

No. 3373

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and
INDIA**

Parcel Post Agreement. Signed at New Delhi, on 29 July 1954, and at Washington, on 17 September 1954

Detailed Regulations for the execution of the above-mentioned Agreement. Signed at New Delhi, on 29 July 1954, and at Washington, on 17 September 1954

Official text: English.

Registered by the United States of America on 9 May 1956.

**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE
et
INDE**

Arrangement relatif à l'échange de colis postaux. Signé à New-Delhi, le 29 juillet 1954, et à Washington, le 17 septembre 1954

Règlement d'exécution de l'Arrangement susmentionné. Signé à New-Delhi, le 29 juillet 1954, et à Washington, le 17 septembre 1954

Texte officiel anglais.

Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 9 mai 1956.

No. 3373. PARCEL POST AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND INDIA. SIGNED AT NEW DELHI, ON 29 JULY 1954, AND AT WASHINGTON, ON 17 SEPTEMBER 1954

The Postal Administrations of India and of the United States of America (including Alaska, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, Samoa, and Hawaii) agree to effect a regular direct exchange of parcels between India and the United States of America.

Article I

EXCHANGE OF PARCELS

Between the United States of America (including Alaska, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, Samoa, and Hawaii) on the one hand and India on the other hand, there may be exchanged parcels up to the limits of weight and dimensions stated in the Detailed Regulations² for the Execution of this Agreement.

Article II

TRANSIT PARCELS

1. Each Postal Administration agrees to accept in transit through its service, to or from any country with which it has parcel-post communication, parcels originating in, or addressed for delivery in the service of, the other contracting Administrations.

2. Each Postal Administration shall inform the other to which countries parcels may be sent through it as intermediary, and the amount of the charges due to it therefor, as well as other conditions.

3. To be accepted for onward transmission, parcels sent by one of the contracting Administrations through the service of the other Administration must comply with the conditions prescribed from time to time by the intermediate Administration.

¹ Came into force on 1 January 1955, in accordance with article XXX.

² See p. 94 of this volume.

Article III

POSTAGE AND FEES

1. The Administration of origin is entitled to collect from the sender of each parcel the postage and the fees for requests for information as to the disposal of a parcel made after it has been posted, and also, in the case of insured parcels, the insurance fees and the fees for return receipt that may from time to time be prescribed by its regulations.

2. Except in the case of returned or redirected parcels, the postage and such of the fees mentioned in the preceding section as are applicable must be prepaid.

Article IV

PREPARATION OF PARCELS

Every parcel shall be packed in a manner adequate for the length of the journey and the protection of the contents as set forth in the Detailed Regulations.

Article V

PROHIBITIONS

1. The following articles are prohibited transmission by parcel post :

(a) A letter or a communication having the character of an actual and personal correspondence. Nevertheless, it is permitted to enclose in a parcel an open invoice confined to the particulars which constitute an invoice, and also a simple copy of the address of the parcel, that of the sender being added.

(b) An enclosure which bears an address different from that placed on the cover of the parcel.

(c) Any live animal, except bees, leeches, and silkworms.

(d) Any article the admission of which is forbidden by the customs or other laws or regulations in force in either country.

(e) Any explosive or inflammable article and, in general, any article the conveyance of which is dangerous, including articles which from their nature or packing may be a source of danger to postal employees or may soil or damage other articles.

(f) Articles of an obscene or immoral nature.

(g) It is, moreover, forbidden to send coin, bank notes, currency notes, or any kind of securities payable to bearer; platinum, gold, or silver (whether manufactured or unmanufactured); precious stones, jewelry, or other precious articles in uninsured parcels.

If a parcel which contains coin, bank notes, currency notes, or any kind of securities payable to bearer; platinum, gold, or silver (whether manufactured or unmanufactured); precious stones, jewelry, or other precious articles is sent uninsured, it shall be placed under insurance by the country of destination and treated accordingly.

2. If a parcel contravening any of these prohibitions is handed over by one Administration to the other, the latter shall proceed in accordance with its laws and inland regulations. Explosives or inflammable articles, as well as documents, pictures, and other articles injurious to public morals, may be destroyed on the spot by the Administration which finds them in the mails.

3. The fact that a parcel contains a letter or a communication which constitutes an actual and personal correspondence should not, in any case, entail return of the parcel to the sender. The letter is, however, marked for collection of postage due from the addressee at the regular rate.

4. The two Administrations advise each other by means of the List of Prohibited Articles published by the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union of all prohibited articles and each of them undertakes to publish them in its Postal Guide. However, they do not on this account assume any responsibility to the sender for the correctness or completeness of the information.

