—a milestone that continued until January 1979 and marked its earliest efforts to document and disseminate philatelic thought among members. From April 1979 through the end of 1993, **Shri M. A. Patil**, **Shri Dinesh H. Shah**, and **Shri Mihir R. Shah** served as Bulletin Coordinators.

In **January 1994**, editorial responsibilities were undertaken by **Shri R. Y. Bhagwat**, covering Issue **Nos. 57 to 73**. During this phase, the bulletin continued in a **cyclostyled and xeroxed format**, ensuring continuity in communication during a transitional period.

A significant milestone was reached in **April 1998**, when the bulletin adopted a new format and moved to digitally printed editions. Edited jointly by **Shri Prashant H. Pandya** and **Shri Timir R. Shah**, this phase spanned Issue **Nos. 74 to 80**, ushering in a more modern and structured presentation.

In **January 2000**, the bulletin was formally christened "**Vadophil**" and introduced in a new format, under the continued editorship of **Shri Prashant H. Pandya** and **Shri Timir R. Shah**, covering Issue **Nos. 81 to 120**.

Further enrichment came with the introduction of the "**Vadophil Auction**" section, beginning with the **April–July 2006** issue, adding a practical and interactive dimension to the publication.

In **January 2011**, **Vadophil** entered the digital age with the inclusion of a PDF edition, while continuing in print, covering Issue **Nos. 124 to 137**, under the same editorial stewardship.

In **January 2013**, with the rise of the internet and digital preservation, **Vadophil** became searchable and freely viewable on **Google Books**.

A major visual transformation was unveiled in **July 2014**, when **Vadophil** was **completely redesigned**. The **title page and back page were printed in multi-colour**, and the **digital version also became fully multicolour**. The Society records its sincere appreciation to **Shri Sapan Jhaveri** for designing the title page and overall format, adding a new aesthetic dimension to the publication. From **Issue No. 139** onwards, this redesigned format has continued.

From July - October 2017 issue, new columns such as "**From the Archives**" and memories through photographs of Society functions were introduced, further strengthening **Vadophil's** role as a living archive of institutional memory.

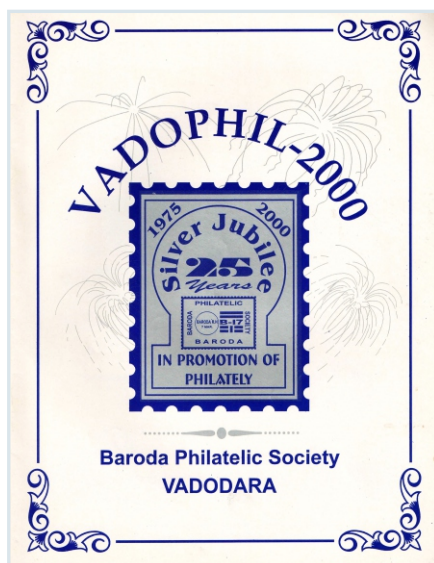
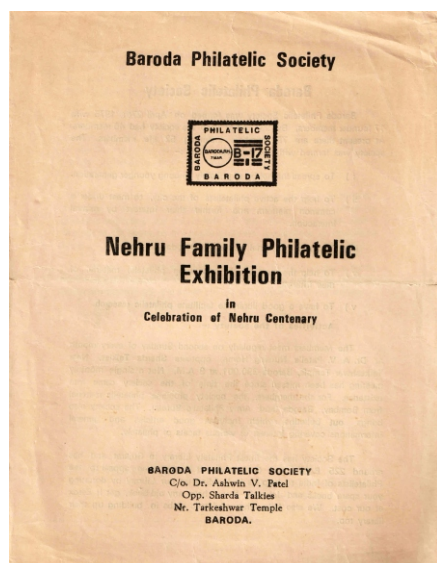
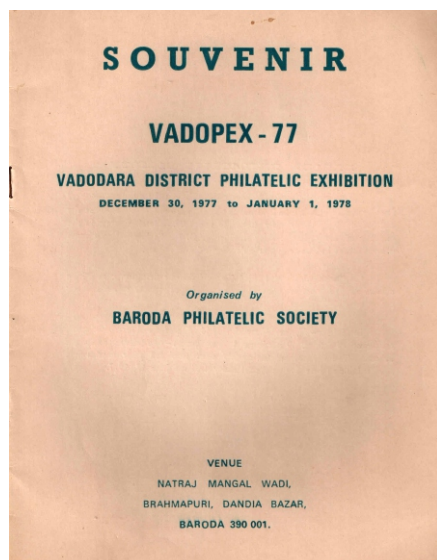


“From humble cyclostyled beginnings of just 2 to 4 pages per issue to today's visually rich, digitally accessible, and globally searchable editions spanning 40 to 48 pages, Vadophil has evolved into a living archive of the Baroda Philatelic Society's scholarship, memories, and milestones—preserving the past, informing the present, and inspiring future generations of philatelists.”

Souvenirs & Research Works

Alongside the regular publication of **Vadophil**, the Baroda Philatelic Society has also made a significant scholarly contribution through the **publication of souvenir volumes containing original research articles and philatelic studies**, brought out on the occasion of major exhibitions and milestones. These souvenir publications provided a valuable platform for members and invited contributors to present in-depth research, thematic studies, and documentation of postal history.

Notable souvenir publications were released during landmark events such as **Vadopex-77**, **Vadopex-83**, the **10th Anniversary Celebration**, **Nehru Family Philatelic Exhibition**, **Vadopex-2000**, **Stampmania-2009**, and other important philatelic exhibitions organised by the Society. Together, these publications have enriched the documentary heritage of the Society and stand as enduring references for students and researchers of philately.



“Through these souvenir volumes and research-oriented publications, the Baroda Philatelic Society has consistently demonstrated its commitment not only to the promotion of philately as a hobby, but also to its advancement as a serious field of study. The depth and diversity of scholarship reflected in these works underscore the Society's role as an important centre for philatelic research and documentation. Collectively, these publications remain a lasting testament to the intellectual engagement of its members and continue to serve as valuable reference sources for future generations of philatelists and researchers.”

Adeniphil et State

educational levels

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Awards Won by the Stampmania-2009 Souvenir

- Large Silver
Inpex 2013 — National Stamp Show, (The Philatelic Society of India) - 2013
- Silver
Gujpex 2011 — 12th State-Level Philatelic Exhibition, Vadodara - 2011
- Certificate of Participation
Indipex 2011 - The World Philatelic Exhibition, New Delhi - 2011



“These honours stand as a proud testament to the editorial dedication, research quality, and consistent contribution of the Baroda Philatelic Society to philatelic literature. Through Vadophil and its souvenir publications, the Society continues to promote knowledge, scholarship, and international goodwill within the world of philately.”

Philatelic Congress of India Governing Council members

Over the years, distinguished members of the **Baroda Philatelic Society** have served on the Governing Council of the **Philatelic Congress of India (PCI)**, contributing their experience, leadership, and vision at the national level. Their representation reflects the Society's standing and active involvement in shaping organised philately in India.

Representation in the PCI Governing Council

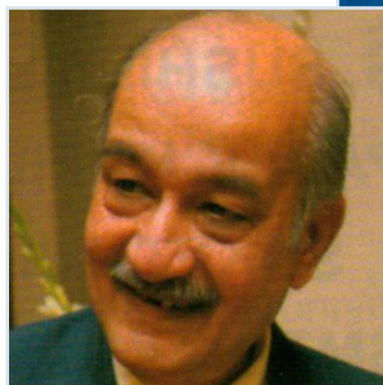
- **1986 – 1988**
Shri R. P. Shah (*Member*)
- **1988 – 1990**
Shri R. P. Shah (*Member*)
Shri Ashok Kumar Bayanwala (*Treasurer*)
- **1990 – 1992**
Shri R. P. Shah
- **1998 – 2000**
Shri Suketu Zaveri (*Joint Treasurer*)
Shri A. K. Bayanwala (*Member*)
- **2015**
Shri Prashant H. Pandya (*Secretary*)
- **2018 – 2020**
Shri Prashant H. Pandya (*Vice President, West Zone*)
Shri Surendra Kotadia (*Treasurer*)
Shri Binod Kumar Jain (*Member*)
- **2020 – Continuing**
Shri Surendra Kotadia
- **2017 – Continuing**
Shri Prashant H. Pandya (*Vice President, West Zone*)
Shri Binod Kumar Jain (*Vice President, East Zone*)



Shri R. P. Shah



Shri Ashok Kumar Bayanwala



Shri Suketu Jhaveri



Shri Prashant H. Pandya



Shri Surendra Kotadia



Shri Binod Kumar Jain

“The sustained presence of Society members on the PCI Governing Council stands as a testament to the Baroda Philatelic Society's leadership, credibility, and enduring contribution to Indian philately. Through these roles, the Society has actively participated in guiding policy, fostering exhibitions, and strengthening the national philatelic movement.”

Landmark Philatelic Exhibitions

Over the past five decades, the **Baroda Philatelic Society** has played a pioneering role in nurturing and promoting philatelic awareness in Vadodara through a rich spectrum of **competitive, non-competitive, and thematic exhibitions**. These exhibitions have not only inspired generations of collectors and students of philately but have also fostered enduring bonds within the philatelic community.

The Signature Vadopex Series

*The **Vadopex** exhibitions stand as the Society's flagship events, reflecting its sustained commitment to excellence and outreach.*

- **Vadopex-77 (First Edition)**
30 December 1977 – 1 January 1978
Natraj Mangal Wadi, Dandia Bazaar
- **Vadopex-83**
28–30 October 1983
Ampee House, Near Prince Talkies
- **Vadopex-87**
31 October – 1 November 1987
Municipal Art Gallery, Badamdi Baug, Dandia Bazaar

- **Vadopex-91**
1–2 June 1991
Municipal School, Raopura



Vadopex - 77



Vadopex - 77



Vadopex - 77



Philatelic Exhibition for Junior Philatelists - 1978



Philatelic Exhibition for Junior Philatelists - 1978

- **Vadopex-2000** (*Silver Jubilee Exhibition*)
1–2 January 2000
Vivekananda Art Gallery, Badamdi Baug
- **Vadopex-2005**
4–5 February 2005
(Independently organised by India Post, with the Support of the Baroda Philatelic Society)
Sardar Bhavan, Jubilee Baug
- **Vadopex-2019**
11–12 January 2019
(Independently organised by India Post, with the support of the Baroda Philatelic Society)
Akota Atithi Gruh, Akota
- **Vadopex-2021**
21–22 October 2021
(Virtual Philatelic Exhibition independently organised by India Post, with the support of the Baroda Philatelic Society)
Postal Training Center, Harni

- **Vadopex-2026**
9–10 January 2026
(Independently organised by India Post, with the support of the Baroda Philatelic Society)
Akota Atithi Gruh, Akota



Vadopex - 83



Vadopex - 83



Vadopex - 83



10th Anniversary Philatelic Exhibition - 1985



10th Anniversary Philatelic Exhibition - 1985

Anniversary Highlights

- Stampmania-2009**
 India's first National One-Frame Philatelic Exhibition, held under the auspices of India Post

 17–20 December 2009
 Shree Saurashtra Leuva Patel Seva Samaj, Gorwa
- Vadophilex-2013** (*Stampmania Series*)
 Non-competitive one-frame exhibition commemorating the Society's 38th Foundation Year

 27–28 April 2013
 Akruti Art Gallery, Kirti Mandir
- Vadophilex-2025**
 Competitive Philatelic Exhibition marking the Golden Jubilee of the Society

 11–12 January 2025
 Diwalipura Atithi Gruh



Vadopex - 87



Vadopex - 2000

Thematic and Community-Centric Exhibitions

- Philatelic Exhibition with Baroda Jaycees-76**
 Non-competitive exhibition,
 13–14 March 1976
 Chimnabai Stree Udyogalaya Hall
- Mini Exhibition on GUJPEX-77 Prize-Winning Entries**
 12 June 1977



Vadopex - 87



Vadopex - 87



Vadopex - 2000

- **School Children's Philatelic Competition**
13–14 November 1978
- **Mini Exhibition on Gujpex-79 Prize-Winning Entries**
Jointly with Metropolitan Jaycees, 13–14 September 1980
- **10th Foundation Day Philatelic Exhibition (Cricket Theme)**
27 April 1984, Tarkeshwar Temple Hall
- **Cricket-Themed Philatelic Exhibition**
19 November 1984
- **10th Anniversary Philatelic Exhibition (1985)**
(All-Gujarat Thematic Exhibition)
2–4 November 1985, Municipal Art Gallery
- **Non-Competitive Philatelic Exhibition on Cricket**
(Sri Lanka vs. India One-Day International, 15 January 1987)

- **Lionesspex-88**
(Lion-themed exhibition for Lions conventions, organised with Lioness Club Vishwamitri)
30 April 1988
- **Non-Competitive Philatelic Exhibition on Cricket**
(New Zealand vs. India One-Day International)
17 December 1988



Vadopex - 2000



Vadopex - 2000



Vadopex - 2000



Stampmania 2009



Stampmania 2009

- **Commemorative Philatelic Exhibition**
(Celebrating the 125th Birth Anniversary of H.H. Sayajirao Gaekwad III)
11 March 1989
- **Nehrupex-89**
(Competitive thematic exhibition commemorating Nehru Centenary)
14–16 November 1989, Municipal Art Gallery



Stampmania 2009



Stampmania 2009



Stampmania 2009

- **Dak Bharati-2004**
(National Philatelic Exhibition organized jointly by the Gujarat Philatelists' Association and the Baroda Philatelic Society to commemorate 150 years since the introduction of postage stamps in India, showcasing exclusively modern Indian philatelic materials and exhibits.)
1–3 October 2004, Sardar Patel Seva Samaj, Ahmedabad



Stampmania 2009



Stampmania 2009



Stampmania 2009



Vadophilex - 2013



Vadophilex - 2013



Vadophilex - 2025



Vadophilex - 2025



Vadophilex - 2025



Vadophilex - 2025

“These landmark exhibitions stand as enduring milestones in the Society’s illustrious journey—each one a proud celebration of creativity, heritage, and collective effort. From the pioneering Vadopex-77, which laid the foundation for organized philatelic activity, through the memorable Vadopex 2000 and the widely admired Stampmania 2009, to the contemporary and forward-looking Vadophilex 2025, every exhibition has reflected the evolving spirit of philately.”

“Together, these events have kept the flame of stamp collecting burning bright—nurturing curiosity, inspiring new generations, and strengthening bonds within the community. They are more than exhibitions; they are living testimonies to a shared passion that bridges eras, connects cultures, and reaffirms the Society’s enduring commitment to preserving and promoting the timeless art of philately.”

Philatelic Heritage of Vadodara: District, State, and Nation

Special Covers, Cancellations, Booklets, Labels, and Picture Postcards issued by the Baroda Philatelic Society

From its earliest years, the **Baroda Philatelic Society** has actively used philately as a medium to celebrate, document, and disseminate the rich cultural and historical heritage of Vadodara district, state, and nation. Among its notable contributions are the **special covers, special cancellations, stamp booklets, commemorative labels, picture postcards, and more**. — each thoughtfully designed and released during major philatelic exhibitions to reflect the architectural splendor, royal legacy, postal history, notable personalities, events, transportation milestones, and beyond.

Vadopex-77

First Vadodara District-Level Philatelic Exhibition

30 December 1977 – 1 January 1978

To commemorate **Vadopex-77**, the Society released a distinguished series of special covers and cancellations over three consecutive days, each highlighting a unique facet of Vadodara's heritage:



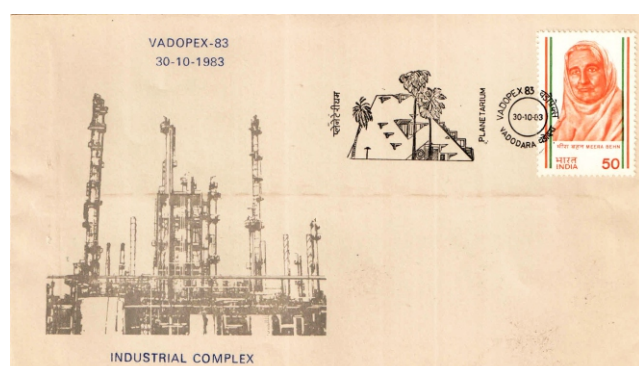
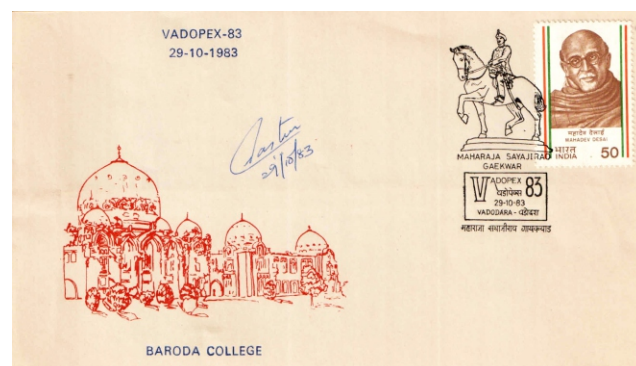
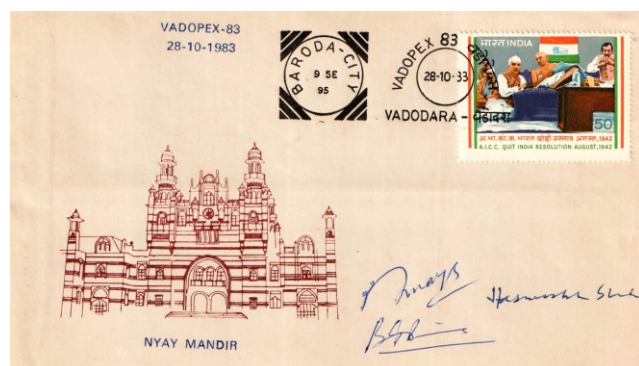
- **30 December 1977**
Cover Design: Laxmi Vilas Palace, with an inset portrait of His Highness Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III
Cancellation Design: Kirti Mandir
- **31 December 1977**
Cover Design: Mandvi
Cancellation Design: Early Baroda Postal Cancellation
- **01 January 1978**
Cover Design: Baroda Museum & Picture Gallery
Cancellation Design: Chaurie Bearer

All these covers and cancellations were designed by **Shri Dindorkar** of Baroda, a renowned and respected artist of the city. His artistic interpretation lent these philatelic issues both aesthetic distinction and historical depth.

“These thoughtfully curated covers and cancellations stand today as enduring philatelic tributes to Vadodara's legacy—where art, architecture, monarchy, and postal history converge. They exemplify the Society's early vision of using philately not merely as a hobby, but as a powerful tool for heritage documentation and cultural storytelling.”

Vadopex-83*Second Vadodara District-Level Philatelic Exhibition***28 October 1983 – 30 October 1983**

Continuing its tradition of commemorating Vadodara's rich heritage through philately, the Baroda Philatelic Society issued a notable set of special covers and cancellations during **Vadopex-83**. Each day of the exhibition highlighted a distinct aspect of the city's architectural, educational, industrial, and cultural legacy.



- **28 October 1983**
Cover Design: *Nyay Mandir*
Cancellation Design: *Early Baroda Postal Cancellation*
- **29 October 1983**
Cover Design: *Baroda College*
Cancellation Design: *Kala Ghoda — the equestrian statue of His Highness Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III*
- **30 October 1983**
Cover Design: *Industrial Complex (IPCL)*
Cancellation Design: *Sardar Patel Planetarium*

The cancellation designs for VADOPEX-83 were created by **Shri Dilip Gorana** of Baroda, a Life Member of the Society, whose artistic interpretation added historical depth and visual distinction to these issues.

“Through these thoughtfully curated covers and cancellations, VADOPEX-83 captured Vadodara's evolution—honouring its judicial institutions, centres of learning, industrial progress, and scientific outlook. Together, they stand as enduring philatelic records of a city rooted in tradition yet steadily embracing modernity.”

10th Foundation Day of the Baroda Philatelic Society 27 April 1984

To commemorate the **10th Foundation Day** of the Baroda Philatelic Society, a special philatelic issue was released celebrating one of India's most cherished sporting triumphs.



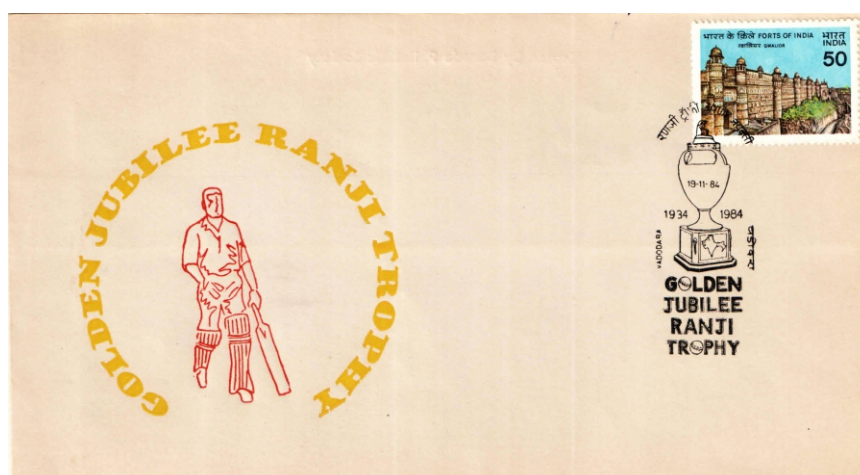
Cover Design: The victorious Indian Cricket Team, winners of the Prudential World Cup, England (1983)

Cancellation Design: A symbolic composition featuring cricket bats, ball, stumps, and trophy

The Special Cover was released by **Capt. Vijay S. Hazare** and **Shri G. Kishanchand**, eminent cricketers from Vadodara. The special cancellation was thoughtfully designed by **Shri Dilip Gorana**, whose creative interpretation infused the commemorative issue with vibrancy and clear thematic expression.

Non-Competitive Philatelic Exhibition on Cricket 19 November 1984

As part of its continuing engagement with thematic philately, the **Baroda Philatelic Society** organised a **Non-Competitive Philatelic Exhibition on Cricket** on **19 November 1984**, commemorated through the release of a special cover and cancellation celebrating a landmark in Indian cricket history.



Cover Design: Commemorative text highlighting the milestone along with an image of a cricketer.

Cancellation Design: Designed around the Ranji Trophy (1984)

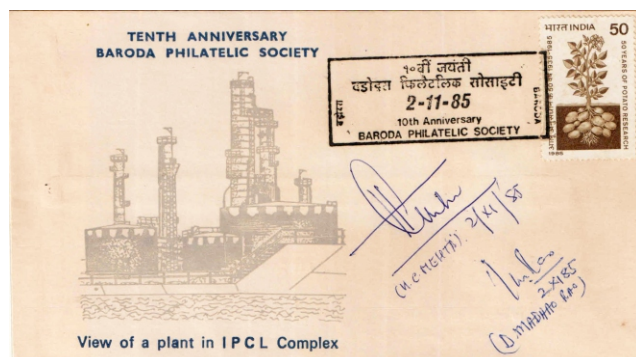
“These commemorative covers and their special cancellations beautifully blend philately with national pride, marking both a significant milestone in the Society's journey and an iconic chapter in India's sporting legacy. Issued to commemorate Cricket, both covers together reflect the Society's thoughtful and thematic approach to philatelic exhibitions, seamlessly bringing together the worlds of sport and stamps. Collectively, they stand as memorable examples of how philately can transcend the traditional postal realm, serving as a meaningful medium to honour cultural moments and events of national importance that resonate far beyond the stamps themselves.”

10th Anniversary Celebration (1975–1985)

Thematic Philatelic Exhibition

2 November 1985

To mark the **10th Anniversary of the Baroda Philatelic Society**, a thematic philatelic exhibition was organised from 2 November 1985 – 4 November 1985, commemorated through the release of a special cover and cancellation reflecting the spirit of progress and achievement.



Cover Design: A scenic view of a plant within the IPCL (now Reliance) Complex.

Cancellation Design: A commemorative inscription highlighting the 10th Anniversary of the Baroda Philatelic Society.

