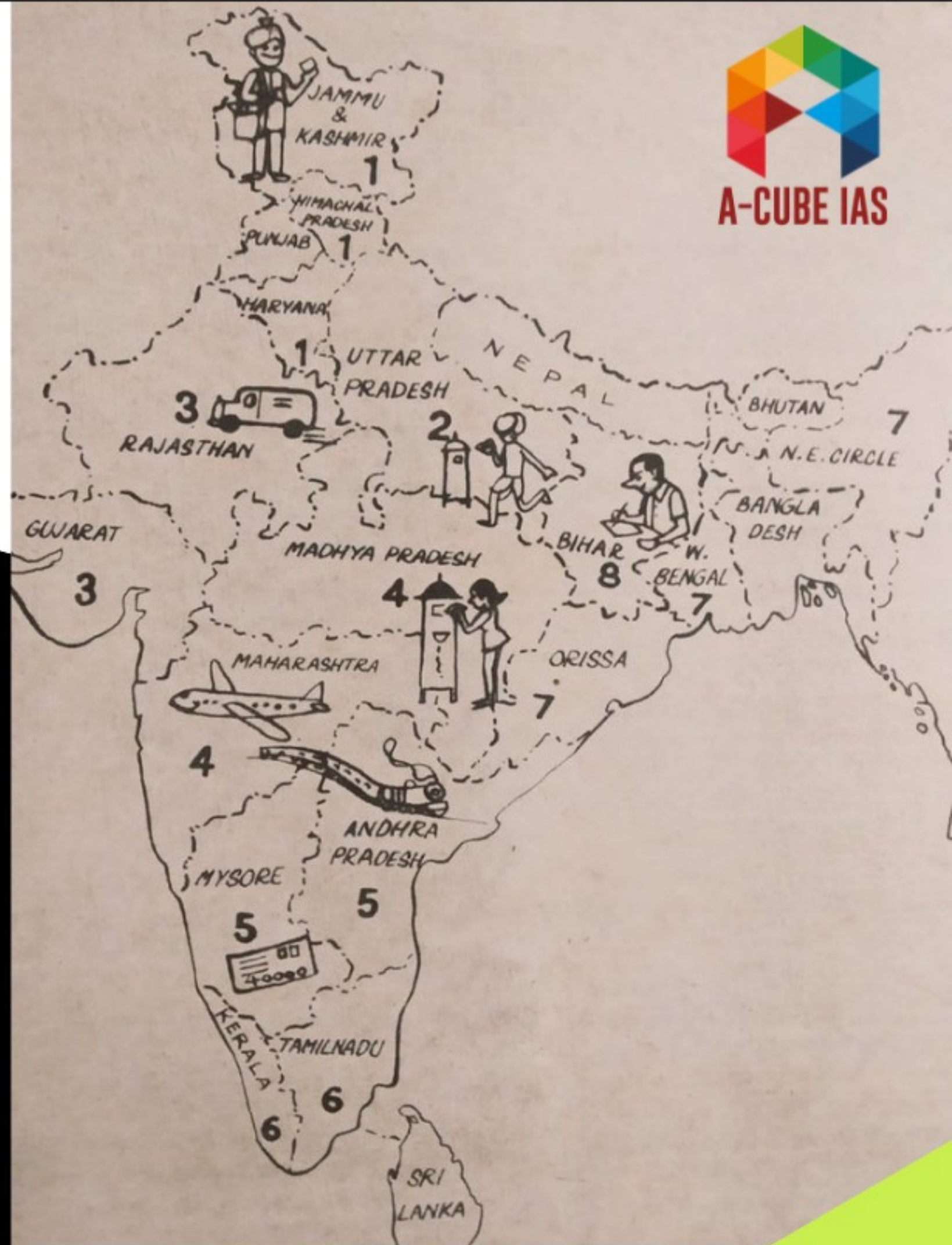


A PEEP INTO THE PAST

POSTAL ZONES OF INDIA IN 1970's

“
POSTAL
INDEX
NUMBER
”



POSTAL ZONES - FIRST DIGIT OF PIN CODE

POSTAL INDEX NUMBER (PINCODE)

Northern zone

1, 2

Western zone

3, 4

Southern zone

5, 6

Eastern zone

7, 8

Army postal zone

9



MAP OF POSTAL DEPARTMENT'S PINCODE ON 15 AUGUST, 1972



POSTAL INDEX NUMBER

1. Postal Index Number or more popularly known as PIN code are a six-digit numeric code in the Indian postal system by India post.
2. The PIN code was first introduced on 15th August, 1972 by Shriram Bhikaji who was the then Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Communications.
3. This system simplified the process of manual sorting and delivery of mails.
4. Presence of different languages, places with similar names created a lot of confusion.
5. There are nine postal zones in India, including eight geographical region zones and one for the Indian Army.
6. The first digit of a PIN code indicates the zone, second digit the sub zone, the third digit indicates the sorting district within that region and the last three digits indicate the specified post office within that district.