5. If a parcel wrongly admitted to the post is neither returned to origin nor delivered to the addressee, the Administration of origin shall be informed as to the precise treatment accorded to the parcel in order that it may take such steps as are necessary.

Article VI

INSURANCE

1. Parcels may be insured up to the amount of 500 gold francs or its equivalent in the currency of the country of origin. However, the Chiefs of the Postal Administrations of the two contracting countries may, by mutual consent, increase or decrease this maximum amount of insurance.

2. An insurance fee to be fixed by the Postal Administration of the country of origin may be charged on each insured parcel.

Article VII

FRAUDULENT INSURANCE

1. The insured value may not exceed the actual value of the contents of the parcel, but it is permitted to insure only part of this value.

2. The fraudulent insurance of a parcel for a sum exceeding the actual value shall be subject to any legal proceedings which may be admitted by the laws of the country of origin.

Article VIII

RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSS, DAMAGE OR ABSTRACTION

1. Except in the cases mentioned in the following article, the two Administrations shall be responsible for the loss of insured parcels only, and for the loss, damage, or abstraction of their contents or of a part thereof.

The sender or other rightful claimant is entitled under this head to compensation corresponding to the actual amount of the loss, damage, or abstraction. The amount of compensation for an insured parcel shall not exceed the amount for which it was insured, and on which the insurance fee has been collected.

In cases where the loss, damage, or abstraction occurs in the service of the country of destination, the Administration of destination may pay compensation to the addressee at its own expense and without consulting the Administration of origin; provided that the addressee can prove that the sender has waived his rights in the addressee's favor.

2. Compensation shall be calculated on the current price of goods of the same nature at the place and time at which the goods were accepted for transmission or, in the absence of current price, on the ordinary estimated value. In calculating the amount of compensation, indirect loss or loss of profits shall not be taken into consideration.

3. Where compensation is due for the loss, destruction, or complete damage of an insured parcel or for the abstraction of the whole of the contents, the sender is entitled to return of the postage also, if claimed.

4. In all cases, insurance fees shall be retained by the Administration concerned.

5. In the absence of special agreement to the contrary between the countries involved, which agreement may be made by correspondence, no indemnity will be paid by either country for the loss of transit insured parcels; that is, parcels originating in a country not participating in this Agreement and destined for one of the two contracting countries, or parcels originating in one of the two contracting countries and destined for a country not participating in this Agreement.

6. When an insured parcel originating in one country and destined to be delivered in the other country is reforwarded from there to a third country or is returned to a third country, at the request of the sender or of the addressee,

the party entitled to the indemnity in case of loss, rifling, or damage occurring subsequent to the reforwarding or return of the parcel by the original country of destination can lay claim in such a case only to the indemnity which the country where the loss, rifling, or damage occurred consents to pay, or which that country is obliged to pay in accordance with the agreement made between the countries directly interested in the reforwarding or return. Either of the two countries signing the present Agreement which wrongly forwards an insured parcel to a third country is responsible to the sender to the same extent as the country of origin; that is, within the limits of the present Agreement.

Article IX

EXCEPTIONS TO THE PRINCIPLE OF RESPONSIBILITY

1. The two Administrations are relieved from all responsibility :

(a) When the parcel has been delivered to the addressee or it has been returned to the sender and the addressee or the sender, as the case may be, has signed and returned the receipt therefor without any reservation.

(b) In case of loss or damage through *force majeure*, although either Administration may at its option and without recourse to the other Administration pay indemnity for loss or damage due to *force majeure* even in cases where the Administration of the country in the service of which the loss or damage occurred recognizes that the damage was due to *force majeure*.

(c) When they are unable to account for parcels in consequence of the destruction of official documents through *force majeure*

(d) When the damage has been caused by the fault or negligence of the sender, or the addressee, or the representative of either; or when it is due to the nature of the article.

(e) For parcels which contain prohibited articles.

(f) For parcels seized by the Customs because of false declaration of contents or for any other reason.

(g) In case the sender of an insured parcel, with intent to defraud, shall declare the contents to be above their real value; this rule, however, shall not prejudice any legal proceedings necessitated by the legislation of the country of origin.

(h) When no inquiry or application for indemnity has been made by the claimant or his representative within a year commencing with the day following the posting of the insured parcel.

(i) For parcels which contain perishable matter, or which did not conform to the stipulations of this Agreement, or which were not posted in the manner prescribed; but the country responsible for the loss, rifling, or damage may pay indemnity in respect of such parcels without recourse to the other Administration.

