

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

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Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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READERS FORUM

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We sincerely apologize to all subscribers who have received multiple copies of issue #7. One subscriber received four copies. While mailing of issue #7 our Internet Service Provider (ISP) acted up. This ISP has given us no reason to complain in mailing earlier issues #3 to 6. We made a couple of abortive attempts and were finally able to mail on a different ISP nearly five hours later. In the process some subscribers received more than one copy. (We received two). However it affected only a small percentage of our subscribers and we promise to be more vigilant in future.

In fact, Murphy's Law was at work from the first issue of Collectors Companion and what ever could go wrong did. First we learned the hard way in selecting and using various mailing systems. By the time we overcame this a few un-mailed issues had already piled up on our machine. We were getting late but this time, unlike previous attempts, we decided not to give up and stubbornly prodded on and the results are there for every one to see. Then we ran in to Internet Service Provider (ISP) problems. The ISPs used for first two issues, delivered late by days in several cases and in some cases not at all. We were horrified as we expected the email to be delivered within minutes and all our planning was worked out accordingly. However to say something positive about the whole episode, after a long time our thoughts turned to postal services and that the delivery would have been made in this much time by the so called snail mail.

Believe it or not, we now have accounts with 6 different ISPs, out of which 4 have been tried out for mailing this ezine so far. We are trying out the 5th ISP this time. Some are excellent in downloading and browsing but not for emailing as we have learned from experience. Our Cable TV operator has assured us about start of the Internet service thru them in couple of weeks time and we are looking forward to it.

We have started a Readers Forum from this issue where readers can post their information and views, we ask you to make good use of it.

We have used the address that was available with us for sending this ezine; if you prefer to use another email address that is more convenient for you, please let us know.

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

- M&SJ

----- 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

AWARDS AT ESPANA 2000

Mr. Anurag Bagri, son of Mr. R K Bagri, National Commissioner for ESPANA 2000 reports the awards for Indian participants as follows:

Large Vermeil + Felicitations of the Jury - D N Jatia, Literature Class

Large Vermeil - Rajesh K Bagri,

Large Silver - Ashok K Bayanwala,

Large Silver - Anand G Shirolkar,

Large Silver - Aditya Singhanian,

Large Silver - R K Sarawagi & M Deogawanka, Literature Class

Silver - R A Malviya, Literature Class

"Very Good" - Prashant Shah, Mophila Class

Congratulations!

STAMP POPULARITY POLL 2000 NOW ONLINE

Further to our report in issue #7, we are pleased to note that the poll has now gone online. Click to http://www.indiapost.org/stamp_list_99.html, It will open the page with images of all issues of 1999. The code number of the stamp, that needs to be given on the entry form, is placed below the image. Choose three stamps you like best, click on the [Entry Form](#) link, also provided at the top of the image page, fill completely and hit submit button. Remember the last date is October 25, so hurry.

SPECIAL DEFINITIVE PLANNED

India Post has planned three new special definitive on Subhas Chandra Bose, Sardar Patel, and B R Ambedkar in the denomination of Re. 1, Rs. 2 and 3 respectively. The Rs.2 depicting Sardar Patel will be released on October 31, 2000. The dates of the remaining two stamps will be announced later.

Special definitive stamps were introduced by India in 1976 with images of Pandit Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi in the denomination of 25 paise. The denomination was changed to 30 paise in 1980, to 35 paise also in 1980, and to 50 paise in 1983. Nehru was not issued later but Mahatma Gandhi continued in denominations of 60 paise in 1988 and Re.1 in 1991.

STAMP DESIGN COMPETITION

On October 14, 2000 Delhi Circle of India Post organized a stamp design competition on Philately Day of the National Postal Week. The competition was open to school students in two age groups – up to 12 years, and 13 to 17 years. The on-the-spot drawing competition was held at the 3rd Floor of the National Science Center at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 11 am to 2 pm. There were three awards, first, second, third, and two consolation prizes in each group. All participants were given a pack containing a pencil and eraser. Refreshments were provided to all.

The panel of judges included Mr. S K Sharma - Chief Postmaster General Delhi Circle, Mr. Brahm Mehta - philatelist, and Mrs. Alka Sharma, resident artist of India Post HQ. Yours truly were invited as the observers to the competition.

