



India's Speed Post Service -
Its Journey of Growth, Transformation & Modernization

Short Description :

Journey of the Speed Post Service through it Frankings, Labels & Markings from manuscript to barcoded labels.

Introduction :

The "Speed Post" Service of India Post was introduced on 1st August 1986.

A new fast, secure and highly reliable service offering guaranteed time bound delivery.

This exhibit covers a period from 08/1986 till 9/2020

Key Stages in Evolution of Speed Post in India include

(I) EMS (Express Mail Service)

India Post has been part of the UPU since 01 July 1876.

EMS is a generic name used for Express Mail Service by UPU in their member countries worldwide. Worldwide 'EMS' was experimented by UPU in the 1980/90's to standardize the protocol for handling the mail across borders & internally.

The adopted name by UPU for EMS mail was called "S-10" Standards .

The "UPU Co-Operative for EMS" was formed in 1998, India Post EMS Service was named as Speed Post.

(II) Meghdoot Software - 1998

Indian Point of Sale machine (PoS) & Software - Development

"Meghdoot" software is designed & maintained by Centre for Excellence on Postal Technology (PTC), Mysore (However PTC was field testing with 'PoS' technology as early as 1992).

The First fully featured Version of "Meghdoot" was released in 1998; with the roll out of "Meghdoot" Point of sale systems.

(III) Project "Arrow" - 2008

Department of Post(DOP) introduced 'Project Arrow' scheme in April 2008 to transform India Post into a vibrant & responsive organization. A new logo for India Post was introduced in 2008.

(IV) IT Modernization Project - 2012

The IT Modernization project of DOP jointly with Tata Consultancy Project (TCS) was approved as a Mission Mode e-governance project.

The project aims was to transforming the efficiency and improve service delivery through up gradation of technology & connectivity. Networking all 1.5 Lakh Post Office covering the remotest part of the country with tracking & tracing of all kinds of mail & parcel.

Exhibit Plan :

1.0 : Evolution to Various Aspects of Speed Post

2.0 : Meter Markings & Payment Methods

3.0 : Identification Labels (Track & Trace)

4.0 : Receipt, Security, Tag, POD & Route

5.0 : Propoganda & Ancillary Services

Plan for Section is detailed at this start of the Frame

Reference : Indian Postal Guide & India Postal Annuals
UPU- S10 standards (for Track & Trace of Postal articles)
Speed Post operation Manual

Original Research is Indicated by '△' Special items :In Blue frame

Difficult to acquire items in Red Ink. Early used items in Bold letters.



(Ahmedabad 1.8.1986)

△ (Author's Research)



Scan QR code

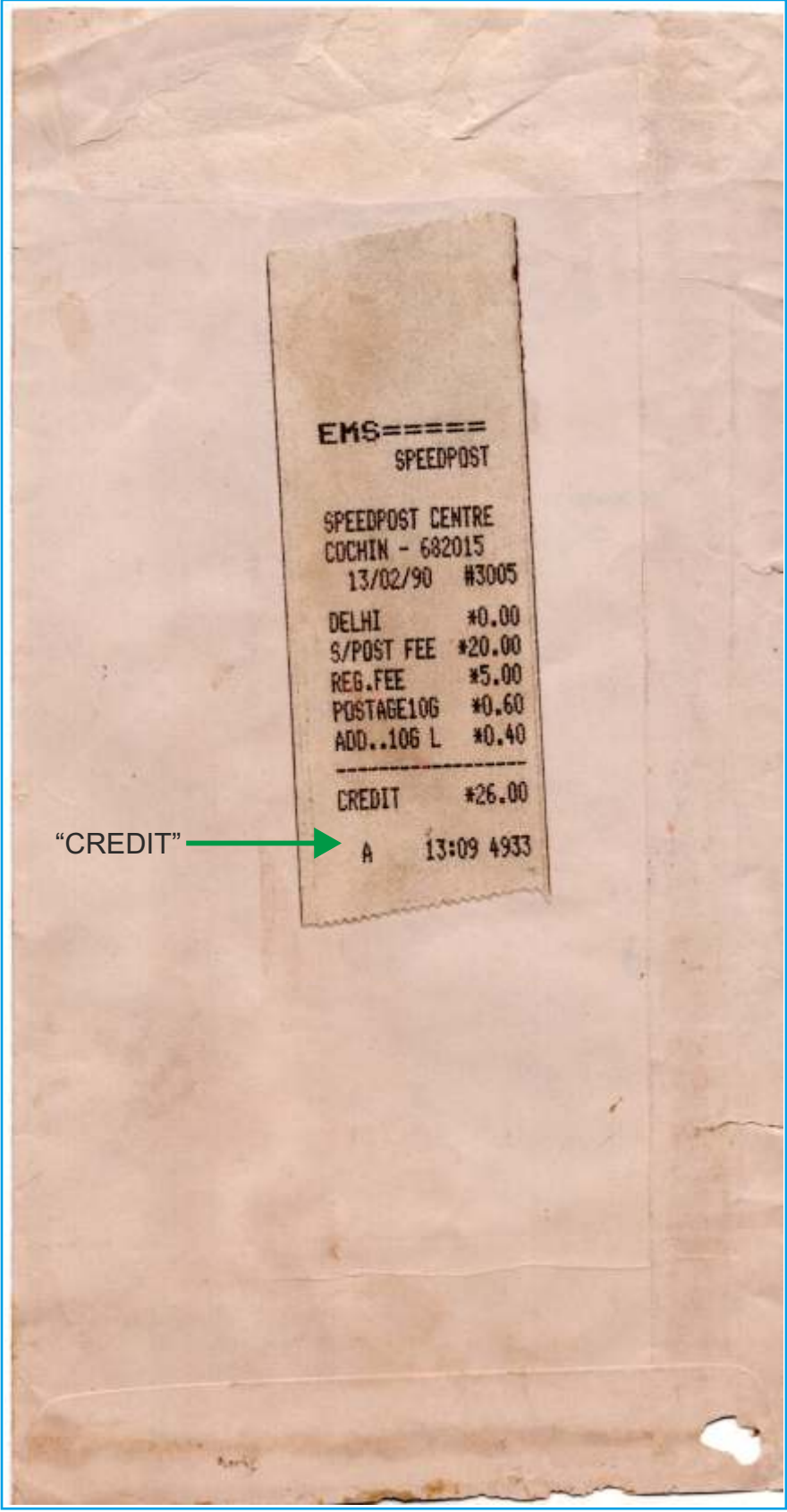
Speed Post Book

Narrative & Description
in Green Box.

Rates

First - Basic Rates Explained

Introduction to Rates Used for Speed Post



"CREDIT" →

Credit

Large customers who sent volume of mail at a Post Office could open an account; either by depositing required amount of a Bank Guarantee. They were not to pay cash all the time for each article. However, Reserve Bank of India, Schedule Banks, and any concerns of State or Central Government were the exceptions.

