

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS' COMPANION
The Weekly Newsletter from stampsOfIndia.com

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

As if putting together this newsletter and maintenance our websites wasn't enough we have undertaken to author and publish POSTAL STATIONERY OF INDIA 1947-2000 within this year. There will be a hardcopy edition, CD edition as well as an Online edition.

The first 25 years are well researched and documented though no research is ever complete. The real challenge is in collecting and documenting Modern Postal Stationery Of India with Advertisements –

Since 1975 ads have appeared on Postal Card, Aerogramme, and Inland Letter Card.

An illustrated, complete, authentic, and yearly updated checklist is desperately needed.

The Post Office rarely provides any information on these issues.

The ads have appeared in 14 different languages.

The ads are released in area/s specified by the advertiser and are not available on all India basis.

It is difficult to keep up with the new issues, as the current output is 100+ per year.

Four printers are employed and more than one printer has printed some of the issues.

Perhaps too numerous, an estimate is 1500+ different issues since 1975.

Many of the ads have popular thematic contents and demand far exceeds the supplies.

The quantity printed per ad is usually 1 million only, whereas demand for postal stationery is in billions per year.

No collector or dealer claims to have a comprehensive accumulation.

We can build a standard reference for these issues by pooling resources and by the cooperative efforts of all concerned. You are invited to partake in the challenge and the

fun of collecting modern postal stationery of India. REMEMBER these issues are not made-for-collectors issues.

Until next week, please enjoy the rest of the newsletter.

- M&SJ

Check the end of this issue for information to Subscribe and Unsubscribe.

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STAMPSOFINDIA.COM UPDATES

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ALSO FROM STAMPS OF INDIA - COVERAGE FROM GROUP SITES

India as a Topical - New Issue Report

----- advertisement -----

Visit [INDIA AS A TOPICAL](#) - A Stamps of India Site

This site is devoted to foreign stamps and philatelic items on Indian themes.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING POST LAUNCHED

"Greeting Post "a new product by India Post was launched by Mr. Ram Vilas Paswan, India's Minister for Communications, in a function organized at India Post's HQ "Dak Bhavan" on September 6, 2000 at New Delhi.

There are 32 different colorful designs of Greetings Cards with Pre-Stamped Envelopes. The postage stamps on the envelopes are an exact replica of the cards with name of the country, denomination and simulated perforations. The cards and consequently the envelopes are of two sizes - small (10.9 x 17.3 cm) and medium (12.3 x 19.3 cm). The envelopes for the small cards carry smaller size stamp imprint (4 x 3 cm) while the medium size cards have larger imprint (5 x 4 cm). The denomination of all stamps is Rs. 3 that prepays the postal charges within India. The small size greeting cards are priced at Rs. 12 and the medium size cards are for Rs. 15 each. A complete set of 32 greeting cards will cost Rs. 429 only.

Besides giving the name of the designer and printer, each design is numbered on the back and carries the logo of India Post. Calcutta Security Printers printed the cards numbered 0001 to 0022 and Madras Security Printers numbered 0023 to 0034. The cards number 0002 and 0008 shall be printed and issued later. The number is given in the

following format: 0000X00 - the first four digits are the design code, the letter "S" or "M" follows which stands for Small or Medium. The last two digits are the year of issue. Initially only 20,000 of each design have been printed.

Only 27 different designs were available for sale at the release function. 23 designs were later made available at the Philatelic Bureau, New Delhi. However these 23 designs contained 2 new designs that were not on sale at the release function bringing the total to 29 different greeting cards. No special first day of issue postmark was provided for this issue and regular date stamp of the Bureau was used. Only 6 collectors got the 29 pre-stamped envelopes postmarked.

All 32 designs will be put on sale all over India not only at the post offices but also at all outlets that stock and sell greeting cards, making it easier for the customer to purchase these cards.

The greeting cards carry either of the 2 messages - Happy Diwali or Seasons Greetings in English and Hindi. Of the 29 designs available on the first day 23 carried Happy Diwali and the remaining 6 Seasons Greetings. The balance 3 designs also carry Happy Diwali.

Several more designs are under print and will be put on sale to catch the festive season of Christmas and New Year.

This is a revised and updated edition of the report mailed earlier on September 6, 2000.

