

QUICK MAIL SERVICE

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(When QMS Postal Markings have become a subject matter of study by Postal Historians the article on QMS published here giving the background information will be of immense use – Editor).

The post is recognized the world over as a powerful element of national unity and political cohesion as well as an efficient tool of administration. It is a direct and indirect promoter of economic development and the essential prelude to the development of backward areas a basic factor to social and cultural development. In national development it is an indispensable basic for firms desiring to establish themselves; it take possible investments which are essential for the economy of the country.

By contributing to the national unity, brings together the administration and public establishing link between private persons and customers and their suppliers, conveying message of welfare, knowledge and culture to long distances. The post abolishes distance and reduces time. The post abolishes distance and reduces time. The more highly developed a country is, the greater is the place of the post in its economy. The development of education and culture and improvement in the standard of living create and increase the need to communicate and hence to make increased use of the post. Conversely, history shows that the more efficient the postal service is the greater the benefit to its economic, social and cultural development.

The postal organisation in India has been of late formulating and introducing new procedures and policies to provide the quickest and the best possible service for the customers. One of the most recent and important steps taken in this direction is the introduction of the Quick Mail Service in the country which was based on studies. These studies revealed that a large bulk of the mail related to postal article for transmission and delivery between the larger cities and the capitals of the States. In the context of the great socio-economic development launched by the Prime Minister with the 20 Point Programme, the postal organisation in the country has to gear itself up to move in step with the programmes.

The QMS facility has also been extended to the Army Postal Service from 15th August, 1976. 56 APO and 99 APO are now connected with all the 45 National QMS centre for mails for and from Defense personnel.

Franked and postage pre-paid articles bearing Pin Code in their address and posted at specified post office counters are also given the facility of Quick Mail Service.

NORMS FOR TRANSMISSION

Based upon the quickest possible routing charts which were specifically worked out, transmission norms between two QMS centers have been laid down. In order to assess the quality and efficiency of this service an efficient and regular monitoring system has been prescribed and the results are reviewed constantly . The results have been extremely encouraging.

HOW PUBLIC CAN AVAIL THIS SERVICE

As stated earlier the QMS requires segregation and collection of mail for the different centres. This starts from the very point of posting. Special QMS letter boxes have been provided and letters posted within the specified hours of clearance in these letter boxes get special treatment in clearance, transmission and delivery. This requires our customer's co-operation. If a sender writes the Postal Index Number of the town at the bottom of the address, it readily strikes the sorter's eye and secondly, the use of different languages written in different parts of our country does not affect the work of the sorting staff. Such a letter for availing the QMS facility should be posted only in the special QMS letter boxes. The PIN Code is nevertheless the prime requisite of the service. The members of the public are, therefore, requested to ascertain the Postal Index Number of their correspondents and incorporate it in the address of the letter they write. They are also requested to write their own PIN Code number in the "from address" in their letter as well as their letter heads. It was felt that if the mail for the Capital cities was separate and given distinctive treatment from the rest of the mail. It would result in providing an expeditious mail service for the larger cleared. Sorted and routed in a more satisfactory manner. The Quick Mail Service provides the facility of later clearance and next day delivery in most of the Capital cities. Separate letter boxes are provided and special clearances, transmission and sorting arrangements are made. By utilizing the quickest and earliest plane services through a proper routing appraisal a most efficient and expeditious service is provided. In the first phase, Delhi, Bombay and Madras were inter connected on 15-4-75.

HISTORY OF EXTENSION

Encouraged by the results and public response, the scheme was extended to Hyderabad and Bangalore from 1st May 75, to Calcutta from 1st June 75. All the State Capitals and Hqrs of the Union Territories (mainland) were covered by this scheme with effect from 1st August 1975, Simultaneously, in a regional way, the District headquarters and important towns were connected to be State Capitals the Quick Mail Service. This Regional network is basically a subsidiary system. And not a feeder link to the National QMS grid. The National Quick Mail Service was expanded to cover more important towns and there are 45 such centres now. Within the States Union Territories, the regional QMS facility is now available in 350 towns. It is proposed to extend this facility to cover more and more towns in a phased manner keeping in view the transmission links available.

Statistically speaking from a modest 21,000 articles handled in August 1975, the number of QMS articles handled daily has gone upto about 2,00,000 now.

The facility of QMS for local letters having PIN Code and posted in the special QMS letter boxes was also extended recently in all the State Capitals and Hqrs of mainland Union Territories. Under this, local letters posted upto 10.30 A.M. and in certain locations upto 11.30 AM. are delivered on the same day in last delivery.

Ascertaining the Postal Index Number of a place is quite easy. The Pin Code number of a place is quite easy. The Pin Code number of the place where a person resides can easily be known from the name-plate of the local post office or the letter box. The number of the addressee's place can either be PIN Code Directory which is on sale in all the post offices at a nominal price of Rs. 1.15.

QMS can be utilized with advantage and at less cost than a telegram. Whereas it is part of our job to ensure quick delivery, the other part i.e. writing complete address including PIN Code and posting it in QMS letter boxes rest with the public.

(From Dak Tar)

NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA

An 18c stamp was issued on 13th April to mark the 50th anniversary of the opening of Parliament House, Canberra. The stamp shows a contemporary view of the front of Parliament House. The 50th anniversary of Australian Council of Trade Union was marked by an 18c stamp on 9th May, depicting workers from various groups within the trade union movement.

CANCELLATIONS

“25th Anniversary First Regular Jet Service Heathrow Airport London Hounslow Middlesex 2 May 1977”. Special posting box at Hounslow Head Post Office 9 Holloway Street Hounslow TW3 IAA: “National Stamp Day Stamp Fair 6 May 1977 London WCI” Special posting box at the Montague Suite Bloomsbury Centre Hotel Coram Street, London WCI “Stamp Collecting Promotion Council National Stamp Day 6 May 1977 Royal Festival Hall London SE1” Special posting box at be Royal Festival Hall London SE1. “Stamp Collecting Promotion Council Silver Jubilee 11 May 1977 Royal Festival Hall London SE1” Special posting box at the Royal Festival Hall London SE1. “Royal 1977 11 May Havant Hants”.