

T.N. Postal Circle to hold State-level philately exhibition from January 29 and February 1

The event, which is being hosted after nearly eight years, will be held at Amma Arangam in Shenoy Nagar

‘Muthu’, the official mascot of Tanapex 2025, a State-level philately exhibition, toured several schools over the past weeks to kindle interest in the hobby among youngsters and encourage them to explore the fascinating world of stamps.

After nearly eight years, the Tamil Nadu Postal Circle will host ‘Tanapex 2025’ at Amma Arangam in Shenoy Nagar between January 29 and February 1. In a bid to make it more appealing, the Department of Posts will have a virtual reality booth for philately buffs to view the exhibition from the booth or on their mobile phones.

‘Muthu’, a parrot wearing the khaki postal uniform and a letter box as its crown, met students in about 250 schools to promote the exhibition. Students, who were thrilled to meet ‘Muthu’, didn’t miss a chance to click a picture with the mascot.

Officials of the Postal Department said several contests, including stamp designing, drawing, and painting, were also organised besides workshops to encourage students to open philately accounts. A quiz competition is also being held for students across the State, and the final round will be held during the exhibition.

With over 500 exhibits from across Tamil Nadu on various themes, the philately exhibition, which will be organised along with the South India Philatelists’ Association (SIPA), will be open between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on all four days.

Officials said besides a catalogue listing out exhibit themes, a souvenir comprising glimpses of exhibits and articles on philately would be released on the occasion. Some of the planned exhibits will include traditional philately and postal history. Special covers will be released on all days of the exhibition.

This time, a VR special cover will be launched for people to view it from across the world through a QR code, which will be uploaded online.

Mahesh Parekh, secretary, SIPA, said this exhibition would provide an opportunity for new stamp collectors to exhibit their collections apart from SIPA members and dealers. The department previously conducted a virtual philately exhibition in 2022.

“We will have an exclusive SIPA stall to connect students and philatelists on the hobby. We are planning to hold on-the-spot contests and provide free philately starter kits for the winners,” he said.

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