Mail Exchange between India & Ceylon prior to Air-Mail

Air-mail services between India & Ceylon was introduced in the early 1930s. Until then, mails were carried by train in land, and then by ferries / steamers on sea. The incoming mail from and via Ceylon to India were transferred through three transit port post offices – Point Calimere (now Kodikkarai), Tuticorin, and Dhanushkodi, all in present day Tamilnadu State.



Envelope from Jaffna dated Nov 21, 1896, transferred to Point Calimere, arriving Ramachandrapuram, Pudukotah on Nov 28, 1896.

Envelope from Colombo dated Dec 9, 1898 transferred to Tuticorin, arriving Devakota on Dec 12, 1898.

> Prepaid 5c postal envelope from Colombo dated Nov 14, 1918 transferred to Dhanuskodi, arriving Karaikudi on Nov 18, 1918 with double-circle rubberstamp with No.6 in middle, "passed censor" cancellation.

9 - DEC. 1898

COLOMBO,