----- advertisement -----

INDIA AND COUNTRIES OF SUB-CONTINENT

Mainly Postal history material, Postal Auction - Ask for your free copy

A K AGARWAL, P O Box 266, 93/170 Anwar Ganj, Phool Wali Gali, Kanpur 208001, India
agarwalak@hotmail.com

ALSO IN THE NEWS

NEW WEB SITE

The International Association of Philatelic Experts (AIEP) have opened their website
www.aiep.net

FIP COMMISSIONS MEETINGS

The commissions are the technical organs of the FIP. There are, at present, ten FIP commissions – Aero-Philately, For the Fight Against Forgeries and Undesirable Issues, Maximaphily, Philatelic Literature, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Thematic Philately, Traditional Philately, Revenues, and Youth Philately. India is a member in all the commissions. All the commissions shall be holding their meeting on October 13 at Madrid.

FIP CONGRESS AT MADRID

The International Philatelic Federation (FIP) will hold its 66th Congress on October 15 and 16, 2000 at Madrid. The FIP holds a congress every two years.

NEWSPAPER SCANS

The Hindustan Times, New Delhi edition, October 11, 2000, page 3

GANG DEALING IN PHONEY STAMP PAPERS BUSTED

With the arrest of two persons, East district police claimed to have busted an inter-state gang dealing in counterfeit non-judicial stamp papers in denomination of Rs. 1000. The accused have been identified as Pankaj Kumar and Hari Narain Mishra. On receipt of a secret information, a special team of officials was formed and the gang members were contacted in the connection. They were told that the consignment was being printed in Calcutta from where it was supposed to reach Patna and a contact would deliver it in the Capital a week later. Finally, a deal was struck and Pankaj, who is a student of BIT at IGNOU University, agreed to bring a consignment of 200 counterfeit non-judicial stamp papers. After the transaction was over, the waiting police party swooped on him.

----- advertisement -----

BUY OR SELL

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INDIAN STAMP COMPANY, Chhipi Tank, Begum Bridge Road, Meerut 250 001

Telephone: 0121- 543245, Fax:0121 – 546972, E-mail: rk Gupta@stampsfindia.com

STAMPSOFINDIA.COM UPDATES

Check here for the Latest in the following categories: New Issues, Events, Auctions, Publications, Organizations, Dealers, Articles, etc.

NEW ISSUES

STAMPS

October 15

Madhubani Paintings - Set of 3 singles & a se-tenant pair, Rs. 18 (Rs. 3 x 3, 10+5)

October 16

Raj Kumar Shukla - Single stamp, Rs. 3

Next issue: Oct 17, S D Sharma - Former President of India, Single stamp, Rs. 3

POSTAL STATIONERY

September 28 – Available on October 9,

Postcards with Advertisement:

- Dabur Dashmoolarisht, in Hindi, India Security Press (ISP)
- Dabur Lavanbhaskar Choorn, in Hindi, ISP

October 2 – Available on October 9,
INDEPEX - ASIANA 2000 publicity, ISP
Post Card,
Aerogramme,
Pre-Stamped Envelope for Registered Mail

October 8 – Available on October 9,
Postcards with Advertisement:
– Census of India,?, in Sindhi, Urdu Script, ISP
Inland Letter Card with Advertisement:
– Census of India,?, in Sindhi, Urdu Script, ISP

October 9
Postcards with Advertisement:
– Census of India, Mirror of the nation, in Konkani, SPP
– Census of India, I, in Tamil, SPP
– Census of India, II, in Tamil, SPP
– Census of India, III, in Tamil, SPP
– Census of India,?, in Malayalam, SPP
Inland Letter Card with Advertisement:
– Census of India, Mirror of the nation, in Punjabi, ISP
– Census of India, Mirror of the nation, in Konkani, SPP
– Census of India, Mirror of the nation, in Gujarati, ISP
– Census of India,?, in Tamil, SPP
– Census of India,?, in Malayalam, SPP

