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The First, Free & Only Email Newsletter on Philately,
Postal History, & Postal Services of India.

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Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan
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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

On behalf of philatelic community we express deep empathy with the victims of Gujarat earthquake. We have recommend to India Post for issue of a set of charity stamps, and a miniature sheet, to give an opportunity to the stamp collectors and public at large to contribute towards relief work and rebuilding. Our suggestion is to issue three stamps as follows: Inland Letter Rate: Rs. 3 + 1, Overseas Airmail Letter Rate: Rs. 15 + 5, Inland Speed Post Rate: Rs. 45 + 15.

Our server change in the record of the domain name registrar is as yet unresolved, please continue to use <http://64.37.110.48> instead of <http://www.stampsfindia.com> to visit the site and use webmaster@stampsfindia.net instead of all other email addresses at stampsfindia.com.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the contributors to this issue: A S Mittal, Jaipur.

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

EARTHQUAKE IN GUJARAT

On the morning of January 26, 2001 India was hit by the worst ever earthquake. Extensive damage occurred in Gujarat in western India. Bhuj and adjoining areas, Gandhidham, Rapar, Anjar, and Bhachau bore the maximum brunt of the earthquake. Bhuj is the district headquarters of Kuchchh, that is the largest district in India, 45,652 square kilometers, and is sparsely populated. However Ahmedabad, the state capital, became the first big city to bear large-scale damage due to the earthquake. It is estimated that nearly 100,000 people have died, many more injured, and the loss to properties is estimated at several billion dollars. It is a national calamity. About 1500 villages have been affected, several are not even connected with roads, and relief work became very difficult and had not reached certain areas even after a week of the earthquake.

Reports are sketchy and we have been able to gather little information regarding postal affairs. About 104 post office buildings in Gujarat have suffered damage during the quake and at least one post office has been totally destroyed. Bhuj Sorting P O has been extensively damaged while Bhuj Head P O has suffered minor damage. Three postal officials of Chikala P O, Bhuj have been killed and at least 6 are injured. A three member Post Office Medical Team was rushed to Bhuj and was able to contact 23 postal officials there. Movement of mail is not hampered although there can be virtually no delivery in Kuchchh district.

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NEW ISSUE UPDATE

The stamp on Western Railway depicting Church Gate Station, Mumbai is now scheduled for release on February 6, 2001. This was originally scheduled for release on December 27, 1999 and have been reported released prematurely from some bureaus, notably Ludhiana, in 2000.

The other issues in February are Census of India on 8th, and Indian Fleet Review later in the month.

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NEW STAMP RELEASED

Ram Vilas Paswan, the Minister for Communications released at India Post HQ, New Delhi the stamp on the freedom fighter Pandurang Sadashiv Sane, popularly known as Sane Guruji, 1899-1950, on January 25, and 3 stamps of Personalities Series:

Socio-Political Development on January 27, 2001. The personalities featured are E M S Nambudiripad, Giani Gurumukh Singh Musafir, and N G Ranga.

All stamps are in the denomination of Rs. 3, the inland letter rate. Alka Sharma designed the stamps, First day Cover priced at Rs. 2, and the pictorial first day postmark. A combined informative brochure containing write-up and technical data, priced at Rs. 2, was also brought out for both the issues. Madras Security Printers Limited of Chennai printed the stamps by photo-offset in four colors on imported unwatermarked stamp paper in the quantity of 400,000 each. The issued sheet contains 40 stamps.

A stamp in the denomination of Rs. 3, the inland letter rate, was released by Ram Vilas Paswan, the Minister for Communications on the freedom fighter Sheel Bhadra Yaji, 1906-1996, on January 28, 2001 at a function held at Bakhtiyarpur, Bihar. Kamleshwar Singh designed the stamp and Alka Sharma the First day Cover and the pictorial first day postmark. The cover is priced at Rs. 2. An informative brochure containing write-up and technical data, priced at Rs. 2, was also brought out. Eagle Press Private Limited of Chennai printed the stamps by photo-offset in four colors on imported unwatermarked stamp paper in the quantity of 400,000 each. The issued sheet contains 40 stamps.