Non-Competitive Philatelic Exhibition on Cricket

15 January 1987

As part of its ongoing engagement with thematic philately, the Baroda Philatelic Society organised a **Non-Competitive Philatelic Exhibition on Cricket** on 15 January 1987, commemorated through the release of a special cover and cancellation celebrating a major international sporting event.



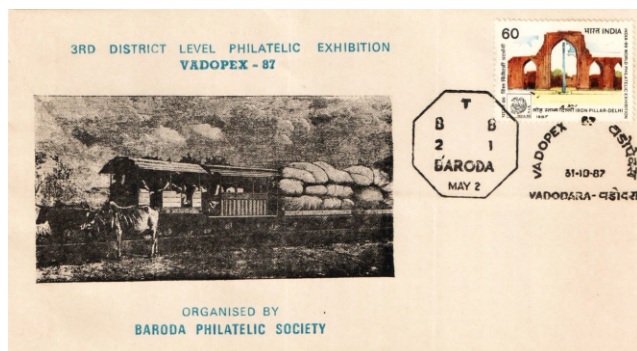
Cover Design: Official logo of Reliance World Cup 1987

Cancellation Design: Map of India and Sri Lanka, (The joint host nations of the 1987 Cricket World Cup)

“These commemorative philatelic issues mark important milestones in the Society's journey while reflecting its wider vision of engaging with events of lasting significance through philately. Celebrating the Society's first decade, they combine themes of industrial progress with institutional pride, symbolising steady growth, creative vision, and a commitment to meaningful thematic expression. By also commemorating the Reliance World Cup through a special cover and cancellation, the Society highlighted how philately can capture moments of international sporting importance and extend its relevance far beyond the traditional postal sphere.”

Vadopex-87*Third Vadodara District-Level Philatelic Exhibition***31 October – 1 November 1987**

Continuing its tradition of celebrating Vadodara's heritage through philately, the Baroda Philatelic Society organised **Vadopex-87**, the **Third Vadodara District-Level Philatelic Exhibition**. The exhibition was commemorated with special covers and cancellations highlighting the region's transport and postal history.

**31 October 1987****Cover Design:** *Bullock-Driven Tram between Miyagam and Dabhoi.***Cancellation Design:** *Early Baroda Postal Cancellation.***Non-Competitive Philatelic Exhibition on Cricket****6 November 1987**

Continuing its engagement with sports-themed philately, the Baroda Philatelic Society organised a **Non-Competitive Philatelic Exhibition on Cricket** on 6 November 1987, commemorating a key match of the Reliance Cup 1987. To mark the **Semi-Final between England and India**, played at Bombay, a distinctive commemorative cover was issued.

**Cover Design:** *Featuring eight varieties of cricket bats, both traditional and modern.***Cancellation Design:** *Depicting "Dovey," the official mascot of the Reliance Cup 1987, using the Bombay cancellation—adding authenticity and event significance to the issue.*

“Together, the two special covers showcased the Society's creative use of philately to document both heritage and contemporary life. One highlighted Baroda's transport and postal history, recording their role in regional development, while the other celebrated international cricket, capturing the excitement of sport through postal artefacts. Both issues reflect how philately can preserve local heritage and popular culture with equal relevance.”

Lionesspex-88*Lion-Themed Philatelic Exhibition***30 April 1988**

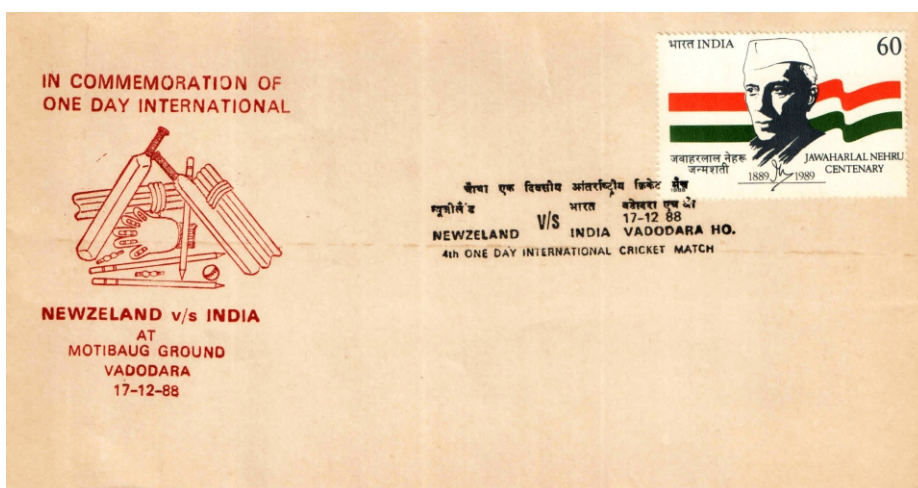
Baroda Philatelic Society, in association with the **Lioness Club Vishwamitri**, organised **Lionesspex-88**, a lion-themed philatelic exhibition. The exhibition was curated to coincide with Lions conventions and celebrated the symbolism of the lion—strength, service, and leadership. To commemorate the occasion, a special cancellation was issued.



Cancellation Design: *Featuring the emblem of the Lioness Club*

Non-Competitive Philatelic Exhibition on Cricket**17 December 1988**

The Baroda Philatelic Society organised a **Non-Competitive Philatelic Exhibition on Cricket** commemorating the **One Day International match between New Zealand and India**, played at the historic **Motibaug Ground, Vadodara**. To mark this sporting occasion, a special cover and cancellation were issued.



Cover Design: *A thematic composition featuring cricket stumps, bails, bat, ball, leg guard, and hand gloves.*

Cancellation Design: *A commemorative inscription highlighting the cricket match between New Zealand and India.*

“Through one special cancellation and one special cover, the Baroda Philatelic Society brought together community engagement, sport, and philately with seamless coherence. The initiative preserved a memorable international cricket encounter while reflecting shared values and cultural expression, reaffirming philately’s enduring role as a vibrant medium for public engagement, local pride, and national sporting heritage.”

Non-Competitive Philatelic Exhibition

Commemorating the 125th Birth Anniversary of H.H. Shrimant Sayajirao Gaekwad III

11 March 1989

To commemorate the **125th Birth Anniversary of His Highness Shrimant Sayajirao Gaekwad III**—the visionary ruler of the Baroda State and a pioneer of social and cultural reform—the Baroda Philatelic Society organised a Non-Competitive Philatelic Exhibition. The occasion was marked by the release of a Special Cover and a commemorative cancellation, paying tribute to the enduring legacy of the great Maharaja. The Special Cover was released by **H.H. Matushree Shantadevi Gaekwad of Baroda**.



Cover Design: Main gate of Laxmi Vilas Palace

Cancellation Design: Featuring a bust of H.H. Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III, accompanied by commemorative text.

Nehrupex-89

Competitive Thematic Philatelic Exhibition Commemorating the Nehru Centenary

14–16 November 1989

To commemorate the **Centenary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru**, the Baroda Philatelic Society organised **Nehrupex-89**, a Competitive **Thematic Philatelic Exhibition** held from 14 to 16 November 1989. The exhibition was marked by a thoughtfully curated series of special covers and commemorative cancellations, released over three days—each dedicated to a key member of the Nehru-Gandhi family and their legacy.



14 November 1989 — Nehru Day

Cover Design: Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in cricket uniform

Cancellation Design: Anand Bhavan, Allahabad, featuring portraits of Motilal Nehru and Jawaharlal Nehru.

15 November 1989 — Indira Day

Cover Design: Jawaharlal Nehru with a tiger cub.

Cancellation Design: Swaraj Bhavan, Allahabad, with portraits of Jawaharlal Nehru, Kamala Nehru, and Indira Gandhi.





16 November 1989 — Rajiv Day

Cover Design: Jawaharlal Nehru with Indira Gandhi, Sanjay Gandhi, and Rajiv Gandhi

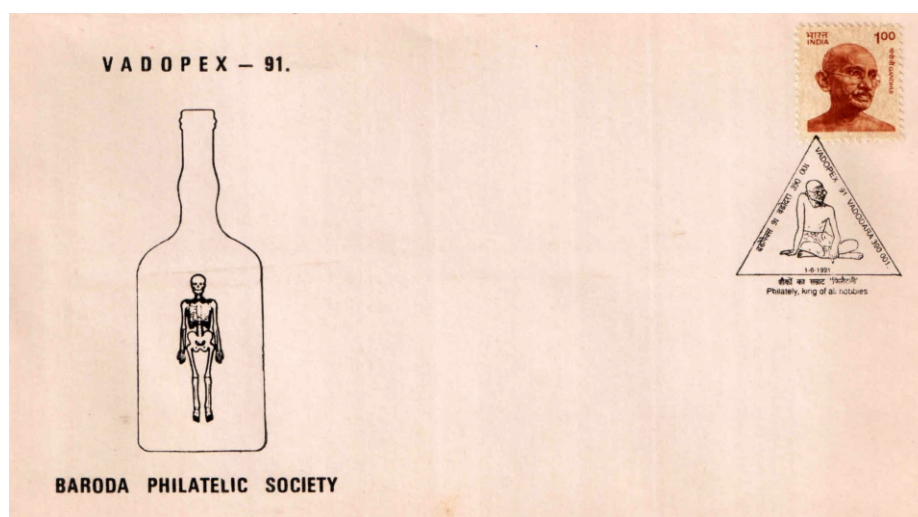
Cancellation Design: A map of Gujarat incorporating portraits of Feroze Gandhi, Indira Gandhi, Sanjay Gandhi, and Rajiv Gandhi

Vadopex-91

Fourth Vadodara District-Level Philatelic Exhibition

1–2 June 1991

The Baroda Philatelic Society organised **Vadopex-91**, the **Fourth Vadodara District-Level Philatelic Exhibition**. Continuing its tradition of thought-provoking thematic philately, the exhibition was commemorated with a distinctive special cover and cancellation.



1 June 1991

Cover Design: Human Skeleton within a Wine Bottle

Cancellation Design: Mahatma Gandhi

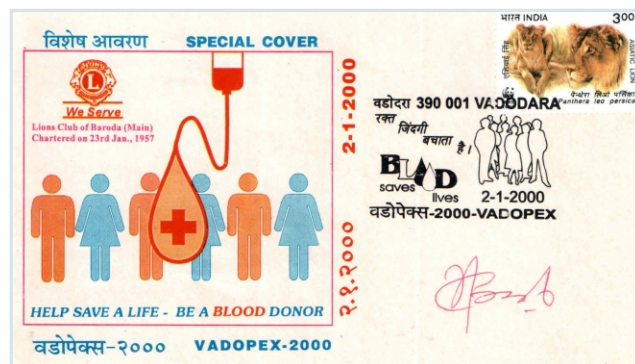
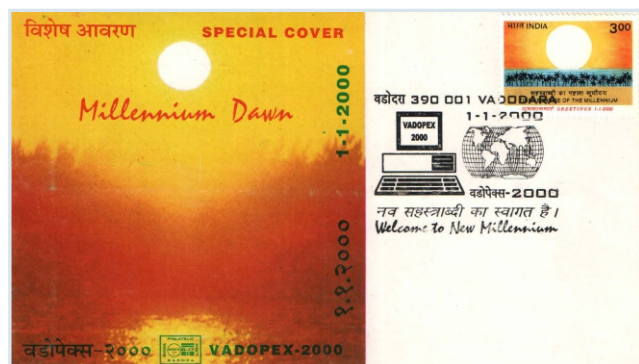
“Through NEHRUPEX 89 and VADOPEX 91, the Baroda Philatelic Society demonstrated its ability to blend thematic philately with national history and innovative expression. The special covers on the Nehru family and on Mahatma Gandhi reflected carefully conceived visual narratives that honoured leadership, ideals, and enduring legacy, while also embracing unconventional themes with artistic and philosophical depth. Together, these issues stand as distinguished examples of how philately can move beyond traditional motifs to commemorate history, inspire reflection, and encourage dialogue through research-oriented displays and commemorative postal artefacts.”

Vadopex-2000

Silver Jubilee Philatelic Exhibition of the Baroda Philatelic Society

1 – 2 January 2000

To commemorate the **Silver Jubilee (25 Years)** of the Baroda Philatelic Society, a District-Level Philatelic Exhibition, **Vadopex-2000**, was organised. The exhibition marked a significant milestone in the Society's journey and was celebrated through the release of specially conceived covers and commemorative cancellations reflecting both global transition and social commitment.



1 January 2000 — Welcoming the New Millennium

Cover Design: *Millennium Dawn*

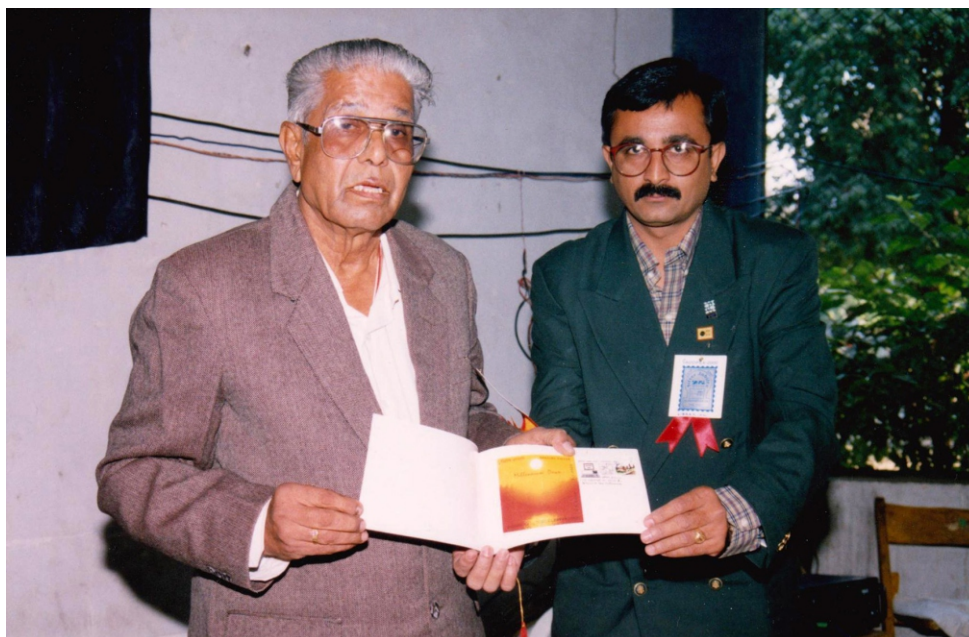
Cancellation Design: *"Welcome to the New Millennium" Text With Computer and Globe*

2 January 2000 — A Message of Social Responsibility

Cover Design: *Blood Donation*

Cancellation Design: *"Blood Saves Lives" Slogan and a group of people*

Both the special covers and cancellations were designed by **Shri Prashant H. Pandya**, whose creative vision and thoughtful themes added significance and visual distinction to the Silver Jubilee celebrations.



"VADOPEX-2000 elegantly blended celebration, reflection, and social consciousness, commemorating the Society's first 25 years while looking forward to the future. These philatelic issues stand as enduring records of a milestone moment—honouring both the passage of time and the values that guide the Society's mission."

Philatelic Prelude to Stampmania 2009

Special philatelic issues released as a philatelic prelude to **Stampmania 2009**, ahead of India's first National One-Frame Philatelic Exhibition.

First Issue

63rd Independence Day
15 August 2009

On the occasion of the **63rd Independence Day of India**, a **special cover** was released along with a **stamp booklet** and **self-adhesive labels** depicting various national flags of India. The stamp booklet also traced the evolution of the **Indian National Flag**, highlighting its symbolism and enduring significance.



Cover Design: Red Fort, New Delhi

Cancellation Design: Ashoka Chakra with stylised wings and commemorative inscription

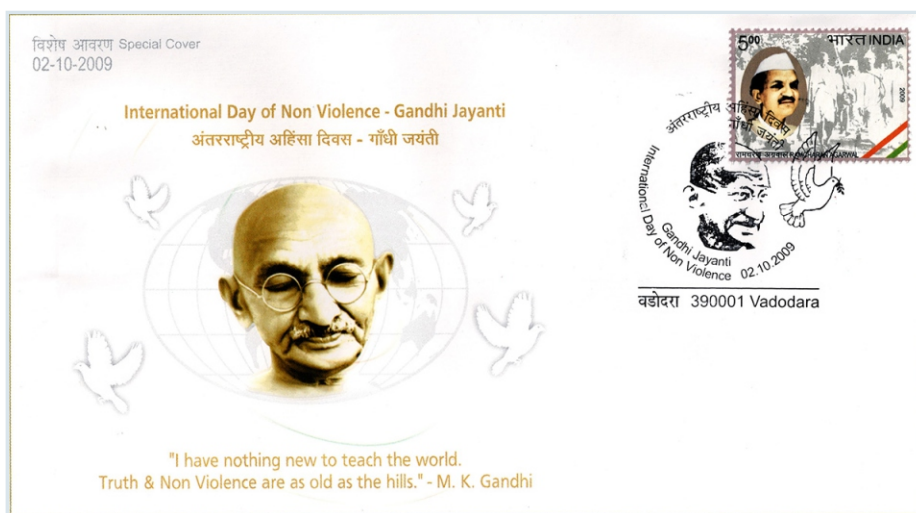




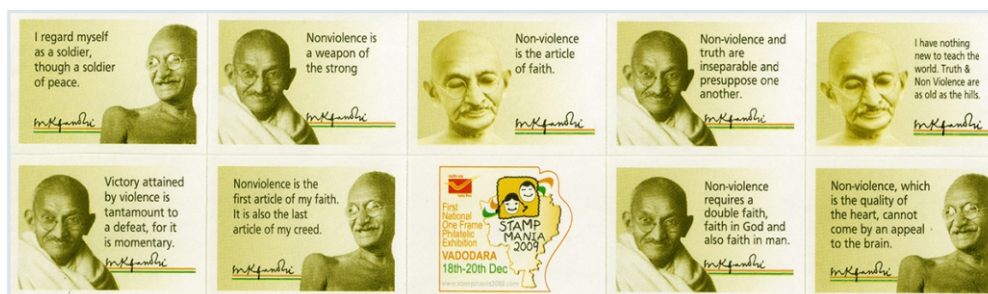
“This Independence Day issue, released as part of the Pre-Stampmania 2009 series, served as an important philatelic prelude to the landmark Stampmania 2009 event, India's first National One-Frame Philatelic Exhibition. Through its iconic national imagery and thoughtfully executed cancellation, the cover effectively linked patriotic commemoration with the evolving narrative of competitive and thematic philately in India, making it a noteworthy companion piece to the historic Stampmania 2009 exhibition.”

Second Issue
International Day of Non-Violence
2 October 2009

A special philatelic issue was released on 2 October 2009 to mark the **International Day of Non-Violence**, coinciding with **Gandhi Jayanti**, comprising a **special cover**, a **stamp booklet**, and **self-adhesive labels**. The stamp booklet featured rare photographs of Mahatma Gandhi with foreign personalities and highlighted his philosophy of non-violence, while the labels displayed his portraits and messages of peace. The issue is also notable for its innovative production techniques, including **embossing**, **UV coating**, and **glossy finishes**, enhancing its visual and tactile appeal.



Cover Design: A globe and a portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, accompanied by pigeons symbolising peace across the world
Cancellation Design: Portrait of Mahatma Gandhi with a pigeon, inscribed "International Day of Non-Violence – Gandhi Jayanti"

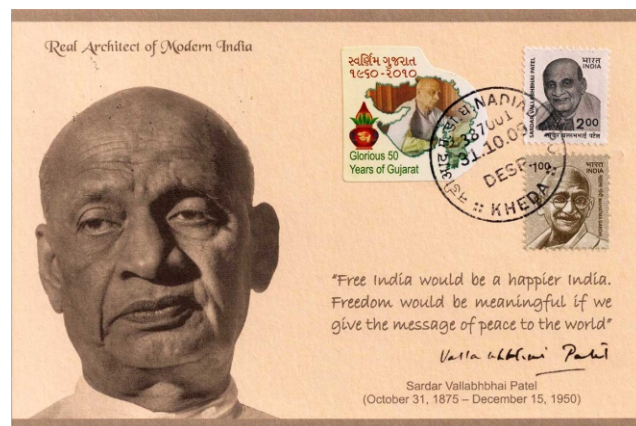




"This second issue of the Pre-Stampmania 2009 series stands out as a meaningful tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's enduring philosophy of peace and non-violence. Through its symbolic artwork, informative stamp booklet, and advanced production features, the issue seamlessly blended artistic innovation with a universal humanitarian message, making it one of the most notable and highly regarded releases within the Pre-Stampmania series."

Third Issue
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
31 October 2009

A commemorative **picture postcard** with accompanying **self-adhesive labels** was issued to honour **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**, the Architect of Modern India. The postcard was mailed from **Nadiad Head Post Office**, his birthplace and delivered to **Karamsad**, his hometown, creating a symbolic postal journey linked to his life and legacy. Two different self-adhesive labels depicts Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Mahatma Gandhi, unified by the theme “**Swarnim Gujarat**”, symbolising Gujarat's glorious heritage and its contribution to the nation.



“This issue is notable for its thoughtful integration of historical significance, geographic relevance, and thematic symbolism, transforming a simple postal item into a powerful commemorative artefact. By tracing Sardar Patel's life locations through postal transmission, the cover stands as a striking example of narrative and destination-based philately.”

Stampmania 2009

First National One-Frame Philatelic Exhibition

17–20 December 2009

17 December 2009

Carried Cover — Bullock Tram of Baroda State

Shortly after the introduction of the **BB&CI Railway** in Baroda State, Maharaja Khanderao Gaekwad pioneered a **2'6" narrow-gauge** line between **Dabhoi** and **Miyagam** in **February 1862**. Operated by oxen and known as the **Bullock Tram**, it marked a unique chapter in railway history.

To commemorate this innovation, a special **Bullock Tram carried cover** was released and it was transported by a **Mail Guard** on a replica Bullock Tram from Vadodara Head Post Office to the exhibition venue, as part of a vibrant heritage procession. A special **stamp booklet** on Vadodara and **self-adhesive labels** depicting the Mahatma Gandhi Statue and prominent heritage sites of the city were also released.



Cover Design: Illustration of the Bullock Tram of Baroda State

Cancellation Design: World's oldest working narrow-gauge railway track — Dabhoi–Miyagam line





17 December 2009

Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway (BB&CI)

Special cover was released to commemorate the BB&CI Railway, highlighting its historic contribution to India's railway development.



Cover Design: Railway engine of the BB&CI Railway, BB&CI Railway logo, and Mail Guard postmark

Cancellation Design: Illustration of the engine of the Frontier Mail, India's first fastest train



18 December 2009

Dinosaur Fossil Park, Balasinor

A special cover commemorated the Dinosaur Fossil Park at Balasinor, recognised as one of the third largest dinosaur fossil sites in the world.



Cover Design: *Dinosaur fossil site, Balasinor*

Cancellation Design: *World's largest dinosaur egg*

19 December 2009

Fueling Dreams: Sukh Suvidhayein ka Surakshit Connection Gaon Gaon Tak

This special cover promoted awareness of energy conservation and rural electrification.



Cover Design: *A rural girl dressed in a simple Kutchi outfit holding a light bulb*

Cancellation Design: *"Save Energy" slogan with the light bulb invented by Thomas Alva Edison*

"The philatelic issues released during Stampmania 2009 reflected diverse facets of India's identity, ranging from historic railway innovations and heritage to energy conservation, sports, and cultural pride. Features such as the live carriage of the Bullock Tram cover, innovative designs, and region-centric themes showcased philately as a dynamic medium for storytelling and public engagement. All special covers, stamp booklets, and self-adhesive labels were professionally designed by philatelist-designer Shri Sapan Jhaveri, based on the conceptual vision of Shri Prashant Pandya, achieving a seamless blend of history, artistry, and philatelic innovation."