Introduction to Various aspects of Speed Post - Evolution

1. Title Page + Basic Rates Explained
2. Post Marks & Cancellations
3. Weight Indicators
4. Too Late for Today's Despatch
5. Early Hand Stamps
6. Mode of Payment
7. Extension Counter (For Booking)
8. Book Now Pay Later (B.N.P.L) Hand Stamps (HS)

Kelvinator "Registrex" (digital)



- ① EMS/DOT Matrix Logo
- ② Speed Post
- ③ Type of Centre
- ④ City / Pin Code
- ⑤ Date / Unique No
- ⑥ Destination
- ⑦ Speed Post Rate
- ⑧ Reg. Fees
- ⑨ Postage for First 10g
- ⑩ Postage for next 10g
- ⑪ Cash / CREDIT
- ⑫ Counter / Time / Serial Code

(Reduced to 60%)

A speed Post cover was posted from Cochin to Delhi on 13.02.1990
(Weight of cover 20g ;
Postage Paid Rs 26/-)

Kelvinator Registrex (Digital) Type 01
The MM stamp is printed on a tape and has a appearance of a cash register receipt.

A Speed Post cover was posted from Cochin to Delhi on 13.02.1990
(Weight of cover 20g;
Postage Paid Rs 26/-)

Hindustan Newsprint Limited is a Govt of India (Central Public Sector) Enterprise.

(I). Rates (Effective 01.08.1986)

Weight	Upto 500 kms	Beyond 500 kms
Upto 5 kgs	Letter Rate + Registration	Additional Rs.5
For additional 500 grams or part thereof	10/- Speed Post fee	Letter Rate + Registration Fee + Rs.20 Speed Post Fee

Early Hand Stamps (H.S.)

Post Marks & Cancellations

Right from the very first day on which Speed Post Service was introduced, the Department of Posts and its various circles have made attempts for making the designs, patterns and shapes of rubber & Meter stamps with colourful and fascinating inks

e.g. violet, red, black, blue & green inks are found used for the cancellations of 'SPEED POST' articles.



Post Mark Extract



Red Ink
Posted on 8.3.1990

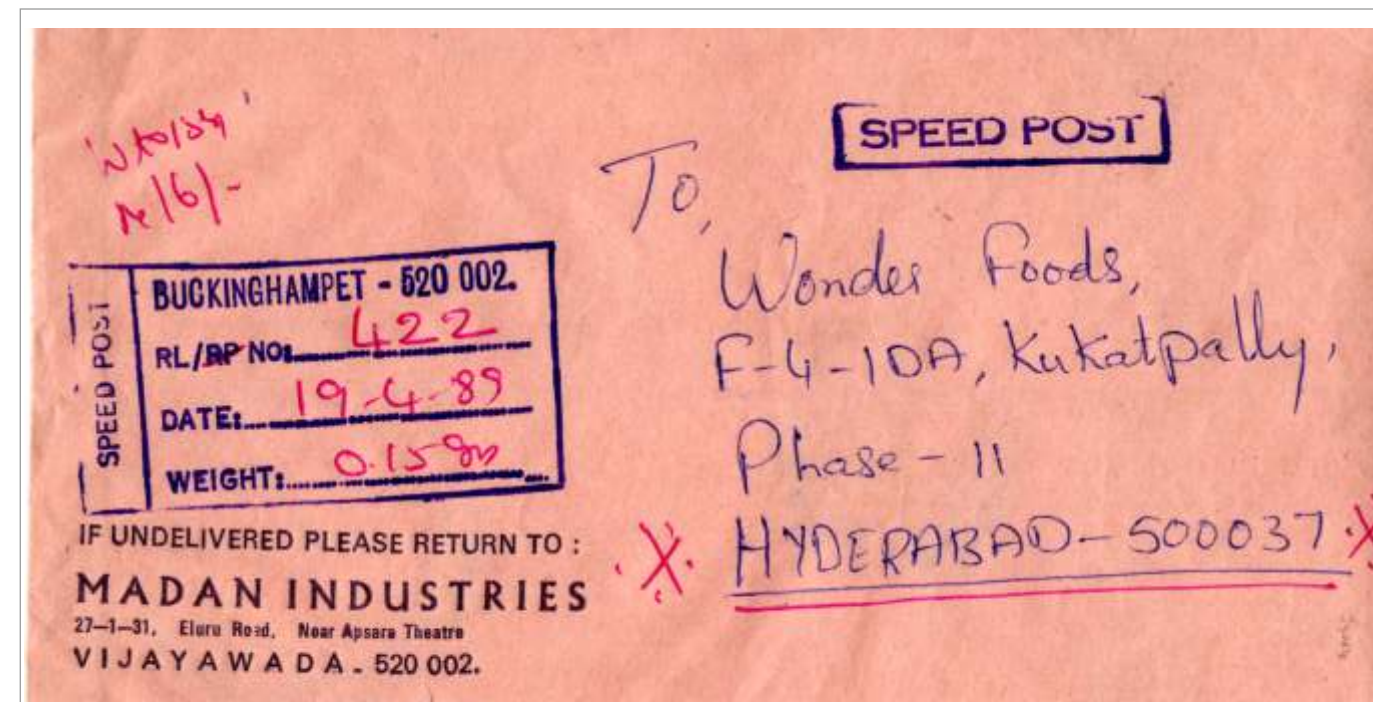


Violet Ink
Delivered on 10.3.1990

(II)

Rate & Revisions

Composite Rate		[Wef : 01.12.1990]
Weight	Within 500 Kms	Beyond 500 Kms
Up to 200 grams	20.00	30.00
201 to 500 grams	30.00	40.00
For additional 500 grams or part thereof	10.00	15.00
One uniform Speed Post tariff for letters as well as parcels		

