

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION
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Postal History, & Postal Services of India.

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Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan
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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

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We take this opportunity to thank all those who have sent us greetings for Christmas and New Year.

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

- M&SJ

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other philatelists dealers, auctioneers and organizations.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR KUMBH
The Great Fair of Kumbh that started on January 9, 2000 at Allahabad on the confluence of Ganga, Yamuna, and mythical Saraswati, shall continue till February 21, 2001. During this period Allahabad would be the most populated city of the world

as more than 30 million people from all over India and the world are expected to participate.

There shall be 10 temporary post offices established to provide postal facility to visiting devotees. The main post office shall be known as Kumbh Mela Central Post Office and shall be the only delivery post office at the temporary township. This shall also be the only Night Post office and shall be staffed with nearly 75 postal workers. Other post offices are – Sangam North, Fort Road, Sangam South, Gangadeep, Parade West, Arail, Sangam Central, Jhunsi North, and Jhunsi South.

In addition special pictorial postmarks shall be provided on January 14, 24, and 29 and February 9, 2001 – the dates most auspicious to take a dip in the Sangam, the confluence. These may be ordered from the Philatelic Bureau, Allahabad GPO, Allahabad 211001.

According to Indian mythology there was a great war between gods and demons for possession of the divine nectar that originated after churning the oceans. Garuda, the winged mount of Lord Vishnu, flew away with the pitcher of nectar and in its flight, few drops spilled over at four places – Prayag (Allahabad), Hardwar, Ujjain, and Nashik. The Kumbh Mela (literally the Pitcher Fair) is held at these four places once in 12 years.

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VISIT OF DR ROBBINS' GROUP

Dr Kenneth X Robbins of USA, well known for his collections of the Indian Princely States, is leading a group of philatelists on a tour of India from January 12 to 27, 2001. His itinerary is as follows:

January 12-15, Mumbai, Taj Mahal Hotel

January 15-18, Cochin, Taj Residency

January 18-20, Ahmedabad, Taj Unmed

January 20-23, Jaipur, Rambagh Palace

January 23-24, Agra, Taj View

January 24-27, Delhi, Taj Mansingh
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NEW MEMBER OF POSTAL SERVICES BOARD

Aparna Mohile joined as the Member (Development) of the Postal Services Board of India Post on January 1, 2001 in place of P Bhagwandas who retired on December 31, 2000. Prior to her appointment as member (D), Aparna Mohile was Principle Chief General Manager of the Business development Directorate of India Post.
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ADDITIONS TO PROGRAM OF ISSUE

India Post has announced the following additions to its Program of Issue for January 2001:

January 28: Sheel Badra Yajee

January 29: Jubba Sahni and Baikunth Shukla & Yogendra Shukla, Set of 2 stamps
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**INDIA AND COUNTRIES OF SUB-CONTINENT**

Mainly Postal History Material

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

ILLEGAL ISSUES & UPU

Illegal stamps are unfortunately flourishing more than ever before. The UPU have received recent official denouncements from the several countries. The fight against this proliferation of illegal issues is high on the agenda of World Association for the Development of Philately (WADP). WADP consists of UPU, FIP, IFSDA, AIJP and ASCAT. The WADP project team on Illegal issues is holding a meeting at Berne, Switzerland on January 16, 2001.

In November 2000 the president of the Afghan post said that his beleaguered nation hasn't issued a stamp since 1989. What then are the 100-odd items listed by Scott Catalogs (and recorded in *Linn's* New Issues listings) since then? "False stamps," is the reply.

Following is the gist of denouncements sent to UPU in 2000. This is definitely not a complete list of illegal stamps available to collectors in the global market.

Angola informs of the existence of several sets of illegal postage stamps issued by three companies located in Belgium, Great Britain and Lithuania. The accompanying list includes 60 sheetlets of 6 stamps, 2 sheetlets of 9 stamps, and 1 sheetlet each of 2 and 4 stamps on popular topics such as Flora, Fauna, Trains, and Millennium.

Chad protests the following illegals: 5-stamp series with values, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300 F on Elephants, Cats, and 130th birth anniversary of M K Gandhi, a 6-stamp series on Butterflies with values, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350 F.

Cyprus informs that the illegal regime in the territory occupied by the Turkish army issued, on 12 November 1999, a set of "postage stamps" entitled "Anniversaries and Events" for the 35 years of the so-called "Turkish Cypriot Postal Administration", the 125th anniversary of the UPU and the eclipse of the sun on 11 August 1999.

Georgia has provided a 7 page list describing 202 series of illegal stamps. This list will be distributed officially shortly by UPU.

