



Celebration of Philately Day on 12th October 2026 at Mumbai GPO during National Postal Week 2026

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Mumbai: 12 October 2026

Mumbai General Post Office (GPO) celebrated Philately Day on 12th October 2026 as part of National Postal Week 2026, which is being observed from 9th October to 15th October 2026 across the country. The celebration aimed to promote philately, encourage stamp collecting among students and young people, and create awareness about India's rich cultural heritage, history and achievements through postage stamps.

Philately, the study and collection of postage stamps, offered a fascinating opportunity to explore the history, culture, biodiversity, eminent personalities and significant events of the nation. Through its diverse range of commemorative and special postage stamps, India Post continued to preserve and showcase India's heritage while inspiring curiosity and learning among people of all age groups.

As part of the celebration, Mumbai GPO organised a series of activities for school students, postal employees, visitors and philately enthusiasts. A major attraction was the Themed Philatelic Exhibition at Mumbai GPO, which showcased the significance and diversity of philately through postage stamps and related philatelic materials. The exhibition provided visitors with an opportunity to appreciate the educational, historical and cultural value of stamp collecting.





The day's activities also included visits by school students to the Philately Bureau under the "My Visit" initiative, interactive quiz competitions and drawing competitions for students and informative lectures by eminent philatelists. These activities familiarised participants with the fascinating world of stamps and encouraged greater public participation in philatelic activities.

A special highlight of the celebration was the release of a Pack of Picture postcards titled as "Migratory Bird of India Series- 1" (Courtesy by Shri Divakar Devidas Thombre, a dedicated Naturalist), along with the release of a Special Cancellation commemorating Philately Day, in presence of Ms. Simran Kaur, Director Postal Services (Headquarters), Shri Divakar Devidas Thombre and eminent philatelists. On addressing the audience Ms. Simran Kaur had recognized and congratulated the participating students and school administrations. Further said that Philately is celebrated as the "king of hobbies," encouraging students and

citizens to develop an interest and expand their horizons of knowledge. Modern stamp collections offer incredible variety, including Musical stamps, Fragrance stamps (stamps with built-in scents), Stamps of different shapes, sizes, and diverse themes tailored to individual art inclinations. Special thanks were expressed to naturalist Mr. Divakar Thombre for capturing stunning photographs of migratory birds visiting Maharashtra. These photographs have been compiled into picture postcards available at philatelic bureaus across Maharashtra. Sending these postcards serves as a meaningful remembrance to loved ones, strengthening personal relationships.

Ms. Kaur further said, "Handwritten letters and storytelling carry deep emotional value that standard digital messages (such as WhatsApp texts) cannot replicate. Letter writing acts as a form of digital detox, allowing individuals to step away from digital frameworks and express heartfelt gratitude to teachers, gurus, and family members. This also has Health benefits of hand writing, viz Exercises hand muscles and preserves motor skills, Improves the correlation between sensory and motor skills and enhances cognitive sentence formation and expression.

A press interaction was also organised to highlight the importance of Philately Day, the initiatives undertaken by India Post to promote philately, and the role of Mumbai GPO in encouraging stamp collecting and engaging with students, collectors and the general public.

The celebration reaffirmed Mumbai GPO's commitment to promoting philately among students and the general public, while highlighting the role of postage stamps and postcards in preserving India's natural heritage and fostering awareness about its rich biodiversity.

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