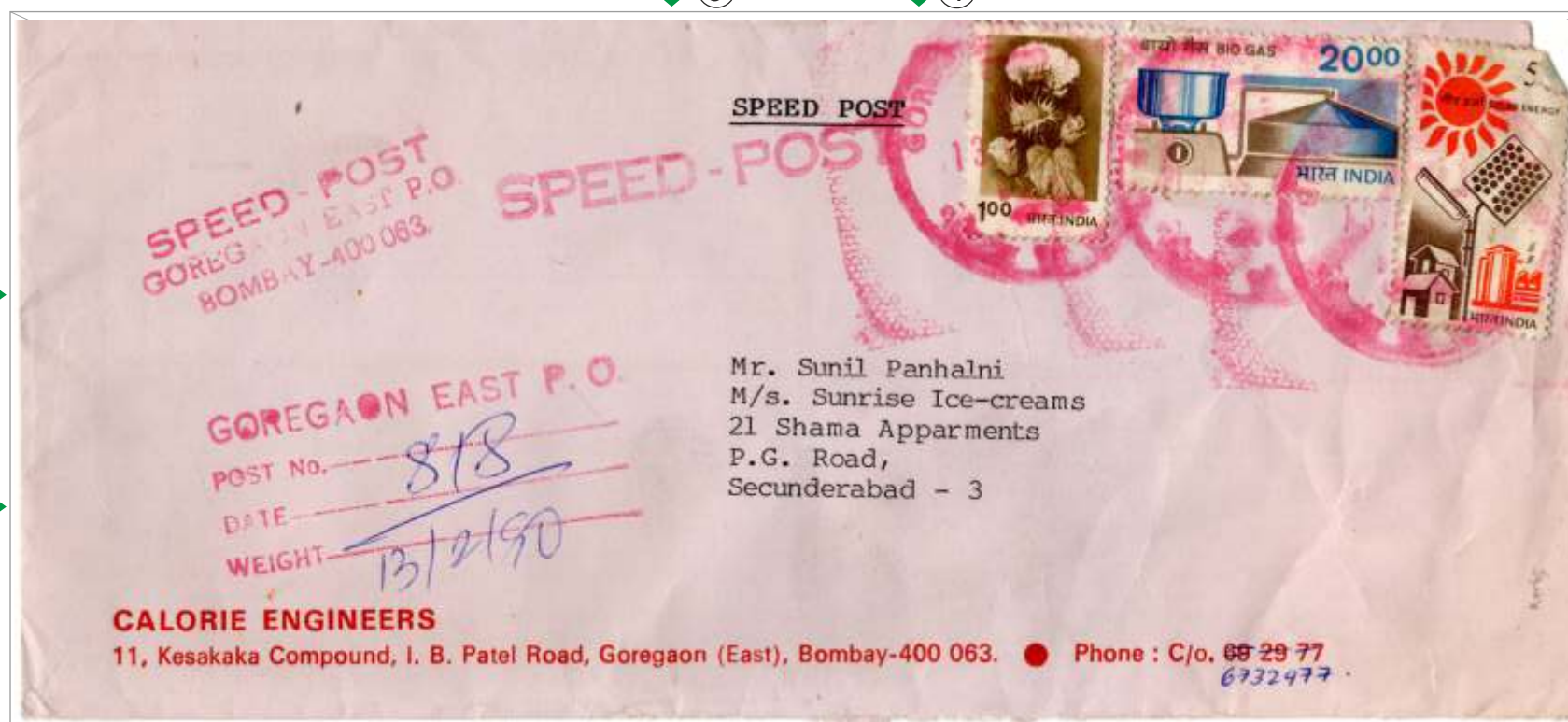


A cover posted from Buckinghampet to Hyderabad (1989)
Weight = 15 gms, Postage = Rs16/ (Less than 500 kms)

A Speed Post cover posted from Madurai to Secunderabad.
Weight = 10 gm, Postage = Rs.25/60 (Beyond 500 kms rate)

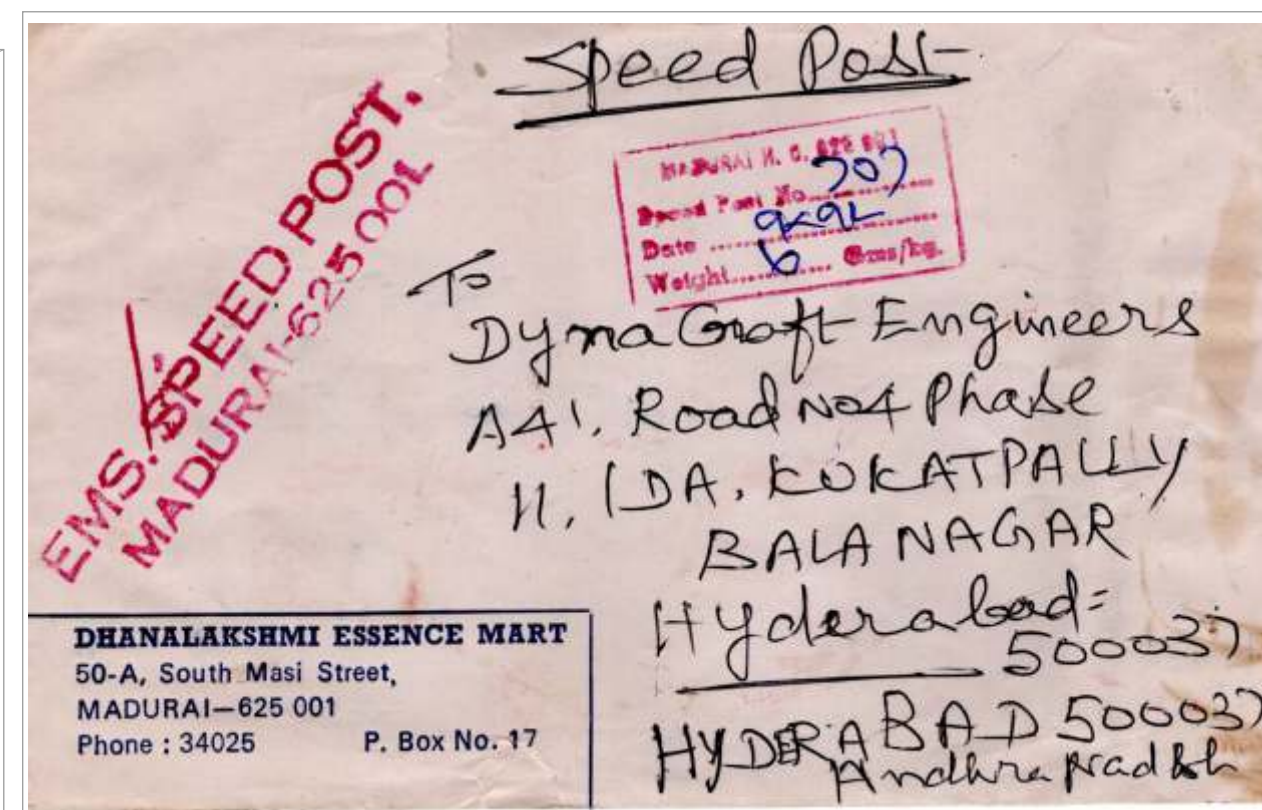
↓ ③

↓ ④



1,2,3,4 on this speed four different HS
Postage Paid = Rs. 26/ , Weight = 20gms (Beyond 500 kms)

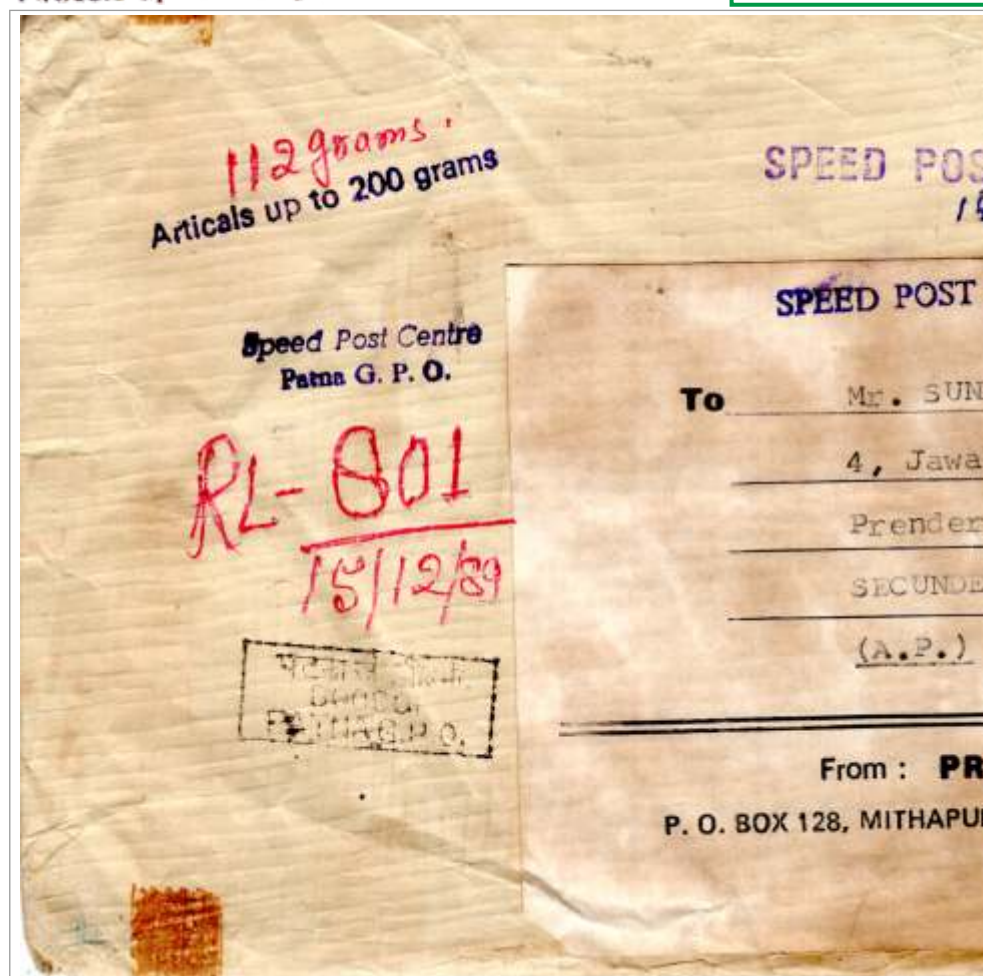
Article posted from Bombay to Secunderabad (1990)



