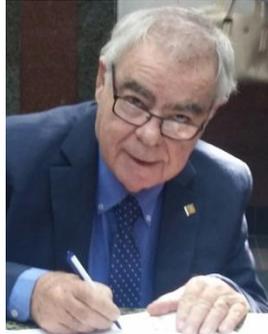




## **Message from President of Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP)**



Mr. Bernard Beston

### **INPEX 2019**

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to INPEX 2019 National Philatelic Exhibition, here in Mumbai, India.

Indeed, I am most honoured as I recognise the event as commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of a fellow Lawyer, Mahatma Gandhi. And of course Gandhi's birth place was not so very far from Mumbai.

I do apologise for not being with you on this great occasion, and for enjoying a pleasant time with Indian collectors and exhibitors.

I have collected Indian Postal Stationery now for well over 40 years.

For me, collecting is not about winning medals and accolades. It is about the challenge in building an exhibit; the thrill of the chase for that special item; the acquisition of knowledge; and the building of friendships and relationships with fellow collectors and Dealers. Plus, being able to pass that knowledge onto others.

This Exhibition is so important, as it brings together collectors and Philatelists from all over India and from neighbouring countries. I do hope that here in INPEX 2019 each of you will find that special philatelic gem that you have been searching for.

There is no better or more economical vehicle for the promotion of our hobby, than through Stamp Exhibitions. This is so, whether they are big or small. Here collectors can not only work together, but share their knowledge and research with each other; and build relationships, and foster friendships, and make new ones.

Such relationship building cannot be achieved via the internet or the telephone.

You are really blessed with a most wonderful and vibrant Country.

I congratulate the Philatelic Congress of India for presenting this Exhibition and providing such a wonderful opportunity for all collectors.

I extend a warm welcome to you to attend this important event.

I wish all those associated with it - the Organisers, Jurors, Exhibitors, Visitors, Postal Administrations and Stamp Dealers - an enjoyable time; and the Exhibition, every success.

**Bernard Beston**  
**President - Federation Internationale De Philatelic (FIP)**