October 10
Postcards with Advertisement:
– Census of India,?, in Urdu, ISP
– Census of India, Developments Milestone, in, Marathi, ISP
– Census of India, Mirror of the nation, in Gujarati, ISP
– Census of India, Mirror of the nation, in Konkani, ISP
Inland Letter Card with Advertisement:
– Census of India,?, in Telgu, SPP

October 15
Inland Letter Card with Advertisement – Tamilnad Mercantile Bank, in Tamil, SPP

October 15 - Release Delayed
Inland Letter Card with Advertisement – Vijay ..., in Tamil,

POSTMARKS
October 8

Air Force Day, New Delhi,
Special Cover features Martyrs of Indian Air Force in Kargil Conflict 1999, Price Rs. 8

A permanent pictorial postmark at National Philatelic Museum, New Delhi is now available
----- 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 Bureaux 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.

EVENTS

DISTRICT LEVEL EXHIBITIONS

Mr. Suraj Jaitly, our correspondent for Punjab, reports that a district level exhibition shall be held at Jalandhar on November 4 & 5, 2000 at K L Saigal Memorial Hall, Near Door Darshan Kender, Jalandhar.

Indore - November 17 to 19, 2000

Amritsar - November 18 & 19, 2000

NEW DATES FOR INDONESIA

The Organizing Committee has set tentative new dates in 2002, from March 29 to April 4. The show was originally scheduled from Aug 15 -21, 2000 but had to be postponed. The 66th FIP Congress at Madrid on October 15 and 16 shall discuss this matter for approval.

INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000 December 7 -12

The last date for accepting applications was extended twice, from June 30 to July 31 and finally to August 15. The Allotment Committee met at Calcutta on August 30 to finalize the acceptance of exhibits. By now all applicants must have received the allotment letter or heard otherwise from the exhibition management.

Bulletin 2 of this exhibition was officially released at the 7th OLYMPHILEX, Sydney on September 17, at the launch of India Post' stamps to mark 27th Olympic games. Bulletin 2 is the first publication ever to carry the web site address of the show <http://www.indepexasiana2000.com> The web site was launched on April 20, by Mr. Tapan Sikdar, Minister of State for Communications, Government of India.

----- advertisement -----

Help the drive to increase readership of Stamps Of India: Collectors' Companion.

Forward Stamps Of India: Collectors' Companion to friends and colleagues with a copy to us to enable us to include them in the mailing list.

AUCTIONS

SPINK'S INDIA & STATES FEATURING D HAMMOND GILES COLLECTION

Spink is holding a major auction sale of India and States Stamps and Postal History material on Wednesday, October 25, 2000 at London. The first 414 lots out of a total of 1106 lots consist of the lifetime collection of Mr. Derek Hammond Giles on Handstruck Postage Stamps of India. The collection is distinguished by both the comprehensive coverage of the subject, and the depth of research applied to each and every item. The typed transcripts of all entire letters, give the specialist an unrivalled opportunity to acquire many wonderful items from this fascinating area of Postal History.

The property of other owners include nearly 300 lots of excellent material of Indian Princely States and about 400 lots of India - stamps, Internal Campaigns & Camp Post Offices, External Campaigns, and Used Aborad. The star items of 115 lots strong Indian stamps section include red Scinde Dawk, 4 As. Inverted Head, A card bearing 5 handpainted essays etc. of 1891, and complete set of the first Telegraph stamps besides many others.

Cochin is very strong with about 150 lots in the Indian States section. Other states represented in strength are Jaipur, Bundi, Hyderabad, and Bahawalpur. Barwani, Bhopal, Dhar, and Orchha are also noteworthy.

The catalog can be browsed online. Go to www.christies.com and click on "LotFinder" link. On the page that appears enter "1267" in the sale number box of the second form – Auction Search, leave everything else blank and click on "Search" button. The search results will display description and image (if provided in the printed catalog) of ten lots at a time, in this case, lots 1-10. You can browse the whole catalog. Clicking on the description brings the complete text of the description as well as the estimate in UK£.

PUBLICATIONS

PERIODICALS RECEIVED THIS WEEK

India's Stamp Journal

May-Aug 1999, 62nd Year No.2 from the Empire of India Philatelic Society

Philately Newsletter

Jul-Sep 2000, Whole #4 (inscribed Vol.4) from India Post

----- 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!