A cover posted from Madurai to Hyderabad (1992)
Composite Speed Post Rate of Rs. 30/ Franked (Beyond 500 kms)

The Speed Post rates were generally dependent on distance and weight of cover
Hence each cover had to be weight and suitably marked in Manuscript (MS) or Rubber Hand Stamp (HS)

200 gms Below Postage



Articles upto 500 Grams

A cover posted from Patna to Secunderabad (1989), upto 200g in HS

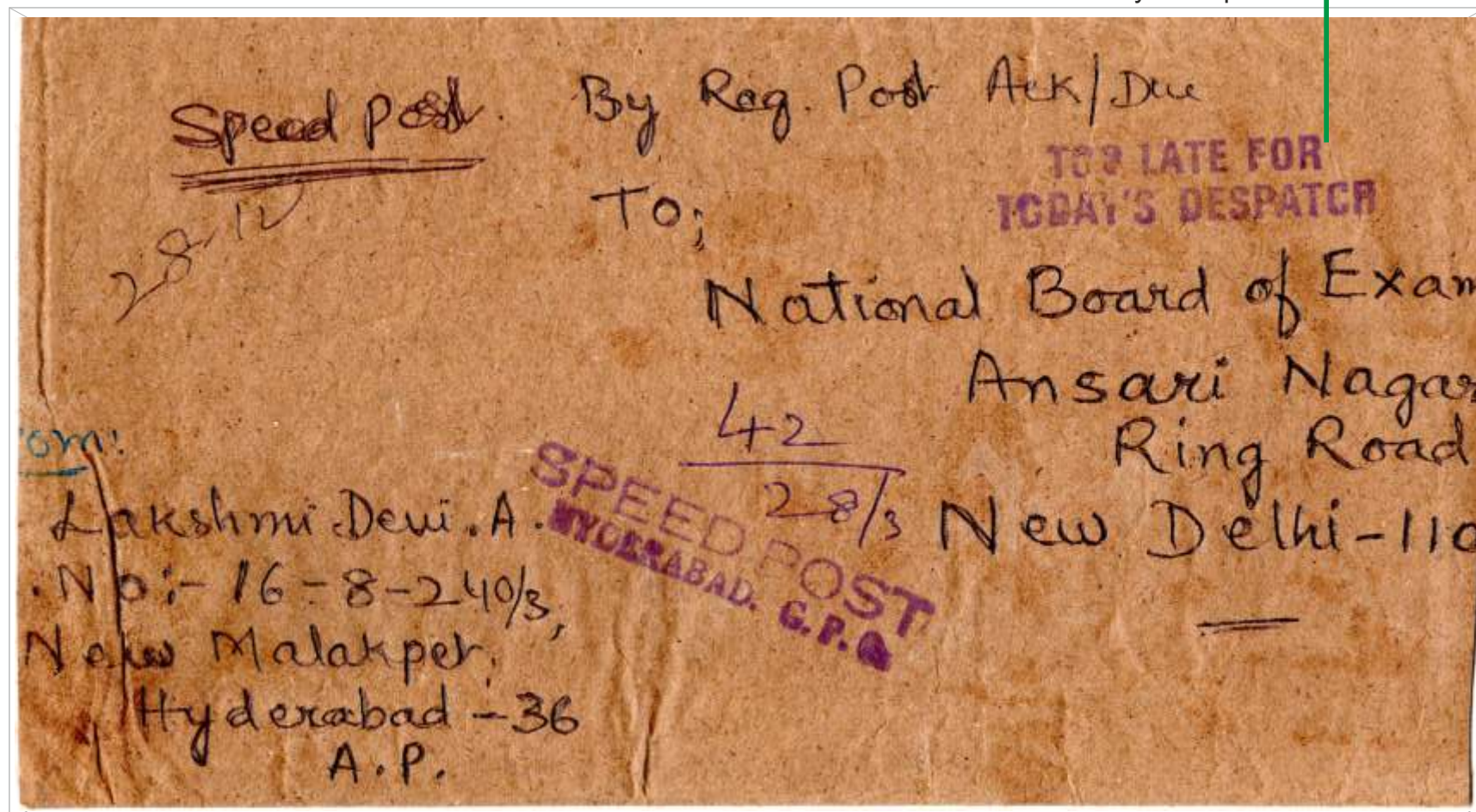
A local Speed Post cover from Hyderabad (2006), Below 200 gms in HS



