Coimbatore: The thrill and anxiety that was once associated with telegrams, now anachronistic in the age of mobile phones, will soon come to an end as BSNL stops the 160-year-old telegraph services, but the romance and charm that once was associated with it would remain a cherished memorable vignette, at least among the 'telegram generation'.

A bunch of school children, who belong to the 'cell-phone generation', tried to relive the telegram experience which will soon become history. About 60 students from Isha Vidya Matriculation Higher Secondary School visited the BSNL office opposite the Collector's office to get a firsthand experience of the service.

"We were thrilled to study about the telegraphic devices and felt sad that the services will be discontinued on July 15. When our teachers said that it was a good medium for short communication, we thought we would send telegrams to our principal, thereby getting our own personal slice of the experience," said Aravind, a seventh grade student.

"Advent of communication platforms like the Internet and mobile phones are the reason for its death. We were told that the service was once loved by many," said Rahul, a class six student.

All the 60 students sent a 'Thank you' message to the principal for having permitted them make the visit. They paid the minimum charge of ₹28 and ₹1 for every additional word.

"It is a pleasure to see the kids standing in queue to experience the facility. Their keenness to learn is commendable," said Nazeer, the official at the counter who sent the telegrams on their behalf.