

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION

ISSN 0972-3587

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The first, free & only email 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 15, November 30, 2000

Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

Published Every Thursday by the www.stampsofindia.com

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We didn't realize till we received our own copy in email and printed it out that the last issue of the newsletter was 40% longer than our average. We have been experimenting, unsuccessfully so far, with formatting, mainly fonts, so the newsletter appears on your screen as we intend it to. After using fixed width font for past three

issues we reverted to normal font with the last issue. That was also the first issue made in 10-point size instead of usual 12. We have heard from at least one reader "to do something to make it shorter".

Thanks to the smooth transition from Monday to Thursday, with a full size issue in three days in between, we have regained our weekends this month. Now we wish to stretch the four-hour deadline we have allowed ourselves till now. No, we are not getting greedier, we need more time to do a better job for preparing the issue and keep all around stress levels low at the same time. Additional few hours will definitely help us stay in good shape. You will still get the newsletter delivered on Thursdays but not at the stroke of 12 at midnight on Wednesday.

We are passionate, rather obsessed with philately but do consciously make an effort not to take ourselves too seriously. And we believe that some writings in lighter vein work as safety valve to let off the built up steam. We are soliciting your contributions of philatelic humor, please help.

The mistakes in this issue are intentional. Our aim is to please everybody and some people, especially the philatelists, are always looking for mistakes.

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

- M&SJ

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KINDLY MENTION THIS NEWSLETTER WHEN CONTACTING
other philatelists, dealers, auctioneers and organizations. Thanks.

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GEMS & JEWELRY

The third and final set of stamps for INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000 features Gems & Jewelry on 6 large size stamps. Apart from normal sheets this issue shall also be available in 'mixed sheets' of 40, whereas 4 stamps will be repeated 7 times and 2 stamps 6 times. It will provide se-tenant blocks, horizontal and vertical strips in several combinations as in earlier mixed sheet issues of Migratory Birds and Great Political Leaders. The stamps printed in 6 colors are in the denomination of Rs. 3 each.

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BACK ISSUES OF THIS NEWSLETTER ARE AVAILABLE FOR FREE DOWNLOAD
AT <http://www.stampsofindia.com/content/download/SICC.htm>

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INDIA POST @ TRADE FAIR

India Post is a regular participant in the annual India International Trade Fair (IITF) held every November for two weeks. The 20<sup>th</sup> IITF was held from November 14-27, 2000. India Post was at the Communication Pavilion along with official telecom corporations of the Government of India. A temporary Speed Post booking counter was also set up for the duration of the fair as is being done for past several years. The covers mailed from this office are much sought after by the collectors as very few bookings are done from this counter. The post office counter sold greeting cards, a CD-ROM on philately besides stamps. There is a permanent post office at fair grounds – Pragati Maidan that works round the year as a normal post office.

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FIP REVENUE COMMISSION

A M Mollah, the Indian member of the Revenue Commission of the International Philatelic Federation (FIP) has been re-elected to the Bureau of the Commission. He is a member of the Bureau since the inception of the Commission in 1988. Other elected as members of the Bureau of the Revenue Commission are: President: Juhani V Olamo, Members: Dingle Smith, Australia, Ron Leshner, USA, M. Caso, Italy, R. Ebner, Germany, Yves M Danan, France. Next Bureau meeting shall be held

during BELGICA 2001 and the next commission meeting during HAFNIA 2001.

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FOR STAMPS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD ON INDIAN TOPICS
VISIT www.stampsonindia.com

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WEST ZONE PHILATELIC QUIZ

The zonal finals were held at Mumbai on November 13, 2000 at the Conference Hall of Bombay GPO. Nine teams from Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan postal circles participated. The team of Shashank Jha and Sankalp Mulye of Sri Satya Sai School, Indore won the first prize. The second prize has gone to MES College Goa's team of K Vivek Iyer and Francisco Lobo. Pranab Mukherjee of Calcutta, assisted by Shubhroe Maity, conducted the quiz.