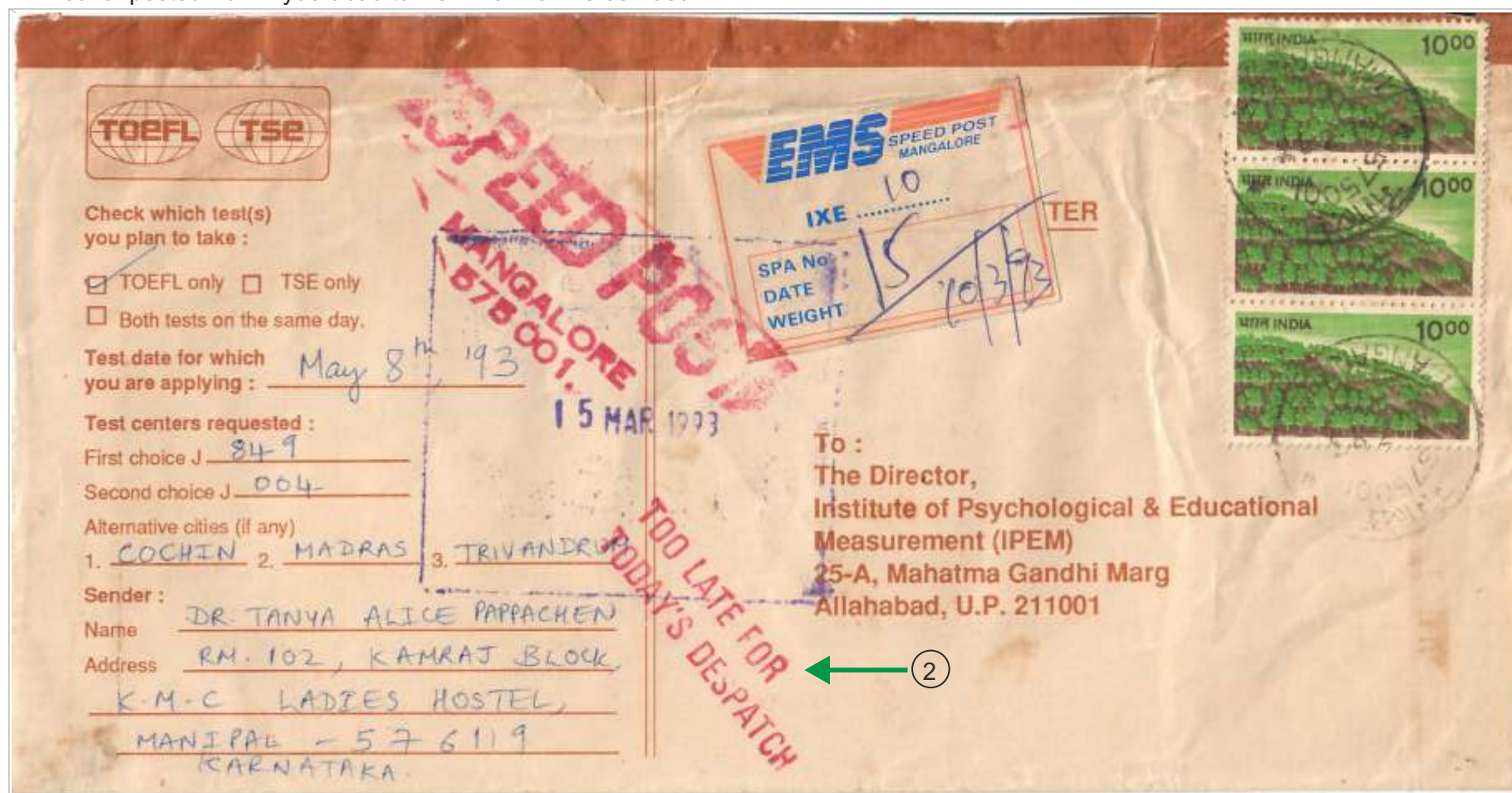
A cover posted from Patna to Secunderabad (1989), 55gms in MS, under 500 gms HS

A local Speed Post cover from Kota to Jaipur (2003), 20gms, Printed on Meghdoot Meter Mark.





A cover posted from Hyderabad to New Delhi on 28.03.1989



A cover posted from Mangalore to Allahabad 10.03.1993 delivered on 5th Day (Monday-15.03.1993). It was too late marked on 10/03 for despatch.

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**TOO LATE FOR
TODAY'S DESPATCH**

The Speed Post articles were required to be booked within the stipulated time at the booking centre for guaranteed delivery. If the Speed Post articles were booked after cut-off timings, the Department of Posts was not responsible for delay in delivery of Speed Post articles. These timings were fixed looking to the geographical location of booking centres. And accordingly the infra-structural facilities were made available for delivering the Speed Post articles at the

A 10 gms cover posted from Visakhapatnam to Hyderabad (22.02.1988).

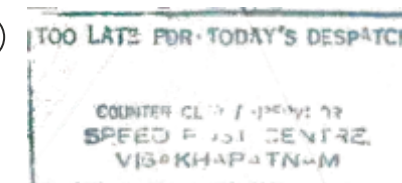


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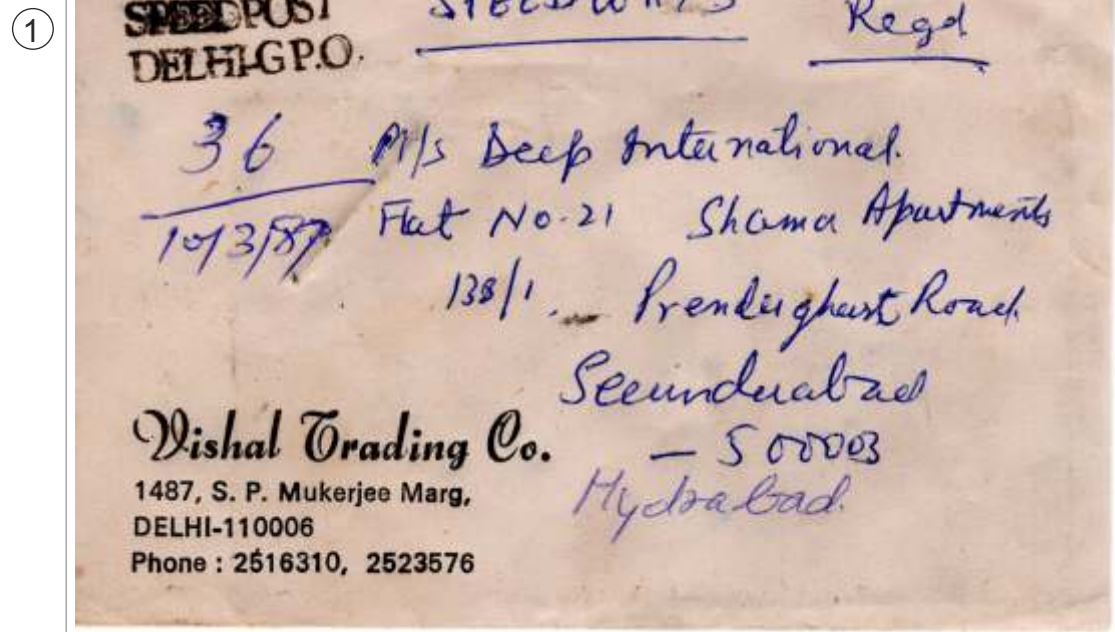
**TOO LATE FOR
TODAY'S DESPATCH**

③



In case of late booking i.e. after cut-out timings, the respective Speed Post booking centre was to book the articles with a pre-condition that such articles may not reach their destinations within time-bound period. In such circumstances the respective booking centre was marking Speed Post articles with remarks of 'TOO LATE FOR TODAY'S DESPATCH' or 'BOOKED AFTER CUT-OUT TIME'.

