

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION

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The first & only newsletter on philately, postal history, and postal services of India. First with the news, Original Research Notes, and Topical Coverage.  
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Number 12, November 9, 2000.

Published Every Thursday

Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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READERS FORUM

Stephen Steere, Robert de Violini,

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Check the end of this issue for information to Unsubscribe.  
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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We have experimented with new formatting using fixed width font 'courier' with this issue and unless we hear in negative from you, that is how our future issues are going to look like. There are no plans to publish html edition of this newsletter in near future. Is Size of this newsletter a problem? Do let us have your views.

We plan on leaner issues but will not get down to provide a part in the newsletter and the balance of the story on the site. We want this newsletter to be a complete product/service in itself

and not just a list of hyperlinks. We do plan to provide more links to detailed reports and images on site/s.

There have been some major developments at our flagship web site [www.stampsofindia.com](http://www.stampsofindia.com). Our email service is now operational. Get yourname@stampsofindia.net today. It is free, permanent, globally accessible, private, SPAM-free, and versatile. We are also happy to inform that all back issues of this newsletter are now available for download on our site. And Thanks to Charles E. Cwiakala, Philatelic Auction Agent, from USA we are now able to provide information on 150 public philatelic auction houses worldwide on our site.

One of our readers, R Howard Courtney of USA recently wrote: "You might consider a short listing of research articles that people are working on. It is always necessary to hear from other collectors when doing such. Often one has an odd, or unusual item in their collection that they don't really know the history about until they see an article. If you list some of the research projects people are working on and their email (and snail mail) addresses, we would all benefit."

We wholeheartedly accept this suggestion, and accordingly are starting a new section "Research Notes" with the next issue. We invite you to contribute news on the subjects you are working on for your collection, exhibit, article or a book. You may state what information you are looking for or can provide, whether you will be interested in forming a group of like-minded people to further the project and taking on the responsibility of answering questions on your specialty that we may forward to you or ask our readers to send to you directly. This is not an exhaustive list of the scope of this section, but just to get it started. Email your suggestion now!

By the way, Courtney also maintains a website with Indian philatelic matter on it. You will also find it listed in our site's Link page as 'Express Delivery'.

It will be nice if you mention stamps of India (the site and or Collectors companion) when contacting other philatelists, dealers, auctioneers and organizations.

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

- M&SJ

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MORE NEW DEFINITIVES

India Post will issue two stamps in denomination of Rs. 15 and 20 in the 8<sup>th</sup> definitive series featuring Natural Heritage. This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> issue in the new series introduced on April 30, 2000. The Stamps depict Butterfly and Amaltaas respectively.

The Rs. 15 denomination reappears in the definitive series after a gap of 52 years. The last time it was issued in the first definitive series of India after independence in 1949, more popularly known as archaeological series.

PRINT ORDER FOR NEW ISSUES

Further to our report in the last issue on the commemorative stamp of October 16 that was sold out due to the small print order of 100,000, we are happy to inform that the print order for next two

issues, Children's Day and Maharaja Bijli Pasi, is now 300,000 and 400,000 respectively. In our opinion these should be available freely. However please do buy your requirement early noting the low face value of Rs.3 of these issues and the greeting card season being on, to avoid disappointment.