2. The responsibility of properly enclosing, packing, and sealing insured parcels rests upon the sender, and the postal service of neither country will assume liability for loss, rifling, or damage arising from defects which may not be observed at the time of posting.

Article X

TERMINATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

1. The two Administrations shall cease to be responsible for parcels which have been delivered in accordance with their internal regulations and of which the owners or their agents have accepted delivery.

2. Responsibility is, however, maintained when the addressee or, in case of return, the sender makes reservations in taking delivery of a parcel the contents of which have been abstracted or damaged.

Article XI

PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION

The payment of compensation shall be undertaken by the Administration of origin except in the cases indicated in Article VII, Section 1, where payment is made by the Administration of destination. The Administration of origin may, however, after obtaining the sender's consent, authorize the Administration of destination to settle with the addressee. The paying Administration retains the right to make a claim against the Administration responsible.

Article XII

PERIOD FOR PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION

1. Compensation shall be paid as soon as possible and, at the latest, within one year from the day following the date of the inquiry.

2. The Administration responsible is authorized to settle with the claimant on behalf of the other Administration if the latter, after being duly informed of the application, has let nine months pass without giving a decision in the matter.

3. The Administration responsible for making payment may, exceptionally, postpone it beyond the period of one year when a decision has not yet been reached upon the question whether the loss, damage, or abstraction is due to a cause beyond control.

Article XIII

INCIDENCE OF COST OF COMPENSATION

1. Until the contrary is proved, responsibility shall rest with the Administration which, having received the parcel from the other Administration without making any reservation and having been furnished with all the particulars for investigation prescribed by the regulations, cannot establish either proper delivery to the addressee or his agent, or other proper disposal of the parcel.

2. When the loss, rifling, or damage of an insured parcel is detected upon opening the receptacle at the receiving exchange office and after it has been regularly pointed out to the dispatching exchange office, the responsibility falls on the Administration to which the latter office belongs; unless it be proved that the irregularity occurred in the service of the receiving Administration.

3. If, in the case of a parcel dispatched from one of the two countries for delivery in the other, the loss, damage, or abstraction has occurred in course of conveyance without its being possible to prove in the service of which country the irregularity took place, the two Administrations shall bear the amount of compensation in equal shares.

4. By paying compensation, the Administration concerned takes over, to the extent of the amount paid, the rights of the person who has received compensation in any action which may be taken against the addressee, the sender, or a third party.

5. If a parcel which has been regarded as lost is subsequently found, in whole or in part, the person to whom compensation has been paid shall be informed that he is at liberty to take possession of the parcel against repayment of the amount paid as compensation.

Article XIV

REPAYMENT OF COMPENSATION TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF ORIGIN

1. The Administration responsible or on whose account the payment is made in accordance with Article XI is bound to repay the amount of the compensation within a period of six months after notification of payment. The amount shall be recovered from the Administration responsible through the accounts provided for in Article 23 of the Detailed Regulations.

2. The Administration which has been duly proved responsible and which has originally declined to pay compensation is bound to bear all the additional charges resulting from the unwarranted delay in payment.

Article XV

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING. RECEIPTS

1. On request made at the time of mailing an ordinary (uninsured) parcel, the sender may receive a certificate of mailing from the post office where the parcel is mailed, on a form provided for the purpose; and each country may fix a reasonable fee therefor.

2. The sender of an insured parcel receives without charge, at the time of posting, a receipt for his parcel.

Article XVI

RETURN RECEIPTS AND INQUIRIES

1. The sender of an insured parcel may obtain an advice of delivery on payment of such additional charge, if any, as the country of origin of the parcel shall stipulate and under the conditions laid down in the Regulations.

2. A fee may be charged at the option of the country of origin on a request for information as to the disposal of an ordinary parcel and also of an insured parcel made after it has been posted if the sender has not already paid the special fee to obtain an advice of delivery.

3. A fee may also be charged at the option of the country of origin in connection with any complaint of any irregularity which *prima facie* was not due to the fault of the Postal Service.

Article XVII

CUSTOMS CHARGES

The parcels are subject to all customs laws and regulations in force in the country of destination. The duties collectible on that account are collected from the addressee on delivery of the parcel in accordance with the customs regulations.

Article XVIII

CUSTOMS CHARGES TO BE CANCELED

The customs charges on parcels sent back to the country of origin or redirected to another country shall be canceled both in India and in the United States of America.