Cover Design: A rural girl dressed in a simple Kutchi outfit holding a light bulb

Cancellation Design: "Save Energy" slogan with the light bulb invented by Thomas Alva Edison

20 December 2009

Padmashree Jasu Patel - an off-spinner

A tribute cover honoured Padmashree Jasu Patel, the renowned off-spinner who played a historic role in India's cricketing success by bowling India to its first-ever Test victory over Australia in the Second Test at Green Park Stadium, Kanpur, in 1959, claiming 14 wickets.



Cover Design: Portrait of Jasu Patel with an imaginative representation of the number 14, symbolising wickets and cricket ball

Cancellation Design: Text with stumps, ball, and wickets

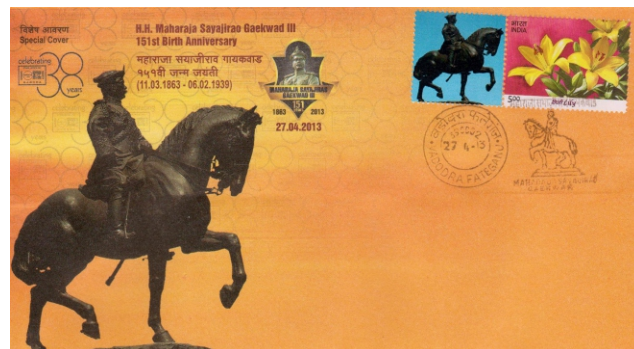


Stampmania's Vadophilex 2013

38th anniversary, a non-competitive one-frame philatelic exhibition

27–28 April 2013

The occasion was commemorated with the release of two commemorative special covers honoring the 151st Birth Anniversary of H.H. Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad of Baroda, the visionary ruler whose influence continues to shape Vadodara's cultural and social life. Specially designed “My Stamp” sheets featuring the Society's logo and the Maharaja's equestrian statue added a distinctive and contemporary touch to the commemorative releases.



Cover Design: *The Equestrian Statue of H.H. Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad (Kalaghoda)*

Cancellation Designs:

Permanent Pictorial Cancellation of Chamar Dharini — Vadodara Head Office

Permanent Pictorial Cancellation of Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad (Kalaghoda) — Fatehgunj Head Office



“Stampmania's Vadophilex 2013 seamlessly combined institutional celebration, regional history, and modern philatelic practices. By commemorating Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad through thoughtfully designed covers, personalised My Stamps, and permanent pictorial cancellations, the exhibition reaffirmed philately's role as a living medium—preserving heritage, honouring leadership, and strengthening the cultural identity of Vadodara through postal history.”

Vadophilex 2025

District-Level Philatelic Exhibition

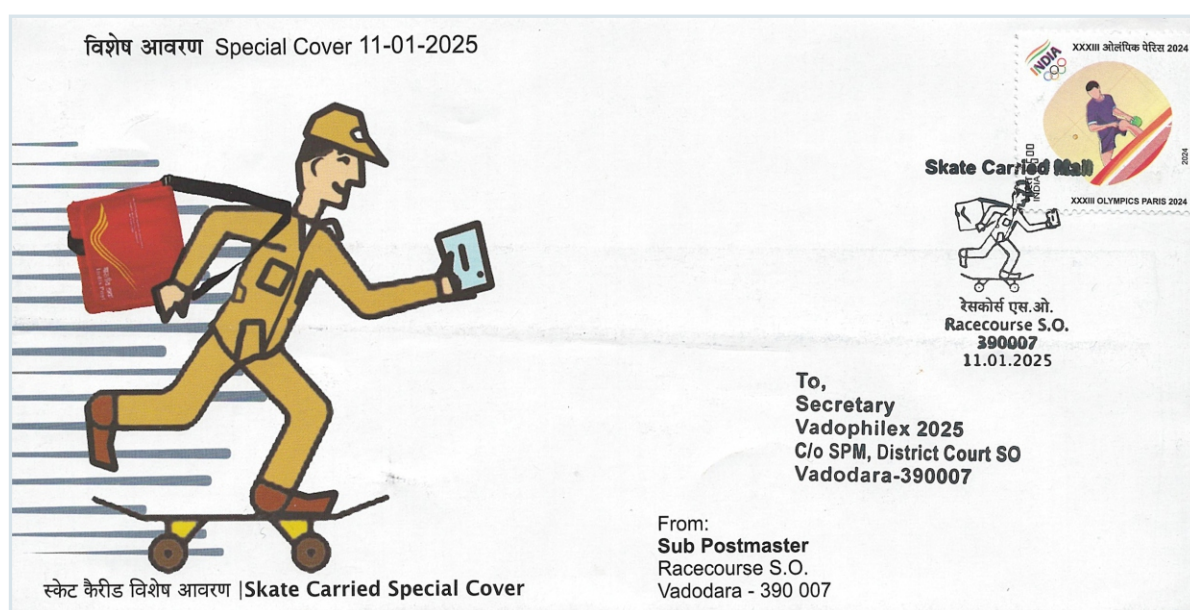
11–12 January 2025

A District-Level Philatelic Exhibition, Vadophilex 2025, was organised on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Baroda Philatelic Society. The exhibition marked 50 years of the Society's dedicated service to philately, celebrating its journey through outreach, innovation, and community engagement.

11 January 2025

Special Skate-Carried Cover

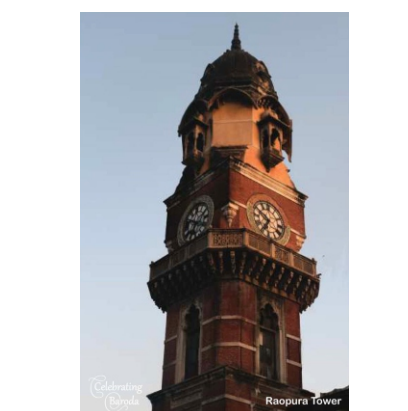
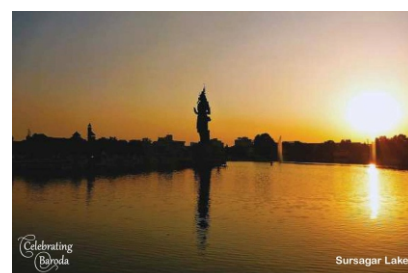
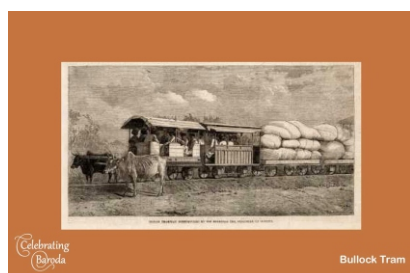
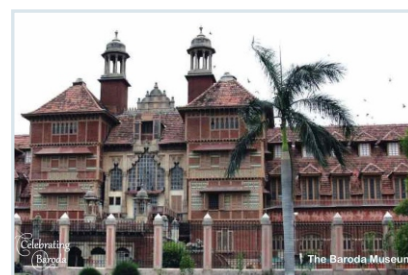
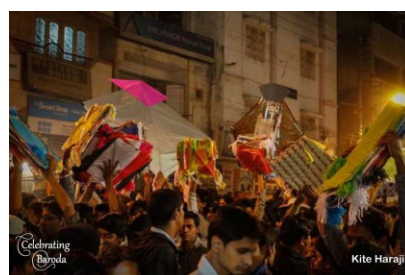
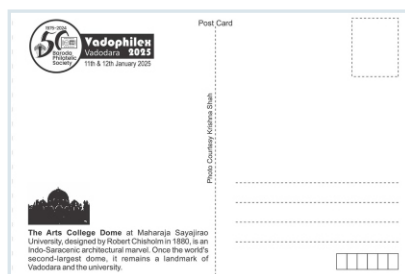
To commemorate Vadophilex 2025, a special skate-carried cover was released, reflecting youth participation, innovation, and sustainable philately. The covers were carried in a mail bag by a group of young skaters, accompanied by their coach, from Racecourse Sub Office to the Vadophilex 2025 exhibition venue. This unique mode of conveyance symbolised the promotion of environmentally friendly and sustainable methods of mail delivery, blending youthful energy with postal tradition and innovation. Enhancing the celebration, a set of 12 Picture Postcards depicting the Heritage of Vadodara was also released. Presented in a cheque-book format, the postcard set includes a cover and back page bound on the left, with an additional notes page at the end, making it both visually appealing and user-friendly.



Cover Design: Symbolic representation of a postman delivering mail on skates

Cancellation Design: Symbolic illustration of a postman carrying mail on skates





“The skate-carried cover stood as a creative expression of contemporary philatelic thought, uniting environmental awareness, youth participation, and postal heritage. By reimagining mail conveyance through a sustainable approach, it highlighted the continuing relevance of philately in addressing modern themes. Complementing this initiative, the release of a set of 12 Picture Postcards on the Heritage of Vadodara added a strong educational and cultural dimension. Together, these special releases formed a fitting tribute to the Golden Jubilee of the Baroda Philatelic Society, reaffirming its commitment to innovation, education, and meaningful philatelic expression.”

Philatelic Issues Supported by the Baroda Philatelic Society

Issued by Department of Posts

During its philatelic exhibitions, the **Department of Posts** has issued many special covers and other philatelic items, with the active support and valuable suggestions of the Baroda Philatelic Society.

Vadopex-2005

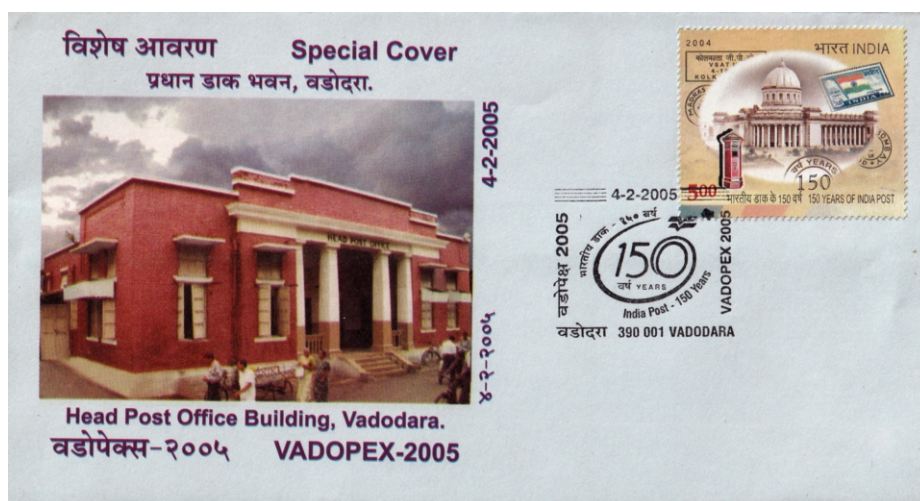
District Level Philatelic Exhibition

4-5 February 2005

A **District Level Philatelic Exhibition** organised by the **Vadodara (West) Division** of India Post brought together philatelists and the public to celebrate postal heritage and promote thematic and commemorative philately through specially issued postal items.

4 February 2005

Vadodara Head Post Office



Cover Design: Vadodara Head Post Office Building

Cancellation Design: India Post 150 Years Logo

In addition to the special cover, two formula stationery envelopes were issued during Vadopex-2005, reflecting important elements of Vadodara's cultural and historical identity.

Inland Mail Formula Envelope

Theme: Bullock Driven Tram (Miyagam-Dabhoi)

Stamp Affixed: Rs. 5

Sale Price: Rs. 8



Airmail Formula Envelope

Theme: Laxmi Vilas Palace

Stamp Affixed: Rs. 15

Sale Price: Rs. 20



Gujpex – 2007

11th Gujarat State Philatelic Exhibition

6-8 October 2007

Gujpex – 2007 was organized by the **Gujarat Postal Circle** at the Gujarat State Lalit Kala Academy, Ahmedabad.

7 October 2007

ICC World Twenty20 Cricket Victory

A Special Cover commemorating India's victory at the **ICC World Twenty20 Cricket Tournament** released during the exhibition was sponsored by the **Baroda Philatelic Society** and was released by **Yusuf Pathan**, member of the Indian Cricket Team.



Cover Design: ICC World Twenty20 logo and trophy with images of cricketers and the Indian flag

Cancellation Design: Graphic illustration of the text “Champions”



“The special covers released at Vadopex 2005 and Gujpex 2007 reflect the breadth of Indian philately, spanning heritage and modern achievement. While Vadopex 2005 focused on architectural landmarks and historic transport, preserving regional history and tradition, Gujpex 2007 celebrated India’s ICC World Twenty20 victory, capturing contemporary history and national pride. Together, these issues highlight philately’s enduring role as a cultural record, valued by thematic and exhibition collectors alike.”

Issued by Other Organisations

Dak Bharati 2004

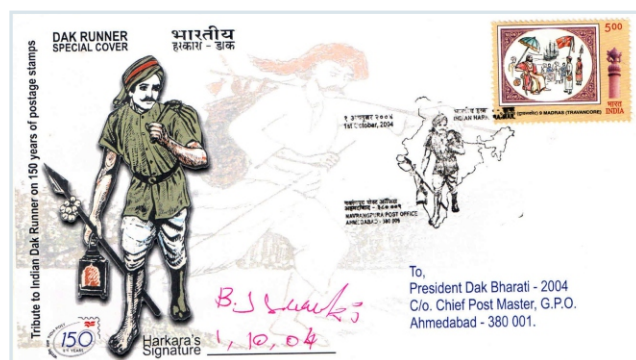
National Philatelic Exhibition, Organized jointly by the Gujarat Philatelists' Association and the Baroda Philatelic Society.
1–3 October 2004, Ahmedabad

Dak Bharati 2004, a National Philatelic Exhibition, was organized to commemorate **150 years of the introduction of postage stamps in India**. The exhibition showcased the rich heritage of Indian postal history and philately through a wide range of special philatelic releases. During the exhibition, **two carried covers, three special covers, a stamp booklet, a souvenir sheet, two formula postcards, one formula airmail envelope, four Speed Post formula envelopes and two silver coins** were released, along with two silver coins. The Speed Post formula envelopes comprised one for local delivery and three representing different kilometre-wise Speed Post tariff slabs.

01 October 2004

Carried Covers

Two different Harkara Carried Covers (Dak Runner Covers) and one Special Cover were released to commemorate 150 years of the first postage of India. The first carried cover was delivered to Navrangpura Head Post Office, and the second carried cover was



Cover Design: Harkara carrying spear, mail bag and lantern
Cancellation Design: Map of India with illustration of Harkara

01.10.2004

50 Years of Indian Postage Stamp

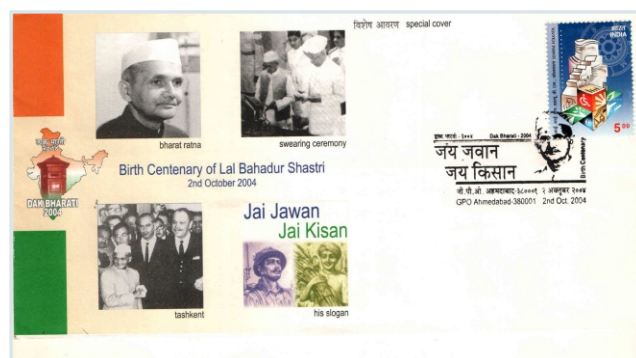


Cover Design: Images of the 1854 bi-coloured 4 Anna stamp, 3½ Anna Jai Hind stamp, 1 Anna stamp depicting runner, camel rider and bullock cart, and the logo of 150 Years of India Post

Cancellation Design: Dak Bharati 2004 logo with text "150 years of Indian Postage Stamps"

02.10.2004

Birth Centenary of Lal Bahadur Shastri



Cover Design: Photographs of Lal Bahadur Shastri and partial images of stamps depicting Jai Jawan and Jai Kisan

Cancellation Design: Text "Jai Jawan & Jai Kisan" and "Birth Centenary"



Silver Coin Commemorating
Birth Centenary of
Lal Bahadur Shastri

02.10.2004

135th Birth Centenary of Mahatma Gandhi



Cover Design: House of Mahatma Gandhi, Porbandar; Kochrab Ashram; Pietermaritzburg Railway Station; and Gandhi Smriti (former Birla House), New Delhi

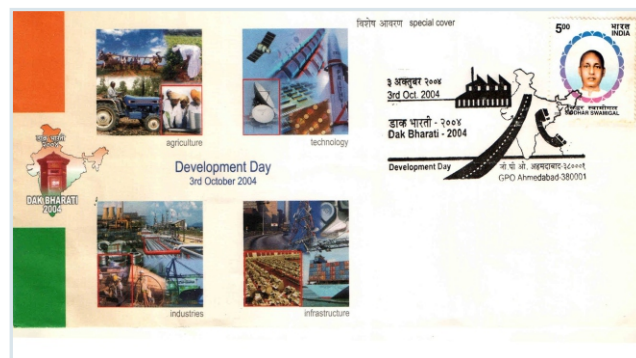
Cancellation Design: Text "Ahimsa Parmo Dharm" in Hindi and "135th Anniversary"



Silver Coin Commemorating 135th Birth Centenary of Mahatma Gandhi

03.10.2004

Development Day



Cover Design: Images depicting agriculture, technology, industries, and infrastructure

Cancellation Design: Graphic design featuring the map of India with representations of industrial development, roads, and telecommunications

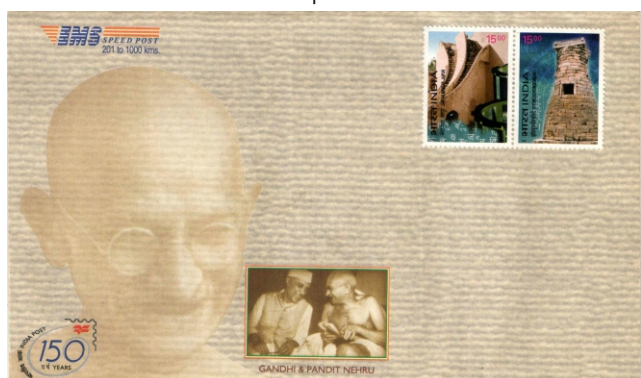
Speed Post Formula Envelopes



Local Speed Post



Not more than 200 kms.



200 to 1000 kms.



Beyond 1000 kms.

"The carried covers, special covers, souvenir sheet, stamp booklet and formula postal stationery released during DAK BHARATI 2004 illustrated the depth and diversity of Indian philately by commemorating milestones in postal history, national leadership, social values, and developmental progress. Through themes ranging from the evolution of Indian postage and traditional dak runners to the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri, the exhibition reinforced philately's role as a powerful medium for documenting India's heritage, values, and journey of nation-building."

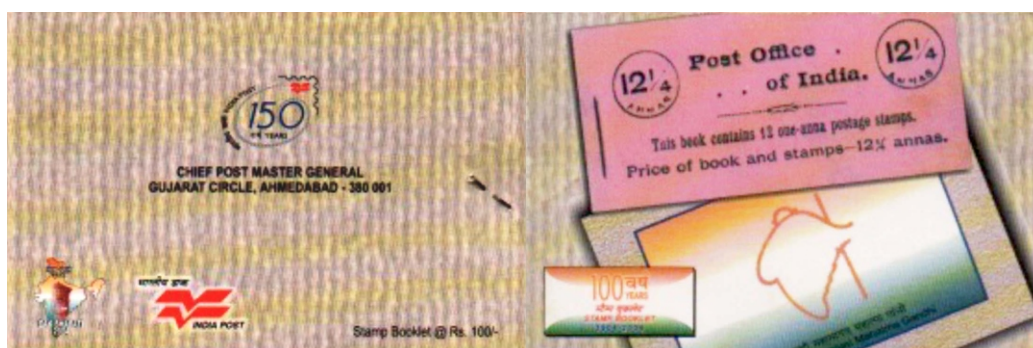
Airmail Formula Envelope



Souvenir Sheet



Stamp Booklet



STAMP BOOKLET WERE INTRODUCED IN INDIA ON 1st APRIL 1904

POSTAL RATES AS ON
1st OCTOBER, 2004

PARTICULARS OF POSTAGE STAMPS

POST CARD	0.50		
PRINTED POSTCARD	6.00		
COMPETITION POST CARD	10.00		
INLAND LETTER CARD	2.50		
ENVELOPE	5.00		
BOOK POST	4.00		
FOREIGN AIRMAIL POSTCARD	8.00		
FOREIGN AEROGGRAMME	8.50		
FOREIGN AIRMAIL ENVELOPE	15.00		
		Value	No. of Stamps
		0.50	x 4 = 2.00
		1.00	x 4 = 4.00
		2.00	x 4 = 8.00
		4.00	x 4 = 16.00
		5.00	x 4 = 20.00
		10.00	x 4 = 40.00
			<u>90.00</u>



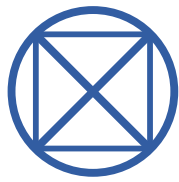
Formula Postcards



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A practical activity such as stamp collecting can improve communication and tune family members to each other. If it is seen as a project in which everybody's contribution is important and where teamwork is necessary to provide the end result, it will allow better communication between family members who will know and understand each other better.

The king of hobbies; that binds the family!



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Cost**



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स्वरांजली

THE RENDITION

ETERNAL LEGENDS OF INDIAN MUSIC
A PHILATELIC TRIBUTE

2025



RAJESH K PATEL

AUTHOR RAJESH K PATEL



Mr. Rajesh K Patel, a man with a golden heart and philanthropic attitude, an entrepreneur, a philatelist, an ardent music lover, a budding singer depicting a versatile personality rolled in to one.

Born in the year 1965 in Bardoli (Gujarat), his early childhood and adolescence was spent in Raipur. He is post graduate in Commerce from Ravishankar University Raipur. After completing his education, he moved to Mumbai in 1990 to pursue his own venture, like many others who come to Mumbai in search of their dreams.

As a child he always dreamt to become a pilot and fly amidst the blue sky, however the destiny had some other choice for him, nurturing his efforts and talent towards launching his entrepreneurial journey. His hard work, passion and commitment brought forth an industrialist out of him.

Mr. Rajesh K Patel is a successful entrepreneur in the field of packaging and printing industry. He has been in this industry since last 35 years. He has actively participated in various trade fairs, workshops and seminars related to printing and packaging industry held in India and abroad. He is an apt learner, conversant and pioneer in adoption of newer technologies and latest trends in the industry.

Mr. Rajesh K Patel has been a member of the Philatelic Society of India and participated actively in various philatelic exhibitions held across India. He has a diverse collection of philatelic archives viz stamps, first day covers, post cards, postal stationeries etc.

Mr. Rajesh K Patel though quiet yet enterprising. A man with so many vision in his mind. His creative skills and limitless energy amazes, while a young boy's heart embraces one and all. In continuity of his aspiring journey here emerges another dimension of his versatile personality "An Author".

The book **स्वरांजली-THE RENDITION** written by him is a philatelic tribute to the eternal legends of the Indian music. The book has beautifully presented the life and work of the pioneers of Indian classical music and their legacy being carried forward by the modern day music enthusiast and entertainers.

Email:- finpack.in@gmail.com Mobile:- 8080303070

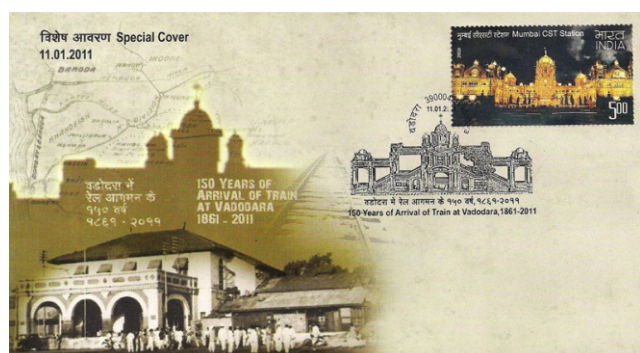


Philatelic Exhibition on Railway Theme 11–13 January 2011

As part of the celebration of **150 years of the arrival of the railway at Vadodara**, a non-competitive philatelic exhibition on the railway theme was held at the Railway Auditorium, Vadodara. The exhibition was organized by the **Divisional Railway Headquarters, Western Railway, Vadodara**, with support from **India Post** and the **Baroda Philatelic Society**. On this occasion, a Special Cover commemorating 150 Years of the arrival of the railway at Vadodara (1861–2011) was released.