The India Post officials informed us that the decision to print 100,000 only for lesser-known personalities was taken by the Philatelic Advisory Committee (PAC) of India Post chaired by the Minister for Communications Ram Vilas Paswan. The Philatelic Congress of India, the national federation of philatelic societies, represents the interests of the philatelists by nominating six members, including its president and a member of the trade, on the PAC.

~~~~~advertisement~~~~~

Help the drive to increase readership of Stamps Of India Collectors Companion. Recommend and forward a copy of "Stamps Of India Collectors Companion" to friends and colleagues.

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#### INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000 MEETINGS

A series of high-level meetings were held this week. The opening of the show is less than 4 weeks away.

A meeting of the sub-committees to review the progress made so far was held at Calcutta on November 7, 2000. Gautam Gupta, Member (Operations) of the Postal services Board & Chairman of the Organizing Committee chaired the meeting attended by the Chairmen of sub-committees of the show.

Gautam Gupta, also chaired the meeting of Organizing Committee held on November 4, 2000 at India Post HQ in New Delhi. The meeting was attended from the official side by S B Bhattacharya - Chief Postmaster General Orissa and West Bengal Circles & Vice Chairman of the show, Tilak De - Director Calcutta GPO & Secretary of the show, R N Moitra, Superintending Engineer, Civil Wing, West Bengal Postal Circle, Madhu Narayanan - Deputy Director General (philately) India Post HQ, and P K Chatterji, Postmaster General Calcutta Region.

The philatelist members of the committee present were M G Pittie - Co-Vice Chairman, Sahadeva Sahoo, Dilip Shah, Vispi S Dastur, Ajeet R Singhee, G Madan Mohan Das, Yogesh Kumar, and Manik Jain. The Commissioner General Rajesh K Bagri, Assistant Commissioner General B N Majumdar, and Dhirubahi Mehta, were unable to attend the meeting.

Earlier the Steering Committee of the show met at 3 pm on October 3, 2000 at India Post HQ, New Delhi.

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[isca@stampsindia.com](mailto:isca@stampsindia.com)

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#### AJIT SINGHEE TO EXHIBIT

Ajit Singhee, one of the 7 Indian Jurors of INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000, has decided to participate as an exhibitor and consequently declined to serve as a Jury. His well-known exhibit of the Postal Stationery of Indian Feudatory States will now compete for "Grand Prize of Honor" in the FIAP Championship Class. He is the only Indian contender for this coveted prize.

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#### PHILATELIC QUIZ AT BANGALORE

Shilpa Kannan, our correspondent for Karnataka, reports that the winners of the Karnataka postal circle level quiz competition organized in connection with the INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000 were felicitated at a function on November 5, 2000 organized by Karnataka Philatelic Society (KPS). The awards donated by Cmdr. Srinivasan, Gopal, and KPS was given to the winners of the first, second and third prizewinners respectively. The first and second prizes winning teams will participate in the next level, South Zone competition to be held in Chennai on November 16, 2000.

The parents and friends of the prizewinners were invited to the function held in the KARNAPEX hall in the Bangalore GPO. Such events and the awards will go a long way to encourage the youngsters to get more involved in philately.

The Chief Post Master General of Karnataka Circle of India Post also released the first issue of the KPS in-house bulletin titled "The K.P.S. Bulletin" during the same function. The bulletin is to be issued on the first Sunday of every month during the KPS meetings held at Bangalore GPO.

#### RADIO TALK

P N Ranjit Kumar, Assistant Director General (Philately), India Post HQ gave a talk on "Philately, Education and Entertainment" on Delhi 'B' channel of All India Radio at 9.30 pm on November 8, 2000.

Let all of us make efforts to have at least one regular radio program on philately, preferably on new FM channels.

#### NEW INDIAN STATE

Sudhir Jain, our correspondent for Madhya Pradesh, reports having received a cover with special postmark of Bilaspur bearing date 1.Nov.2000, words "Creation Of Chhatisgarh" and the map of new State. The cover was mailed by Atul Jain of Bilaspur.

The Chhatisgarh was inaugurated on November 1, 2000 as the 26<sup>th</sup> state of India. The new state is carved out of Madhya Pradesh. Bilaspur is the seat of the new High Court, 19<sup>th</sup> in the country, of the newly formed state while the capital is Raipur. There are 16 districts in the state with a population of 176 million.

The 27<sup>th</sup> state of India, Uttranchal, will be created on November 9, 2000 and the 28<sup>th</sup>, Jharkhand, on November 15, 2000. We hope India Post will provide some philatelic commemoration on those occasions too.

The readers who would not like to wait till the next issue regarding availability and price of this cover may contact Sudhir Jain directly at [mrsudhirjain@yahoo.com](mailto:mrsudhirjain@yahoo.com)