Article XIX

FEE FOR CUSTOMS CLEARANCE

The office of delivery may collect from the addressee either in respect of delivery to the Customs and clearance through the Customs, or in respect of delivery to the Customs only, a fee not exceeding 50 gold centimes per parcel or such other fee as it may from time to time fix for similar services in its parcel-post relations with other countries generally.

Article XX

DELIVERY TO THE ADRESSEE. FEE FOR DELIVERY AT THE PLACE OF ADDRESS

Parcels are delivered to the addressees as quickly as possible in accordance with the conditions in force in the country of destination. That country may collect in respect of delivery of parcels to the addressee a fee not exceeding 50 gold centimes per parcel. The same fee may be charged, if the case arises, for each presentation after the first at the addressee's residence or place of business.

Article XXI

WAREHOUSING CHARGE

The country of destination is authorized to collect the warehousing charge fixed by its legislation for parcels addressed *Poste Restante* or which are not claimed within the prescribed period. This charge may in no case exceed 5 gold francs.

Article XXII

MISSENT PARCELS

Parcels received out of course, or wrongly allowed to be dispatched, shall be retransmitted or returned in accordance with the provisions of Article 1, Section 2, and Article 16, Sections 1 and 2, of the Detailed Regulations.

Article XXIII

REDIRECTION

1. A parcel may be redirected in consequence of the addressee's change of address in the country of destination. The Administration of destination may collect the redirection charge prescribed by its internal regulations. Similarly, a parcel may be redirected from one of the two countries which are parties to this Agreement to a third country provided that the parcel complies with the

conditions required for its further conveyance and provided, as a rule, that the extra postage is prepaid at the time of redirection or documentary evidence is produced that the addressee will pay it.

2. Additional charges levied in respect of redirection and not paid by the addressee or his representative shall not be canceled in case of further redirection or of return to origin, but shall be collected from the addressee or from the sender as the case may be, without prejudice to the payment of any special charges incurred which the Administration of destination does not agree to cancel.

Article XXIV

NONDELIVERY

1. The sender may request at the time of posting, that, if the parcel cannot be delivered as addressed, it may be either (a) treated as abandoned or (b) tendered for delivery at a second address in the country of destination. No other alternative is admissible. If the sender avails himself of this facility, his request must appear on the dispatch note and must be in conformity with, or analogous to, one of the following forms :

“ If not deliverable as addressed, abandon.”

“ If not deliverable as addressed, deliver to . . .”

The same request must also appear on the customs declaration.

2. In the absence of a request by the sender to the contrary, a parcel which cannot be delivered shall be returned to the sender without previous notification and at his expense thirty days after its arrival at the office of destination.

Nevertheless, a parcel which is definitely refused by the addressee shall be returned immediately.

3. The charges due on returned undeliverable parcels shall be recovered in accordance with the provisions of Article 20, Section 5, of the Detailed Regulations.

Article XXV

SALE. DESTRUCTION

Articles of which the early deterioration or corruption is to be expected, and these only, may be sold immediately, even when in transit on the outward or return journey, without previous notice or judicial formality. If, for any reason, a sale is impossible, the spoilt or putrid articles shall be destroyed.

Article XXVI

ABANDONED PARCELS

Parcels which cannot be delivered to the addressees and which the senders have abandoned shall not be returned by the Administration of destination, but shall be treated in accordance with its legislation. No claim shall be made by the Administration of destination against the Administration of origin in respect of such parcels.

Article XXVII

CHARGES

1. For each parcel exchanged between the contracting countries, the dispatching office allows to the office of destination, in the parcel bills, the credits due to the latter, and indicated in Article 22 of the Detailed Regulations.

2. The sums to be paid for a parcel in transit, that is, parcels destined either for a possession or for a third country, are indicated respectively, in Article 22 of the Detailed Regulations, and in Article II of this Agreement.

Article XXVIII

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

1. The francs and centimes mentioned in this Agreement are gold francs and centimes as defined in the Universal Postal Union Convention.

2. Parcels shall not be subjected to any postal charges other than those contemplated in this Agreement, except by mutual consent of the two Administrations.

3. In extraordinary circumstances either Administration may temporarily suspend the parcel post, either entirely or partially, on condition of giving immediate notice, if necessary by telegraph, to the other Administration.