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Join INDIAN STAMP COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION, for details
isca@stampsofindia.com

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DESIGN A STAMP COMPETITION

Dakshina Kannada Philatelic Association (DKPA) had organized an on the spot painting competition as part of the silver jubilee celebrations. The painting competition was for Primary, High School and Pre-University level scholars of Dakshina Kannada District Schools and Colleges. The theme was Design a Postage Stamp Depicting the Folk Games/ Art of the District. Mahesh Kumar of Canara High School, Mangalore won the first prize in primary. Pramod Pai of Canara High School, Urva won the first prize in High School Level and Ganesh of PP College of Udupi won the first prize in the PU level. The complete list of winners and their paintings can be found at

[http://www.geocities.com/dakshina\\_kan\\_pa/art17/win.htm](http://www.geocities.com/dakshina_kan_pa/art17/win.htm)

- Contributed by Y V Jeppu, Mangalore

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Join REVENUE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION, for details
rpa@worldrevenuestamps.com

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MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE

Mary Ann Owens, RDP from USA:

As an international exhibitor and judge, I first met D. N. Jatia, RDP, at INDIPEX 73 where we were both exhibitors and where he won the Grand Prix in the National Class after they combined his several exhibits in the various classes. It was one of my early trips overseas with my elephant exhibit. I went back to India for stamp shows in 1977, 1980 and 1989 again working with Mr. Jatia and many of the other wonderful Indian philatelic friends whom I had met there and in other countries over the years. Being an elephant and an umbrella stamp collector, India was a natural country for me to visit more than once. PACIFIC 97 in San Francisco was the last time we worked together. I am so pleased now that he had asked me and that I was able to plan and host his and Mrs. Ratni Jatia's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary party during the show. I shall always remember his smiling face whether he was having fun or working hard.

Philatelic Society of Rajasthan:

A condolence meeting for D N Jatia was held on Saturday November 25, 2000 at 6pm at Jaipur GPO. Past President A S Mittal presented a condolence note in memory of sad demise of D N Jatia. He said that untimely death of Jatia is a big shock to philatelists of not only India but the whole world. He was the father of Indian philately and pride of world philately. Philately in India stepped up very high with the efforts of Jatia. The members observed two minutes silence and prayed for peace of the departed soul.

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HELP THE DRIVE TO INCREASE READERSHIP

Recommend and forward a copy of this newsletter to friends

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INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000

India hosted the first Asian Regional in 1977 at Bangalore and now after a gap of 24 years the 14<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Philatelic Exhibition will be held at Netaji Subhas Indoor Stadium, Calcutta from December 7 to 12, 2000. The President of India is the patron-in-chief, the Minister and Minister of State for Communications are patrons, and the

Director General of India Post is the president of this show. India Post is organizing this in cooperation with the Philatelic Congress of India, under the patronage of Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP) and with the recognition of International Philatelic Federation (FIP). The show marks the Golden Jubilee of the Republic of India and the advent of the new millennium.

#### - MOVEMENTS & MEETINGS

Madhu Naryaynan, Deputy Director General (Philately) of India Post HQ visited Calcutta during the weekend, November 25-26, to review the preparations.

Dr. K B H Nayar, Deputy Director General (Vigilance) of India Post HQ is camping in Calcutta since November 27, 2000 to oversee the preparations of the show. Dr. Nayar as the Officer on Special Duty was the Chief Operating Officer of successful INDEPEX 1997 World Philatelic Exhibition.

B C Roy, former Assistant Director General INDEPEX 1997, has also been deputed to INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000 team since November 26, 2000.

A meeting of Jury and Commissioners Coordination Sub-Committee is scheduled for December 4, 2000.

The first jury session will begin on December 6 at 6 pm.