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Join OLYMPIC PHILATELISTS OF INDIA, for details [opi@olympphil.com](mailto:opi@olympphil.com)  
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#### MORE ON FOREIGN POST RATES

Major post offices in New Delhi reported that they have now successfully completed the onerous task of updating the database for computerized counters following the restructuring of foreign post parcel rates effective November 1, 2000. The articles were booked manually meanwhile.

We are still awaiting the confirmation or otherwise regarding the limits of insurance for foreign post parcels.

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Visit [www.stampsonindia.com](http://www.stampsonindia.com) Stamps from all over the world on Indian topics.

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INDIA INTERNATIONAL BALLOON FAIR

The Ballooning Club of India under the auspices of the Aero Club of India organized the 16<sup>th</sup> India International Hot Air Balloon Mela (Fair) 2000 on November 4, 2000 at Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi. An on-the-spot painting competition for children was also organized as a part of this annual program.

The organizers were not able to arrange for the customary special postmarks for the covers carried by the balloons this year. However about 100 covers postmarked by regular postmark of the philatelic bureau, New Delhi were carried. For the price and availability of covers of this and earlier years contact Pulak Gupta at [ratlaco@nde.vsnl.net.in](mailto:ratlaco@nde.vsnl.net.in)

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INDIA AND COUNTRIES OF SUB-CONTINENT

Mainly Postal history material

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

Indian Cyber Laws

India recently became the 11<sup>th</sup> country in the world to implement cyber laws. The email shall now be admissible as evidence in the courts of law.

NEWSPAPER SCAN

Notes: Stories in the newspapers may not always be accurate from postal history or philatelic point of view. The lakh or lac is 100,000 and a crore is 10 million. Click on the link for complete story. Use your browser's "back" button to get back.

Times of India, New Delhi edition, November 5, 2000, front page

POSTMEN TO DELIVER CAKES AND BOUQUETS

<http://www.timesofindia.com/051100/05home5.htm>

Times of India, Online edition, November 5, 2000

600 SIKKIM POSTAL EMPLOYEES SERVED NOTICE

<http://www.timesofindia.com/051100/05indi31.htm>

The Hindustan Times, New Delhi edition, November 7, 2000, Page 4

POSTAL WORKERS THREATEN AGITATION FROM DEC 5

<http://64.225.143.242/nonfram/071100/detCIT04.asp>

Times of India, Online edition, November 7, 2000

POSTAL UNIONS THREATEN STRIKE FROM DEC 5

<http://www.timesofindia.com/071100/07indi24.htm>

Times of India, New Delhi edition, November 7, 2000, page 2

POSTMASTER HELD FOR ENCASHING FORGED CERTIFICATES

<http://www.timesofindia.com/071100/07mdel12.htm>

Times of India, Online edition, November 7, 2000

LETTERS ARRIVE TORN AND TATTERED

<http://www.timesofindia.com/071100/07mpan3.htm>

Times of India, Online edition, November 8, 2000

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ON N G RANGA TO BE RELEASED

<http://www.timesofindia.com/081100/08mhyd6.htm>

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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 attempt to provide an answer to you. Submit here [askus@stampsofindia.com](mailto:askus@stampsofindia.com)  
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STAMPSONDIA.COM UPDATES

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

ISSUES

STAMPS

Next Issue:

November 14, 2000 Children's Day  
November 16, 2000 Maharaja Bijli Pasi

POSTAL STATIONERY

October 9 - Available on October 23, 2000  
Post Card with Advertisement  
- Census,?, In Malyalam

October 10 - Available on October 23, 2000  
Post Card with Advertisement  
- Census,?, In Telugu

October 30 - Available on November 1, 2000  
Post Card with Advertisement  
- Wheel Washing Powder, in Hindi

October 30 - Available on November 3, 2000  
Post Card with Advertisement  
- Brooke Bond Tea, in English & Hindi, ISP

October 30 - Available on November 3, 2000  
Inland Letter Card with Advertisement  
- Apollo Tyres, in Hindi, ISP

October 31 - Available on November 3, 2000  
Post Card with Advertisement  
- Reynolds Pen, in Hindi, ISP

November 1 - Available on November 7, 2000  
Inland Letter Card with Advertisement  
- LG, , in Telugu  
- LG, , in Punjabi

POSTMARK

November 7

25 years of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), New Delhi.  
Special Cover duly postmarked - Price Rs. 8

The Special Cover and Postmark was released in a special function organized to mark the silver jubilee by Suresh Prabhu the Minister for Power along with NTPC Chairman C P Jain in New Delhi. Available form the Philatelic Bureau, Parliament Street H O, New Delhi 110001

#### ARMY POSTAL SERVICE - SPECIAL COVER & POSTMARK

Price Rs. 8 each. Orders from civilians may be placed thru the nearest philatelic bureau.

Next Issue:

November 22, 2000

7th reunion AOC Secunderabad