Identification by Rubber Hand Stamps



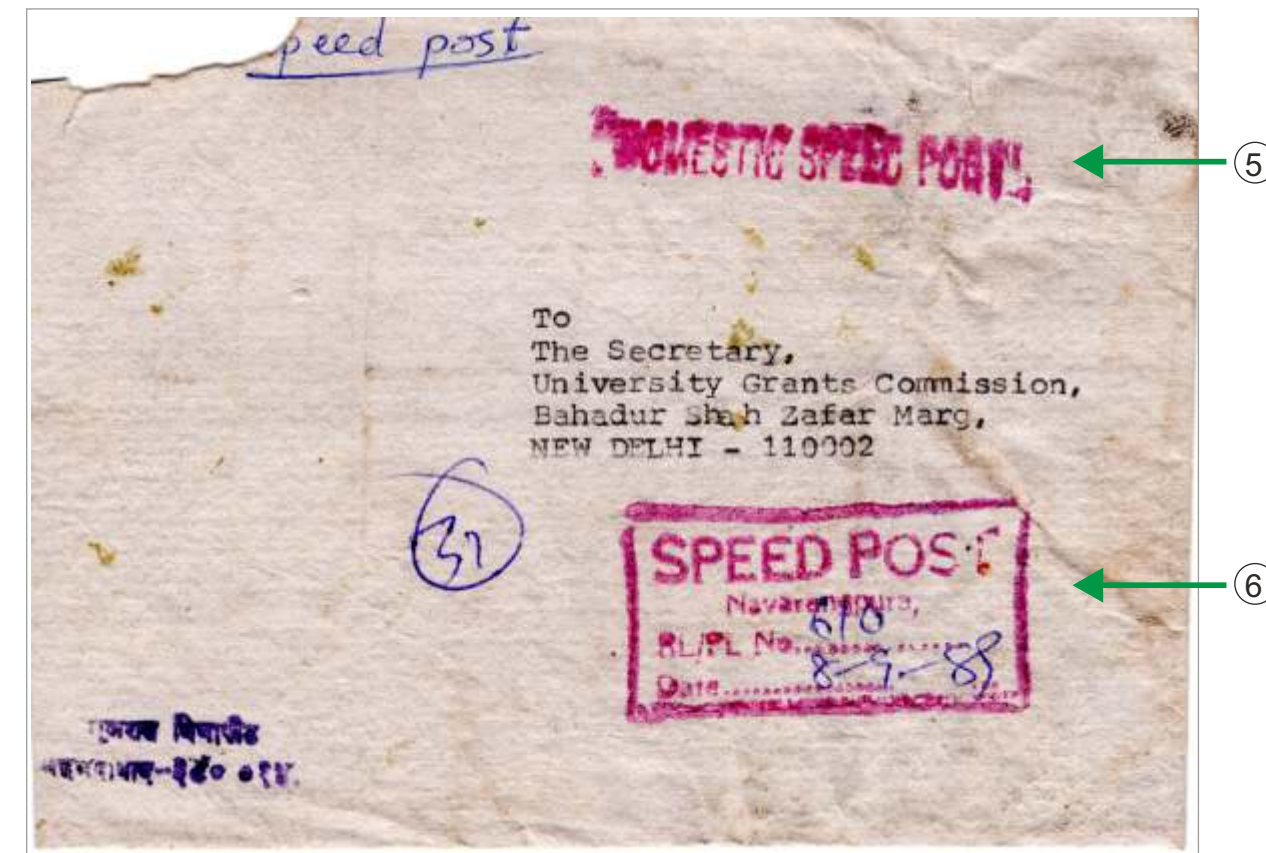
10g, Speed Post cover posted from Delhi (10.3.1987)
Delivered on 12.3.1987 at Hyderabad.
Postage Paid Rs. 25/60p.

- ① BASIC HS in Black Ink
- ② Logo
- ③ Post Office
- ④ Service Indicator
- ⑤ Domestic Speed Post
- ⑥ Dual Hand Stamp Boxed HS/4 Line

Speed Post Indicators & Marks

Early Rubber Hand Stamp (H.S.)

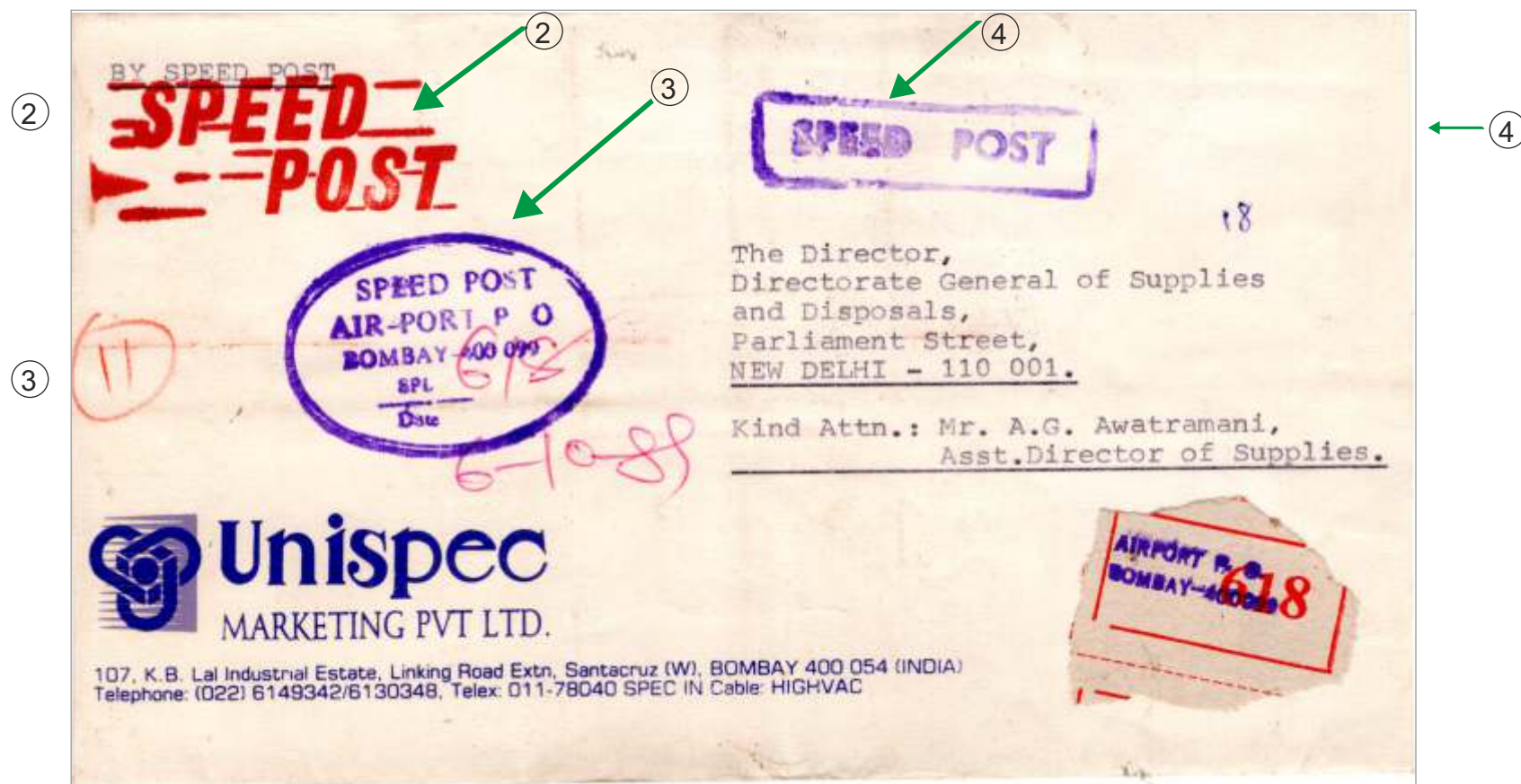
Multitier (HS) with
(Speed Post & Reg. letter combination Stamp)



A Speed Post cover to New Delhi posted on 08.09.1989
delivered on 09.09.1989 from Navrangpura to.