A set of 2 stamps in the denomination of Rs. 3 each, the inland letter rate, was issued on the freedom fighters Jubba Sahni and Yogendra & Baikunth Shukla, on January 29, 2001. Ram Vilas Paswan, the Minister for Communications released the stamp on Jubba Sahni at a function held at Muzaffarpur at 10.30 am and on Shuklas at Hazipur at 1.30 pm. Alka Sharma designed the stamps, First day Cover and the pictorial first day postmark that is priced at Rs. 2. An informative brochure containing write-up and technical data, priced at Rs. 2, was also brought out. Eagle Press Private Limited of Chennai printed the stamps by photo-offset in four colors on imported unwatermarked stamp paper in the quantity of 400,000 each. The issued sheet contains 40 stamps.

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#### NEW SECURITY PRINTERS

Eagle Press Private Limited, Chennai and Saraswati Press Limited, Kolkata are the new entrants in the field of production of postage stamps and postal stationery for India Post. There are now a total of six security printers working for India Post. The other four printers are – India Security Press, Nashik, Security Printing Press, Hyderabad, Calcutta Security Printers Limited, Kanpur, and Madras Security Printers Limited, Chennai.

#### NEW EXHIBIT AT THE MUSEUM

'Threatened Species' an exhibit of maxim cards by S L Bansal of New Delhi shall be displayed at the National Philatelic Museum, New Delhi from the February 1, 2000. Bansal is a distinguished scientist, now retired, from Indian Space Research Organization and a philatelic writer.

#### INDIA MINT YEAR PACKS, FOREIGN THEMATIC SETS & PACKETS

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

USA TO ISSUE STAMP ON EID

In October 2001 US Postal Service will issue a stamp for Eid Greetings, probably in the denomination of 34 Cents, as per their program of issue available at <http://www.usps.com>.

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NEWSPAPER SCAN

Indian Express, January 30, 2001
AUTOGRAPH HUNTER'S UNIQUE SHOW FOR GUJARAT QUAKE RELIEF
<http://www.indian-express.com/ie/daily/20010130/ina30028.html>

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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 to 23.

POSTAL HISTORY OF PAKISTAN – Part 7

REVISED POSTAL REGISTRATION FEES FROM JAN 7, 1949

January 21, 1949, Karachi: With effect from January 17, 1949, the fee for registration of postal articles has been revised from three annas to four annas per article, says a Press note.

INDIAN AIR SERVICE TO AUSTRALIA

January 26, 1949, Bangalore: Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, India's Communications Minister told pressmen here yesterday that apart from the license granted to an Indian Company (Bharat Airways) to operate an air service to China extending it later to Japan, the Government had also granted a license to another company to operate an air line between India and Australia. An application to operate air service to Iran had also been received by the Government, Mr. Kidwai added.

SURFACE POSTAGE RATES FOR FOREIGN COUNTRIES

January 29, 1949, Karachi: A Press Note of the Ministry of Communications states – with effect from February 1, 1949, the surface postage rates for all foreign countries except India, Portuguese India, Ceylon, Nepal, Aden, Persian Gulf and Kuwait have been revised as under:

Letters – For letters not weighing more than one ounce – four annas six pies

Postcard – Single – two annas and six pies, – Reply – five annas

Printed Paper And Sample Packets – For a packet weighing more than two ounces – two annas, for every additional two ounces or part thereof of that weight – one anna

Commercial Papers – For a packet not weighing more than six ounces – four annas, for every additional two-ounce or part of that weight – one anna

Postage rates for Blind Literature Packets shall remain the same, namely for a packet not weighing more than two and a half pounds - six pies, for every additional two and a half pounds or part of that weight upto 17½ pounds- six pies.
The surface postage rates for India, Portuguese India, Ceylon, Nepal, Aden, Persian Gulf and Kuwait will remain unchanged.