READERS FORUM

IN SEARCH OF JEWISH TRADITIONS & COMMUNITIES:

Dr. Kenneth X Robbins from USA wrote: I would love to be joined by other interested philatelists during the luxury tour I will lead to India in January 2001. For information e-mail me at RAJANAWAB@aol.com or e-mail the travel agent IVAT at sarah@ivat.com. We will be pleased to mail you a brochure and speak with you. A few of the special events are described below:

[1] The Rajmata [Queen Mother] of Kotah will meet with us to discuss her father Maharaja Ganga Singh of Bikaner who was a great statesman and modernizer, the forty plus tigers she shot, and her personal journey from purdah [seclusion] to jetsetter including her meeting Yul Brynner dressed as the King of Siam. Ganga Singh hired European Jewish doctors fleeing from Hitler. A member of the Cochin princely family will take us into a Hindu temple off-limits [usually] to non-Hindus where there will be an elephant festival. The elephants, dancers, and musicians will salute us in the royal box. The cultural elite of Ahmedabad will meet with the group who will learn of the role of Jewish architects in their city as well as learning about the art and architecture of the area.

[2] I have documented the sites of dozens of synagogues [past & present] used by distinctly different communities of Jews. The January trip will include trips to village synagogues near Mumbai [Bombay] as well as those in cities like Cochin, Mumbai, and Ahmedabad. There will be special dinners at the homes of leading Jews as well as at the synagogues in Thane [the only place in India where the number of Jews is increasing] and Ahmedabad. The Bene Israel will perform a unique religious rite at the site where Elijah's chariot is said to have landed. The group will go beyond the famous Cochin synagogue to visit other synagogues and learn of the 2000 year plus history of Jewish life in the area.

I collect in the following areas and am interested in purchasing all materials related to the

1. PRINCELY STATES OF INDIA: Miniature paintings, Photographs and photographic albums, Stereoviews, Fine arts, Decorative arts, Commemorative medals, Military & civil orders, Militaria, Medals & decorations, Old & new books, Flags, Maps, Historical materials, Documents, Letters & Firmans, Coins such as Begum Somru coins, Raja Wilson coins, Bushby Sahib coins, Raja Geo Thomas coins, Share and stock certificates, Hundis, Cash coupons, Cigarette & trade cards, Fiscal, revenue & court fee stamps. Stamped paper, Cinderella items- labels, etc., Picture postcards, Postage stamps & covers from Dungapur, Kotah, Nimbahera, Talcher, and other states, Postal history material, All items of medical interest.

2. AFRICANS IN INDIA: The Nawabs of Janjira & Sachin; Malik Ambar & other African strongmen in Deccani Sultanates; Habshi Dynasty of Bengal; Africans in Hyderabad, Gujarat, and elsewhere, Mosques built by Africans, etc.

3. POLISH AND JEWISH ITEMS FROM INDIA

WORLDWIDE LIST OF PHONECARDS COLLECTORS CLUBS

From Zvika Monar, P.O.Box 13219, Karmiel 20100 Israel. E-Mail monar@intr.net.il
Please help me to produce a w/w list of Phonocards Collectors Clubs. I found that it is very useful to have connection with collectors during travel and vacations. When you want to plan any trip you can combine a visit to a collector's club. To get information on the clubs E-mail me. Please, send the form to your friends around the world but don't forget to fill the form yourself and send to me by E Mail. Thank you for cooperating.
Form (Information required to be sent): Name of the club, Country, City, (Nearest big city – how far?), Address, Time of meetings, Day + hour, Number of members, E-Mail + phone number for club and other collectors, Notes (if any).

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FEEDBACK

Your feedback is important to us as it helps evolve Collectors' Companion. We strive hard to bring you the comprehensive coverage of the latest on Indian philately and improve with every issue. Please let us know your thoughts and suggestions for the same.

Also we would like to learn how our ezine impacts your collecting and the value you feel it provides to you. Do send your comments, questions, news, reports, articles and other contributions to admin@stampsofindia.com We look forward to hearing from you!

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 attempt to provide an answer to you. Submit here askus@stampsofindia.com

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THANK YOU.

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