----- advertisement -----

JOIN PHILATELIC DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Philatelic Deposit Account holders have the facility of placing standing order on the philatelic bureau for supply of new stamps, First Day Covers, Brochures as well as new Postal Stationery with or without Advertisement. An Account may be opened with initial and subsequent deposits of Rs. 200. Application forms and more details about the Philatelic Deposit Account Scheme are available at all the Philatelic Bureaus in India.

Foreign customers can also avail the facility by opening an account with Director (Philately), Mumbai GPO - 400001 with initial and subsequent deposits in foreign exchange equivalent to Rs. 1000.

STAMPSOFINDIA.COM UPDATES

Check here for the Latest in the following categories at our web site stampsfindia.com
New Issues, Events, Auctions, Publications, Organizations, Dealers, Articles, Ask Us, and Links.

NEW ISSUES

STAMPS

Next issue: Olympic games, September 17

POSTAL STATIONERY

September 6

Pre-Stamped Envelopes reproducing the design of the accompanying greeting card, Price Rs. 12 – 17 different designs, and Rs. 15 – 15 different designs.

September 10

Inland Letter Card, Advertisement -, in Tamil, Security Printing Press (SPP) - Release Delayed

----- advertisement -----

Help the drive to increase readership of Stamps Of India: Collectors' Companion. Recommend Stamps Of India: Collectors' Companion to friends and colleagues.

EVENTS

DISTRICT LEVEL AT AKOLA

Mafatlal Sheth of Mumbai reports that a district level exhibition shall be held at Akola, Maharashtra from September 30 to October 2. A special cover and postmark shall be released everyday to mark the occasion. There is a provision of stalls for philatelic dealers.

AUCTIONS

SUKHANI EUROPHIL, CALCUTTA

Mr. Raj Kumar Sukhnai of Sukhani Europhil, Calcutta informs that their forthcoming auction in October shall feature rarities from well-known collections formed by Mr. P Gupta. Mr. Sukhani may be contacted at raj.sukhani@gems.vsnl.net.in

ORGANIZATIONS

PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF INDIA

The next regional meeting of the Philatelic Congress of India at Mumbai on October 15, 2000 is now canceled. Mr. Dilip Shah, President Elect & Secretary General PCI, wrote in a notice dated September 5, "members have expressed difficulties in attending the next PCI meetings due to the date being close to Vijyadashmi and Deepavali festivals." The next regional meeting of PCI will now be held during INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000 exhibition at Calcutta. The date, time, venue and their details shall be informed in due course.

----- advertisement -----

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ASK US

Please send your queries in detail (illustrations welcome) on all matters related to Philately and Postal History of India and Indian States. We will get the experts to get an answer. Submit here askus@stampsofindia.com

----- advertisement -----

WANTED HELP

We want regular correspondents and contributors everywhere in India. We are presently in no position to pay market rates but shall reimburse the costs of photographs, covers, souvenirs, speed post and other communication charges. Your contribution shall appear with your byline. Regular correspondents name shall appear in every issue as a part of our team as well as at our web site(s). Occasional contributions are also welcome. Please contact webmaster@stampsofindia.com today!

VISIT LINKS PAGE AT STAMPSOFINDIA.COM

Every site on Indian philately is listed here. If you find a broken link or a site not listed here please inform the webmaster@stampsofindia.com

ALSO FROM STAMPS OF INDIA - COVERAGE FROM GROUP SITES

INDIA AS A TOPICAL - NEW ISSUE REPORT

INDIAN RAILWAYS

Maldives. June 8, 2000. Asian Railways/The Stamp Show 2000, London

4 Stamps and 2 Sheetlets of 6 se-tenant 10rf stamps each

The 4 stamps are on Japanese Railways, 1 Sheetlet is on Chinese Railways, and 1 Sheetlet on Indian Railways. The designs are:

- (1) East Indian Railway 2-2-2 Fawn, 1856;
- (2) East Indian Railway Standard 4-4-0 Express, 1893;
- (3) Bengal-Nagpur Railway 4-4-2 Express, 1909;
- (4) Great Peninsular Railway 4-6-0 Class HPS, 1924;
- (5) North Western Railways Class XS2 4-6-2 Pacific, 1932;
- (6) Indian National Railways Standard Narrow Gauge Class YP 4-6-2, 1949

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