Article XXIX

MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR IN THE PRESENT AGREEMENT

1. Unless they are provided for in the present Agreement, all questions concerning requests for recall or return of parcels, obtaining and disposition of return receipts, and adjustment of indemnity claims in connection with insured parcels shall be governed by the provisions of the Universal Postal Convention¹ and its Regulations of Execution insofar as they are applicable and

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 169, p. 3; Vol. 186, p. 356; Vol. 202, p. 340, and Vol. 227, p. 390.

are not contrary to the foregoing provisions. If the case is not provided for at all, the domestic legislation of the United States of America or of India, or the domestic legislation of the United States of America or of India, or the decisions made by one country or the other are applicable in the respective country.

2. The details relative to the application of the present Agreement will be fixed by the two Administrations in the Detailed Regulations, the provisions of which may be modified or completed by mutual consent by way of correspondence.

3. The two Administrations notify each other mutually of their laws, ordinances, and tariffs concerning the exchange of parcel post, as well as of all modifications in rates which may be subsequently made.

Article XXX

ENTRY INTO FORCE AND DURATION OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall become effective on a date to be mutually settled between the Administrations of the two countries.

It shall remain in force until one of the Administrations of the two contracting countries has given notice to the other six months in advance of its intention to terminate it.

DONE in duplicate and signed at Washington, the 17th day of September 1954 and at New Delhi, the 29th day of July 1954.

[SEAL]

Arthur E. SUMMERFIELD

The Postmaster General of the United States of America

H. L. JERATH

The Director General of Posts and Telegraphs of India

DETAILED REGULATIONS¹ FOR THE EXECUTION OF
THE PARCEL POST AGREEMENT.² SIGNED AT NEW
DELHI, ON 29 JULY 1954, AND AT WASHINGTON, ON
17 SEPTEMBER 1954

Article 1

CIRCULATION

1. Each Administration shall forward by the routes and means which it uses for its own parcels, parcels delivered to it by the other Administration for conveyance in transit through its territory.

2. Missent parcels shall be retransmitted to their proper destination by the most direct route at the disposal of the office retransmitting them. Insured parcels, when missent, may not be reforwarded to their destination except as insured mail. If this is impossible, they must be returned to origin.

Article 2

LIMITS OF WEIGHT AND SIZE

1. The parcels to be exchanged under the provisions of this Agreement may not exceed 22 pounds (10 kilograms) in weight nor the following dimensions :

Greatest combined length and girth, 6 feet. Greatest length 3½ feet, except that parcels measure up to 4 feet in length, on condition that parcels over 42 and not over 44 inches in length do not exceed 24 inches in girth, parcels over 44 and not over 46 inches in length do not exceed 20 inches in girth, and parcels over 46 inches and up to 4 feet in length do not exceed 16 inches in girth.

2. The limit of weight and maximum dimensions stated above may be changed from time to time by agreement made through correspondence.

Article 3

METHOD OF TRANSMISSION. PROVISION OF BAGS

1. The exchange of parcels between the two countries shall be effected by the offices appointed by agreement between the two Administrations.

¹ Came into force on 1 January 1955, the date of entry into force of the Parcel Post Agreement, in accordance with article 24.

² See p. 70 of this volume.

2. Parcels shall be exchanged between the two countries in bags duly fastened and sealed.

In the absence of any arrangement to the contrary, the transmission of parcels dispatched by one of the two contracting countries in transit through the other shall be effected *à découvert*.

3. A label showing the office of exchange of origin and the office of exchange of destination shall be attached to the neck of each bag, the number of parcels contained in the bag being indicated on the back of the label.

4. The bag containing the parcel bill and other documents shall be distinctively labeled.

5. Insured parcels shall be forwarded in separate bags from ordinary parcels. The neck label attached to any bag containing insured parcels shall be marked with any distinctive symbol that may from time to time be agreed upon by the two Administrations.

6. The weight of any bag of parcels shall not exceed 80 pounds avoirdupois.

7. The Postal Administrations of India and of the United States of America shall provide the respective bags necessary for the dispatch of their parcels and each bag shall be marked to show the name of the office or country to which it belongs.

8. Bags must be returned empty to the dispatching office by the next mail. Empty bags to be returned are to be made up in bundles of ten, enclosing nine bags in one. The total number of bags returned shall be entered on the relative parcel bills.

9. Each Administration shall be required to make good the value of any bags which it fails to return.

Article 4

INFORMATION TO BE FURNISHED

1. Each Administration shall communicate to the other Administration all necessary information on points of detail in connection with the exchange of parcels between the two Administrations and also :

(a) The names of the countries to which it can forward parcels handed over to it.

(b) The total amount to be credited to it by the other Administration for each destination.

(c) Any other necessary information.

2. Each Administration shall make known to the other the names of the countries to which it intends to send parcels in transit through the other.