11 January 2011

150 Years of the arrival of the railway at Vadodara (1861–2011)



Cover Design: A photograph of the Old Vadodara Railway Station, featuring railway tracks overlaid with a map, complemented by a shadow silhouette of the present Vadodara Railway Station on the west side.

Cancellation Design: Sketch of the present Vadodara Railway Station, west side

The Special Cover was designed by **Shri Sapan Jhaveri**, and the Cancellation Design was created by **Shri Prashant Pandya**.

World Postcard Day

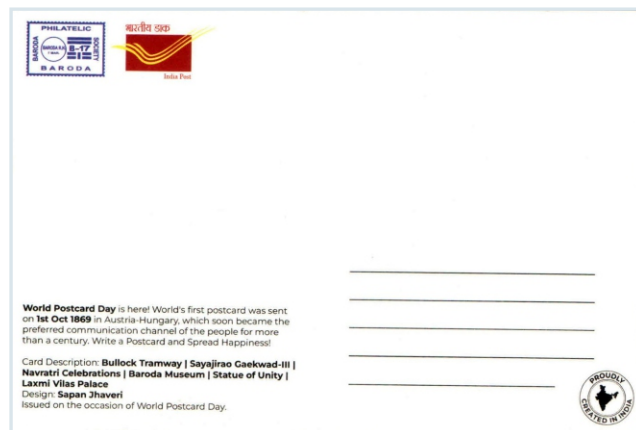
01 October 2023

Picture Postcard – “Celebrating Baroda”

World Postcard Day was celebrated worldwide to keep alive the cherished tradition of sending postcards. On this occasion, the **Baroda Philatelic Society** actively participated in the All-India celebrations, joining philatelic organisations and postcard enthusiasts across the country. In association with the **Postcrossing Welfare Society of India (PSOI)** and **12 other philatelic organisations**, the Society released a picture postcard themed “**Celebrating Baroda**”, highlighting the city's unique charm, cultural identity, and historic landmarks.

Design Details: Illustrations depicting the Bullock Tram of Baroda, Sayajirao Gaekwad III stamp, Navratri celebrations, Baroda Museum stamp, Statue of Unity, and Laxmi Vilas Palace.

Picture Postcard was designed by philatelist designer **Shri Sapan Jhaveri**, based on the conceptual vision of **Shri Prashant Pandya**.



“Together, these two initiatives highlighted the enduring relevance of philately in preserving heritage and communication traditions. The Special Cover released during the railway-themed exhibition commemorated 150 years of the railway’s arrival at Vadodara, symbolising the historic bond between postal and railway services and documenting a key milestone in regional development. Meanwhile, the World Postcard Day picture postcard celebrated Baroda’s cultural and historical identity, reaffirming postcards as a timeless medium that fosters global connection and cultural continuity.”

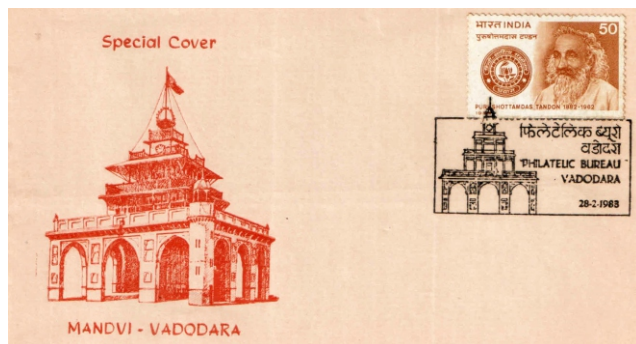
Vadodara Philatelic Bureau & Permanent Pictorial Cancellations

Vadodara Philatelic Bureau

The growth of organised philately at Vadodara was marked by the initiation of dedicated philatelic facilities at the Head Post Office. On the first day of introduction, First Day Covers and other philatelic issues bearing ordinary date stamps were provided at the Vadodara Head Post Office. A **Philatelic Counter** was formally started on **01 December 1968** at **Vadodara Head Post Office**, catering to the needs of stamp collectors and philatelists.

Subsequently, on **28 February 1983**, the **Philatelic Bureau** was inaugurated at **Vadodara Head Post Office**, further strengthening philatelic activities in the region. Two **Special Covers** were released on the occasion to commemorate this milestone.

28 February 1983



Cover Design: (1) Mandvi Gate, Vadodara, (2) Laxmi Vilas Palace, Vadodara

Cancellation Design: Mandvi Gate, Vadodara

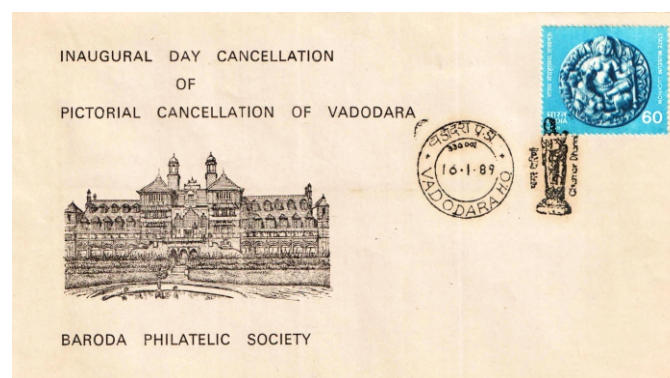
Permanent Pictorial Cancellations at Vadodara

A **Pictorial Cancellation** is a special postmark with an image or design highlighting an important tourist, cultural, religious, or historical place or object. It helps promote such attractions and is issued at nearby post offices.

At Vadodara, two Permanent Pictorial Cancellations were introduced on **16 January 1989**, marking an important milestone in the city's philatelic history. To commemorate the **inaugural day** of introduction of Permanent Pictorial Cancellations at Vadodara, the **Baroda Philatelic Society** issued commemorative covers.

Chamar Dharini

The **first Permanent Pictorial Cancellation** was introduced at Vadodara Head Post Office (Pincode 390001), illustrating **Chamar Dharini**. The Chamar Dharini is an exquisite Jain bronze statue of a Chaurie Bearer, discovered in the **Akota** area of **Baroda** and dating back to the 8th Century A.D. It is presently exhibited at the **Baroda Museum**. Despite its small size, the sculpture possesses remarkable aesthetic appeal. The graceful figure, standing in the tribhanga (three-bended) posture on a lotus pedestal, symbolises its importance in the Jain pantheon.

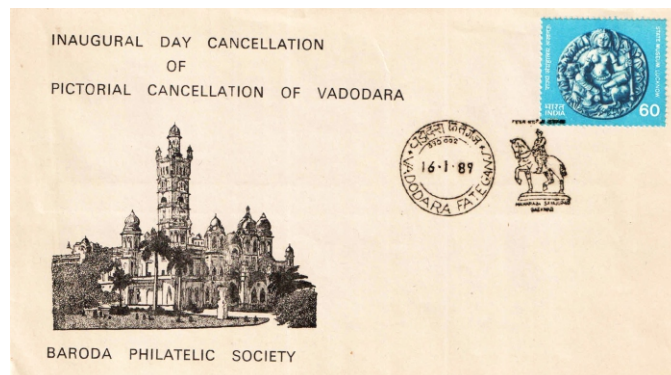


Cover Design: Baroda Museum and Picture Gallery

Cancellation Design: Chaurie Bearer (Chamar Dharini)

Statue of Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III

The **second Permanent Pictorial Cancellation** was introduced at **Fatehgunj Head Post Office** (Pincode 390002), illustrating the Statue of **Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III**. Sayajirao Gaekwad, the Maharaja of **Baroda State** from 1875 to 1939, is remembered for his visionary governance and extensive reforms. His rule focused on education, upliftment of the downtrodden, and major judicial, agricultural, and social reforms that laid the foundation for a progressive Baroda State.



Cover Design: *Laxmi Vilas Palace*

Cancellation Design: *Statue of Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III*



Vadodara H. O. Building and My Stamp commemorating 80 years of Heritage Building of Vadodara H. O.



Vadodara Philatelic Bureau, relocated to the present location on 2 April 2018

“The inauguration of the Philatelic Bureau at Vadodara marked a significant step in promoting organised philately and improving collectors' access to philatelic materials. This initiative was complemented by the release of Special Covers showcasing iconic landmarks of Vadodara, including My Stamp on the Vadodara Head Post Office heritage building built in 1934, celebrating the city's rich architectural and cultural legacy. Further strengthening this effort, the introduction of Permanent Pictorial Cancellations transformed everyday postal communication into a medium of heritage promotion. Featuring symbols such as the Chamar Dharini sculpture and Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III, these cancellations highlighted philately's role as an educational, historical, and cultural pursuit while ensuring enduring recognition of Vadodara's artistic and historical heritage.”

Vadodara's Legacy on Indian Postage Stamps and Covers

Personalities and Institutions Linked to Vadodara



Dadabhai Naoroji (1825–1917)

Served as Dewan of Baroda State in 1874. A pioneer of Indian nationalism and economic thought, remembered as the “Grand Old Man of India.”

4 September 1963 (Birth Centenary)

29 December 2017 | Denominations: 15 nP, ₹ 5



Raja Ravi Varma (1848–1906)

Invited to Baroda and patronised by Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III, Raja Ravi Varma created several iconic works during his stay in Baroda.

29 April 1971 (Death Anniv.) | Denomination: 20 Paise



Romesh Chunder Dutt (1848–1909)

Dewan of Baroda State and a major reformer credited with educational, judicial, and administrative reforms in the state.

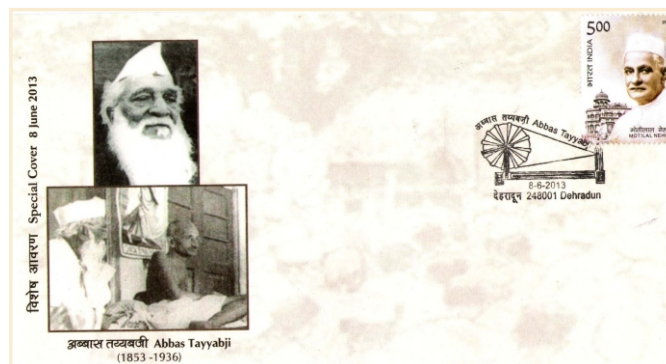
27 September 1973 | Denomination: 20 Paise



Pandit Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande (1860–1936)

Organiser of the first All India Music Conference in Baroda (1916) and systematiser of Hindustani classical music.

1 Sept. 1961 (101st Birth Anniv.) | Denomination: 15 nP.



Abbas Tayyabji (1853–1909)

Eminent freedom fighter and leading nationalist from Gujarat, affectionately called "Chhota Gandhi." Born in Baroda on 1 February 1853, he was the first Indian barrister and served in Baroda State from 1879, retiring as Chief Justice of the Baroda High Court in 1913.

Special Cover issued on 8 June 2013


Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III (1863–1939)

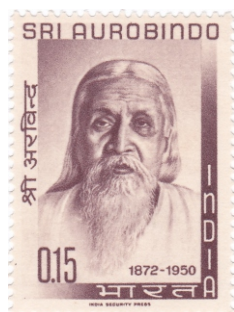
Visionary ruler of Baroda and patron of education, arts, and social reform.

6 Oct. 1989 (50th Death Anniv.) | Denomination: 60 Paise


Dadasaheb Phalke (1870–1944)

Trained at Kala Bhavan, Baroda; pioneer of Indian cinema and recipient of early artistic and technical education in the city.

30 April 1971 (Birth Centenary) | Denomination: 20 Paise


Sri Aurobindo (1872–1950)

Lived and worked in Baroda for over a decade as a state official and professor at Baroda College.

15 Aug 1964 (92nd Birth Anniv.) | Denomination: 15 Paise


Nandalal Bose (1882–1966)

Executed monumental frescoes at Kirti Mandir, Baroda, contributing significantly to the city's artistic legacy.

16 April 1967 (1st Death Anniv.) | Denomination: 15 Paise


Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (1891–1956)

A Baroda State Scholar supported by Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar later became the chief architect of the Indian Constitution. The Maharaja's prestigious scholarship played a pivotal role in shaping Dr. Ambedkar's education and future contributions.

14 April 1966 (75th Birth Anniv.), 14 April 1973 (Birth Anniv.), 14 April 1991 (Birth Centenary), 14 April 2001 (Definitive Series), 1 March 2009 (Definitive Series), 14 April 2013 (Chaitya Bhoomi Mumbai B. R. Ambedkar Memorial), 30 September 2015, (Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and the Constitution of India), 25 May 2016 (Definitive Series), 14 April 2017 (B. R. Ambedkar and Deekshabhoomi)

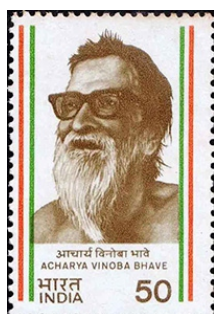
Denominations: 15 Paise, 20 Paise, ₹1, ₹3, ₹2, ₹5, ₹5, ₹5 and ₹5-₹5 (Se tenant pair)



Baroda Museum & Picture Gallery (Established 1894)

Cultural institution founded by Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III, The stamp design depicts an exquisite bronze Rishabhanatha from the 6th century A.D.

20 December 1994 (Centenary of Baroda Museum & Picture Gallery) | Denominations: ₹ 6 and ₹ 11 (Se-tenant pair)



Acharya Vinoba Bhave (1895–1982)

Educated in Baroda; leader of the Bhoodan Movement and torch-bearer of Gandhian values.

15 Nov. 1983 (1st Death Anniv.) | Denomination: 50 Paise



Banaras Hindu University

The majestic Central Library of Banaras Hindu University at Varanasi, completed in 1941, stands as a tribute to the generous donation of Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III of Vadodara. He also served as BHU's Chancellor from 1922 to 1928 and was awarded the honorary LL.D. degree in 1924 for his distinguished service.

20 January 1991, 4 February 2016 (BHU Centenary)
Denomination: ₹ 5, ₹ 5 and ₹ 5 (Se-tenant pair)



“The release of postage stamps and Special Covers on Vadodara’s eminent personalities, institutions, and milestones—rulers, reformers, artists, musicians, filmmakers, pioneering schools and cultural bodies—captures the city’s deep imprint on India’s intellectual and cultural life. These miniature chronicles celebrate Baroda’s legacy and Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III’s contributions to education and the arts; recent Special Covers have also honoured Vadodara’s cricketing greats, including Captain Vijay Hazare (1915–2004), Shri Dattajirao Krishnarao Gaekwad (1928–2024) and Shri Anshuman Gaekwad (1952–2024).”

Milestones and Memorable Events

Over the past five decades, the Baroda Philatelic Society has marked its journey through a series of memorable events and meaningful gatherings. From scholarly meets and exhibitions to celebratory milestones, these occasions reflect the Society's sustained dedication to promoting philately, fostering fellowship among collectors, and preserving India's rich postal heritage.

- **The First Philatelic Workshop at Vadodara (1978)**

The **first Philatelic Workshop** at Vadodara was organised by the **Department of Posts**, in cooperation with the **Baroda Philatelic Society**, at the **Vadodara Head Post Office** from **7 to 9 September 1978**. The workshop was inaugurated by **Shri B. R. Bhatt**, Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Vadodara Division. A total of **26 participants**, including eleven members of the Society, staff from the Postal Training College, Vadodara, personnel from the Department of Posts from Vadodara and Surat, and a few teachers, attended the workshop.

During the **three-day course**, with daily one-hour sessions, **four lecturers** delivered talks covering the salient features of philately—from the **history of communication** to the **preparation of competitive exhibits**. Special emphasis was laid on the **practical aspects of philately**, including removing stamps from covers, drying, sorting, identification of stamps, and the correct use of philatelic accessories.

On the **third day**, participants received hands-on training in **mounting and write-up techniques**. Graph sheets (quadrilles) and hinges were supplied by the **P & T Department**, and detailed demonstrations of **do's and don'ts** for exhibit preparation were explained.

Participants were also shown specially prepared **display sheets** covering thematic collections, postal stationery, and country-wise collections to enhance their philatelic understanding. In addition, they were provided cyclostyled notes on albums and accessories, essential practices for philatelists, F.I.P. banned stamps and countries, and guidance for identifying the country of origin of stamps.

- **Foundation Day Dinner and Philatelic Fellowship (1979)**

The Fourth State Level Philatelic Exhibition "**Gujpex '79**" was held at Vadodara from 26 April to 30 April 1979. As part of this prestigious exhibition, the **Baroda Philatelic Society** hosted a **Dinner-cum-Get-Together** on **28 April 1979** at **Hotel Utsav, Vadodara**, coinciding with the **Foundation Day** of the Society.

The occasion was graced by several distinguished guests and eminent philatelists, including Shri R. K. Saiyad, Postmaster General, Gujarat Circle, Shri Vispi Dastur, eminent philatelist, Shri N. K. Zaveri, President, Gujarat Philatelists' Association, Dr. Vithalbhai G. Patel, President, Prof. A. S. Loiwal, Vice President, Shri R. P. Shah, Hon. Secretary, Shri R. Y. Bhagwat, Hon. Joint Secretary, Dr. Dipak De, Shri D. K. Puneekar, Shri M. A. Patil, Shri K. G. Mishra, Shri V. C. Chokshi, and other members and leading philatelists. In all, about 32 members and organising committee members attended the dinner, making it a warm and memorable gathering.

Addressing the gathering, **Shri R. K. Saiyad, Postmaster General**, Gujarat Circle, emphasised that philately is an **educative and cultural hobby** and stressed the need for its promotion among youth and children. He also expressed the view that the Government should take suitable steps to encourage the growth and development of this hobby.



Continuing the Foundation Day celebrations, the **Baroda Philatelic Society** organised a Philatelic Seminar on the following day, **29 April 1979**, at Dr. Vithalbhai Patel's Dispensary. The seminar witnessed useful and informative discussions, further strengthening philatelic awareness and camaraderie among members.

- **10th Anniversary Celebration (1985)**

To commemorate **ten years of successful philatelic activities**, the Society organised the **First All-Gujarat Thematic Stamp Exhibition** from 2 to 4 November 1985 at the **Municipal Art Gallery**. The exhibition featured entries from **25 philatelists across Gujarat**.

The exhibition was inaugurated by **Dr. Jatinbhai Modi**, then **Mayor of the Baroda Municipal Corporation**, who also released a **special cover** marking the Society's **10th Anniversary** and congratulated the members for their efforts in promoting philately.

Shri D. Madhorao, Secretary of the Indian Topical Association and Editor of **TOPPHIL**, Bhopal, along with **Shri H. C. Mehta** of Ahmedabad, served as members of the **Jury**. Lively and informative philatelic discussions were held between the Jury members and exhibitors.

The **Prize Distribution Function** was organised on 4 November 1985, during which **Shri P. Krishna Gopinath**, **Director of Postal Services**, Baroda, presented prizes to the award winners. He congratulated the Society on completing its ten-year journey and conveyed his best wishes for its future success. To mark the occasion, the Society also brought out a **beautiful commemorative souvenir**.



- **20 Years Celebration (1994)**

To mark the completion of **twenty years of the Society's activities**, a **get-together** was organised on **27 April 1994** in the evening at the lawn of Badamdi Baug (southern end of the Art Gallery), Vadodara. During the informal interaction, the Secretary and the President outlined the Society's past activities and achievements. Members were invited to share suggestions and ideas for various programmes and events to be organised during the anniversary year.

- **Get-Together with GPA Team and Release of Members' Directory (1998)**

A philatelic get-together of members from the **Gujarat Philatelists' Association (GPA)** and the **Baroda Philatelic Society** was organised on **16 August 1998** at the Red Cross Building, near Raopura GPO, Vadodara. **Shri Vinayak W. Karnick**, President of the Gujarat Philatelists' Association, graced the occasion and formally released the **Members' Directory** of the Baroda Philatelic Society. Following the function, GPA members visited the Society's library and meeting place. They expressed great appreciation for the well-maintained and resourceful library, finding it both impressive and enriching.

Designs in connection with postage stamps and coinage may be described, I think, as the silent ambassadors on national taste." - **William Butler Yeats (Irish prose Writer, Dramatist and Poet)**



- **Get-Together with GPA Team at Ahmedabad (1998)**

A philatelic get-together with the **Gujarat Philatelists' Association (GPA)** was held at **Ahmedabad** on **15 November 1998**, with twelve members of the Baroda Philatelic Society participating. On the occasion, **mementoes** were presented to the **President, Vice President, and Secretary** of the **Baroda Philatelic Society**. **Shri R. P. Shah** formally released the **new logo of the Gujarat Philatelists' Association** and also shared ideas regarding the forthcoming **Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Baroda Philatelic Society**.

- **Naming of the Philatelic Library in Honour of Dr. Ashwin Patel (1999)**

The Society maintains a well-equipped **Philatelic Library** with a rich collection of philatelic journals, literature, catalogues, and souvenirs. **Late Dr. Ashwin Patel** generously donated numerous books and journals to the Society, significantly strengthening the library's holdings. The family of **Late Dr. Ashwin Patel** also graciously provided space for the library as well as for the Society's monthly meetings.

A naming ceremony of the Philatelic Library was held at the library premises on **9 May 1999**. **Dr. Shyamaben A. Patel** lit the ceremonial lamp and graciously presided over the function. The Society takes great pride in associating the name of **Dr. Ashwin Patel** with its **Dr. Ashwin Patel Memorial Philatelic Library**, in recognition of his valued contribution and lasting support.



- **24th Foundation Day (1999)**

The **24th Foundation Day** of the Society was celebrated on **25 April 1999**, with **Shri V. Chitale, Postmaster General, Vadodara Region**, as the **Chief Guest**. He formally released the logo of the **Silver Jubilee Celebrations**. The **Prize Distribution Function** held on this occasion marked the **first event of the Silver Jubilee year**, during which **Shri Chitale** presented prizes to the **winners of the Essay Competition** organized in December 1998.

Shri Ashok Kumar Bayanwala, a renowned philatelist from Ahmedabad, delivered a lecture on philately, sharing

valuable insights on developing collections focused on the modern philatelic history of India, which was well appreciated by the members.



- **Stamp Bazaar (1999)**

As part of the **Silver Jubilee Celebrations**, a **Stamp Bazaar** was organised on **12 and 13 June 1999** at **Kirti Mandir, Vadodara**. **Shri Ashok Krishnadas**, Director of Zaverchand Infotech Pvt. Ltd., inaugurated the event. On this occasion, he also released the book "**Philately for Beginners**", compiled by **Shri Prashant Pandya** and published by the **Baroda Philatelic Society**.

Stamp dealers from **Ahmedabad, Bombay, and Baroda** participated in the Stamp Bazaar. The event witnessed an enthusiastic response from philatelists of **Baroda and other cities**, who visited the exhibition in large numbers.

A **joint meeting** with members of the **Gujarat Philatelists' Association, Ahmedabad**, was organised on **13 June 1999**, during which various philatelic topics were discussed, further strengthening cooperation and exchange of ideas among philatelists.



- **28th Foundation Day of Baroda Philatelic Society (2003)**

The **28th Foundation Day** of the Society was celebrated on **27 April 2003** at **Hotel Yuvraj, Vadodara**, in a warm and distinguished gathering of philatelists. **Shri Ashok Kumar Bayanwala**, President of the **Gujarat Philatelists' Association (GPA)**, Ahmedabad, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He was accompanied by **Shri Dhananjay Desai, Shri Prashant Shah, and Shri Prakash Jambudi**, representing the GPA.

A highlight of the event was the felicitation of the Society's outgoing President, **Shri R. P. Shah**, in recognition of his long and dedicated service to the Baroda Philatelic Society. **Shri Ashok Kumar Bayanwala** presented him with an **Appreciation Award**, while **Shri Dhananjay Desai**, on behalf of the Gujarat Philatelists' Association, honoured him with a **commemorative memento**, marking the Society's gratitude and respect.



