

Department of Posts releases special postmark featuring Chennai GPO

On the first day, nearly 2,000 articles delivered from the historical building were imprinted with the permanent pictorial cancellation

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THE HINDU BUREAU



G. Natarajan, Postmaster General, Chennai City Region, releasing the cancellation in the presence of J. Rolands Nelson, president, South India Philatelists' Association, and eminent writer S. Ramakrishnan. | Photo Credit: R. RAGU

Most mail delivered from the Chennai General Post Office (GPO) carried a permanent pictorial cancellation (PPC), a special postmark featuring the heritage building, on Thursday. The Department of Posts released the PPC to commemorate the historical building on Rajaji Salai.

On the first day, nearly 2,000 articles were imprinted with the Chennai GPO's PPC. G. Natarajan, Postmaster General, Chennai City Region, released the PPC in the presence of J. Rolands Nelson, president, South India Philatelists' Association, and eminent writer S. Ramakrishnan. *Thapalpetti Ezhuthiya Kaditham* (A letter written by a letterbox), a book authored by Mr. Ramakrishnan, was presented to postmen at the event.

With the pin code 600001, the Chennai GPO began its operations in June 1786 at Fort St. George, and was later relocated to its current building in April 1884. Besides its historical charm, it still retains its functional relevance and delivers nearly 15,000 mail daily, officials said.

In Tamil Nadu, nearly 51 PPCs have been issued so far. Besides the GPO, the city has already has three PPCs — the Mylapore Post Office, the Philatelic Bureau on Anna Road Head Post Office and the Madras University Post Office. Officials of the Postal Department said the PPCs were usually issued for post offices in touristy places or for historically significant structures.

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