Article 5

FIXING OF EQUIVALENTS

In fixing the charges for parcels, either Administration shall be at liberty to adopt such approximate equivalents as may be convenient in its own currency.

Article 6

MAKE-UP OF PARCELS

Every parcel shall :

(a) Bear the exact address of the addressee in Roman characters. Addresses in pencil shall not be allowed except that parcels bearing addresses written with indelible pencil on a previously dampened surface shall be accepted. The address shall be written on the parcel itself or on a label so firmly attached to it that it cannot become detached. The sender of a parcel shall be advised to enclose in the parcel a copy of the address together with a note of his own address.

(b) Be packed in a manner adequate for the length of the journey and for the protection of the contents.

Articles liable to injure postal employees or to damage other parcels shall be so packed as to prevent any risk.

Article 7

SPECIAL PACKING

1. Liquids and substances which easily liquefy shall be packed in two receptacles. Between the first receptacle (bottle, flask, pot, box, etc.) and the second (box of metal or of stout wood, or strong fiberboard of equal strength) shall be left a space which shall be filled with sawdust, bran, or some other absorbent material in sufficient quantity to absorb all the liquid contents in the case of breakage.

2. Dry coloring powders such as aniline blue, etc., shall be admitted only if enclosed in stout metal boxes placed inside wooden boxes with sawdust between the two receptacles.

Dry non-coloring powders must be placed in boxes of metal, wood or cardboard, these boxes must themselves be enclosed in covers of linen, parchment or heavy paper.

3. Every parcel containing precious stones, jewelry, or any article of gold, silver, or platinum exceeding \$500 or £100 in value shall be packed in a box measuring not less than 3 feet 6 inches (1.05 meters) in length and girth combined.

4. A parcel containing films or acceptable articles made of celluloid as well as the dispatch note relating thereto, if one is required, must have affixed a "caution" label with the notation in black letters "Keep away from fire, heat and open flame lights", or a similar notation.

Article 8

CUSTOMS DECLARATIONS

1. Each parcel sent to India shall be accompanied by two customs declarations and each parcel sent to the United States of America shall be accompanied by one customs declaration, according to the regulations of the country of destination. The customs declarations shall be firmly attached to the parcels to which they relate.

2. The two Administrations accept no responsibility in respect of the accuracy of customs declarations.

Article 9

ADVICE OF DELIVERY

1. Insured parcels for which the senders ask an advice of delivery shall be very prominently marked "Advice of Delivery" or "A. R."

2. Such parcels shall be accompanied by a form similar to that annexed to the Detailed Regulations of the Convention of the Universal Postal Union. This advice of delivery form shall be prepared by the office of origin or by any other office appointed by the Administration of origin and shall be firmly attached to the parcel to which it relates. If it does not reach the office of destination, that office shall make out officially a new advice of delivery form.

3. The office of destination, after having duly filled out the form, shall return it by ordinary post, unenclosed, and free of postage to the address of the sender of the parcel.

4. When the sender makes inquiry concerning an advice of delivery which has not been returned to him a reasonable interval, action shall be taken in accordance with the rules laid down in Article 10 following. In that case a second fee shall not be charged, and the office of origin shall enter the words "Duplicate advice of delivery" at the top of the form.

Article 10

ADVICE OF DELIVERY APPLIED FOR AFTER POSTING

1. When the sender applies for an advice of delivery after an insured parcel has been posted, the office of origin or any other office appointed by

the Administration of origin shall fill in an advice of delivery form and shall attach it to a form of inquiry.

2. The form of inquiry accompanied by the advice of delivery form shall be treated according to the provisions of Article 19 below, with the single exception that, in the case of the due delivery of the parcel, the office of destination shall withdraw the form of inquiry and shall return the advice of delivery form in the manner prescribed in paragraph 3 of the preceding article.

Article 11

INDICATION OF INSURED VALUE

Every insured parcel and the relative customs declaration and dispatch note, wherever used, shall bear an indication of the insured value in the currency of the country of origin. The indication on the parcel shall be both in words and in figures. The amount of the insured value shall be converted into gold francs by the Administration of origin. The result of the conversion shall be indicated distinctly by new figures placed beside or below those representing the amount of the insured value in the currency of the country of origin.

Article 12

INSURANCE NUMBERS, LABELS, SEALS

1. Every insured parcel and its customs declaration and dispatch note, wherever used, as well shall bear on the address side, an insurance number and a small red label with the words "Insured" or "*Valeur déclarée*" in large letters, or these words shall be marked or stamped on the parcel and the customs declaration.