Kyrgyzstan is denouncing a web site based in the United States that carries illegal stamps in its name and in the name of many other places as well. These stamps have the symbol of the State printed on them, just like official issues. They show motifs representing Western show business personalities and have been reproduced in a Japanese periodical. All "Beatles" and "Madonna" stamps with a face value of 20 s have not been issued by the postal administration of Kyrgyzstan.

Mali was informed, on 14 March and 18 April 2000, of the existence of nine different series of postage stamps bearing the inscription "Republique Du Mali" and various designs. All these stamps are illegal and their circulation does harm to the Malian and international postal services and to collectors. Legal action has already been initiated to trace the forgers and bring them to justice. The pirated postage stamps purportedly issued by the Republic of Mali are in set of 9 values, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350,

400, 450, 500 F on Trains, Chess, Prehistoric animals, Magellan, Mushrooms, Computers, Dogs, C Columbus, Minerals. These "pirate issues" were produced in Eastern Europe on behalf of a certain company in Great Britain.

Morocco informs that our administration has been informed of the existence of postage stamps bearing the inscription 'République Arabe Sahraoui Démocratique' and various designs. This so-called republic does not exist and all these stamps are illegal.

Russian Federation informs the following: ...our postal administration's grave concern about the illegal production and distribution of postage stamps ostensibly issued by various regions of the Russian Federation. We were grateful to see participants attending the pilot course for Central and Eastern European countries on the promotion and development of philately, recently held in Riga (Latvia), made aware of this ever-growing proliferation of illegal stamps. We have also learned that such stamps have been openly offered for sale on the Internet for some time now. Not only does such a proliferation of illicit stamps do harm to philately and the Russian Federation's reputation, it also contributes to the decline of the entire philatelic market. We are therefore counting on the UPU and the WADP to help us find a solution to this problem immediately.

List of regions of the Russian Federation in whose name illegal stamps are being issued: Altai Region, Amurskaya Province, Jewish Autonomous Region, Franz Josef Land, Autonomous Region of Evenkia, Republic of Kabard-Balkaria, Kamchatka Region, Karachay-Cherkessia, Autonomous Region of Koriakia, Kuril islands, Novosibirsk islands, Kolguev Island, Kunashir Island, New Land Island, Spitsbergen Island, Republic of Adygea, Republic of Bashkortostan, Republic of Buriatia, Republic of Dagestan, Republic of Ingushetia, Republic of Ichkeria, Republic of Kalmykia, Republic of Karelia, Komi Republic, Mari-El Republic, Republic of Mordovia, Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Republic of North Ossetia, Republic of Tatarstan, Republic of Tuva, Republic of Khakasia, Russian Antarctica, Sakhalin Region, Republic of Udmurtia, and Republic of Chuvashia.

Rwanda informs that an issue of postage stamps entitled "papillons" (butterflies) was illegally issued in 1999 in the name of Rwanda. The postal administration of Rwanda specifies that only the "Mémoire du génocide rwandais" (Remembrance of the Rwandan Genocide) set was issued in 1999 and all other stamps issued in 1999 are illegal.

Senegal protests that two sheets of 9 stamps each of the 250 F and 450 F values, respectively, which have as the theme "Greenpeace".

Turkmenistan informs that sheets of postage stamps belonging to the EURO 2000 European Football Championship issue, with a face value of 120.00 TMM, are unofficial stamp issues not issued by Turkmenistan.

Ukraine informs that postage stamps of the fraudulent issue entitled "Ukrainian Antarctic Post" are appearing on the market. As the postal administration of Ukraine never issued such postage stamps in the period from 1992 to 1999 all postage stamps bearing that imprint are illegal.

Kindly cooperate with WADP by informing the fellow collectors, in particular those collecting thematics, about illegal stamps. The International Bureau of the UPU manages the WADP Secretariat. More information about the WADP and UPU's philatelic activities and publications can be obtained by contacting the official in charge: Maria Libera, Deputy Head, Marketing Development Responsible for Philately maria.libera@upu.int

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NEWSPAPER SCAN

Notes: Stories in the newspapers may not always be accurate from postal 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.

The Hindustan Times, January 5, 2001

Racket in Supplying Fake Stamps Busted

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/nonfram/050101/detCIT06.asp>

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We shall reimburse the costs of photos, covers, publications, courier and other charges. Your contribution shall appear with your byline. Please Contact admin@stampsofindia.com today!

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RESEARCH NOTES

Manohar Lal has spent eight years, full time, at National Archives of India and other institutions researching postal history matters since his retirement as Chief Engineer of Northern Railways. He has published two books and several articles. He won Gold with Felicitations of the Jury for his exhibit Postal History of Indian Army 1914-1922 at London in 1990 as well as for his exhibit Postal stationery of India 1855-1947 at New Delhi in 1997.