- **Philatelic Seminar at Vadodara (2007)**

The Senior Superintendent Office, East Division, Vadodara, organised a **Philatelic Seminar** on 29 January 2007 at the **C. C. Mehta Auditorium, M. S. University of Baroda**, with the support of the **Baroda Philatelic Society**. **Shri Prashant Pandya, President of the Baroda Philatelic Society**, was invited to deliver the main presentation at the seminar. The event was inaugurated by **Shri S. P. Patel, Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, East Division**, along with Shri Prashant Pandya and other senior postal officers.

The seminar was specially organised for **parents and school teachers** with the objective of helping them understand the **educational value and importance of philately**, so that the hobby could be effectively inculcated among school children. Shri Prashant Pandya delivered an informative **PowerPoint presentation** covering various aspects of philately and highlighting its role in learning, culture, and communication.

A large number of **teachers, parents, and staff members of the Department of Posts** attended the seminar and actively benefited from the interactive and enlightening session. The seminar successfully fulfilled its aim of spreading awareness about philately as a meaningful educational hobby and reinforced the role of parents and teachers in nurturing philatelic interest among the younger generation.



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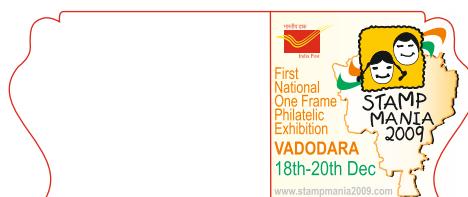
- **Treasure of Knowledge Competition (2009)**

As part of **Stampmania 2009**, and with the objective of promoting philately among school children and encouraging their active involvement in the hobby, the Baroda Philatelic Society organised a special competition titled “**Treasure of Knowledge**.”

For this purpose, a specially designed booklet titled **Treasure of Knowledge**, created by **Shri Prashant Pandya, President of the Baroda Philatelic Society**, was produced for the participants. The booklet featured concise yet informative write-ups on **stamp collecting** and **thematic philately**, along with practical, pictorial guidance on handling stamps, using stamp hinges, and adopting proper collection methods. Twenty engaging themes were carefully selected, each accompanied by a brief educational description.

The booklet provided five illustrated pages with designated boxes to affix **20 stamps, one for each theme**, along with space below each box for students to write a few lines describing the subject and the stamp.

A total of **1,000 booklets** were distributed to schools, and students were invited to submit their completed booklets to the Society. The **best five entries** were selected and awarded prizes. The competition successfully stimulated curiosity, learning, and enthusiasm for philately among young students, helping nurture the next generation of stamp collectors.



“Through initiatives such as the Treasure of Knowledge competition, the Baroda Philatelic Society has consistently demonstrated its commitment to promoting philately among school children and nurturing their curiosity about stamps, history, and culture. By designing engaging, educational activities and encouraging hands-on participation, the Society continues to inspire students to adopt philately as a meaningful and lifelong hobby, thereby strengthening the foundation for the future of stamp collecting.”

 HOCKEY Hockey is a sports in which two teams play against each other.	 LIGHTHOUSE A lighthouse is the tower building of same work.	identical individuals. The group includes the important reef builders that are found in tropical oceans, which secrete calcium carbonate to form a hard skeleton. CRICKET Cricket is a bat-and-ball team sport that is first documented as being played in southern England in the 16th century. By the end of the 18th century, cricket had developed to the point where it had become the national sport of England.	 BUTTERFLY A butterfly is an insect of the order Lepidoptera.	 CORALS Corals are marine organisms from the class Anthozoa and exist as small sea anemons.
 MEDICINE Medicine helps us to cure diseases. Medicine is the art and science of healing.	 MOUNTAIN Mountain is short in height. Mountain is a large land form.	Millions of years ago, long before there were any people, there were dinosaurs. Dinosaurs were one of several kinds of prehistoric reptiles that lived during the Mesozoic Era, the "Age of Reptiles." The dinosaurs dominated the Earth for over 165 million years during the Mesozoic Era, but mysteriously went extinct 65 million years ago. DINOSAURS Millions of years ago, long before there were any people, there were dinosaurs. Dinosaurs were one of several kinds of prehistoric reptiles that lived during the Mesozoic Era, the "Age of Reptiles." The dinosaurs dominated the Earth for over 165 million years during the Mesozoic Era, but mysteriously went extinct 65 million years ago.	 CRICKET Cricket is a bat and ball team sports that is first documented as being played in Southern England.	 DINOSAURS Millions of years ago, long before there were some people, Dinosaurs were one of several kind of prehistoric reptiles.
Energy is power exerted while at work or at play. Energy is the ability to make things move. Water rushing over a dam can turn a big water-wheel. It has energy because it is moving fast. Electricity, magnetism and sound are among the other forms of energy. Other examples of energy are atomic and chemical energy. ENERGY	A flag is a piece of fabric, often flown from a pole or mast, generally used symbolically for signaling or identification. It is most commonly used to symbolize a country. FLAG	Dolphins are marine mammals that are closely related to whales and porpoises. There are almost forty species of dolphin in seventeen genera. They vary in size from 4 ft and 40 kg (Mau's Dolphin), up to 30 ft and 10 tonnes (the Orca or Killer Whale). They are found worldwide, mostly in the shallower seas of the continental shelves, and are carnivores, mostly eating fish and squid. DOLPHINS	Energy is power exerted while at work or at play. Energy is the ability to make things move. Water rushing over a dam can turn a big water-wheel. It has energy because it is moving fast. Electricity, magnetism and sound are among the other forms of energy. Other examples of energy are atomic and chemical energy. ENERGY	A flower is a reproductive organ of plant life. It has four parts - sepals, petals, stamens and pistils. The pistils have in them tiny bodies called ovules. They are the beginnings of seeds. The stamens produce a fine powder called pollen. FLOWER
Hockey is a family of sports in which two teams play against each other by trying to maneuver a ball, or a hard, round, rubber or heavy HOCKEY	Flower is a reproductive organ of plant life. It has four parts - sepals, petals, stamens and pistils. The pistils have in them tiny bodies called ovules. They are the beginnings of seeds. The stamens produce a fine powder called pollen. FLOWER	Energy is power exerted while at work or at play. Energy is the ability to make things move. Water rushing over a dam can turn a big water-wheel. It has energy because it is moving fast. Electricity, magnetism and sound are among the other forms of energy. Other examples of energy are atomic and chemical energy. ENERGY	Cricket is a bat and ball team sports that is first documented as being played in Southern England. CRICKET	Millions of years ago, long before there were some people, Dinosaurs were one of several kind of prehistoric reptiles. DINOSAURS

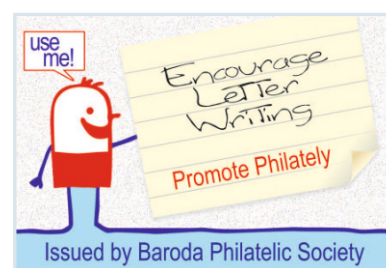
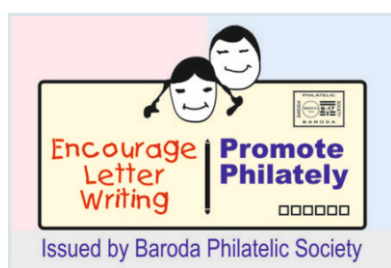
• From Bullock Tram to Postmarks: A Heritage Walk through Stamps (2009)

On **17 December 2009**, ahead of the inauguration of Stampmania 2009, the Baroda Philatelic Society, with the support of India Post, organised a distinctive public event titled "**Heritage Walk through Stamps**", accompanied by a **road show**. The initiative aimed to popularise philately among the younger generation—especially school children—while creating wider awareness of India's cultural and postal heritage and promoting India Post products.

The **Heritage Walk** was flagged off from the **Vadodara Head Post Office** by **Ms. Karuna Pillai, Chief Postmaster General, Gujarat Postal Circle**, and **Shrimant Maharaja Ranjitsinhji Gaekwad of Baroda**. Folk dancers performing to traditional drums and indigenous musical instruments added colour and festive charm, drawing public attention along the route.

The centrepiece of the event was a historically accurate **replica of the Bullock Tram**, recreated to highlight a remarkable chapter of Baroda's transport and postal history. In **February 1862**, **Shrimant Maharaja Khanderao Gaekwad** commissioned a **2 feet 6 inches narrow gauge railway line** from **Dabhoi to Miyagam**, operated by **oxen**—the first such experiment by a native ruler in the British dominions. To bring this lesser-known heritage alive, the **replica tram, pulled by two bullocks**, was accompanied by a **mail guard** carrying specially prepared "**Bullock Tram Carried Covers**," vividly demonstrating early methods of mail transport.

The walk saw enthusiastic participation from **philatelists and dealers from across India**, **India Post staff and officials**, **journalists**, **school children**, and the **general public**. It concluded at the Stampmania 2009 exhibition venue, where the replica Bullock Tram was formally received by **Shri A. K. Srivastava, Divisional Railway Manager, Vadodara Division**, and the Bullock Tram Carried Covers were ceremonially delivered.





- Seminar during Stampmania 2009 Exhibition (2009)**

The India Study Circle for Philately (ISC) also participated in the **Stampmania 2009** exhibition. A seminar and meeting was organised on **18 December 2009**, conducted by **Shri G. S. Ghuman** and **Shri Sandeep Jaiswal**, *Editor of India Post*. **Shri Pratisad Neurgaonkar**, **General Secretary of the ISC**, along with several ISC members and philatelists, attended the meeting.

During **Stampmania 2009**, many new philatelists joined the India Study Circle for Philately. Members of the Circle also sponsored trophies and prizes for the exhibition, contributing actively to its success and encouraging wider participation in philately.

"All science is either physics or stamp collecting." - Ernest Rutherford

- **A Gesture of Appreciation: Get-Together with Stamp Dealers at Vadodara (2011)**

In appreciation of the valuable support extended by stamp dealers during **Stampmania 2009**, the Baroda Philatelic Society hosted a cordial get-together and **dinner for dealers participating in Gujpex 2011** on **23 December 2011** at Hotel Royal Orchid Central, Vadodara.

The gathering was graced by **Mr. Vispi Dastur, Dr. S. P. Gupta, and Mr. Brahm Mehta** as special guests. In an informal and friendly setting, dealers exchanged views on current trends and opportunities in the philatelic market. They warmly acknowledged the Society's arrangements and hospitality during Stampmania 2009 and expressed enthusiasm and support for future Stampmania events at Vadodara, reinforcing the close association between the Society and the philatelic trade.



- **Reviving the Joy of Letter Writing (2013)**

As part of its efforts to promote the art of letter writing, the Baroda Philatelic Society, with the support of JCI Vadodara Sayajinagari, organized a special experiential activity for children. Under this initiative, a group of young participants was invited to visit **Stampmania's Vadophilex 2013** on **28th April 2013**, a philatelic exhibition celebrating postage stamps and postal heritage.

Following their visit, the children enthusiastically took part in a **Letter Writing Activity**. They were provided with postcards and encouraged to write letters describing their experience at the stamp exhibition, sharing what they enjoyed the most and what fascinated them about the world of philately.

All the **handwritten postcards** were then officially posted to the **Director General, India Post, New Delhi**, each bearing special labels promoting the importance and relevance of letter writing. This meaningful exercise not only nurtured creativity and self-expression among children but also reinforced the timeless value of handwritten communication in the digital age.



- **Philatelic Workshop-cum-Mock Exhibition at Vadodara (2013)**

At the initiative of **Shri Ganesh Sawaleshwarkar**, Director, Postal Training Centre, Vadodara, a **Philatelic Workshop-cum-Mock Exhibition** was organised on **28 December 2013** at the **Postal Training Centre, Vadodara**. The programme was designed to impart **hands-on training** to postal trainees on the practical aspects involved in **organising philatelic exhibitions**.

Shri Prashant Pandya, President, and **Shri Timir R. Shah**, Secretary of the Baroda Philatelic Society were invited as resource persons to **conduct the training for employees** of the Department of Posts. The workshop offered hands-on guidance on planning and executing a philatelic exhibition through a mock exhibition format.

The training covered **major exhibition activities** such as committee formation, preparation of exhibition documents, bin room organisation, frame mounting, judging procedures, award planning, and safe dismounting of exhibits. The hands-on approach helped trainees clearly understand the workflow and responsibilities involved. The programme received active support from **Shri K. R. Raval, AD (Training)**, and **Shri S. A. Shah** and **Shri T. N. Malek** of the **Postal Training Centre**. The workshop proved informative and effective, strengthening collaboration between the **Department of Posts** and the **Baroda Philatelic Society**.



- 40th Anniversary Celebration of Baroda Philatelic Society (2015)**

Baroda Philatelic Society completed **40 years** of its dedicated service to philately on **27 April 2015**. To commemorate this milestone, a celebratory function was organized on **3 May 2015** at Blue Lagoon Restaurant & Banquet, Vadodara.

The event was graced by **Shri Vineet Mathur, Postmaster General, Vadodara Region**, as the *Chief Guest*, and **Shri Ganesh Sawaleshwarkar, Director, Postal Training Centre, Vadodara**, as the *Guest of Honour*. Also present on the dais were **Shri Ashok Bayanwala**, Senior Philatelist and Honorary Member of the Society, along with **Shri Prashant Pandya**, President, and **Shri Timir Shah**, Secretary of the Baroda Philatelic Society.

The programme was well attended by society members. Shri Pandya presented a brief overview of the Society's four-decade journey and its various activities. Founder members and past office bearers were fondly remembered on the occasion. A **specially designed anniversary cake** was ceremonially cut by the guests and founder member **Shri D. T. Desai**.

The latest issue of **Vadophil**, the Society's quarterly newsletter featuring **multicolour title pages**, was released by the dignitaries. The guests appreciated the Society's sustained efforts and congratulated all members for promoting philately over the last 40 years.



- Annual General Body Meeting and Dental Museum Visit (2017)**

The Annual General Body Meeting of the Baroda Philatelic Society was held on **10 September 2017** at **Dr. Chandarana's Dental Museum**, Old Padra Road, Vadodara, in the presence of governing council members and society members.

A philatelic seminar on **One Frame Exhibiting** was conducted by President **Shri Prashant Pandya**, followed by expert

remarks from **Dr. Punit S. Dixit** on judging and exhibition practices.

After the meeting, members visited **Dr. Chandarana's Dental Museum**, where Dr. Pranav Chandarana introduced the museum and its collections. The Chandarana family are members of the Baroda Philatelic Society, and Dr. Yogesh Chandarana, a noted collector on the theme of Dentistry in Philately, has earned several awards for his exhibits. Dr. Chandarana's Dental Museum is a unique institution dedicated to preserving and showcasing the history and evolution of dentistry. The museum also features a unique philately section on dentistry, displaying stamps and covers related to dental science and oral health. The visit was informative and greatly appreciated by the members.



- **Philately Seminar at Nadiad (2019)**

A Philately Seminar was organised on Saturday, **6 April 2019**, at Nadiad by the **Gujarat Philatelists Association** in cooperation with the **Baroda Philatelic Society**, **Anand Philatelic Association**, and **Kheda District Philatelic Association**, in association with the **Philatelic Congress of India (PCI)**.

The seminar featured four informative **presentations** by eminent speakers: **Shri Prashant Pandya** on “*One Frame Exhibits*”, **Shri Piyush Khaitan** on “*The 1948 Air-India International Postage Stamp Issue*”, **Shri Abhishek Bhuwalka** on “*Use of Literature in Philatelic Research*”, and **Shri Markand Dave** on “*Danish Settlements in India*”. The display of One Frame Exhibits added practical value and encouraged lively interaction among participants. Members of the Baroda Philatelic Society attended the seminar and benefited from the exchange of knowledge.

The programme was followed by the **Annual General Meeting of the Philatelic Congress of India (PCI)** on the next day, Sunday, **7 April 2019**, making the two-day philatelic gathering a significant and enriching event for philatelists from the region.

Stamps are a great way of learning. As you browse through the philately of a country, the images over the years as they existed then unfold in the most beautiful and educative form as if it were a time machine. One cannot think of a better way of capturing and exploring the evolution of a nation. Philately is thus as great a teacher as it is a hobby.



- 19th RPSL Meeting at Vadodara (2019)**

The 19th meeting of the **Royal Philatelic Society, London (RPSL)** was jointly held with the **Baroda Philatelic Society** at Express Hotel, Vadodara, on **12 May 2019**, and was attended by nearly **30 members**. Shri Prashant Pandya, President of the Baroda Philatelic Society, welcomed the members and guests and briefly highlighted the Society's activities. **Shri Markand Dave** introduced the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

During the meeting, presentations on three subjects were delivered by **Mr. Eric Scherer (Zurich)** and **Shri Markand Dave**. Mr. Eric Scherer presented detailed talks on the *French Settlements in India*, covering early postal history up to the introduction of adhesive stamps, and on the peculiarities of French Indian philately and postal history. As a token of appreciation, **Shri Prashant Pandya** and **Shri Timir Shah** presented **mementoes to both the speakers**.



- **Philatelic Workshop and Presentation at Urmi School (2020)**

With the objective of creating awareness about the **hobby of philately** and guiding students in developing philatelic exhibits, a **Philatelic Presentation** was organised by the **Baroda Philatelic Society** on **30 January 2020** at Urmi School, Sama-Savli Road, Vadodara, in association with the **Vadodara Philatelic Bureau**.

A large number of school students attended the presentation with keen interest. The session introduced them to the world of postage stamps, postal history, and the educational value of philately. Officials from the Vadodara Philatelic Bureau were also present and supported the programme, highlighting the role of the Department of Posts in promoting philately among young learners. The presentation proved to be informative and inspiring, successfully sparking curiosity and enthusiasm for philately among students, and reinforcing its importance as a meaningful and educational hobby.



- **42nd Annual General Body Meeting (2023)**

The **42nd Annual General Body Meeting** of the Baroda Philatelic Society was held on **8 January 2023** at Hotel Sayaji, Sayajigunj, Vadodara. During the meeting, **Governing Council members were elected for a three-year term up to 2025**. The AGM was followed by engaging **philatelic presentations** by members, including “*Sayajirao Gaekwad*” and “*Sweet Memories of Baroda Philatelic Society*” by **Shri Timir R. Shah**, “*One Page Exhibit on Tata*” by **Shri Mohan Vaze**, and “*Rajpipla State Collection*” by **Shri Prashant Pandya**.

On this occasion, the Society also fondly remembered and acknowledged the **valuable contributions of its founder members**, whose vision and dedication laid a strong foundation for the Baroda Philatelic Society. The continued support and active participation of senior members were gratefully appreciated, as they remain a constant source of guidance and inspiration for younger philatelists.

The meeting concluded in a warm and cordial atmosphere, reinforcing the Society's spirit of learning, sharing, and philatelic camaraderie.



- Philately Day Celebration (2023)**

To mark **Philately Day**, a **Philatelic Workshop** was organised on **11 October 2023** at **Gujarat Public School (GPS)**, CBSE Unit, Atladra, Vadodara by the **Vadodara Philatelic Bureau**, with support from the **Baroda Philatelic Society**. **Shri Timir Shah**, Secretary of the Society, conducted the workshop, with the objective of **promoting philately and the art of letter writing** among school children. Students of Standards V, VI, and VII, along with their teachers, actively participated in the workshop and learned about stamps, postal communication, and the cultural value of letter writing.

On the occasion, a Letter Writing Competition was also held on the topic "Write a letter to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi about Mann Ki Baat". Around **100 students** participated with great enthusiasm. To encourage the habit of letter writing among school children, the **Baroda Philatelic Society awarded prizes** to the best entries. Prizes were awarded to Charmi H. Patel (1st Prize), Mrudita Parikh (2nd Prize), Abhinav Singh Chauhan (3rd Prize), Saptarshi Roy (4th Prize) and Tanishka Vyas (5th Prize).



- Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Baroda Philatelic Society (2024)**

The **Baroda Philatelic Society** celebrated its **50th Foundation Day (Golden Jubilee)** on **27 April 2024** at Blue Lagoon Restaurant, Vadodara, marking five decades of dedicated service to philately.

Shri Prashant Pandya, President, welcomed the members and spoke about the Society's formation on 27 April 1975, highlighting the contributions of past Presidents and the **pivotal role of Shri R. P. Shah** in founding and nurturing the Society. **Golden Jubilee Members—Shri Digant R. Mehta, Shri Dinesh T. Desai, and Shri Mihir R. Shah—**were felicitated with bouquets. **A specially designed Golden Jubilee cake** was ceremonially cut by these senior members, symbolising continuity, dedication, and the strong foundation built over the years.

Shri Timir Shah, Secretary, presented "**50 Years of Baroda Philatelic Society**", showcasing major activities, achievements, and the valuable contributions of founder and senior members over the years. Philatelic presentations included a talk on "**My One Page Exhibit**" by **Dr. Punit Dixit**, "**Stamps on Personalities and Institutions related to Vadodara**" by **Shri Mohan Vaze**, and a **One Frame Exhibit on Certificate of Posting (UCP)** by **Shri Timir Shah**.

Approximately **50 members** attended the Golden Jubilee celebrations, which concluded in a warm and nostalgic atmosphere. The occasion stood as a fitting tribute to the **founder members, senior collectors, and committed members** whose passion and dedication over the last **five decades** have made the Baroda Philatelic Society a respected and vibrant philatelic institution.





- **Skate Relay and Skate-Carried Cover (2025)**

As part of **Vadophilex 2025**, the **Department of Posts** released a special **Skate-Carried Cover**, highlighting an innovative and eco-friendly mode of mail conveyance. The **Skate Relay** was formally **flagged off** from **Racecourse Sub Post Office** by **Dr. S. Shivaram**, Director, Postal Services, Vadodara Region.

A team of **four young skaters**, accompanied by their coach, commenced the relay carrying mail bags in the traditional postman style, containing the Skate-Carried Covers. The relay passed through **Racecourse Circle, Old Padra Road, District Court Building, and Diwalipura**, before reaching the exhibition venue at **Diwalipura Atithi Gruh**.

At the exhibition venue, the skaters were warmly received by **Shri Prashant Pandya**, President, **Shri Timir Shah**, Secretary, and other members of the **Baroda Philatelic Society**. Spectators along the route witnessed the **energy, enthusiasm, and discipline** of the young skaters, who covered approx. 3.5 kilometres on skates while carrying the mail bags. The unique relay brought smiles to everyone's faces and attracted considerable public attention.

The **Skate-Carried Cover** features an attractive artistic design depicting postmen delivering mail on roller skates, symbolising **innovation, sustainability, and the evolving spirit of postal services**. The event successfully combined sport, postal history, and philately, making it one of the most memorable highlights of Vadophilex 2025.

Family members struggle today to have quality time with one another due to work, sport, school and cultural activities. This lack of quality time can erode family ties, which, in turn, can lead to problems with effective communication between family members.

A practical activity such as stamp collecting can improve communication and tune family members to each other. If it is seen as a project in which everybody's contribution is important and where teamwork is necessary to provide the end result, it will allow better communication between family members who will know and understand each other better. In practice this means that one person can actually obtain the stamps, one can do research about the theme or topic and another can display the stamps.



- **A Golden Chapter Concludes: Closure of the Golden Jubilee Year (2025)**

The **Baroda Philatelic Society** proudly completed **50 years of its establishment** and celebrated its **Golden Jubilee Year** from **27 April 2024 to 27 April 2025**. This momentous milestone reflected **five decades** of remarkable **achievements, dedicated service to philately**, and cherished memories, standing as a true testament to the collective spirit, perseverance, and fellowship of its members.

To formally conclude the Golden Jubilee celebrations, a **special commemorative function** was organised on Sunday, **27 April 2025 at Grand Mercure (Hotel Surya Palace), Vadodara**. The occasion was graced by distinguished guests including **Shri Ganesh Sawaleshwarkar, Chief Postmaster General, Gujarat Circle**, **Shri Dinesh Kumar Sharma, Postmaster General, South Gujarat Postal Region**, and **Dr. Shivram, Director, Postal Training Centre**.

As part of this memorable evening, the Society expressed its **deep gratitude to its members** for their unwavering support and contributions over the years. In a warm and symbolic gesture, **silver coins were presented to members** as a memento of the Golden Jubilee, representing the shared journey, enduring bonds, and lasting legacy of the Society. The honoured guests presented these coins to the members during a heart-warming ceremony.