#### - INAUGURATION

Viren J Shah, Governor of West Bengal, will inaugurate the show, at a function organized at Town Hall from 10.30 am. The third and final set of stamps of INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000 featuring Gems and Jewelry and the Souvenir-cum-Catalog of the show shall also be released in this function.

#### - PUBLICITY POSTMARKS

To give wide publicity to the event a special postmark depicting logo with the message "Explore Nature in Stamps in INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000, 7-12 December 2000" is being provided at all philatelic bureaus from June 2000. In addition the Head Post Offices located at postal circles' HQ are providing on incoming and outgoing mail the following postmarks: "Explore Aerophilately in INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000, 7-12 December 2000" and "Discover the World Through INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000, 7-12 December 2000". There are separate designs for English and Hindi version. The postmark dies are prepared locally and the postmark shall be available up to December 6, 2000.

#### - JURY

There are now six Indian Juries: P Gupta, Dhirubhai Mehta, M G Pittie, Vispi Dastur, Dilip Shah, and Yogesh Kumar. Three qualified jurors, G B Pai, Ajit Singhee, and Damayanti Pitte, have opted out in favor of exhibiting their collections in the competitive class. This necessitated shifting Yogesh Kumar from the Expert Group to Jury.

#### -PROGRAM

A special cover and special postmark shall be released on all the six days of the show that have been designated as follows:

December 7: Golden Jubilee of the Republic Day

December 8: Army Postal Service & Environment Day

December 9: Youth & Olympics Day

December 10: Inter-Asia Philatelic Federation (FIAP) Day

December 11: Silver Jubilee of Philatelic Congress of India (PCI) Day

December 12: Tourism & Millennium Day

All India Philatelic Quiz Finals shall be held on December 9, at 12 noon. A Sit and Draw competition shall take place on December 10, at 10 am.

Seminar on Postal History is scheduled for December 9, at 3 pm. On December 11 two seminars will be organized, on Youth and Thematic philately at 11.30 am and 3 pm respectively.

Awards Banquet will be held on December 11 from 7.30 pm onwards where gold and higher medals will be presented besides the announcement of the winners of Grand Prize winners. Winners of Large Vermeil and lower medals shall be presented on December 12 from 10 am onwards.

The exhibition closes at 8 pm on December 12, 2000.

#### - EXHIBITS

Like all international shows INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000 will also provide the rare opportunity to view the gems of philately for the visitors. There will be 11 exhibits invited for display in Court of Honor Class including an exhibit from the collection of Her Royal Highness Princess of Thailand. Indian invitees include G B Pai (Cochin), P Gupta (India Postal Stationery), Dr. Sita Bhateja (Indian Classics), M C Sukhani (Bhopal), S C Sukhani (India Inverted Head 1854), and Pradip Jain (Indian Airmails). The Official Class has 7 postal administrations participating. The Championship Class has two contestants.

There are 63 exhibits in Traditional Class including 26 on India. In the Postal History Class the total number of exhibit is 33 with 22 on India. Out of 11 exhibits in the Postal Stationery Class only 2 are on India. Aero-philately Class has a lone exhibit on India out of a total of 6. Thematic Class is present with 30 exhibits, Maximaphily two, both on India, and Revenue Class 14 exhibits out of which 8 are on India. There are 42 exhibits in Youth Class, 16 in Open Class, and 46 in Literature Class.

#### - DEALERS BOOTHS

4 Postal administrations, 14 stamp dealers including 4 from overseas, 2 security printers and 1 franking machine manufacturer, and 3 organizations shall have a booth at the show. Apart from the double booth of India Post, two more postal administrations – Bhutan Post and United Nations shall be there. Army Postal Service will also have a booth. Overseas dealers include Lindner, Lighthouse, Stanley Gibbons, and Stampdile. The Indian dealers are Stamp Syndicate, Mittal Stamp Co., Indian Stamp Co., Pradip Jain, Arjun Ghosh, R J Philatelic, International Stamps & Coins, V Ethiraj, Luhadia Stamp Auctions, and Sukhani Europhil. Calcutta Security Printers, Madras Security Printers, and Kilburn Reprographics (franking machines), World Association for development of Philately (WADP), International Olympic Committee (IOC), and Philatelic Congress of India (PCI) are the other booth holders.

