



By A. K. BAYANWALA

The Indian P & T Department has always given full stress on speedy delivery of Mails. They have come with many noble ideas to speed up the delivery of mails. Night Air Mail Service was introduced on 30th January, 1949 by linking the four major centres of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras via Nagpur. And this directly linked the day Air services operating from these four terminal centres. And this led the adoption of the "all UP Scheme" in the country with effect from the 1st April, 1949. In this scheme all first class mails were despatched by Air for quick transmission. Express Delivery Services were also available to public on payment of extra payment of 13 paise, in which mails were sent to the addressee by special messenger as soon as it reached the destination P.O.

The Mobile Post Offices were also doing good services from their inception in 1950s., in transmitting mails quicker at their destination. They use to gather letters in the day and evenings and then headed for airports to catch the Night Air Mail. Thus letters posted previous day were delivered next day.

All things went on smoothly until October, 1973 when the Indian Airlines suddenly decided to discontinue the night Air-mail service. "Express Delivery Services" were also suspended on and from 1st November, 1974. The P & T Department was fully paralysed and letters began to take minimum 5 to 19 days to travel to their destination. And no slogans of Postal Department could help quick delivery of mails, which are as follows :—

1. Post Box Ensures prompt and convenient delivery.
2. Post Early to Catch the Mail.
3. Correct and complete Address Ensures Quick Delivery.
4. Affix Stamps at Right Hand Corner.
5. Clearly written Letters Travel Quicker.
6. Correct Addressing, What a Blessing, Save us Guessing.
7. Pin Code for Fast Mail etc.
8. We serve day and night.

Congestion of Mail at all post offices piled up. And it took 3 to 5 days to deliver a letter to the addressee after it reaches post office. Since then the Postal Authority was thinking to start a new service to expedite the delivery of mails without further taxing the public. And this led the launching of new scheme i.e. "QUICK MAIL SERVICE".

On 15th April, 1975, the capital of India New Delhi was linked directly by air mail with the capitals of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. In this service the user has to post the letters in special letter-boxes with yellow stripes which are installed in all major post offices. The use of Pin Code is essential for this service. No extra cost was burdened on the user of this services. Letters posted before 5.30 p.m. from New Delhi are delivered next day at 10 a.m. at their destination.

The benefits of the scheme are as follows :—

Letters are being quickly delivered without any extra cost. Congestion of mails subsided, as letters are posted before evening.



As no extra charge was levied in this scheme, and letters travelled faster than before, it became very popular. Delhi was joined with Calcutta from 1st June 1975. All state capitals were linked with each other from 1st August, 1975. Thereafter, almost all big cities were joined by QMS.

The head offices of QMS are situated at New Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. They govern the whole show. QMS office in New Delhi is situated in Gol Ghar post office. 25 post offices are under QMS in New Delhi.

In this scheme, all letters are franked with the words "QMS". All letters of one place are kept in one bag and then they are labeled with QMS before sent to air port for transmission to their destination. Where there are no air services, the letters are sent by rail or by buses.

Mostly letters are delivered next day, and in distant corners of India it is being delivered maximum by the 5th day. At present this service is available directly in 45 cities.

Within one year of service this scheme was so popular that it was made available to District towns. The P & T Department is trying to link all district towns with their respective State Capitals. At present this "Quick Mail Service" is available in 357 centres through out the country.

The P. & T. Department has put this Quick Mail Service under constant review with a view to improving them and as a result they have come forward with one more noble idea "Same Day Local Delivery Service". In this scheme also, a letter has to be posted in the special "QMS" letter box marked 'LOCAL' with PIN code by 10.30 a.m. or in some

cases upto 11.30 a.m. and it is being delivered the same afternoon. In the first instance, this scheme was introduced in Delhi, New Delhi and Madras with effect from 1st June, 1976. When this scheme was also successful it was extended from 15th July, 1976 to Calcutta, Patna, Shillong, Srinagar, Lucknow, Chandigarh, Jaipur, Bhubaneswar, Bhopal, Ahmedabad, Bombay, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Trivandrum. Other important cities will get this facility very soon.

As all post offices are using their own seals of "QMS" they differ in sizes, designs etc. They can be broadly classified in 5 different types which are as follows :—

1. Type 1 : This is in plain type in one or more lines in uni-lingual or multi-lingual, with or without the name of the post office.
2. Type 2 : This is a rectangular type in one or more lines, in one language or multi-lingual, with or without the name of the post-offices.
3. Type 3 : This is the circular type, with a single line or double line circle, in uni-lingual or multi-lingual, with or without the name of the post-offices.
4. Type 4 : This is an oval type in single or double lines, in uni-lingual or multi-lingual, with or without the name of the post-office .
5. Type 5 : This is in oriental type (outline boundary is made of either leafs or jig jag lines etc.) in single or double lines, in uni-lingual or multi-lingual with or without the name of the post-office.

TYPE - 1

Q. M. S.  
CALCUTTA R.M.S. SET-2 1.

2. QUICK MAIL SERVICE

Q. M. S. 3      Q.M.S. 4

QUICK MAIL SERVICE  
H2 IN/2

Q. M. S. 6      QUICK MAIL SERVICE 7

Q. M. S. 5

Q. M. S. 9      शक्ति डाक-सेवा 8      CAL R.M.S. LETTER STG 2 10

राष्ट्रीय शीघ्र डाक सेवा  
NATIONAL QUICK MAIL SERVICE  
10a

Quick Mail Service  
शीघ्र डाक सेवा  
10b

TYPE 2

Q.M.S.

11

Q. M. S.

12

QMS

13

QMS

14

QMS.

15

QMS

16

QUICK MAIL  
SERVICE

17

Q.M.S.

18

Q.M.S.

19

Q.M.S.

20

QMS

21

QUICK MAIL SERVICE  
NEW DELHI SORTING-110001

22

Q.M.S.  
M.A.PADRAUNAR.S.

23

QMS  
Pin for Quick  
Mail Service  
Nagpur Air

24

Q. M. S.  
M.A. HOWRAH RMS/2

25

Q.M.S.

26

QUICK MAIL SERVICE  
देहरादून 248001  
DEHRADUN

27

KARWAR  
QMS  
581301

28

Q.M.S.

29

TYPE 4

शीघ्र डाक सेवा  
21 DEC 1976  
10:01  
भोपाल रेल डाक टर्कीस.-1

30

Q.M.S.  
G.P.O LUCKNOW 226001

31

TYPE 3



32



33



34



35



36



37



38



39



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41



42



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