2. The wax or other seals, the labels of whatever kind and any postage stamps affixed to insured parcels shall be so spaced that they cannot conceal injuries to the cover. Moreover, the labels and postage stamps, if any, shall not be folded over two sides of the cover so as to hide the edge.

Article 13

SEALING OF PARCELS

1. Ordinary parcels may be sealed at the option of the senders, or careful tying is sufficient as a mode of closing.

2. Every insured parcel shall be sealed by means of wax or by lead or other seals, the seals being sufficient in number to render it impossible to tamper with the contents without leaving an obvious trace of violation. Either Admin-

istration may require a special design or mark of the sender on the sealing of insured parcels mailed in its service, as a means of protection.

3. The Customs Administration of the country of destination is authorized to open the parcels. To that end, the seals or other fastenings may be broken. Parcels opened by the Customs must be refastened and also officially resealed.

Article 14

INDICATION OF WEIGHT OF INSURED PARCELS

The exact weight in grams or in pounds and ounces of each insured parcel shall be entered by the Administration of origin :

(a) On the address side of the parcel.

(b) On the customs declaration and dispatch note, wherever used, in the place reserved for this purpose.

Article 15

PLACE OF POSTING

Each parcel and the relative customs declaration and dispatch note, wherever used, as well shall bear the name of the office and the date of posting.

Article 16

RETRANSMISSION

1. The Administration retransmitting a missent parcel shall not levy customs or other non-postal charges upon it.

When an Administration returns such a parcel to the country from which it has been directly received, it shall refund the credits received and report the error by means of a verification note.

In other cases, and if the amount credited to it is insufficient to cover the expenses of retransmission which it has to defray, the retransmitting Administration shall allow to the Administration to which it forwards the parcel the credits due for onward conveyance; it shall then recover the amount of the deficiency by claiming it from the office of exchange from which the missent parcel was directly received. The reason for this claim shall be notified to the latter by means of a verification note.

2. When a parcel has been wrongly allowed to be dispatched in consequence of an error attributable to the postal service and has, for this reason, to be returned to the country of origin, the Administration which sends the parcel back shall allow to the Administration from which it was received the sums credited in respect of it.

3. The charges on a parcel redirected, in consequence of the removal of the addressee or of an error on the part of the sender, to a country with which India or the United States of America has parcel-post communication, shall be claimed from the Administration to which the parcel is forwarded; unless the charge for conveyance is paid at the time of redirection, in which case the parcel shall be dealt with as if it had been addressed directly from the retransmitting country to the new country of destination. In case the third country to which the parcel is forwarded refuses to assume the charges because they cannot be collected from the sender or the addressee, as the case may be, or for any other reason, they shall be charged back to the country of origin.

4. A parcel which is redirected shall be retransmitted in its original packing and shall be accompanied by the original customs declaration. If the parcel, for any reason whatsoever, has to be repacked or if the original customs declaration has to be replaced by a substitute declaration, the name of the office of origin of the parcel and the original serial number and, if possible, the date of posting at that office shall be entered both on the parcel and on the customs declaration.

Article 17

RETURN OF UNDELIVERABLE PARCELS

1. If the sender of an undeliverable parcel has made a request not provided for by Article XXIV, Section 1, of the Agreement, the Administration of destination need not comply with it but may return the parcel to the country of origin, after retention for the prescribed period.

2. The Administration which returns a parcel to the sender shall indicate clearly and concisely on the parcel and on the relative customs declaration the cause of nondelivery. This information may be furnished in manuscript or by means of a stamped impression or a label. The original customs declaration belonging to the returned parcel must be sent back to the country of origin with the parcel.

3. A parcel to be returned to the sender shall be entered on the parcel bill with the word "*Rebut*" in the "Observations" column. It shall be dealt with and charged like a parcel redirected in consequence of the removal of the addressee.

Article 18

SALE. DESTRUCTION

When an insured parcel has been sold or destroyed in accordance with the provisions of Article XXV of the Agreement, a report of the sale or destruction shall be prepared, a copy of which shall be transmitted to the Administration of origin.

Article 19

INQUIRIES CONCERNING PARCELS

For inquiries concerning parcels which have not been returned, a form shall be used similar to the specimen annexed to the Detailed Regulations of the Parcel Post Agreement of the Universal Postal Union.¹ These forms shall be forwarded to the offices appointed by the two Administrations to deal with them and they shall be dealt with in the manner mutually arranged between the two Administrations.