#### - SPECIAL COVER, SPECIAL POSTMARK, & SOUVENIR CATALOG

At the time of writing these lines we have not been able to obtain complete information on design, pricing, and ordering procedure. However it is expected that a Special Cover and Special Postmark shall be released everyday of the show. A Souvenir Catalog shall be on sale from day one. Orders may be placed with the Philatelic Bureau, GPO, Calcutta 700001. [calgpo@cal.vsnl.net.in](mailto:calgpo@cal.vsnl.net.in)

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REACH THOUSANDS OF PHILATELISTS INTERESTED IN INDIAN PHILATELY

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#### ALSO IN THE NEWS

##### 'INDECISION 2000' SOUVENIR SHEET

The unresolved United States presidential election inspired this souvenir sheet, which is being marketed by the firm International Collectors Society of Owings Mills, Md. The two stamps in the sheet picture Al Gore and George W. Bush fighting over the presidential seal against a background of the flag. The sheet is headed "Indecision 2000" with the Nov. 7, 2000, date of the election below the stamps. Both stamps in the sheet are inscribed "Republic Turkmenistan." The International Collectors Society claims that the stamps are "legal tender postage in the nation of Turkmenistan." However, many unauthorized stamps that purport to be from this former Soviet republic have appeared on the market recently.

- from Linn's Stamp News, published weekly, Dec 4, 2000 issue, <http://www.linns.com>  
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RESEARCH NOTES

Dr. Kenneth Robbins, USA

1. I am writing an article on the stamp money [cash coupons] of the Indian Princely States.
  2. Does anyone know about the adhesive stamps given as change by Brahmini Dak that could be used for postage?
  3. Does anyone know the status of the 'Talcher' overprint on Queen Victoria Indian postage stamps?
- All information would be appreciated.

M M Krishnan

has observed the following in a Post office in Visakhapatnam. The post office is called GANDHI PLACE POST OFFICE and uses the postmark GANDHI PLACE P O from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm and later switches over to Experimental P O cancellation from 1:00 to 7:00 pm. The post office works from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm - all days of the week. Is this a freak case or is it in vogue in any other post office in India?

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 online. Submit here [askus@stampsfindia.com](mailto:askus@stampsfindia.com)

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STAMPSOFINDIA.COM UPDATES

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

ISSUES

STAMPS

<http://www.stampsfindia.com/Content/Issues/Stamps/a201-2000.htm>

Next Issue:

November 16, 2000

POSTAL STATIONERY

<http://www.stampsfindia.com/Content/Issues/Stationery/a202.htm>

We hope to update this section next week.

POSTMARKS

<http://www.stampsfindia.com/Content/Issues/Postmarks/a203.htm>

November 25

SILVER JUBILEE OF THE FIRST APEEJAY SCHOOL IN DELHI

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<http://www.stampsfindia.com/Content/Issues/APS/a204.htm>

OTHER ITEMS

<http://www.stampsfindia.com/Content/Issues/Others/a205.htm>

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JOIN PHILATELIC DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

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

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Events/a300.htm>

SCHOOLPEX-2000

Philatelic Society of Rajasthan and Philatelic Club of Saint Xavier's School, Jaipur are jointly organizing an intercity school philatelic exhibition from December 21 to 24, 2000 in Science Laboratory Hall of the school. It is the 5th exhibition of its kind, being organized yearly since 1996. Nearly 200 participants from about 50 schools are expected to take part in this exhibition.

- contributed by A S Mittal, Jaipur

INTER-SCHOOL at Patna

All Patna Inter School Philatelic Exhibition was organized by Patna Philatelic Bureau at Delhi Public School, Bailey Road, Patna on November 25 & 26, 2000.