We have been fortunate to enlist him as a regular contributor to this segment of the newsletter and are confident our readers will benefit with the first time publication of the results of his painstaking research. At present he is not available on telephone or email. We shall be happy to pass on your comments and queries to him. His postal address is 9-B/6654 Dev Nagar, Gali # 6, New Delhi 110005

Earlier parts were published in our issues # 18, 19, & 20 of December 21 & 28, 2000, and January 4, 2001.

POSTAL HISTORY OF PAKISTAN – Part 4

KARACHI – DACCA AIRMAILS

April 22, 1948, Karachi: A press note of the Director General, Post and Telegraph, on airmail service between West and East Pakistan says: "It has now been arranged to send airmail correspondence in either direction by the British Overseas Airways Corporation services operating between Karachi and Calcutta combined with Orient Airways services between Calcutta and Dacca on the five days on which Orient Airway services do not operate".

PLEBISCITE IN CHANDERNAGORE

May 1, 1948, Chandernagore: Probably next month – 50,000 people – the total population of Chandernagore, the French territory 21 miles north of Calcutta – will decide by means of plebiscite whether or not Chandernagore will merge with the Indian Union...

Chandernagore, an area of 51/2 sq miles, now administered by seven Indians, composing the Council of Administrator, with a French Administrator at its head. Last November when agitation for merging Chandernagore with India reached its peak, the French declared it a "free city", giving it the right to control its finances. Two flags, Indian and French, still fly side by side over official buildings.

DELHI TO BE LINKED WITH KASHMIR BY AIR

A temporary license has been granted to Messers Dalmia Ja Airways Ltd. to operate a scheduled air transport service on the Delhi – Srinagar route with immediate effect, with an optional halt at Amritsar, says a Press note, issued by Deputy High Commissioner for India in Lahore. Jammu will be included on the route at a later date. The service will be operated on a daily frequency in the first instance, and the frequency will be increased to twice daily or more, as and when necessary...

PAKISTAN AIRMAIL TO INDIA

May 11, Karachi: Under the existing arrangements, airmail, correspondence from Pakistan for Bombay, Hyderabad (Dn) and Madras and other places in India, served through these offices, is dispatched twice a week by the Orient Airways. Karachi – Bombay service and on other days, by the Air India's service, says a Press note issued by the Ministry of Communications.

The Orient Airways have since increased the frequency of their Karachi – Bombay service from (9) May to 4 times a week and are operating on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. According the dispatch of such airmails to India will now be confined to the Orient Airways. These mails will be flown to Bombay from where they will be dispatched to their respective destinations by the quickest surface route. Airmail correspondence for Ceylon will however; continue to be dispatched by the Air India's service as at present.

#### PAKISTAN AIR SERVICES WITH LINKS IN INDIA

May 27, 1948, Karachi: The government of Pakistan it is learnt have decided to give licences to the Orient Airways and Pakistan Mercantile Corporation for operating air services in Pakistan with air links in India...

#### PAKISTAN – HONG KONG – JAPAN POST BY AIR

May 28, 1948, Karachi: A press note of the Ministry of Communications Government of Pakistan states: Airmail articles for Japan are now accepted by the post offices in Pakistan. Subject to the same restrictions as are applicable to surface mails for that country, such articles will be carried through out by air.

These articles should be superscribed "Pakistan- Hong Kong-Japan" and a blue "Air Mail" label should be affixed at the top left hand corner.

The rates of air mail fee including postage, will be as follows:

For letter or a packet up to ½ ounce: 12 annas

For every additional half-ounce or part thereof: 12 annas

For a post card: 4 annas

#### PAKISTAN TO ESTABLISH SECURITY PRESS?

May 13, 1948, Karachi: It is understood that the Pakistan Government have obtained the collaboration of a well known British firm for the establishment of a Security Printing Press in Pakistan.

The Ministry of Finance is at present trying its best to print currency notes of the State Bank of Pakistan in its on Security Printing Press. To train its own national, the Government proposes to send some young Pakistanis to the UK in the near future.

#### FIRST AMRITSAR – SRINAGAR AIRFREIGHT SERVICE

For the first time an air freight service for carriage of freight between Amritsar and Srinagar has been introduced by the Air Transport Licensing Board, says a Press note from the Deputy High Commissioner for India in Lahore.

The Dalmia Jain Airways Ltd. have been given a temporary licence to operate this service with effect from June 5, 1948, by the Dakota type of aircraft, on a frequency of thrice a week, namely on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays....

