

Stamp

Bulletin No. 142

Commemorative Issue

**WORLD COMMUNICATION YEAR
AND
125 YEARS OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
IN SRI LANKA**



1983. 05. 17

**Philatelic Bureau
Department of Posts
Ceylinco House
Colombo 1
SRI LANKA**

STAMP BULLETIN No. 142

Ministry of Posts and
Telecommunications,
Lotus Road,
Colombo 1,
Sri Lanka.
17th May, 1983.

THIS year, the Sri Lanka Telecommunications Department celebrates the 125th year of Telegraph Service in Sri Lanka. It was in January 1858, first Telegraphic Communication was established between Colombo and Galle, a distance of 74 miles. Natural resources like Coconut trees were used as poles and instead of insulators, wooden brackets nailed to the trees were employed. In June 1858, the Telegraph line was extended from Colombo to Kandy and in October 1858, first International Communication was established with India by the Construction of a line via Kandy and Anuradhapura to Mannar and Talaimannar. These development followed many others and on 24th May, 1935, the Minister of Communications of the State Council ably advocated a scheme for modernization of Telephone Network. Although much opposition was anticipated as the service was associated with the affluent classes, the proposal was carried out by 30 votes to 3.

This historical occasion of 125 years of service also coincides with an important global declaration made by the United Nations General Assembly.

In recognizing the fundamental importance of Communications infrastructures as an essential element in the economic and social development of all Countries, the year 1983 has been declared as the "World Communication Year" by the United Nations General Assembly.

The General Assembly is convinced that the "World Communication Year" would provide the opportunity to all Countries to undertake an indepth review and analysis of their policies on Communications development and stimulate the accelerated development of the communications infrastructures of these Countries.

Sri Lanka Government is extending unswerving support for the promotion of the objectives of "World Communications Year" and is organising a pilot project, Seminar, an Exhibition cum Trade-fair, to stress and emphasise the importance of communication to the masses.

In order to give wide publicity to mark both these significant occasions the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications is issuing two stamps in the denominations of Rs. 2.00 and Rs. 10.00 to symbolise the growth and the increase emphasis given to Telecommunications both Nationally and Internationally.

Philatelic Details

<i>Date of Issue :</i>	1983.05.17
<i>Values :</i>	Rs. 2.00, Rs. 10.00
<i>Colours :</i>	Yellow, Red, Blue & Black
<i>Designer :</i>	W. K. Sanath Rohana
<i>Printers :</i>	Toppan Printing Co., Ltd., Japan
<i>Format :</i>	Horizontal
<i>Size :</i>	32 × 40 mm.
<i>Printing Process :</i>	Offset
<i>Sheet Composition :</i>	100 Stamps per sheet
<i>Paper :</i>	One side coated paper 104.7 GSM.
<i>Gum :</i>	PVC Gum
<i>Quantity Printed :</i>	Rs. 2.00 — 1,000,000 Rs. 10.00 — 250,000

Official First Day Covers

The Philatelic Bureau will provide a specially designed First Day Cover and a First Day of Issue Postmark.

Terms of Sale

Overseas orders for supply of the new stamps and First Day Covers should be addressed with full particulars to the Director, Philatelic Bureau, 4th Floor, Ceylinco House, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka, and should be accompanied by Mail Transfer, International Money Order, British Postal Order

or Bank Draft drawn on the Bank of Ceylon, Colombo or any other Bank in Sri Lanka payable to the Director, Philatelic Bureau. Uncertified personal cheques are not acceptable.

Telephones : 25588, 26163, 26177.

Special Notice

The Philatelic Bureau is the sole Agent of the United Nations Postal Administration for the sale of its stamps in Sri Lanka.

Current stamps of the U. N. P. A. including issues of New York, Geneva and Vienna are available for sale.

Stamp Issues — 1983

<i>Serial No.</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Date of Issue</i>
1.	25th Anniversary of Sarvodaya ..	50 cents ..	83.01.01
2.	Radio Amateur Society ..	Rs. 2.50 ..	83.01.17
3.	International Customs Day	50 cents Rs. 5.00	83.01.26
4.	Marine Mammals ..	50 cents Rs. 2.00 Rs. 2.50 Rs. 10.00	
5.	Ships ..	50 cents Rs. 2.50 Rs. 5.00 Rs. 20.00	83.03.01
6.	International Women's Day	50 cents Rs. 5.00	
7.	Commonwealth Day ..	50 cents Rs. 2.50 Rs. 5.00 Rs. 20.00	83.03.14
8.	25 Years of Lionism in Sri Lanka ..	Rs. 2.50 ..	
9.	Vesak — 1983*	35 cents 50 cents Rs. 5.00 Rs. 10.00	83.05.13
10.	World Communication Year and 125 years of Telecommunications	Rs. 2.00 Rs. 10.00	

<i>Serial No.</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Date of Issue</i>	
11.	{	Fr. S. G. Perera .. 50 cents ..	83.05.22	
		H. W. Amarasuriya .. 50 cents ..		
		C. W. Thamotharampillai .. 50 cents ..		
		Charles Ambrose Lorenz .. 50 cents ..		
		N. H. M. Abdul Cader .. 50 cents ..		
12.	Gam Udawa — 1983 ..	50 cents Rs. 5.00	83.06.23	
13.	Transport ..	35 cents Rs. 2.00 Rs. 2.50 Rs. 5.00		83.08.01
14.	Sir T. B. Panabokke ..	50 cents ..	83.09.02	
15.	Rev. Pelene Siri Vajiragnana Mahanayake Thero ..	50 cents ..	83.11.25	
16.	Birds of Sri Lanka* ..	25 cents 35 cents Rs. 2.00 Rs. 20.00	83.12.01	
17.	Christmas — 1983* ..	50 cents — Rs. 5.00		83.12.05

Dates and values are subject to alteration.

*Souvenir Sheets available.