Speed Post + RL/PL

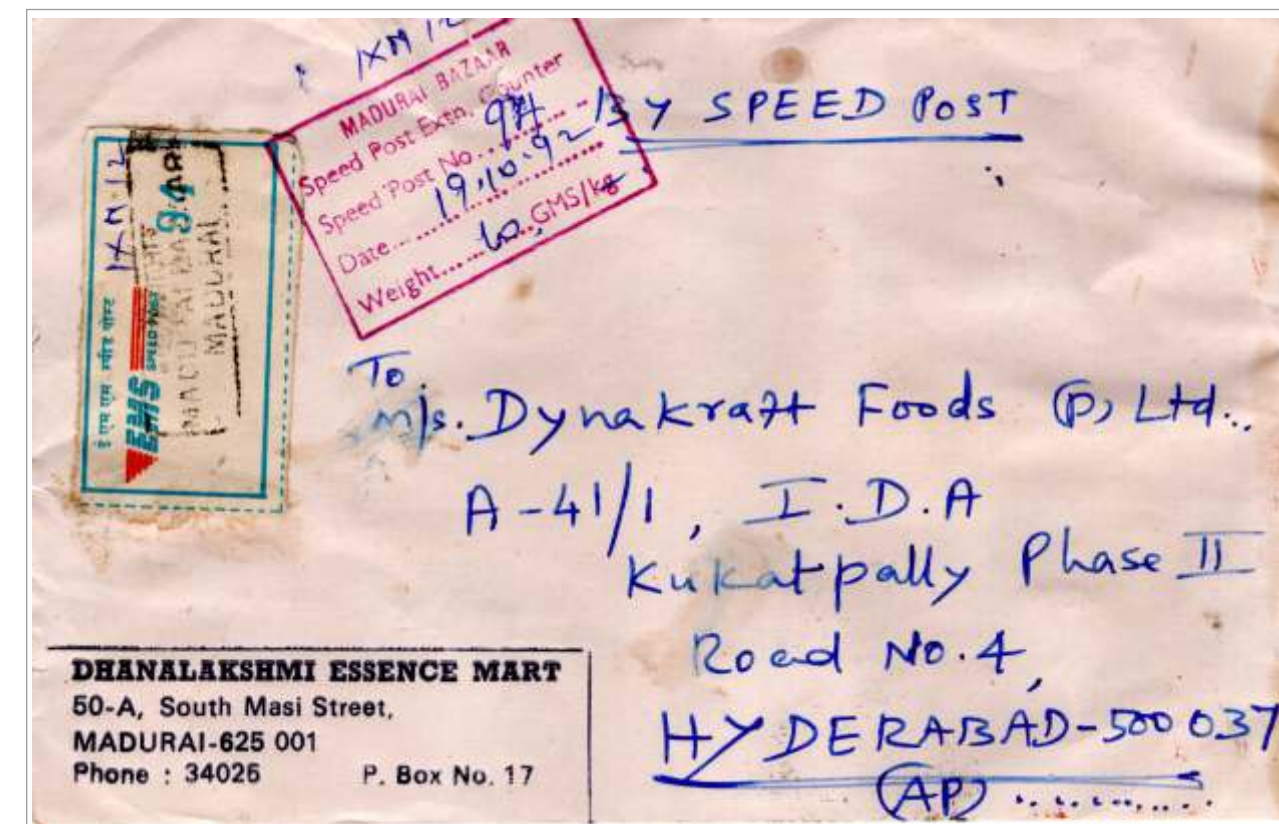
VARIOUS Rubber Stamps applied for the Speed Post cover (in Red & Violet Ink)



An 18g cover from Bombay (06.10.1989) for New Delhi Postage Paid Rs. 26.40 with Speed Post Label in Red Ink (Type 10.10). Various HS Indicated in (2),(3),(4).

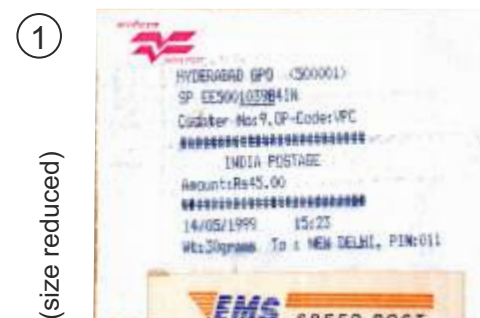
Four TIER Hand Stamp

Speed Post Extension Counter



A 10g cover Posted from Madurai (19.10.1992) to Hyderabad (dely 21.10.1992).
Paid Postage 30/ (Beyond 500 km rated of 1992) Speed Post label Type 11.50
affixed on cover

Variation's in the Pre-Printed Label for Meter Franking



India Post
Logo on Left hand side
instead of Right



State Emblem of
Andhra Pradesh



(Note standard position
India Post Logo at RHS)

Log on to
India post.gov.in

Only found in Andhra Pradesh State (2016-2017)



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TO -
MR. RAJESH VARMA,
S. KRISHNA STREET,
DEHRADUN - 248001
UTTARANCHAL



Cover from Airport Po, Bombay (13th March 1987)



Dadar (E), Bombay -14



Dadar 'E'

Cover from Dadar (E), 31st March 1987

1986 - 87

During the early period, Speed Post booking was limited to few key post offices in India. To expedite its expansion of services, it was permitted to open extension counters at nearby Post Office (with restricted timings) to allow guaranteed delivery time.

Book Now Pay Later Scheme (BNPL)

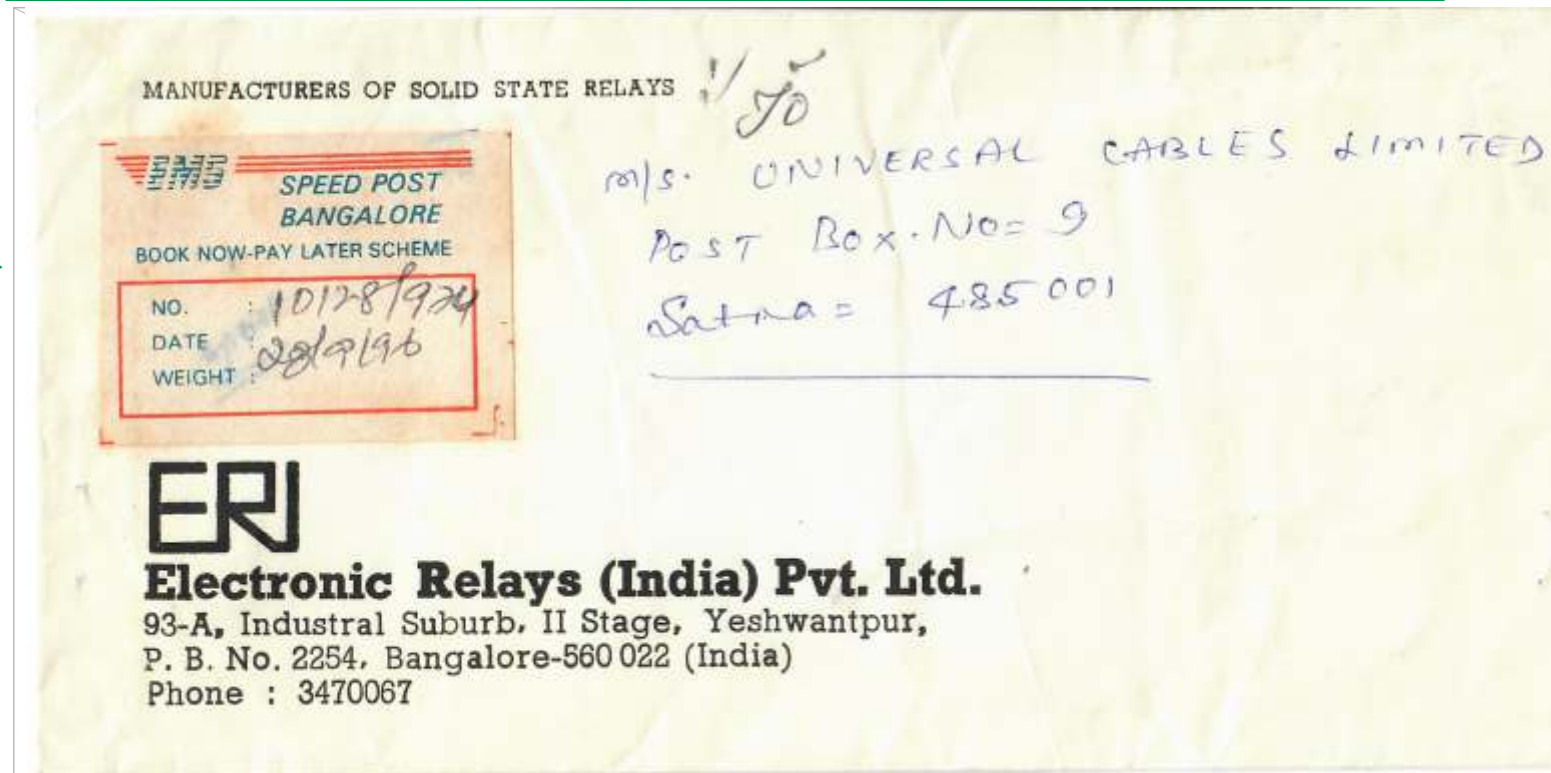
Customers who sent average 2 articles each day were entitled to avail the facility of 'Book Now Pay Later' scheme either by depositing required amount or on producing bank-guarantee. They were not to pay cash all the time for each article. However, Reserve Bank of India, Schedule Banks, and any concerns of State of Central Government were the exceptions.