- contributed by Pradip Jain, Patna  
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Join OLYMPIC PHILATELISTS OF INDIA, for details

opi@olyphil.com
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AUCTIONS

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/content/auctions/a700.htm>

SATISH MISRA

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/auctions/satishmisra.htm>

We are in the process of finalizing with Satish Misra of Bareilly for hosting his next postal auction online at stampsofindia.com, the first of the many new services and facilities planned.  
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INDIA AND COUNTRIES OF SUB-CONTINENT

Mainly Postal History Material

Postal Auction - Ask for your free copy

A K AGARWAL, P O Box 266, Kanpur 208001

agarwalak@hotmail.com Telephone: (91-512) 315005
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PUBLICATIONS

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Publications/a600.htm>

PERIODICALS RECEIVED

THE KPS BULLETIN, Whole # 1, November 2000, Monthly

Editor: Shilpa Kannan

Publisher: Karnataka Philatelic Society, A Mahalingeshwar, Secretary,  
"Sarpabhushana", CAD Met Layout, Rajmahalvilas 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage, Bangalore 560094

Annual Subscription (includes membership): Rs. 35

Payment by Bank Draft or Money Order in favor of Society

A warm welcome and best wishes for the future.

MAYUR, Vol.7 # 4, & Vol.8 # (1), Whole # 27 (?), Oct 1999 – Mar 2000, Quarterly

Editor: Dr. P S Dixit

Publisher: PCI Chapter for Promotion of Youth Philately, M S Ramu, Secretary, #1,  
First Floor, First Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore 560003

Annual Subscription (includes membership): Rs. 40

Payment by Bank Draft or Money Order in favor of Society

GPA NEWS, Whole # 41, December 2000, Monthly

Editor: H C Mehta

Publisher: Gujarat Philatelists' Association

Care of, D Desai & Co., 1-M, National Chambers, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad 380009

Annual Subscription (includes membership): Rs.100 or US \$10 by air.  
Life Subscription: Rs. 1100 or US \$110  
Payment by Bank Draft or Money Order in favor of Society.  
Contents: "V" for Victory, 3 page long illustrated study of the slogan on mail, stationery and labels by A K Bayanwala.

CHHATTISGARH DAK, Whole # 36, Oct.-Dec. 2000, Quarterly  
Editor: Naresh Agrawal  
Publisher: Chhattisgarh Philatelic Association, P O Box 21, Bilaspur 495001  
Annual Subscription (includes membership): Rs. 100, Life Rs. 600  
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#### ORGANIZATIONS

<http://www.stampsfindia.com/Content/Orgs/a400.htm>

#### CENTRAL INDIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Organized in 1974 CIPS celebrated its Silver Jubilee last year by holding a stamp exhibition. This was the 21<sup>st</sup> philatelic exhibition organized by the society. CIPS has earlier organized thematic exhibitions on state and national levels. In addition to special covers and postmarks on the occasion of philatelic exhibitions, CIPS has issued these on 5 other occasions, the latest one to mark 9.9.99 as an unusual date. The society has 57 active members.

Contact: Sudhir Jain, Secretary, Sushma Press Compound, Satna 485001  
[mrsudhirjain@yahoo.com](mailto:mrsudhirjain@yahoo.com)

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#### DEALERS

<http://www.stampsfindia.com/Content/Dealers/a800.htm>

#### M K PHILANUMS

We introduce 22-year-old Mihir Dhandha, of Rajkot, Gujarat. Mihir started collecting stamps since he was in 5th standard and still continues to collect. He has recently graduated with a degree in commerce and is now going to join a computer course. He started dealing in stamps nearly 5 years ago and is now dealing under the name of 'M K Philanums'. Mihir successfully held his first philatelic postal bid auction sale of 500 lots in April 2000. He has been appointed as sole selling agent of Tanzania for Asian Zone to promote their new issues like stamps, S/S, M/S, and postal stationeries, etc in February 2000. He supplies these items at face value plus registered postage and packing. You may ask for the 25-page Stock List of Tanzania material.  
M K Philanums, "Shri Vishnu-Krupa", 25, New Jagnath Plot, Rajkot-360001  
E-mails: [mihir\\_dhandha@usa.net](mailto:mihir_dhandha@usa.net) or [mihir\\_dhandha@yahoo.com](mailto:mihir_dhandha@yahoo.com)  
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ARTICLES