~~~~~advertisement~~~~~

JOIN PHILATELIC DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/content/Links/post/d403.htm>

#### AUCTIONS

##### SUKHANI EUROPHIL

The 63rd sale billed as the Millennium auction features Collection of P Gupta besides others in 2394 lots.

There are individual rare classics and postal stationery and history items, essays, color trials, proofs, specimen and Cancelled overprints, major errors, and cinderellas of India. Seldom seen items include India King Edward VIII Essays, India 'bantam' Essay, and Specimen of Postmarks from all post offices of Coronation Durbar of King George V.

Nepal with about 350 lots, Cochin, over 250 lots, and Travncore, over 200 lots are represented in strength. There are over 150 lots of philatelic literature as well.

The sale will be held at the main auditorium on the ground floor of Rotary Sadan, 94/2 Chowringhee Road, near Nehru Children's Museum, Calcutta 700020. The sale will be conduction over two days, December 9 and 10, 2000 from 9.30 am to 6.30 pm.

Complimentary lunch, tea, and snacks will be served on both the days. Their email is [raj.sukhani@gems.vsnl.net.in](mailto:raj.sukhani@gems.vsnl.net.in)

#### EVENTS

##### DISTRICT LEVEL EXHIBITIONS

###### AMPHIL 2000

Amritsar Division of India post will organize a two-day show on November 18 and 19, 2000 at Thakur Singh Art Gallery, Amritsar. A special postmark and cover, priced Rs. 8 each, shall be released depicting Guru Nanak Dev University and Golden Temple. A souvenir publication priced at Rs. 20 will also be released on the occasion. The Dealers booths shall be provided at Rs. 500. Orders may be placed to The Treasurer, Philatelic Exhibition, Amritsar. All prices are postpaid.

On the spot painting and philatelic quiz competitions shall be held for children during the course of the exhibition.

###### KHEDAPEX 2000

Our Correspondent for Gujarat, Prashant Pandya of Vadodara adds to report on the first District Level Philatelic Exhibition held at Nadiad on 31st October 31 and 1st November 2000.

Two Special Covers were release on the occasion - depicting Mai Mandir (Temple), Nadiad and a special cancellation depicts religious apparatus showing word "MAA" on October 31 and

depicting A S Dahilaxmi Library, Nadiad (Celebrating 102 years of establishment) and a special cancellation depicting an image of book on November 1,2000.

The prizes were distributed in the closing ceremony by Bhagyesh Jha, District Collector, Kheda to the winners.

