

SRI LANKA

Stamp

Bulletin No. 87

Commemorative Issue

**GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE
CO - OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT**



1980. 10. 01

**Philatelic Bureau
Postal Department
Ceylinco House
Colombo 1
SRI LANKA**

STAMP BULLETIN No. 87

**Ministry of Posts and
Telecommunications,
Lotus Road,
Colombo 1,
Sri Lanka,
1st October, 1980.**

THE Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications issues today a stamp in the denomination of 20 cents to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the Co-operative Department.

The Co-operative Department was established on 1st October, 1930 as a State Department for the purpose of organising Co-operative Societies with its main object to improve the economic conditions and to encourage its members in the spirit and practice of thrift and mutual help.

The Department has over the years very successfully achieved its objectives by shouldering the many responsibilities devolved on it and by executing the Government policies and decisions formulated in conformity with the social and economic requirements of the people of this country.

During the World War II it undertook the organization of 4,004 Stores Societies for the distribution of essential foodstuffs to consumers. In subsequent years 5,074 Multi Purpose Co-operative Societies were formed to provide a better consumer service and promote the better distribution of essential foodstuffs.

During the year 1971 the Department focussed its attention on the need to operate the 5,074 Societies as strong economic units and in consequence of this re-organization 370 such primary M.P.C.SS. were reconstituted.

In addition to the 289 M.P.C.SS. which cater to the needs of 85% of the total population of this country, there are more than 7,000 other types such as Textile, Fisheries, Coconut, Palmyrah Producers' Societies, Industrial, Rural Credit Societies and School Co-operative Societies. It is the task of the Department to supervise and administer the smooth running of these Societies.

With rapid progress shown in the movement, the Co-operative Department too has strengthened its cadres. A Department which commenced its functions with 37 in the Staff in 1939 has a strength of more than 2,000 employees at present.

The Statutory functions of the Department relate to the registration of Co-operative Societies, auditing the Accounts of Co-operative Societies, reference of disputes to arbitration and the cancellation and liquidation of Societies.

The School of Co-operation at Polgolla is established to function as an apex institution meant for the training of Co-operative Society employees and the Officers of the Department in the field of Co-operation.

The Co-operative Department on completing 50 years looks forward to a further period of fruitful service to the public of this country.

Technical Details

<i>Date of Issue</i>	: 01.10.1980
<i>Denomination</i>	: .20 cents
<i>Colours</i>	: Black, Yellow, Magenta Cyan
<i>Designer</i>	: R. B. Mawilmada
<i>Format</i>	: Vertical
<i>Size</i>	: 40.64 × 29.85 m.m.
<i>Printing Process</i>	: Offset Lithography
<i>Sheet Composition</i>	: 100 per sheet
<i>Printers</i>	: Metal Box, Singapore Ltd., Singapore
<i>Paper and Gum</i>	: 102 GSM Partical Gum

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 stamp 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.

Telephone: 25588, 26163, 26177.

Special Notice

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