

# Stamp collection spreads knowledge of country's socio-economic condition'

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*The three-day long exhibition will showcase stamps relating to the life of Mahatma Gandhi*

TRICHY: Assistant director, business development, Trichy head post office, Kuchitapadam, on Tuesday, said that the purpose of postal stamps was to disseminate knowledge about the socio-economic and cultural condition of country.

Inaugurating the philatelic exhibition as part of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Trichy, he asked youngsters to take up philately as a hobby. The three-day long exhibition will showcase stamps relating to the life of Mahatma Gandhi and the freedom struggle in Trichy released by India Post.

Speaking on commemorative stamps, which are issued for special occasions, he said that rare and commemorative stamps are collected by philatelists as a hobby. "It can be used as a yardstick to understand how we have grown and improved over the years," he said adding that anyone can open a philately deposit account and start their stamp collection by getting rare or commemorative stamps.

Director, IIM-Trichy, Bhimaraya Metri, said that in the digital age people may not use post office services much now, but he has roots in a village and it was a part of life for him.

"The real internet in rural areas is the post office, where post offices are present even where the concentration of people is small," he said.

Enthusiastic about building his philatelic collections on Mahatma Gandhi, K Karthikeyan a mechanical engineering student, who had displayed his stamps, said that it helps him acquire knowledge about Gandhi and the freedom movement. A member of Trichy philatelic club, his collections have won many philatelic awards.