#### JUPITER AIRWAYS SERVICE INAUGURATED

June 8, 1948, New Delhi: Mr. K P S Menon, Secretary External Affairs Ministry today inaugurated the Delhi – Madras service of the Jupiter Airways. The Indian public will now have the benefit of one more air company operating a fleet of eight more Dakotas between Delhi and Madras via Nagpur. The distance will be covered in about eight hours. The present route, which is provisional will in another two months time, be altered to the permanent route via Jubbalpore and Bezwads.

The plane "GARUDA" took off on its first scheduled flight to Madras this morning – June 8, 1948.

#### AIRSERVICES FROM CALCUTTA TO DACCA AND CHITTAGONG

June 18, 1948: The Air Transport Licensing Board has granted a provision licence to AIRWAYS (INDIA) LTD., to operate a scheduled air transport service o the Calcutta – Dacca route on a daily frequency with immediate effect. The company has been given the option to increase the frequency to twice daily or more, if justified, says a

Press Note of the Deputy High Commissioner for India in Pakistan issued in Lahore on Thursday (June 17, 1948).

The Board has also granted a provision licence to Bharat Airways Limited to operate a scheduled air transport service on the Calcutta – Chittagong route thrice weekly with immediate effect.

#### DELHI – LAHORE BY INA 10 TIMES A WEEK

June 22, 1948, New Delhi: Due to heavy congestion on the Delhi – Lahore service operated by Indian National Airways Limited, the Air Transport Licensing Board has permitted INA to increase the frequency of this service from seven to ten times a week with effect from June 22, 1948, says a Press Note issued by the Ministry of Communications.

The additional service will be operated on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturday s on the following time table:

Departure Delhi – 7:30 am

Arrival Lahore – 9:15 am

Departure Lahore – 9:45 am

Arrival Delhi – 11:30 am

#### DELHI - AMRITSAR THRICE WEEKLY SERVICE

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Departure Delhi - 14:30

Arrival Amritsar - 16:15

Departure Amritsar – 16:45

Arrival Delhi – 18:30

#### NO AIRCRAFT MAY ENTER HYDERBAD – DECCAN AIRWAYS LICENCE CANCELLED BY INDIA

July 12, 1948, Hyderabad: Hyderabad's only remaining air link with India was cut today when Deccan Airways a company incorporated in Hyderabad state, suspended all its services following cancellation of its licence by the Government of India. It will be recalled that all other air lines had ceased operating via Hyderabad earlier this week.

On June 29 a Bombay message said Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, Minister of Communications, Government of India confirmed that all air services passing through Hyderabad State territory had been asked not to touch down at any of the Hyderabad aerodromes for any purposes. The Communications Minister did not give any reason for this step.

#### TRICHY – CLOMBO AIR SERVICE

July 3, 1948, Trichinopoly: A regular air service between Trichinopoly and Colombo, operated by Ceylon Airways, is expected to commence on July 27, 1948.

#### POSTAGE CONCESSIONS FOR B.O.Rs

June 24, 1948, Karachi: With immediate effect postage concessions allowed to members of the public and Pakistani troops to send air mail and surface correspondence to His Majesty's Forces abroad is withdrawn, says a Press Note. Such correspondence should therefore, be prepaid with the normal surface postage and airmail fee.

Also with immediate effect the following revised concessions will be allowed to British Officers and other ranks accepted for service in Pakistan Army, Navy and Air Force. RAF personnel in Pakistan will also be entitled to the same concession.

The revised concessions will be as follows:

Surface Mail:

For the first ounce – 1-1/2 annas

For each additional ounce – 1 anna

Airmail:

For the first ounce – 2-1/2 annas

For each additions ½ ounce– 6 annas

To be continued in the next issue.

The above is gleaned from the Civil & Military Gazette, published from Lahore from the microfilms available at the Nehru Memorial Library, New Delhi.

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January 12: Paintings of St. Aloysius College Chapel, Mangalore, Rs. 15

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Next Issue:

January 12: Diamond Jubilee of Military Intelligence School, Pune
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NEW LINKS

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READERS FORUM

Paul Francis pfpisharody@bplnet.com OR pfpisharodynet@yahoo.com
We are based in India (Cochin, Kerala). We have in Our Possession Old Precious Stamps (Some are from the Year 1920), the details of which are given below: USA - 92 Nos, Canada - 39 Nos, UK - 95 Nos, Australia - 40 Nos, New Zealand - 10 Nos, Germany - 58 Nos, France - 62 Nos, Spain - 83 Nos, Italy - 46 Nos, Netherlands - 81 Nos. Besides these, we have Other Old Stamps of Different Nationalities (Including India). We are interested in selling these stamps to Anybody, Worldwide.

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. 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 edit@stampsofindia.com We look forward to hearing from you!

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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 the American Philatelic Society.  
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