In addition, **special gifts were conferred upon the founding members** of the Society—those who have been associated with Baroda Philatelic Society since its inception in 1975—as a mark of respect and appreciation for their vision, dedication, and lifelong commitment. **Shri Ganesh Sawaleshwarkar** graciously honoured these stalwarts, acknowledging their foundational role in shaping the Society.

With the presence of over **50 members**, the closing ceremony was a grand success and a fitting conclusion to the Golden Jubilee Year—celebrating the past, honouring the present, and inspiring future generations of philatelists.



"The postage stamp is a flimsy thing No thicker than a beetle's wing And yet it will roam the world for you Exactly where you tell it to" - EV Lucas



Esteemed Members since 1975



Initiatives and Noteworthy Endeavours

Serving Philately, Members, and the Community

Since its inception, the Baroda Philatelic Society has undertaken numerous initiatives to promote philately while serving its members and the wider community.

Member Support and Philatelic Enrichment Initiatives

- From its early years, the Society has focused on initiatives that promote philatelic learning, accessibility, and fellowship among members. One of its earliest efforts was the **Material Procurement Scheme**, under which philatelic material was obtained from the Philatelic Bureau and other approved sources and distributed to members during monthly meetings.
- To further support collectors, and in view of the absence of a philatelic dealer in Baroda city, the Society introduced a **Philatelic Selling Counter** during its monthly meetings in December 1987. This initiative enabled members to conveniently dispose of surplus material and acquire only what they required, reducing dependence on out-of-city dealers, auctions, or infrequent exhibitions, while adding practical value to regular meetings.

Competitions, Workshops, Educational Trips & AGM

- Over the years, the Society has organised a variety of educational and participatory activities, including **philatelic quizzes**, **letter-writing competitions**, **philatelic workshops**, and awareness programmes. These were conducted both independently and in collaboration with the **Department of Posts**, with prizes awarded by the Society. **Philatelic Workshops** were successfully held at several locations, including Vadodara, Vanakbori, Bharuch, Navsari, and Bardoli, reaching a wider audience and nurturing interest in philately.
- The Society has also regularly conducted **Annual Days** and **Annual General Meetings**, often combined with lunch or dinner gatherings, workshops, slide shows, and audio-visual presentations on topical and thematic collections. In addition, social activities such as **Ponk parties** and **field visits** to places like Nimeta and Kayavarohan were organised to foster camaraderie and strengthen bonds among members.



Support to Exhibitors and Operational Initiatives

- To encourage participation in philatelic exhibitions, the Society introduced **financial subsidies** for its members, providing assistance of 25% for **State-level** and 50% for **National-level exhibitions**, as approved at the Annual General Meeting held on **19 January 1986**. This scheme was **discontinued** in **January 2001**.
- To streamline membership records and improve identification, Identity Cards were issued to members starting in **2013**.
- The Society also strengthened its operational presence at exhibitions by establishing **Felicitation Counters** and **stalls** for the sale of philatelic material, where members volunteered actively to assist visitors and ensure smooth conduct of activities.
- In keeping with technological advancements, the official website of the Baroda Philatelic Society (**www.vadophil.org**) was launched on **18 February 2009**, coinciding with the **Stampmania 2009** philatelic exhibition.

Social and Community Initiatives – Service Beyond Philately

Beyond philately, the Baroda Philatelic Society extended its social responsibility through Blood Donation Camps, Diabetes Screening, and Medical Check-up Camps, organised in cooperation with the Lions Club of Baroda (Main), Diabetes Association of Baroda, and the Indian Red Cross Society, Vadodara Branch.



Recognition and Honours – Acknowledging Excellence

In its meeting dated **10 February 1990**, the Governing Council resolved to forward proposals for the **Padma Shri Award** for **Shri D. R. Mistry** and **Shri D. N. Jatia** to the State Government through the **Philatelic Congress of India** and the **Empire of India Philatelic Society**.

Indore Philatelic Society instituted an Appreciation Award for Senior Philatelists in the name of **Late Shri R. P. Shah**, former Secretary of **Indore Philatelic Society** and Past President of **Baroda Philatelic Society**, to honour long-standing contributions to philately.

Library Development and Knowledge Resources – A Philatelic Repository

Initially, the Society's **Library** remained open on monthly meeting days. From **12 April 1998**, it has been regularly open **every Sunday between 10.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon**, serving as an important resource for philatelic research, reference, and learning.

The Library maintains a systematically developed collection of approximately **525** philatelic publications, comprising:

- **Books:** 150
- **Journals:** 183
- **Catalogues:** 106
- **Miscellaneous publications:** 87

This rich collection has played a significant role in supporting study, documentation, and the promotion of philately over the years.

Promotion of Philatelic Publications at National Platforms

Representing Philately with Dignity

Copies of **Vadophil** and the **Stampmania 2009 Souvenir** were presented by **Shri Prashant Pandya**, President of the Society, to distinguished dignitaries on notable national occasions. These included presentations to **Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad**, Hon'ble Union Minister, at the **India Post Pavilion** during the Vibrant Gujarat Global Trade Show on **8 January 2015** in Gandhinagar; **Shri O. P. Kohli**, former Governor of Gujarat, at **Gujpex 2015** on **24 March 2015** in Ahmedabad; and **Smt. Anandiben Patel**, former Chief Minister of Gujarat, during the stamp release function commemorating Govardhanram Tripathi on **27 April 2016** at Gandhinagar.

These presentations to eminent dignitaries reflect the Baroda Philatelic Society's sustained commitment to promoting philately and preserving postal heritage at national forums.

International Outreach and Library Enrichment

Extending Philatelic Presence Beyond Borders

The Society's commitment to sharing philatelic knowledge across borders was notably reflected in the international presentation of **Vadophil** at **MAERCHENPOSTA 2019**, an international philatelic exhibition held on **27–28 July 2019** in **Hofgeismar, Germany**. The journal was presented by **Mr. Wolfgang Beyer**, a reader of **Vadophil**, a valued well-wisher of the

Society, and a member of the German Philatelic Study Group **ArGe Zoologie**, together with **Mr. Ulrich Reinhardt**, Manager of the German Philatelic Collectors' Group, Hofgeismar.

This international showcasing of *Vadophil* highlighted the Society's growing global reach and the goodwill it enjoys among philatelists and specialised study groups worldwide, reinforcing its role as a respected voice in the international philatelic community.



Visiting Philatelists and Eminent Personalities – A Meeting of Minds

- Over the past 51 years, the Society and its Library have welcomed numerous eminent philatelists from India and abroad, underscoring its reputation as a respected centre for philatelic learning and exchange. Notable visitors include **Shri R. S. Rao**, Vice President of the Bhilai Philatelic Society (28 May 1995); **Mr. Vincent Gibson** of England (11 September 2005); and **Mr. Claude Stephen** of Sweden, a renowned collector of Indian stamps who visited in February 1987 and again later. Mr. Stephen was also known for his philatelic radio talks on Radio Sweden. Other distinguished philatelists, such as **Shri Mahesh Agarwal** of New Delhi (12 February 2018) and **Shri Valmick K. Desai** of Hyderabad, have also visited the Society.



- The Society has further been honoured by the presence of several eminent public figures, including **H.H. Matushree Shantadevi Gaekwad** of Baroda, **Padma Shri Captain Vijay S. Hazare**, veteran Test cricketer **Shri G. Kishanchand**, **Maharaja Ranjitsingh Gaekwad** of Baroda, **Shri A. K. Shrivastav**, Retd. DRM of Western Railway's Vadodara Division, **Shri Balu Shukla** and **Dr. Jyotiben Pandya**, Former Mayors of Vadodara Mahanagar Seva Sadan, among others. These interactions have greatly enriched the Society's intellectual and cultural life and strengthened its role as a vibrant meeting point for philatelists and distinguished personalities..

Acknowledgements & Contributors

Contributors to the Library (Donations of Books & Literature)

The Society continues to strengthen its Library through the generous donation of philatelic books and literature from well-wishers across the country. Grateful acknowledgement is extended to **Shri A. T. Haji** (Mumbai), **Shri D. R. Mistry** (Mumbai), **Shri Madan Middha** (Gwalior), **Shri Markand Dave** (Nadiad), **Shri Praful Thakkar** (Ahmedabad), **Shri Prashant Pandya** (Vadodara), **Mrs. Rajni Mehta** (Kanpur), **Shri R. P. Shah** (Vadodara), **Shri Rolands J. Nelson** (Chennai), **Shri Senthilkumar Chandrasekaran** (Chennai), **Mrs. Shyamaben Patel** (Vadodara), **Shri Sushil Mehra** (Bengaluru), **Shri Umesh Kumar Neema** (Indore), **Dr. Y. T. Chandarana** (Vadodara), and **Shri Y. R. Shah** (Bengaluru).

The Society places on record its sincere appreciation to all donors whose valuable contributions have enriched the Library and ensured its continued role as a lasting resource for researchers, collectors, and future generations of philatelists.

Distinguished Contributors to our Publications

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- **Shri Sekhar Chakrabarti**, Kolkata
- **Mr. Steven Zwilling**, USA
- **Shri Subir Mitra**, Mumbai
- **Shri Suraj Jaitly**, Ludhiana
- **Shri Timir R. Shah**, Vadodara
- **Shri Upender Vennam**, Hyderabad
- **Shri Vispi Dastur**, Mumbai
- **Mr. Vladimir Kachan**, Belarus
- **Mr. Wolfgang Beyer**, Germany
- **Mr. Wolfgang Holz**, Germany

Note of Appreciation

The Baroda Philatelic Society gratefully acknowledges all contributors whose scholarly articles, research, and insights have enriched *Vadophil* and souvenirs over the years. Their voluntary efforts and dedication have greatly enhanced the quality and standing of the bulletin, making it a valued resource for philatelists in India and abroad.

"Stamp collecting is not only a fascinating hobby, but also a safe and profitable means of investment — provided you know what you are buying, and why you are buying it."

Eminent Jury Members

The Baroda Philatelic Society gratefully acknowledges the services of the following eminent philatelists who served as Jury members at various philatelic exhibitions organised by the Society. Their expertise and guidance played a vital role in upholding high standards of evaluation and promoting competitive philately:

- **Shri R. A. Malaviya**, Junagadh – Vadopex 1977
- **Shri H. C. Mehta**, Ahmedabad – Vadopex 1977, 10th Anniversary Exhibition, Vadopex 2005, Stampmania 2009
- **Shri Vispi Dastur** – Vadopex 1983, Vadopex 2005
- **Shri D. Madhorao**, Gwalior – 10th Anniversary Exhibition, Vadopex 2000
- **Shri G. M. Pujari**, Indore – Vadopex 1987
- **Shri N. K. Jhaveri**, Ahmedabad – Vadopex 1987
- **Shri R. P. Shah**, Vadodara – Nehrupex 1989
- **Shri G. Madanmohandas**, Chennai – Vadopex 1991
- **Shri Mansing Nahar**, Indore – Vadopex 1991
- **Shri Prashant H. Pandya**, Vadodara – Vadopex 2005, Vadopex 2021, Vadophilex 2025
- **Shri Ashok Kumar Bayanwala**, Ahmedabad – Stampmania 2009
- **Shri Dipok Dey**, Kolkata – Stampmania 2009
- **Shri Punit S. Dixit**, Nadiad – Stampmania 2009, Vadopex 2019, Vadopex 2021, Vadopex 2026
- **Shri Timir R. Shah**, Vadodara – Vadopex 2019, Vadopex 2026

Apprentice Jury Members

The Society also acknowledges the participation of the following distinguished professionals and philatelist who served as Apprentice Jury Members, contributing to the jury process and gaining exposure to competitive philately during Stampmania 2009:

Shri Ganesh Sawaleshwarkar, Director, Postal Training Centre, Vadodara

Shri (Dr.) Alok Pande, Director, Postal Services, Vadodara Region

Shri P. G. Bhargave, Nashik

The Society places on record its sincere appreciation for the valuable contributions of all jury and apprentice jury members, whose knowledge, experience, and support enriched the exhibitions and strengthened the culture of philatelic excellence.

Our Esteemed Honorary Members

Honorary Membership of the Baroda Philatelic Society is conferred upon distinguished individuals who have made outstanding contributions to philately, the advancement of the hobby, and in particular to the growth and activities of the Society. These esteemed members have enriched the Society through their scholarship, leadership, guidance, and enduring support. Their association reflects the Society's commitment to excellence and its strong links with the wider philatelic community.



Late Shri H. C. Mehta



Dr. Punit S. Dixit



Shri Ashok Kumar Bayanwala



Shri Sapan Jhaveri

Awards and Honours Received by Society Members

Five Decades of Philatelic Excellence

Over the past 51 years, members of the Baroda Philatelic Society have brought exceptional distinction to the Society through their achievements at State, National, and International philatelic exhibitions. These awards span all major classes—Traditional, Thematic, Postal History, Postal Stationery, One-Frame, Youth, and Literature—reflecting depth, scholarship, and sustained excellence.

These honours commemorate the passion, perseverance, and philatelic commitment of our members, and serve as a proud testament to the Society's role in Indian and world philately.

Listings follow an alphabetical order by name, accompanied by the exhibition name, award received, and exhibit title.

- **A. J. Shah:** *Gujpex-1979*, Bronze — Malaysia
- **Prof. A. S. Loiwal:** *Gujpex-1977*, Silver — Cochin; *Gujpex-1977*, Bronze — Russia; *Gujpex-1979*, Gilt Gold + Special Trophy — Cochin; *Gujpex-1979*, Silver — Russia; *Gujpex-1981*, Gilt Gold — Cochin; *Inpex-1982*, Silver Bronze — Travancore Cochin; *Gujpex-1986*, Gilt Gold + Trophy — Cochin; *Inpex-1986*, Silver Bronze — Cochin; *Gujpex-1990*, Gold + Trophy — Cochin; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Random Varieties; *Inpex-1993*, Bronze; *Gujpex-1994*, Vermeil + Trophy — Cochin; *Gujpex-1998*, Silver — Cochin; *Centipex-1997*, Vermeil — Cochin; *Indipex-97*, Large Silver — Cochin
- **Abhay U. Mandey:** *Vadopex-2000*, Silver
- **Aditya A. Chavda:** *Vadopex-2019*, 3rd Prize — Cricket; *Inpex-2019*, Bronze — Cricket; *Vadopex-2021*, Silver — World of Cricket; *Gujpex-2022*, Silver + GPA Special Prize — Journey of Cricket; *Vadophilix-2025* — 3rd Prize, Cricket
- **Ajay B. Shah:** *Gujpex-1979*, Bronze — Space
- **Ajay Agrawal:** *Inpex-2008*, Large Silver — The Scout Movement; *Stampmania 2009*, Scouting in India — Topaz; *Indipex-2011*, Bronze — The Scout Movement
- **Ms. Alpa V. Chokshi / Mrs. Alpa Dalal:** *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Bronze; *Nadopex 87*, Silver; *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — Winter Sports & Games; *Vadopex-1991*, 2nd Prize — Winter Sports & Games; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — Winter Sports & Games; *Gujpex-1998*, Silver — Meter Stamps; *Gujpex-2003*, Bronze — Winter Olympics; *Gujpex-2007*, Vermeil — Winter Sports
- **Alok Kumar Bihani:** *Inpex-Empirepex-2001*, Silver — The World of Cricket
- **Amit A. Loiwal:** *Vadopex-1987*, Silver; *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — Paintings of USSR; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Paintings in Soviet Art Galleries
- **Anil Suri:** *Indipex-2011*, Gold — Fiscals of Cochin; *Indipex-2011*, Vermeil — Fiscals of Mysore
- **Anuj Mitra:** *Gujpex-2022*, Bronze — Story of Railways Postage Stamps; *Vadophilix-2025*, 3rd Prize — The Story of Indian Railways; *Vadopex-2026*, 2nd Prize — The Story of Indian Railways
- **Mrs. Arti A. Loiwal:** *Gujpex-1986*, Bronze — Zambia; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — USSR; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — Russia
- **Ms. Arti M. Patil:** *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — Indian Freedom Fighters; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Indian Freedom Fighters; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — Indian Freedom Fighters
- **Dr. Arun Arya:** *Vadopex-2000*, Silver; *Inpex-2002*, Diploma — Medicinal Plants; *Dak Bharati-2004*, Certificate of Participation — Nature & Kingdom System; *Gujpex-2007*, Vermeil — Medicinal Plants; *Gujpex-2011*, Bronze — Medicinal Plants; *Vadopex-2021*, Diploma — Mushrooms, Medicinal Plant & Human Health (One Frame); *Vadopex-2026*, Certificate of Participation
- **Dr. Ashok Luktuke:** *Stampmania 2009*, Somalia Islamic Republic (1955-1967) — Topaz
- **Dr. Ashwin V. Patel:** *Gujpex-1981*, Silver — Pre Independence; *Gujpex-1981*, Bronze — Cricket; *Inpex-1982*, Bronze; *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Silver + ITA Certificate; *Gujpex-1986*, Silver — Pre Independence; Silver — Post Cards; Silver — Mail Transportation by Railways; *Inpex-1986*, Bronze — Pre Independence; *Plilapopex-1986*, Diploma — Thematic Exhibit; *Vadopex-1987*, Gold + Baroda Philatelic Society Trophy; *Vadopex-1987*, Gold; *Stampco-87*, Gilt Gold — Cricket; *Nadopex-87*, Gold + Trophy; *Gujpex-1990*, Gold — Transportation of Mail in 19th Century; *Gujpex-1990*, Gold + Trophy — That's Cricket; *Gujpex-1990*, Silver — Pre Independence India; Bronze — Pakistan; *Singpex-90*, Silver Bronze — That's Cricket; *Armenia-90*, Silver Bronze — That's Cricket; *Vadopex-1991*, 1st Prize + Late K. G. Mishra Trophy — Medicines; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Patiala State; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Belgium; *EIPS Stampco 1992*, Silver — Early Railway Cancellations; *EIPS Stampco 1992*, Silver — That's Cricket
- **Ms. Avi K. Sabawala:** *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — General
- **Bankim D. Desai:** *Gujpex-1994*, Diploma — Express Delivery Envelopes; *Gujpex-1998*, Bronze — Express Delivery Envelopes; *Vadopex-2000*, Bronze

- **Bhavna Baglodi:** *Inpex-2017*, Silver — Hundis of Post Independence India; *Inpex-2019*, Certificate of Participation — Greeting Telegrams; *Philavirtu-2020*, 50 Marks — ILC India Rs. 2.50 (2002–2019) (One Frame); *Filanacias-2021*, Gold — Covid Special Covers of India; *Filanacias-2021*, Gold — Inland Letter of Value Rs. 2.50 (2002–2019); *Filanacias-2021*, Gold — Retro Picture Post Cards; *Seapex-2021*, Silver Bronze — Global Pandemic – COVID 19; *Amritpex-2023*, 71 Marks (1st) — QR & Augmented Philately (AKAM Class)
- **Dr. Bhavna Y. Chandarana:** *Gujpex-1994*, Silver + Special Prize — Medicines; *Centipex-1997*, Bronze — Medicine; *Gujpex-1998*, Silver + Trophy — Medicine; *Inpex-Empirepex-2001*, Silver — Medicine
- **Bhavin Marfatia:** *Gujpex-2015*, Bronze — Lion-King of Animals; *Inpex-2017*, 71 Marks — Lions The Pride of Nation (One Frame)
- **Binod Kumar Jain:** *Stampmania 2009*, Assam Steamer Service – A Study — Ruby & Special Prize Sponsored by Forum for Philatelist, Kolkata for Best Research; *Inpex-2019*, Gold + Jagdish Talakshi Gogri Memorial Award — Assam Postal History (1807–1947); *Inpex-2019*, Large Vermeil + Kusumben Dhirubhai Mehta Memorial Award (PSI) — India Refugee Relief Tax (1971–1973); *Philavirtu-2020*, Vermeil — India – Refugee Relief Tax (1971–1973); *Philavirtu-2020*, 70 Marks — Modes of Mail Communication in India (One Frame)
- **Dr. Chirayu S. Bardoliwala:** *Gujpex-1986*, Bronze — Scientists; *Vadopex-1987*, Bronze; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — Discoveries & Invention; *Gujpex-1998*, Bronze — Nobel Laureates
- **D. A. Gorana:** *Gujpex-1979*, Bronze — Indira Gandhi; *Gujpex 1994*, Bronze — Indira Gandhi
- **D. H. Shah:** *Gujpex-1979*, Bronze — Slogans
- **D. K. Punekar:** *Gujpex-1979*, Bronze — Pre Independence India
- **D. K. Shukla:** *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Bronze
- **Daniel Monteiro:** *Stampmania 2009*, The National Bird of India – 'The Peacock' — Topaz; *Stampmania 2009*, The Duck Family — Topaz
- **Devesh N. Shah:** *Gujpex-2007*, Silver — Diana; *Inpex-2008*, Bronze — Lady Diana; *Gujpex-2011*, Silver — Lady Diana; *Gujpex-2011*, Bronze — Energy Forms and Energy Conservation; *Philavirtu-2020*, 46 Marks — Power (Electricity) Sector in India (One Frame)
- **Dhaval S. Shah:** *Vadopex-2000*, Silver
- **Dheerendra Singh Chauhan:** *Dak Bharati-2004*, Bronze — Mahatma Gandhi – 'A Great Soul'
- **Digant R. Mehta:** *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Bronze; *Citpex-85*, Silver — Birds
- **Dilip Kumar Panda:** *Stampmania 2009*, Football – My Favorite Game — Emerald
- **Dinesh T. Desai:** *Gujpex-1979*, Silver — Indian Postal Stationery; *Gujpex-1986*, Bronze — Indian Postal Stationery; *Vadopex-1987*, Bronze; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — Provisional Surcharge on Envelopes
- **Dr. Dipak De:** *Gujpex-1979*, Silver — Pre Independence India
- **Divyang Joshi:** *Gujpex-2022*, 50 Marks — Philatelic Journey of Gujarat (One Frame); *Vadopex-2026*, 3rd Prize — Philatelic Journey of Gujarat
- **G. Raghuram:** *Vadopex-2000*, Bronze
- **G. Sathyanarayanan:** *Vadophilex-2025*, 1st Prize — British India - Queen Victoria Stamps Collection 1854-1890
- **H. H. Mehta:** *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Gilt Gold + Late Smt. J. R. Shah Trophy donated by R. P. Shah + Special Prize Donated by S. V. Shah + ITA Certificate
- **Hitendra K. Mishra:** *Vadopex-1987*, Bronze; *Nadopex 87*, Gold + Trophy; *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — Hands
- **Harbandhu Mittal:** *Stampmania 2009*, Mother Teresa - The Saint of the Gutters — Topaz; *Gujpex-2011*, Bronze — The Making of Gandhi. Biography of Mahatma Gandhi
- **Hiren M. Zaveri:** *Suratpex-2003*, Gold — India Pre Independence; *Gujpex-2007*, Bronze — Pre-Independence India; *Stampmania 2009*, Man on Moon — Emerald; *Gujpex-2015*, Vermeil — Pre-India; *Gujpex-2015*, Silver — Vibrant Gujarat
- **Hitesh S. Choksi:** *Vadopex-1987*, Bronze; *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — U.P.U.; *Vadopex-1991*, 2nd Prize – UPU; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — India Post Independence (1947-68); *Gujpex-1998*, Bronze — U.P.U.; *Gujpex-2015*, Bronze — G. B. FDC (2002-2013); *Gujpex-2015*, Diploma — USA Used Covers; *Vadopex-2019*, 3rd Prize — India Post Independence
- **I. B. Saiyed:** *Singpex-90*, Silver Bronze
- **Ilyas Patel:** *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Gilt Gold + Shri Madhukant P. Patel Best Entry Trophy + ITA Certificate — Bridges; *Singpex-90*, Silver Bronze — Bridges; *Inpex-Empirepex-2001*, Large Silver — Bridges; *Inpex-2008*, Large Silver — Bridges through Philately; *Stampmania 2009*, India @ 60 – Building Superpower Nation — Emerald; *Indipex-2011*, Silver — Building Bridges - An Index of Human civilization; *Inpex-2013*, Large Vermeil + Special Prize — The Story of Building Bridges; *Naturepex-2016*, Silver — Water – An Essential Element of Life; *Brasilia-2017*, Large Silver — The Story of Building

