

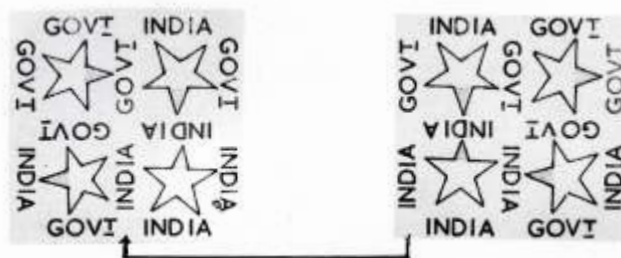
## 6.1 - Large Star & Govt. of India

### Water Marks

In consonance with the national policy of self-reliance and import substitution to effect economy and save foreign exchange, earliest efforts to use the indigenous paper for printing of postage stamps were made in the year 1967, when 2p and 5p 'service' stamps were printed on coarse and un gummed 'Titaghur' paper on an experimental basis. Gradually as the quality of indigenous paper improved, its use was extended to definitive stamps in 1975 and commemorative stamps in 1980.

#### WATERMARK 'LARGE STAR & INDIA GOVT.' IN SHEETS.

The indigenous paper carried an entirely new watermark 'Large Star India Govt.'. It is a sheet watermark and has an intricate pattern made up of two elements - Words and stars. The unit of this watermark consists of two large squares, each formed by words 'Govt. of India' or 'India Govt.' and divided into four smaller squares by words 'India Govt.' or 'Govt of India' respectively - each small square enclosing a star. These squares are arranged in overlapping continuity in sheets to form what may be described as '**OVERALL MULTIPLE WATERMARK**' in philatelic terminology.



Two large squares in overlapping continuity

#### TWO TYPES OF 'LARGE STAR & INDIA GOVT.' WATERMARK-W3 and W4

The arrangement of stars in the squares formed by words differentiates the two types of this watermark viz. w3 and w4.



#### 'LARGE STAR & INDIA GOVT.' OR W3 WATERMARK

In Watermark W3 the words and stars are arranged in upright, inverted and sideways position and can be instantly recognised by the multi-directional arrangement of stars in the squares. The words of this watermark, when seen from the front of the sheet are impressed in right reading position (which means that at least one row of words forming the square will be upright and read correctly from left to right) and is the normal position for all printings.

The words are arranged in a set pattern in the squares and repeated throughout the sheet resulting in the constant feature "**All star pointing in the same direction have the same pattern of words around each of them**". And to this may be added "**If the sheet is rotated clockwise or anti-clockwise, keeping the face of the sheet constant, the direction of stars and the position of the small squares changes without concomitant change in the words or their orientation in the squares**". It therefore, follows that if the sheet happens to be fed differently in the printing machine, the direction of the stars changes in the squares formed by same words with same orientation. Similarly, if the face of the sheet happens to be changed, the words become reversed in addition to the change in the direction of the stars. This is the basis of the positional varieties of this watermark.

6.1 - Large Star & Govt. of India

Water Marks I - W3  
Large Star & Govt of India  
(Star in different direction)

Type I

Type II



Water Marks II - W4  
Large Star & Govt of India  
(Star in same direction)