<http://www.stampsfindia.com/Content/Features/a500.htm>
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#### LINKS



Visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Links/z00.htm> for all sites on Indian philately and other useful sites. If you find a broken link or a site not listed there please inform [admin@stampsofindia.com](mailto:admin@stampsofindia.com)

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READERS FORUM

Pavel Rehak from Prague, Czech Republic

I'd like to find a partner for exchange of stamps in India. I am a collector of used Indian stamp and mainly need stamps from last 6 - 7 years. I am also interested in stamps from Nepal, Burma/Myanmar and Ceylon/Sri Lanka. I offer stamps from my country (include Czechoslovakia and Slovakia) and various thematic stamps.

E-mail: [palli@centrum.cz](mailto:palli@centrum.cz)

Premnath Kudva from Mangalore writes:

I wish to inform you regarding the lack of information on subscriptions from the philatelic bureaus. I am a subscriber at the Mangalore HPO. Two stamp issues i.e. Migratory Birds, and Great Leaders were issued both as individual stamps and also as se-tenant block of 4. The Bureau neglects to include this information and give us the option to take both types of issues. In the 1st case I realized that the issue came both single and se-tenant only because I manage 2 subscriptions. In one lot I got the singles in the Birds issue, whereas 2nd lot came as the se-tenant block. I then separately bought the singles and the block. In the 2nd case I came to know only after I went through the issues at the Dakshina Kannada Philatelic site maintained by Yoga Jeppu. Both my subscription lots had come in singles, whereas Jeppu's site had a picture of the se-tenant block. Once again I had to separately buy the blocks of Great Leaders. I do not know if the Manipur issue came as a se-tenant block. (It didn't – editors.)

In the subscription instructions on the form - stamps, FDCs, Infosheets and others are listed. I assumed that miniature sheets came under stamps, but was shocked when I realized through the INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000 Web Site that the Manipur issue had a miniature sheet. As the issue was sold out at our Bureau and I am buying it from a dealer on a premium. What disturbs me is that the Bureau doesn't even bother to tell the subscribers regarding such an issue. I have requested them to include miniature sheet and it has been done under "other". Thankfully I was able to get the birds' miniature sheet without any problem. I am not sure if all collectors are aware if se-tenant sets and miniature sheets come as mentioned above. And will tend to miss some of the issues.

I hope you are able to mention these issues in your bulletin, so that we are able to get the new issues in time. I thank you for forewarning us about the RK Shukla issue. The bureau had reserved all 200 stamps they received for the 1st 200 subscribers and not for counter sales, (that they have over 500 subscribers is another thing). It is also very disturbing to note that unscrupulous elements are selling stamps, which have not been yet released by the Indian Post. I really hope that organizations like yours are able to prevent such things from happening.

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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. Please let us know 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 edit@stampsofindia.com We look forward to hearing from you!

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[www.stampsonindia.com](http://www.stampsonindia.com) NEW ISSUE REPORT

#### MOTHER TERESA

Mauritius, September 18, 2000, Seewoosagur Ramgoolam,  
1 stamp from a set of 4  
1 rupee, Ramgoolam, first prime minister of Mauritius, with Mother Teresa, 1984  
Designer: Ross Watton; Printed Cartor, France

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#### 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), and other similar game shows 'Sawaal Dus Crore Ka' as well as 'Chhappar Phaad Ke', 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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