- Bridges – An Index of Human Civilization; *Inpex-2017*, Gold — The Story of Building Bridges – An Index of Human Civilization; *Gujpex-2022*, Vermeil + GPA Special Prize — Water for Life – Water is Life; *Capetown-2022*, Vermeil — The Story of Building Bridges; *Amritpex-2023*, Silver Bronze — Water for Life – Water is Life; *Thailand-2023*, Large Vermeil + Special Prize — The History of Building Bridges
- **Jaagruthi Adka:** *Philavirtu-2020*, Silver — Olympics – Birds Eye View; *Panfila Baliphex-2020*, Large Vermeil + Best Youth Exhibit — Olympics – Birds Eye View; *Filanacias-2021*, Gold — Mahabharata; *Filanacias-2021*, Gold — Mahatma Gandhi; *Filanacias-2021*, Gold — Olympics – Birds Eye View; *Seapex-2021*, Youth Best in Show, Large Vermeil — Olympics – Birds Eye View; *Seapex-2021*, Large Silver + Youth Ribbon (3rd) — Olympics – Birds Eye View (FDCs); *Bangabandhu-2021*, Silver — Olympics – Birds Eye View; *Capex-2022*, 80 Marks — Olympics – Birds Eye View
 - **Mrs. Jeevan Jyoti:** *Inpex-2013*, Vermeil — Rainbow Stamp News; *Uttarpex-2015*, Gold — Tourism; *Uttarpex-2015*, Silver — Greetings (One Frame); *Uttarpex-2015*, Silver — Rainbow Stamp News (Literature); *Uttarpex-2015*, Silver — Rainbow Stamp News Blog; *Uttarpex-2015*, Bronze — Tajmahal (One Frame)
 - **Kum K. Chotia:** *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Bronze
 - **K. G. Mishra:** *Gujpex-1977*, Bronze — Four Footed Animals; *Gujpex-1979*, Silver — Mammals; Silver — Railways; *Gujpex-1981*, Gilt Gold + Trophy — Locomotives; *Gujpex-1986*, Bronze — Mammals
 - **K. P. Shah:** *Gujpex-1979*, Silver — Gujarat Darshan
 - **K. V. Buvanesh:** *Stampmania 2009*, Cinema & Music — Certificate of Participation
 - **Kailash Narain Mathur:** *Stampmania 2009*, Autograph on FDC of relative concerning person — Topaz
 - **Mrs. Kalyani T. Shah:** *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Archeological Motifs on Indian Stamps; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Indian Air Mails; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — Inland Letter Cards; Bronze — Archaeology through Philately; *Agri Hortiplex 1995*, Diploma — Roses; Diploma — Utility of Plants; *Gujpex-1998*, Bronze — Inland Letter Sheets; Bronze — Archaeology through Philately; *Gujpex-2007*, Silver — Archaeology; *Gujpex-2007*, Silver — Inland Letter Sheets; *Gujpex-2011*, Silver — Archaeology through Philately; *Gujpex-2011*, Bronze — Inland Letters; *Gujpex-2015*, Silver — Archaeology through Philately; *Gujpex-2015*, Bronze — Receipts of Registered Articles; *Gujpex-2022*, Silver — Utility of Plants
 - **Dr. Kamal Mohanani:** *Gujpex-2003*, Silver — Mountain- Hilly Life on it; *Gujpex-2011*, Silver — Mountains, Hills & related life
 - **Kamlesh Chauhan:** *Vadopex-2000*, Silver
 - **Kaushik M. Choksey:** *Inpex-2002*, Diploma — Perfins; *Gujpex-2007*, Bronze — Sports; *Gujpex-2007*, Bronze — Perfins; *Stampmania 2009*, Perfins — Topaz; *Gujpex-2011*, Bronze — Various types of Stamps; *Gujpex-2011*, Bronze — Perfins; *Vadopex-2019*, 2nd Prize — Various types of Stamps
 - **Keshav G. Agarwal:** *Gujpex-2007*, Bronze — Pre-Independence India; *Gujpex-2011*, Vermeil + Dr. Ashwin Patel Trophy — Highlights- Pre Independent India; *Inpex-2013*, Large Silver — Pre-Independence India
 - **Kishore Baglodi:** *Filanacias-2021*, Gold — Ramayan; *Filanacias-2021*, Gold — Covid Awareness Seals on Rs. 5 Envelopes; *Filanacias-2021*, Gold — Multifaceted Flora on Picture Post Cards
 - **Kiron H. Asher:** *Stampmania 2009*, Cutch State Stamp Papers — Ruby; *Gujpex-2011*, Silver — Cutch State Fiscals and Revenue; *Inpex-2013*, Silver — Fiscals of Kutch
 - **Dr. Lokeshwara R. Madiraju:** *Helvetia-2022*, Large Silver — Buddhism on Stamps (Literature); *Capex-2022*, Large Silver — Buddhism on Stamps (Literature); *Capex-2022*, Silver — Great Britain Postal Cancellations; *Savpex-2022*, 73 Marks — PO Cancellations on Penny Red (One Frame); *Savpex-2022*, 70 Marks — Buddhist Mudras (One Frame); *Savpex-2022*, 66 Marks — Buddhist Dances (One Frame); *Savpex-2022*, 66 Marks — Lady Slipper Orchids (One Frame); *IGASS-2022*, Large Silver — Buddhist Mudras (One Frame); *IGASS-2022*, Vermeil — Buddhist Dances on Stamps (Literature); *IGASS-2022*, Silver — National Parks of USA on Stamps (Literature); *Amritpex-2023*, Vermeil — Buddhism on Stamps (Literature); *Amritpex-2023*, Vermeil — Please Save Me I Am Orchid; *Amritpex-2023*, Silver — Himalaya Birds on Stamp (Literature); *Amritpex-2023*, Bronze — Rhododendron on Stamps Around the World; *NZ-2023*, Silver — Buddhism; *IBRA-2023*, Silver — Himalayan Birds on Stamps (Literature); *IBRA-2023*, Silver — Buddhism (Literature); *Taipei-2023*, Silver — Himalayan Birds on Stamps (Literature); *GASS-2023 (USA)*, Large Vermeil — Himalayan Birds on Stamps (Literature); *Bangladesh-2023*, Large Silver — Himalayan Birds on Stamps (Literature); *Thailand-2023*, Silver — Himalayan Birds on Stamps (Literature); *Thailand-2023*, Large Silver — Buddhism (Literature)
 - **M. P. Patel:** *Gujpex-1979*, Bronze — Indian Air Mail; *Gujpex-1979*, Bronze — Pakistan
 - **M. R. Thakre:** *Stampmania 2009*, Fishes — Topaz; *Stampmania 2009*, World at my door — Certificate of Participation; *Gujpex-2011*, Vermeil + Dr. Vithalbhai Patel Trophy — Fishes- Study on fishes
 - **Manohar A. Patil:** *Gujpex-1979*, Silver — Birds; *Citpex-81*, Gold — Birds; Indo Soviet 1984, Gilt Gold — Birds; *Citpex-85*, Gilt Gold — Mammals; *Gujpex-1990*, Silver — West Germany; *Vadopex-1991*, 2nd Prize – Postmarks; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — Germany

- **Markand Dave:** *Praga-2018*, Silver Bronze — The 1989 Airmail Stamps of India (Literature); *Stampex-2019*, Gold — King George V Airmail Issues of India; *Stockholmia-2019*, Vermeil — 1929 Airmails Stamps of India; *Hongkong-2009*, Silver; *Philavirtu-2020*, Gold — 1929 Airmail Stamps of India; *London-2022*, Large Vermeil — 1929 Air Mail Stamps of India; *London-2022*, Large Vermeil — Rocket Mails of India; *Capex-2022*, Silver — Royal Philatelic Society London Activities in India (Literature); *Royal Philatelic Society London (National Exhibition)*, Gold — The Rocket Mails of India (Literature)
- **Mihir P. Pandya:** *Vadopex-2000*, Silver + Trophy; *Indepex Asiana-2000*, Large Silver — Vision of India; *Inpex -Empirepex-2001*, Silver Bronze — Vision of India; *Nephil-2001*, Large Silver — Vision of India; *Gujpex-2003*, Bronze + Special Prize — Vision of India; *Gujpex-2003*, Bronze — Philavision
- **Mihir R. Shah:** *Vadopex-1977*, Bronze — *Stamps of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania & England*; *Gujpex-1977*, Bronze — East Africa; *Inpex-77*, Diploma — East Africa; *Gujpex-1979*, Bronze — East Africa; Bronze — India Postal Stationery; *Gujpex-1981*, Silver — Pre Independence; *Inpex-1982*, Bronze — Pre Independence; *Vadopex - 1987*, Bronze Medal; *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — Meter Stamps; *Vadopex-1991*, 2nd Prize + Late Smt. Veena Loiwal Trophy — Meter Frankings; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Flowers & Fruits; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Postal Stationery; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — Flight Covers; Bronze — Post Cards; *Gujpex-1998*, Bronze — Flight Covers; Bronze — Post Cards; *Gujpex-2011*, Silver — Indian Air Mails; *Gujpex-2011*, Bronze — Meter Stamps; *Gujpex-2015*, Silver — Indian Airmails
- **Milind Jejurkar:** *Vadopex-1987*, Bronze; *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — Architectures; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Architecture; *Gujpex-1994*, Diploma — Architecture; *Vadopex-2000*, Silver; *Vadopex-2000*, Bronze
- **Mithun A. Sawant:** *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize + Collectors Pack – (Dept. of Post) – Olympic Events
- **Mohan P. Vaze:** *Vadophillex-2025*, 3rd Prize — Oil & Gas Industry in India; *Vadopex-2026*, 3rd Prize — Oil & Gas Industries in India
- **Moloy Sarkar:** *Stampmania 2009*, Wah Taj — Emerald; *Indipex-2011*, 68 Marks — Taj Mahal (One Frame)
- **Munjal K. Shah:** *Vadopex-2000*, Bronze
- **N. K. Jareth:** *Inpex-2008*, Bronze — Kotah State Postal Cancellations; *Stampmania 2009*, Study of Kotah State Post Office Cancellations — Topaz
- **Naresh Agarwal:** *Stampmania 2009*, Labeling Airmails — Topaz; *Stampmania 2009*, Insurance in India — Topaz; *Inpex-2013*, Large Vermeil — Mails & its Movement
- **Naresh Goyal:** *Stampmania 2009*, Classifications of Birds — Emerald; *Indipex-2011*, Silver Bronze — Our Feathered Friends
- **Nilesh Dave:** *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Bronze
- **Smt. Nita Shah:** *Vadopex-1987*, Bronze; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize - Flora & Fauna of Hungary
- **O. P. Jagati:** *Vadopex-2000*, Silver
- **Ms. P. Jagati:** *Vadopex-2000*, Silver
- **P. R. Shah:** *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Silver + Sp. Prize Donated by S. V. Shah + ITA Certificate
- **Parul A. Patel / Mrs. Parul H. Shah:** *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Bronze; *Citpex-85*, Silver — Fruits; *Vadopex-1987*, Silver; *Gujpex 1990*, Bronze — Fruits; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize – Fruits on Stamps
- **Pawan Kumar Jhunjunwala:** *Gujpex-2011*, Bronze — A Journey Through Second Millennium; *Gujpex-2015*, Vermeil — A Journey of Second Millennium; *Inpex-2013*, Silver — A Journey through Second Millennium; *China-2016*, Certificate of Participation — A Journey through Second Millennium; *Inpex-2017*, Silver — Journey of Second Millennium; *Macao-2018*, Bronze — Journey of Second Millennium; *Inpex-2019*, Bronze — Journey of Second Millennium; *Philavirtu-2020*, Silver — Journey of Second Millennium; *Gujpex-2022*, Silver — Religion & Culture through Philately; *Amritpex-2023*, Bronze — Religion & Culture through Philately
- **Pradip Jain:** *Dak Bharati-2004*, Silver — Gandhi's India
- **Prafful Thakkar:** *Inpex-2019*, Bronze — One Page One Theme – Philatelic Bouquet (Literature); *Gujpex-2022*, Large Silver — All Philatelic Items of India; *Gujpex-2022*, Large Silver (Literature) — Bazar Post Card of British India; *Gujpex-2022*, Silver Bronze — Thematic Stamps; *Gujpex-2022*, 73 Marks — Lokmanya Tilak Makers of India FDC (One Frame); *Gujpex -2022*, 72 Marks — Jai Hind Stamps, Covers & Cancellations (One Frame); *Gujpex-2022*, 70 Marks — Birth Certificate of Definitive Stamps (One Frame); *Gujpex-2022*, 65 Marks — Pictorial Stamps, FDC etc. (One Frame); *Gujpex-2022*, 56 Marks — Errors in Address (One Frame)
- **Pragya Kothari Jain:** *NY-2016*, Gold — Study of First Issues of India (1852 1854); *Inpex-2017*, Gold — Study of First Issues of India; *Inpex-2017*, Large Silver — Ever Changing Dynamics of Mother Earth; *Praga-2018*, Gold + Special Prize — Study of First Issues of India; *Macao-2018*, Large Silver — Ever Changing Dynamics of Mother Earth; *Stampex-2019*, Large Vermeil — King George V Issues of India; *Stockholmia-2019*, Gold — First Issues of India; *China-2019*, Large Vermeil — Mother Earth; *Inpex-2019*, Gold + National Championship + GRAND PRIX — First Issues of India; *Inpex-2019*, Large

- Vermeil + Subhalaxmi Subramaniam Award — Mother Earth; *London-2022*, Gold — First Issues of India; *London-2022*, Large Vermeil — King George V Issues of India; *Dubai - 2026*, Large Vermeil - Ever changing Dynamics of Mother Earth; *Amsipex-26*, Gold + Special Prize, Mail transmission during Quetta Earthquake
- **Pranav Y. Chandarana:** *Vadopex-1991*, 2nd Prize – Railways; *Gujpex-1994*, Silver + Trophy — Railways; *Centipex-1997*, Bronze — Railways; *Gujpex-1998*, Silver + Trophy — Railways; *Indepex Asiana-2000*, Silver Bronze — Railways; *Inpex-Empirepex-2001*, Silver — Railways; *Inpex-2002*, Silver — Railways
 - **Pranjal Brahmhatt:** *Vadophilex-2025*, 2nd Prize, Bonds of Friendship: Celebrating Joint Issue of India
 - **Mrs. Pranoti P. Pandya:** *Vadopex-2000*, Vermeil
 - **Ms. Pratibha S. Thakur:** *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — West Germany; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize – West Germany; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — West Germany
 - **Prashant H. Pandya:** *Gujpex-1998*, Silver — British India Postal Stationery; *Gujpex-1998*, Bronze — Philavision; *Vadopex-2000*, Vermeil — British India Postal Stationery; *Millepex-2000*, Vermeil — British India Postal Stationery; *Indepex Asiana-2000*, Vermeil — British India Postal Stationery; *Nephil-2001*, Large Silver — British India Postal Stationery; *Inpex-Empirepex-2001*, Large Vermeil + Special Prize — British India Postal Stationery; *Inpex-Empirepex-2001*, First Prize (Bronze) — Sahastrabdi (One Frame); *GPA 2002*, Certificate of Participation — The Story of Milk (One Frame); *Gujpex-2003*, Silver — Sahastrabdi (One Frame); *Bangkok-2003*, Silver — The Story of Milk (One Frame); *Espana-2006*, Bronze — The Story of Milk (One Frame); *Gujpex-2007*, Vermeil + Dr. V.G. Patel Trophy — A Guide to Modern Indian Postal Stationery, Envelopes, Part – I (Literature); *Gujpex-2007*, Bronze — Customised Envelopes; *New Zealand National Literature Exhibition 2007*, Silver — A Guide to Modern Indian Postal Stationery, Envelopes, Part – I (Literature); *Inpex-2008*, Vermeil — British India Postal Stationery; *Inpex-2008*, Silver — The Story of Milk (One Frame); *Inpex-2008*, Silver — Guide to Modern Indian Postal Stationery, Envelopes, Part – I (Literature); *Brasiliana 2013*, Bronze — Glimpses of innovations in 21st Century Indian Postal Services (Modern Philately, 21st Century)
 - **Pratisad Neurgaonkar:** *Stampmania 2009*, Indian Postal Stationery Envelopes 1947 – 1958 — Emerald; *Hongkong-2009*, Silver Bronze — Postal Stationery of British India; *Indipex-2011*, Large Silver — Postal Stationery of British India
 - **Punit S. Dixit:** *Amritpex-2023*, Vermeil + Special Prize — Travelling Post Office & RMS of India (1853–1935) (Literature)
 - **R. P. Shah:** *Gujpex-1975*, Bronze — Flowers; *Mappex 75*, Gold Gilt & R. F. Shroff Trophy — Flowers; *Vadopex-1977*, 3rd Prize — Pre Independence India; *Gujpex-1977*, Bronze — Army Covers; Bronze — First Flight Covers; Bronze — Flowers; *Gujpex-1979*, Bronze — Flowers; *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Special Prize donated by S. V. Shah + ITA Certificate
 - **R. N. Bhatt:** *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Silver;
 - **R. S. Gollerkeri:** *Gujpex-1979*, Silver — Humour through Cancellations; *Gujpex-1986*, Bronze — Early Indian Cancellations
 - **R. Y. Bhagwat:** *Gujpex-1979*, Gilt Gold + Special Prize — India Post Independence; *Gujpex-1981*, Silver — Singapore; *Inpex-1982*, Silver Bronze — Singapore; *Gujpex-1986*, Silver + Trophy — Singapore; *Inpex-1986*, Bronze — Singapore; *Gujpex-1990*, Silver — Singapore; *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — Post Cards of Australia; *Gujpex-1994*, Silver — Singapore; *Gujpex-1998*, Bronze — Singapore; *Centipex-1997*, Silver Bronze — Singapore
 - **Rahul Ganguli:** *Naturepex-2016*, 55 Marks — Our Mother Earth (One Frame); *Inpex-2017*, 71 Marks — Modernization of Post Office (One Frame); *Sydney Stamp & Coin Expo-2019*, Silver Bronze — Early Cancellations of Allahabad; *Chicagopex-2019*, Large Silver — Early Cancellations & Postmarks of Allahabad; *Baliphex-2019*, Silver — Kumbhmela (Prayag); *Philavirtu-2020*, Silver — Early Postmarks of Allahabad (Pre Independence); *Bangabandhu-2021*, Silver — Early Postmarks of Allahabad; *Emirates-2022*, Bronze — Early Postmarks of Allahabad; *Amritpex-2023*, Large Silver — Early Postmarks of Allahabad; *Amritpex-2023*, 65 Marks — Glimpses of Freedom Movement (AKAM Class); *Vadophilex-2025* — 1st Prize, I had a different spelling
 - **Rajnikant N. Bhatt:** *Gujpex-1986*, Bronze — Gandhi; *Gujpex-1994*, Diploma — Gandhi
 - **Raj Paul Oswal:** *Dak Bharati-2004*, Gold — Jainism in Philately; *Dak Bharati-2004*, Silver — Mahatma Gandhi; *Inpex-2008*, Bronze — Gandhi; *Stampmania 2009*, Aerophilately — Topaz; *Stampmania 2009*, Gastronomy — Certificate of Participation
 - **Rakesh Parmar:** *Gujpex-2022*, Silver — Mahatma Gandhi
 - **Ramakant U. Dave:** *Stampmania 2009*, Space — Topaz; *Gujpex-2011*, Bronze — Mahatma Gandhiji; *Ahmisapex-2014*, Bronze — Mahatma Gandhi; *Gujpex-2015*, Silver — Gandhi; *Inpex-2017*, Bronze — Mahatma Gandhi; *Vadophilex-2025*, 2nd Prize — Freedom Fighters of India
 - **Rajesh Bhura:** *Dak Bharati-2004*, Silver — Gandhi – The Man of the Millennium; *Inpex-2008*, Silver — Gandhi; *Stampmania 2009*, Gandhi - The Man of the Millennium — Ruby & Special Prize Sponsored by Pradip Jain, Patna for Best Gandhi Exhibit; *Indipex-2011*, Silver Bronze — Mahatma Gandhi 'The Man of the Millennium'; *Inpex-2013*, Large Silver —

- Gandhi -The Man of the Millennium; *Hongkong-2015*, Silver — Mahatma Gandhi – Man of the Millennium; *China-2016*, Silver — Mahatma Gandhi - Man of Millennium; *Rocky Mountain Stamp Show-2018*, Large Vermeil — Bearing Underpaid & Unpaid Postage Due Mails of India 1854 – 1947
- **S. Asokan:** *Stampmania 2009*, Blood Donation – Humanitarian Service — Ruby & American Topical Association Award - Second Prize
 - **S. Parthasarathy:** *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Personalities – V. V. Giri
 - **Saleel Bagde:** 10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985), Bronze
 - **Sandip Kumar V. Choksi:** 10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985), Silver + Late Smt. J. R. Shah Trophy donated by R. P. Shah; *Gujpex-1986*, Bronze — Thematics; *Vadopex-1987*, Bronze; *Gujpex-1990*, Silver + Trophy — World Cup Football; *Vadopex-1991*, 2nd Prize – Sports & Games + Collectors Pack (by Dept. of Post) *Inpex 93*, Bronze; *Gujpex-1994*, Silver — Meter Stamps; *Centipex 97*, Diploma — Meter Stamps; *Gujpex-1998*, Silver — Meter Stamps; *Inpex-2002*, Silver — Meter Stamps of India; *Gujpex-2003*, Bronze — Meter Stamps; *Gujpex-2007*, Vermeil — Meter Stamps
 - **Sanjay V. Shah:** *Vadopex-1977*, Bronze — Animals, Birds etc.; *Gujpex-1977*, Bronze — Animals, Birds
 - **Santosh Kumar Zanje:** *Gujpex-2022*, Certificate of Participation; *Vadopex-2026*, Certificate of Participation
 - **Shail Timir Shah:** *Inpex-2013*, Bronze — Utility of Plants; *Gujpex-2015*, Silver — Utility of Plants; *Naturepex-2016*, Bronze — Utility of Plants
 - **Shailash Tapiawala:** *Stampmania 2009*, Miniature Sheets — Certificate of Participation; *Gujpex-2015*, Diploma — Various MS of India; *Gujpex-2015*, Diploma — Various Sports India; *Gujpex-2022*, Bronze — Miniature Sheets; *Gujpex-2022*, Certificate of Participation
 - **Shantilal C. Parmar:** *Gujpex-2011*, Silver — Novelty Stamps; *Gujpex-2015*, Silver — Novelty Stamps
 - **Shantilal F. Hiran:** *Stampmania 2009*, Funny Printings in Indian Postal Stationery — Topaz; *Mahapex-2012*, Silver — Dogs of the World; *Inpex-2013*, Silver Bronze — Dogs of the World; *Mahapex-2016*, Gold — Dogs of the World
 - **Sheel T. Shah:** *Dak Bharati-2004*, Silver + SP — Road to Recovery; *Gujpex-2007*, Bronze — Road to Recovery; *Inpex-2008*, Diploma — Road to Recovery; *Gujpex-2011*, Silver — Utility of Plants; *Gujpex-2015*, Silver — MO Receipts, Ack. & Coupons; *Gujpex-2022*, Silver — M.O. Acknowledgements, Receipts & Coupons
 - **Shishir V. Halkunde:** *Inpex-Empirepex-2001*, Silver — Bridges; *Gujpex-2003*, Silver + GPA Rolling Trophy — Bridges; *Gujpex-2007*, Silver + Late J. R. Shah Trophy — Bridges; *Inpex-2008*, Silver Bronze — Bridges; *Gujpex-2011*, Silver — Bridges; *Gujpex-2015*, Vermeil — Bridges; *Gujpex-2015*, Bronze — Energy & Its Conservation; *Naturepex-2016*, Bronze — Energy & its Conservation; *Vadopex-2019*, 1st Prize — Renewable Energy; *Gujpex-2022*, Certificate of Participation; *Vadophilex-2025*, 2nd Prize — Renewable Energy; *Vadopex-2026*, 1st Prize — Renewable Energy
 - **Ms. Shreya Zanje:** *Vadophilex-2025*, 3rd Prize — Joint Issue - Art, Culture, Wildlife; *Vadopex-2026*, 3rd Prize — Joint Issues
 - **Shrikant K. Parikh:** *Stampmania 2009*, Precious Gems & Jewelry — Topaz
 - **Dr. Shyamaben A. Patel:** *Gujpex-1986*, Bronze — Jamaica; *Gujpex-1986*, Bronze — Slogans; *Vadopex-1987*, Bronze; *Gujpex-1990*, Silver — Jamaica; *Vadopex-1991*, 1st Prize + Late Madhukant Patel Trophy — Slogan Cancellation; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Jamaica
 - **Souvik Roy:** *Stampmania 2009*, Indian Telegraph: Phonogram Since 1947 — Emerald; *Stampmania 2009*, Buddhist Influence on Art & Architecture of Thailand — Emerald
 - **Sudesh P. M.:** *Stampmania 2009*, Meghdoot Postcards — Certificate of Participation
 - **Suketu S. Jhaveri:** *Millepex-2000*, Large Silver — Indian Telegraph 1851-1914; *Indepex Asiana-2000*, Vermeil — Indian Telegraph; *Dak Bharati-2004*, Silver — Evolution of Overprinted Express Delivery Envelopes; *Isarel-2008*, Vermeil — Indian telegraphs (1851-1914); *Stampmania 2009*, Greeting Telegrams of Pre Independence India — Emerald; *Indipex-2011*, Vermeil — Indian Telegraphs (1851 to 1914)
 - **Surendra A. Kotadia:** *Millepex-2000*, Silver Bronze — Book on Advertisements and slogans on Inland Letters (Literature); *Indepex Asiana-2000*, Silver — Indian Inland Letter Cards-Advertisements and Slogans (Literature); *Indepex Asiana-2000*, Silver — Indian Inland Post Cards-Advertisements and Slogans (Literature); *Nephil-2001*, Large Silver — Indian Inland Post Cards Advertisements & Slogans (Literature); *Nephil-2001*, Large Silver — Indian Inland Letter Cards Advertisements & Slogans (Literature); *Inpex-Empirepex-2001*, Large Silver — Indian Airmail Letter Cards with Advertisements (Literature); *Inpex-Empirepex-2001*, Silver Bronze — Pakistan; *Dak Bharati-2004*, Silver — Indian Inland Post Cards with Advertisements & Slogans – 2002 (Literature); *Dak Bharati-2004*, Silver — Indian Inland Airmail Letter Cards with Advertisements & Slogans – 2001 (Literature); *Washington-2006*, Silver — (Literature); *Isarel-2008*, Silver Bronze — Book on Inland Postcard; *Stampmania 2009*, Booklets of Post Independence — Emerald; *Inpex-2013*, Silver — Booklets of Post Independence India; *China-2016*, Silver Bronze — Booklets of Post-Independence; *Inpex-2017*, Silver —