#### Award List

Vermeil(Gold Gilt): Janardhan D. Shashtri: Water Birds  
Silver: Navinchandra K. Bhanusali: Hands  
Silver: Alpa M. Dalal: Winter Sports and Games  
Bronze: Manojkumar R. Trivedi: "Panch Dev"- 5 God and Goddesses  
Bronze: Chandani Y. Mehta: Post Independence India (Junior Class)  
Bronze: Vishal A. Soni: Painting (Junior Class)  
Bronze: Kanjibhai P. Bhanusali: M. K. Gandhi  
Bronze: Savitriben K. Bhanusali: East Africa Stamps and Postal Stationery  
Bronze: Nirmala N. Bhanusali: Flags  
Bronze: Rajeshkumar K. Bhanusali: Railways  
Manojkumar R. Trivedi also won a Special Trophy, donated by Kanjibhai Bhanusali, for his exhibit.

Hasit H Mehta, Rajesh M Thakkar and P S Dixit (Entries shifted to the 'Above Competition Class') were given special appreciation prizes for their collection. All other participants were given philatelic kits by Department of Post as consolation prizes.

#### ~~~~~ PUBLICATIONS

##### PERIODICALS RECEIVED

SIPA Bulletin, Vol. 21 No.3, May-June 2000  
SIPA Bulletin, Vol. 21 No.4, July-August 2000  
Editor: G Madan Mohan Das  
Publisher: South India Philatelists' Association  
No. 41, Perumal Mudali Street, Sowcarpet, Chennai 600079

BHIPHIL, Vol.15 No. 3, July-September 2000  
Editor: C Ashok Kumar  
Publisher: Philatelic Society of Bhilai  
(A Unit of Sports & Recreation Group, Bhilai Steel Plant)  
Post Box # 18, Sector-1, Bhilai Nagar 490001

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Bagh, New Delhi 110005, India. Telephone: (91-11) 572 8110, 581  
6045, After Hours: 558 0163, 567 1349  
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#### ORGANIZATIONS

Philatelic Congress of India  
The next regional meeting of the PCI shall take place on December 11, 2000 at 9.30 am at Netaji Subhas Stadium, the venue of the 14<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000.

The place of the meeting most probably shall be the Jury Room that by then have served its original purpose.

Kindly note the notices sent by PCI mentioned the date as December 10 that is now changed to December 11 and the notice also mentioned in error that the meeting is in Mumbai.



~~~~~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 part of our team as well as at our web site(s). Occasional contributions are also welcome. Please contact [webmaster@stampsofindia.com](mailto:webmaster@stampsofindia.com) today!

LINKS

Visit links page at [www.stampsofindia.com](http://www.stampsofindia.com) every site on Indian philately is listed here. If you find a broken link or a site not listed here please inform [admin@stampsofindia.com](mailto:admin@stampsofindia.com)

Following new links has been added:

<http://www.sukhanieurophil.com>

The site of Sukhani Europhil at new web address is now ready and operational.

READERS FORUM

Stephen Steere of UK writes:

I was devastated to read about the Raj Shukla stamp being issued in such a limited quantity. Surely this is not acceptable! A stamp issue should be available in sufficient quantity for postal users as well as collectors. How can I and others continue to collect India's lovely stamps, we do not have huge bank accounts to buy these stamps. Please pressure India Post to reprint this issue.

Robert de Violini of USA writes:

I was sorry to learn of the destruction of the Madras post office building. I am sure that much history has been lost there, too.

FEEDBACK

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

Also we would like to learn how our newsletter 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](mailto:admin@stampsofindia.com) We look forward to hearing from you!

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If you edit or publish a periodical and would like to use the news content on a regular basis, please contact with details to [mj@stampsofindia.com](mailto:mj@stampsofindia.com) for necessary arrangements.

DISCLAIMER

While every attempt has been made to ensure that the information presented here is accurate, let's face it, accidents and typos happen. Be aware that should you come to grievous bodily harm as a result of the information presented here, or worse yet, you get a philatelic question wrong on "Kaun Banega Crorepati" (Who Will Be A Millionaire's Indian version), just remember you were warned so we won't be held accountable.

THANK YOU.

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Madhukar and Savita Jhingan are active members of numerous philatelic organizations among others life members of the Indian Stamp Collectors Association, Philatelic Congress of India, and American Philatelic Society.

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