① Reduced Labels



A Cover posted from Bangalore (1996) to Satna on (28.9.1996) Under the BNPL Scheme with a EMS Label to that effect.

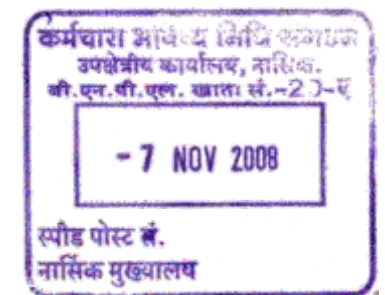
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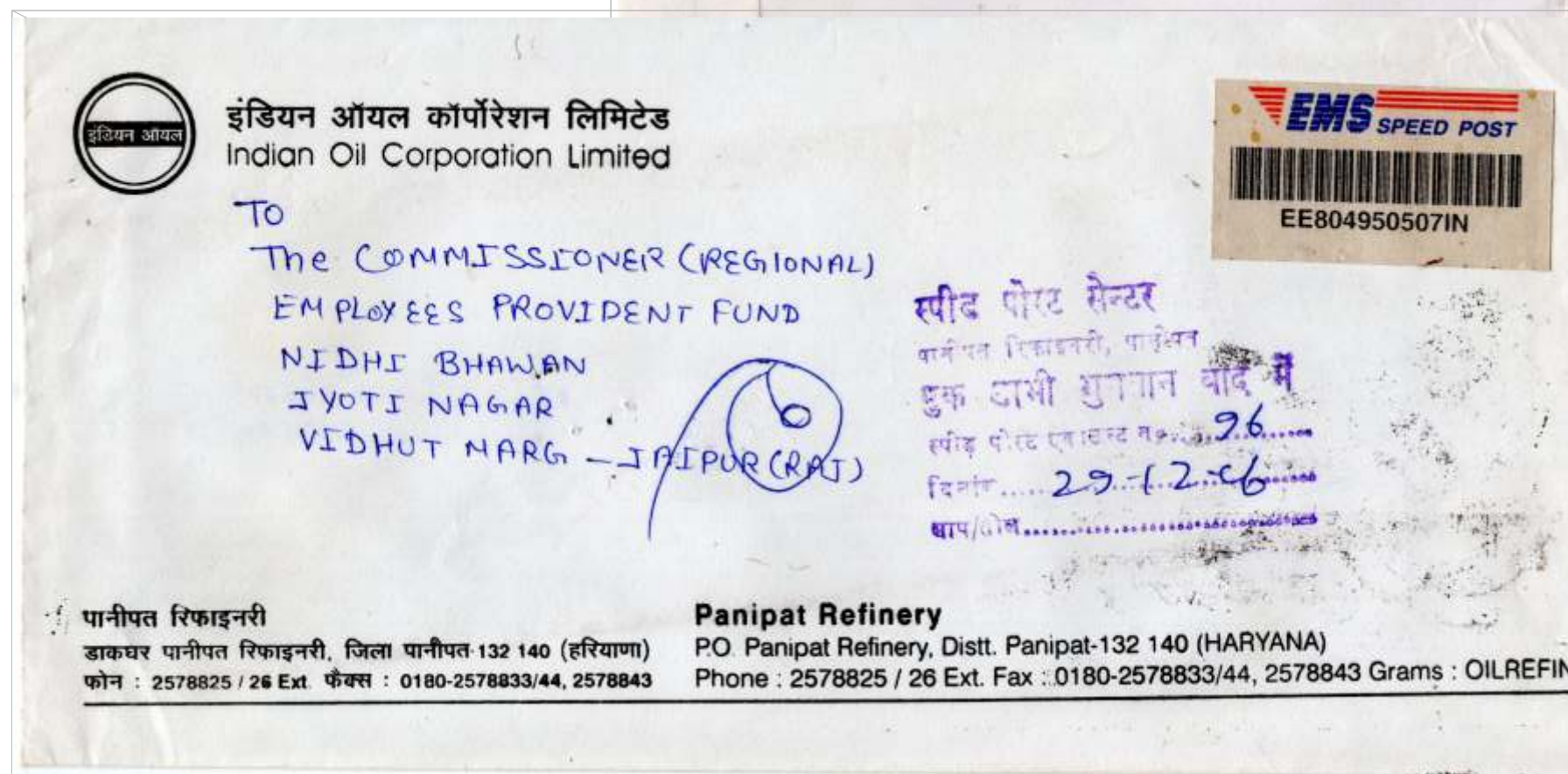
सेवार्थ



②



Hindi / Boxed (HS)
Date in English

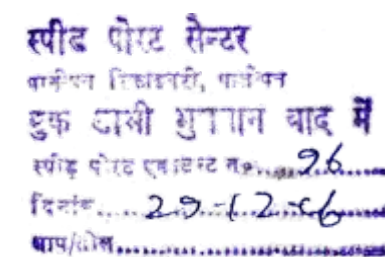


प्रायडीसी, सातपूर नाशिक- 422 007
avan, Plot No. P-11, MIDC, Satpur. Nashik- 422 007

A Cover posted from EPFO, Nashik (7/1/2008) to Jaipur (10/1/2008)

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Hindi only (HS)

A cover Posted from Panipat Refinery, Panipat (29.12.2006) to Jaipur (02.01.2007). BNPL (HS) applied in Hindi language (HS) - 6 Lines.