- Booklets of Post Independence India; *Inpex-2017*, Bronze — Pakistan; *Inpex-2019*, Silver — Indian Miniature Sheets Colour Flow; *Inpex-2019*, Silver — Pakistan; *Philavirtu-2020*, Silver — Indian Miniature Sheets Colour Flow; *Philavirtu-2020*, Silver Bronze — Post Independence Booklets
- **Surendra Goel:** *Stampmania 2009*, Traditional Gem Collection of India Pre Independence — Ruby; *Stampmania 2009*, World Mahatma Gandhi — Emerald; *Indipex-2011*, Large Silver — Gem Collection of India Pre-Independence; *Indipex-2011*, Silver — World Mahatma Gandhi
 - **Suresh S. Thakkar:** *Stampmania 2009*, Stamps on Stamps — Emerald; *Gujpex-2011*, Bronze — Stamps on Stamps
 - **Timir R. Shah:** *Vadopex-1977*, Bronze — General Stamps; *Gujpex-1977*, Bronze — Hungary; *Inpex-77*, Bronze — Hungary; Junior Exhibition 1978, 1st Prize; *Gujpex-1979*, Silver + Trophy — Hungary; *India-80*, Diploma — Hungary; *Gujpex-1981*, Bronze — Army Covers; *Vadopex-1983*, Bronze — Air India; *Vadopex-1987*, Bronze; *Biopeex 89*, Certificate of Participation; *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — Indian Air Mails; *Vadopex-1991*, 2nd Prize - Nehru Family; *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize — Army Covers; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — Army Covers; *Gujpex-1994*, Diploma — Nehru Family; *Agri Hortiplex 1995*, Bronze — Orchids; *Agri Hortiplex 1995*, Bronze — Fascinating Fungi; *Gujpex-1998*, Bronze — Botany through Philately; *Millepex 2000*, 3rd Prize — Utility of Plants; *Inpex-Empirepex-2001*, Certificate of Participation — Utility of Plants (One Frame); *Gujpex-2007*, Silver — Archeology through Philately; *Gujpex-2007*, Bronze — Envelopes; *Gujpex-2011*, Silver — M.O. Receipts, Acknowledgement Coupon; *Gujpex-2011*, Bronze — British India Postal Stationary, Envelopes & Post Cards; *Inpex-2013*, Silver — Certificate of Posting (One Frame); *Gujpex-2015*, Silver — Certificate of Posting; *Inpex-2017*, 67Marks — Certificate of Posting (One Frame)
 - **Umesh C. Vyas:** *Stampmania 2009*, Work of World-Famous Painters on Stamps — Topaz
 - **Urvim D. Patel:** *Gujpex-1979*, Silver + Trophy — Space; *India-80*, Bronze — Space; *Citpex-81*, Bronze — Space; ; *Inpex-82*, Silver Bronze — Space; *Indo Soviet Stamp Exhibition 1984*, Bronze — Space
 - **Dr. V. B. Simlote:** *Vadopex-2000*, Bronze
 - **Valmick K. Desai:** *Inpex-2002*, Gold + Champion Class Trophy — Panorama of Philatelic Terms; *Appex-2003*, Gold + CPMG Rolling Trophy — Watermark Panorama
 - **Ms. Vandana M. Patil:** *Vadopex-1991*, 3rd Prize – Mere Dost; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — Mere Dost
 - **Vasudev S. Mhaskar:** *Stampmania 2009*, Deshvari post marks on Holker State post cards and envelopes for public use (Since Pre Adhesive Period - 1908) — Emerald; *Mappex-2016*, Silver — Indore Cancellations of British India 1860 onwards
 - **Vibhav Simlote:** *Vadopex-2000*, Bronze
 - **Vijay Barot:** *Gujpex-2022*, Silver — Freedom Struggle of India; *Amritpex-2023*, 76 Marks (1st) — Freedom Struggle of India (AKAM Class); *Vadophilex-2025*, 2nd Prize — India Post: A Journey Through Ages; *Vadopex-2026*, 2nd Prize — Architectural Heritage of India – Echo's preserved in stone
 - **Vikram S. Talati:** *Gujpex-1979*, Silver — Pictorial Cancellations; *Gujpex-1979*, Silver — First Flight Covers; *Gujpex-1981*, Bronze — Christmas; *Gujpex-2007*, Silver — Slogan Cancellation
 - **Vinesh Nemchand Shah:** *Stampmania 2009*, Homage to Great Soul — Emerald
 - **Vinit A. Loiwal:** *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Bronze + ITA Certificate; *Inpex - 86*, Bronze; *Vadopex-1987*, Silver + Late Smt. J. R. Shah Trophy; *Nadopex 87*, Silver; *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — Russia & Space; *Vadopex-91*, 2nd Prize + Late Smt. J. R. Shah Trophy — Space Exploration; *Gujpex-1994*, Bronze — USSR's Space
 - **Vishnukumar C. Choksi:** *Gujpex-1979*, Silver — Meter Stamps; *Gujpex-1981*, Silver — Meter Stamps; *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Bronze; *10th Anniversary Exhibition (1985)*, Bronze; *Gujpex-1986*, Silver — Q.M.S.; *Inpex-1982*, Bronze — Meter Stamps; *Vadopex-1987*, Silver; *Nadopex-87*, Bronze; *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — Surcharge 5 Paise; *Gujpex-1990*, Bronze — Rubber Stamped LPA Machines; *Vadopex-1991*, 2nd Prize – 5 p. Surcharge & L.P.A. Markings; *Gujpex-1994*, Diploma — Q.M.S. Post Marks; *Gujpex-1998*, Bronze — Meter Stamps; *Inpex-2002*, GOOD — Rubber Stamped Speed Post Markings; *Gujpex-2003*, Bronze — Speed Post; *Gujpex-2007*, Silver — Speed Post Markings; *Stampmania 2009*, Olympic Games — Topaz; *Gujpex-2011*, Silver — Rubber Stamped Speed Post Markings
 - **Dr. Vithalbhai G. Patel:** *Gujpex-1979*, Gilt Gold — Flowers Pharmacy
 - **Smt. Veenaben Loiwal:** *Vadopex-1987*, Bronze
 - **Dr. Yogesh T. Chandarana:** *Vadopex-1987*, Silver + Late Shri Madhukant Patel Trophy; *Gujpex-1990*, Silver + Trophy — Dentistry; *EIPS Stampco 1992*, Silver — Dentistry; *Inpex-1993*, Large Silver — Dentistry; *Centipex-1997*, Silver Bronze — Dentistry; *Inpex-Empirepex-2001*, Vermeil — Dentistry; *Indipex-2011*, Silver Bronze — Dentistry
 - **Zubin Kabraji:** *Philavirtu-2020*, Vermeil — Bombay–Aden Sea Post Office Service; *Phillex-2020*, Large Silver — Bombay –Aden Sea Post Office Service; *Seapex-2021*, Vermeil — Bombay–Aden Sea Post Office Service (Postmarks & Ships)
 - **Ms. Zalak M. Shah:** *Vadopex-2000*, Bronze; *Gujpex-2003*, Bronze — Post Cards of Post Independence India

Special Awards and Honours for Our Members

Shri Ashok Kumar Bayanwala

Eminent philatelist and Postal Historian of Modern Indian Philately

- **Roake Trophy** awarded in 1993, 2016, and 2017 by the India Study Circle for Philately (UK) for original research in Indian philately published in India Post Journal.
- **Rustom Zal Kabraji Trophy** awarded in 2020 by The Deccan Philatelic Society, Pune for the best-researched article in The Deccan Philatelist.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award** conferred at Philavirtu-2020, the First National Virtual Philatelic Exhibition.
- **PCI Philatelic Ratna** (*Lifetime Achievement*) awarded in 2021 by the Philatelic Congress of India.

Dr. Punit S. Dixit

Well-known senior philatelist and retired ISRO Scientist

- Elected **Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London** (FRPSL) in 2016.
- Conferred **Fellow of the Philatelic Congress of India** in 2021.
- Awarded **Lifetime Achievement Award** at the Numismatics–Notaphily–Philately–Autograph (NNP–NNE) Awards, 2023.

Shri Suketu S. Jhaveri

Shri Surendra A. Kotadia

Shri Prashant H. Pandya

- Conferred **Fellow of the Philatelic Congress of India** in 2021.

Shri Timir R. Shah

Shri Dheerendra Singh Chauhan

- Awarded **Philately Ratna** by Indore Philatelic Society in 2021.

Shri Rahul Ganguly

Shri Binod Kumar Jain

Shri Pragya Kothari Jain

- Awarded **Certificates of Appreciation** by the **Philatelic Congress of India**.



Appreciation Awards to the Baroda Philatelic Society

- **Eleven members** of the Society were felicitated by the **Baroda Municipal Corporation** on 15 August 1988 for winning awards at **Gujpex-86**.
- **Lions Club of Baroda (Main)** awarded an **Appreciation Certificate** on 2 July 2000 for the Society's contribution during its Installation Ceremony.
- **Certificate of Appreciation** awarded to the Baroda Philatelic Society by the **Philatelic Congress of India** in 2021.

Note: Award details have been compiled from records available with the Baroda Philatelic Society and include achievements during periods of active membership only. The Society regrets any inadvertent omissions due to incomplete or unavailable documentation.

These honours highlight the Society's research excellence, intellectual strength, and national stature, affirming the Baroda Philatelic Society's lasting contribution to Indian philately. Spanning 51 years, this legacy celebrates pioneering founders, guiding senior members, and innovative youth, underscoring the Society's vital role in enriching and advancing Indian philately.

Vadodara: Cultural & Historic City

Vadodara, also known as Baroda, is an elegant city celebrated for its grand palaces, lush parks, revered temples, and rich collection of museums. Located south of Ahmedabad on the banks of the Vishwamitri River, the city boasts a historical legacy that spans more than 2,000 years. Once the capital of the princely state ruled by the Gaekwads, Vadodara has long held prominence as Gujarat's industrial and cultural hub. Over time, the city's name evolved, and in 1974 it officially came to be known as Vadodara.

Today, Vadodara enchants visitors with a harmonious blend of heritage, culture, and urban sophistication. Well connected by air, rail, and road, the city stands as an accessible and welcoming destination for travelers seeking history, culture, and exploration.

Places to Visit in Vadodara

Aurobindo Society

The former residence of Maharshi Aurobindo Ghosh during his stay in Vadodara (1894–1906), this national memorial in Dandia Bazar offers a serene environment for yoga and meditation. A small museum, emporium, and well-maintained garden make it an ideal place for quiet reflection.

Vadodara Museum and Art Gallery

Located within Sayaji Garden, the museum showcases rare collections of art, archaeology, natural history, and ethnology. Highlights include Akota bronzes, Mughal miniatures, European master paintings, an Egyptian mummy, and a blue whale skeleton.

M.S. University of Baroda

Established by Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III, this premier residential university is known for its majestic architecture and academic heritage. The Faculty of Arts dome and the Faculty of Fine Arts are major attractions.

Kirti Mandir

A memorial built in 1936 to honour the Gaekwad rulers, Kirti Mandir features murals depicting scenes from Indian epics and the life of saints. Its marble interiors and royal memorabilia enhance its grandeur.

EME Temple (Dakshinamurthy Temple)

Constructed entirely of aluminium by the Indian Army's EME Corps, this temple represents harmony among five religions through its unique architectural symbolism. Its modern design and spiritual ambience make it distinctive.

Makarpura Palace

Built by Maharaja Khanderao and later expanded by Sayajirao Gaekwad III, this palace is surrounded by gardens and showcases European architectural influences.

Maqbara (Hajira)

An early Mughal monument built in Safavi-Persian style, noted for its carved marble windows and historical significance.

Nyay Mandir

A grand Indo-Saracenic judicial building still serving as the district court, known for its mosaic interiors and architectural elegance.

Sursagar Lake

A scenic lake in the heart of the city with a statue of Lord Shiva at its centre, offering a beautiful view, especially on moonlit nights.

Sayaji Garden (Sayaji Baug)

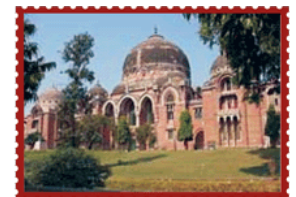
Spread over 113 acres, this is the largest and oldest public garden in the city, gifted by Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III. It houses the Vadodara Museum and Art Gallery, Zoo, Planetarium, Floral



Aurobindo Ashram



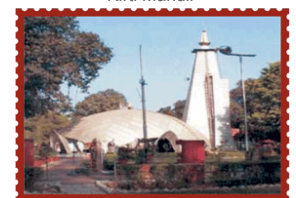
Vadodara Museum



Arts Faculty Dome



Kirti Mandir



EME Temple



Makarpura Palace

Clock, Toy Train, picnic areas, and recreational rides.

Lakshmi Vilas Palace

One of the largest private residences in the world, this Indo-Saracenic palace remains the home of the royal family. The Durbar Hall, with its ornate mosaic work and stained glass, is a major attraction.

Pratap Vilas Palace (National Academy of Indian Railways (NAIR))

Set in a sprawling campus at Lalbaug, this Renaissance-style palace houses the Railway Staff College, featuring a unique mini railway model room.

Ajwa Sarovar, Ajwa Garden & Nimeta Garden

Located about 23 km from the city, Ajwa Sarovar is a major water reservoir. The adjoining garden features musical and illuminated fountains, while nearby Nimeta is known for its landscaped gardens and water treatment plant.

Shree Mudra Nidhi Coin Museum, Ajwa

India's first private coin museum, displaying over 2,000 coins tracing Indian history from the 6th century BC to modern times.

Goraj – Muni Seva Ashram

Situated about 35 km from Vadodara, this humanitarian ashram operates educational institutions and a modern cancer hospital while promoting social welfare.

Sindhrot Nature Park

Developed near the river Mahi, about 13 km from the city, this nature park offers an educational and recreational experience for nature lovers and school children.

Other Places of Interest

ISKCON Temple, Navgrah Temple, Khanderao Market, Lehipura Gate, Mandvi Gate, Jubilee Garden, Tambekar Wada, Suryanarayan Temple, Kashi Vishwanath Temple, Swaminarayan Temple, Vivekananda Kendra, Atladara, Lal Baug, and Kirti Stambh.



Maqbara (Hajira)



Nyay Mandir



Sursagar Lake



Ajwa Sarovar



Ajwa Garden



Coin Museum



Muni Seva Ashram



Sindhrot



Sayaji Garden

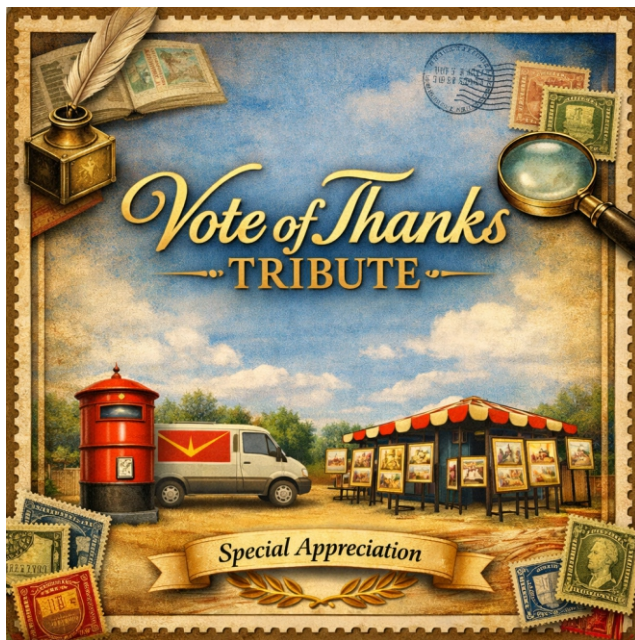


Lakshmi Vilas Palace



Pratap Vilas Palace

Vote of Thanks



The Society places on record its sincere gratitude to all those who have supported and strengthened its journey over the years. We warmly acknowledge the continued encouragement of **our members, senior philatelists, and mentors**, whose guidance and experience have been invaluable in nurturing philatelic knowledge and fellowship.

We also express our appreciation to **stamp dealers, officials of the Department of Posts**, and all **individuals and institutions** who extended their cooperation and assistance during various Society activities, events, and philatelic exhibitions. Their support has played a vital role in the successful organisation and outreach of these initiatives.

Our heartfelt thanks are also due to **advertisers** and many **well-wishers** whose contributions, both direct and indirect, have helped sustain the Society's publications and programmes.

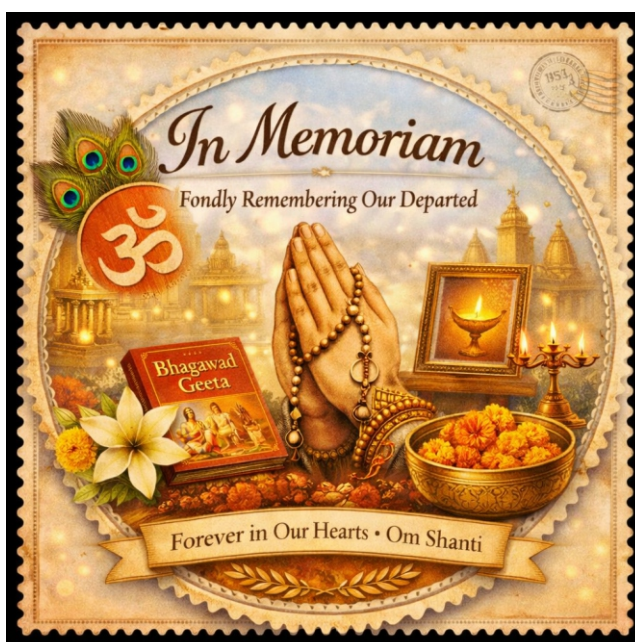
The Society remains deeply thankful to everyone who has contributed—through time, resources, expertise, or

encouragement—to the promotion of philately and the continued growth of the Society.

Special Appreciation

The Society records its sincere thanks to **Shri Sapan Jhaveri** for his constant and selfless support in designing the exhibition logos and a wide range of materials, including special covers, booklets, picture postcards, souvenirs, banners, labels, and other promotional items. His creativity and professionalism have significantly strengthened the Society's visual identity and outreach.

In Memoriam



Over the past fifty-one years, the Society has been privileged to count among its members many devoted philatelists who are no longer with us. Their enthusiasm, commitment, and quiet support played an important role in shaping the Society's growth and sustaining its activities.

Through participation, service, encouragement, and the sharing of knowledge and resources, these members strengthened the foundations of the Society and enriched its collective spirit. Their contributions remain an enduring part of the Society's legacy.

The Society respectfully remembers all such members with gratitude and honour and acknowledges their lasting impact on its journey.

***May their souls attain eternal peace.
Om Shanti.***





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Co-ordinator
Shri D.N. Shah

Let us march on - Vadophil

Where Philately Shines – Inspiring the Next Generation

About Ourselves
It is our pleasure to present to our members the 27th issue of our News Bulletin. It is nearly two years since we inaugurated on April 27, 1975, and our progress has been slow but very sure.
Members at inauguration 27
Members at the end of 1975 49
Members at the end of 1976 59
and at the time of going to press our number is 100. It is inspiring to see that the members are not renewing their membership and at the time of going to press our number is 100. It is inspiring to see that the members are not renewing their membership and at the time of going to press our number is 100.

BARODA PHILATELIC SOCIETY NEWS BULLETIN
VOL. 7 NO. 1
APRIL 2000
During the seventh year also the society's small continues to serve the members by providing them with philatelic activities, information on new issues, short philatelic articles and philatelic information as its past years.
For the progress of any society, the co-operation of its members is absolutely essential. They should also come forward and display their collections which they possess. With this they can help the society to create more interest in philately and a few members of the society will contact them.

BARODA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
(Founded in 1975)
(Affiliated to Philatelic Congress of India)
NEWS BULLETIN
Compiled by Mr. Prashant H. Pandya & Mr. Timir R. Shah
Secretary: C/o Timir R. Shah, "Jaya", Dada Patel's Pole, Narsinhji's Vadodara - 390 001. ☎ 0265-416044
GUPLEX-98 - SPECIAL COVER AND CANCELLATIONS

Vadophil
Quarterly News Bulletin of Baroda Philatelic Society, Vadodara, India
Stampmania 2009 Special Issue

Vadophil
Stampmania 2009 Special Issue

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Postage stamps are messengers of history — small in form, vast in meaning. Over fifty golden years, the Baroda Philatelic Society has preserved the past, enriched the present, and carried forward a legacy — one carefully affixed link at a time.

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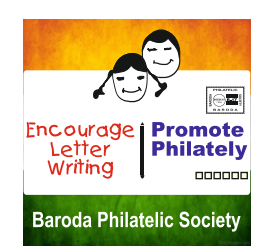
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A Golden Thread Weaving Memories Through Time