Article 20

PARCEL BILLS

1. Separate parcel bills must be prepared for the ordinary parcels on the one hand and for the insured parcels on the other hand. The parcel bills are prepared in duplicate. The original is sent in the regular mails, while the duplicate is enclosed in one of the bags. The bag containing the parcel bill is designated with the letter " F " conspicuously marked on the label.

2. Ordinary parcels sent from either country to the other shall be entered on the parcel bills to show the total number of parcels and the total weight thereof.

3. Insured parcels, sent from either country shall be entered individually on the parcel bills to show the insurance number and the name of the office of origin, as well as the total net weight of the parcels.

4. Parcels sent *à découvert* must be entered separately.

5. In the case of returned or redirected parcels the word " Returned " or " Redirected ", as the case may be, must be entered on the bill against the individual entry. A statement of the charges which may be due on these parcels should be shown in the " Observations " column.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 170, p. 63; Vol. 186, p. 360; Vol. 202, p. 348, and Vol. 227, p. 390.

6. The total number of bags comprising each dispatch must also be shown on the parcel bill.

7. Each dispatching office of exchange shall number the parcel bills in the top left-hand corner in an annual series for each office of exchange of destination and, as far as possible, shall enter below the number the name of the ship conveying the mail. A note of the last number of the year shall be made on the first parcel bill of the following year.

Article 21

CHECK BY OFFICES OF EXCHANGE. NOTIFICATION OF IRREGULARITIES

1. On receipt of a mail, whether of parcels or of empty bags, the office of exchange shall check the parcels and the various documents which accompany them, or the empty bags, as the case may be, against the particulars entered on the relative parcel bill and, if necessary, shall report missing articles or other irregularities by means of a verification note.

2. Any discrepancies in the credits and accounting shall be notified to the dispatching office of exchange by verification note. The accepted verification notes shall be attached to the parcel bills to which they relate. Corrections made on parcel bills not supported by vouchers shall not be considered valid.

Article 22

CREDITS

1. The territorial credit due to India for parcels addressed for delivery in the service of its territory shall be 26.5 cents per pound computed on the bulk net weight of each dispatch.

2. The territorial credit due to the United States of America for parcels addressed for delivery in the service of its territory shall be as follows, computed on the bulk net weight of each dispatch :

For parcels addressed to the United States of America (continent), 0.32 franc per pound.

The combined territorial and maritime credits due to the United States of America for parcels addressed for delivery to the service of its possessions are as follows :

For parcels addressed to Alaska, 1.00 franc per pound.

For parcels addressed to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, 0.48 franc per pound.

For parcels addressed to Samoa, Guam, and Hawaii, 0.84 franc per pound.

3. Each Administration reserves the right to vary its territorial rates in accordance with any alterations of these charges which may be decided upon in connection with its parcel-post relations with other countries generally.

4. Three months' advance notice must be given of any increase or reduction of the rates mentioned in Sections 1 and 2 of this Article. Such reduction or increase shall be effective for a period of not less than one year.

Article 23

ACCOUNTING FOR CREDITS

1. Each Administration shall cause each of its offices of exchange to prepare quarterly for all the parcel mails dispatched to it during the quarter by each of the offices of exchange of the other Administration a statement of the total amounts entered on the parcel bills, whether to its credit or to its debit.

2. These statements shall be afterwards summarized by the same Administrations in quarterly accounts which, accompanied by the parcel bills relating thereto, shall be forwarded to the corresponding Administration in the course of the quarter following that to which it relates.

3. The recapitulation, transmission, examination, and acceptance of these accounts must not be delayed. After acceptance, the accounts shall be summarized in a quarterly general account prepared by the Administration to which the balance is due and payment of the balance shall take place; at the latest, at the expiration of the following quarter. After expiration of this term, the sums due from one Administration to the other shall bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum to be reckoned from the date of expiration of the said term. The balance due must be paid by sight draft drawn on New York, or by some other means mutually agreed upon by correspondence.

Article 24

ENTRY INTO FORCE AND DURATION OF THE DETAILED REGULATIONS

The present Detailed Regulations shall come into force on the day on which the Parcel Post Agreement comes into force and shall have the same

duration as the Agreement. The Administrations concerned shall, however, have the power by mutual consent to modify the details from time to time.

DONE in duplicate and signed at Washington, on the 17th day of September, 1954 and at New Delhi, the 29th day of July 1954.

Arthur E. SUMMERFIELD

The Postmaster General of the United States of America

H. L. JERATH

The Director General of Posts and Telegraphs of India

[SEAL]