PAK AIR

Announced a new through service in operation with effect from February 1, 1949 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
Karachi – Lahore – Rawalpindi – Peshawar
Peshawar – Rawalpindi – Lahore – Karachi

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ORIENT AIRWAYS TO RESUME REGULAR FLIGHTS FROM FEBRUARY 20, 1949
Orient Airways Limited who had suspended their Lahore – Pindi – Peshawar, Lahore – Quetta – Karachi, and Lahore – Karachi services consequent on all their aircraft having been requisitioned by the Government on very important state work, are to resume normal flights on all routes from Sunday, February 20, 1949, as their aircrafts have now been released.

ROUTES OF PAK AIR

February 23, 1949

Daily

Karachi – Delhi – Lahore – Karachi and return
Karachi – Lahore and return

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

Karachi – Lahore – Rawalpindi – Peshawar and return

PAK AIR REVISED TIME TABLE

With effect from February 1, 1949

Daily:

Karachi Departure 7.00 – Delhi Arrival 11.10, Departure 12.00 – Lahore Arrival 14.00
Lahore Departure 14.40 – Delhi Arrival 16.30, Departure 17.30 – Karachi Arrival 21.40
Karachi Departure 6.30 – Lahore Arrival 10.30
Lahore Departure 16.50 – Karachi Arrival 20.50

Monday, Wednesday, Friday:

Lahore Dep. 11.10 – Rawalpindi Arr. 12.14, Dep. 12.30 – Peshawar Arr. 13.20
Peshawar Dep. 14.00 – Rawalpindi Arr. 14.50, Dep. 15.10 – Lahore Arr. 16.10

KAMARAN ISLANDS DECLARED BRITISH POSSESSION

February 25, 1949, Aden: The Kamaran Islands have been declared a British possession by a Government order issued in Aden.

These islands, formerly inhabited only by fishermen and pearl divers, found new prosperity when a vaccination station for Mecca pilgrims was set up there 50 years ago....

Until the signing of the 1934 Treaty between Britain and Yemen, the Yemenite Imams claimed sovereignty over the Kamarans and will have a legal court of unlimited civil and criminal jurisdiction. They have actually been administered by the British since 1915.

PAKISTAN ONE AND TWO RUPEE NOTES TO BE IN CIRCULATION ON
TUESDAY – MARCH 1, 1949

February 26, 1949, Karachi: One-rupee notes of the Pakistan Government and Banknotes of the denomination of Rupees two will come into circulation throughout the country from March 1, 1949....

The notes, which bear artistic designs of great cultural significance, have been printed lithographically by Messrs Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. London's reputed printers of currency notes and postage stamps.

Mr. Mohammad Yousuf, an artist of Delhi, has done the Urdu calligraphy which is after the classic style. Mr. Yousuf comes from a family of calligraphists who have been practicing this art for the last three centuries in Delhi.

The one-rupee note is green, with orange and pink bands in the center. It bears a reproduction of the Moghul pavilion of the Lahore Fort in a prominent place in the left and center of the note. Based the design of a copper 'Surahi' (goblet), it has a floral pattern round the borders. The Pakistan Crescent and Star appears as watermark on the right of the note, the overall size of which is 4"x2¼".

The two-rupee note is brown, with floral design in sage green Pink and blue. In the center and to the left appears Lahore's Badshahi Mosque, while at the top and bottom of the center of the note Urdu inscription find their place. A white line geometric design in each corner of the note and an all round ornamental border are other feature of the two-rupee note, which is 4½" x2½" size.

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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ASK US

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ISSUES

STAMPS

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

January 23: Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Re.1, Special Definitive

Next Issue:

February 6: Western Railway, Re. 15

POSTAL STATIONERY

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

October 2, 2000 – Available November 10, 2000

Inland Letter Card, Commemorating 50 Years of Inland Letter Card, CSP

This issue was printed by Madras Security Printers (MSP) as well as Calcutta Security Printers (CSP). The ILC printed by MSP carried an advertisement and was available on the scheduled date as covered in our issue # 7 of October 9, 2000. We have now learned that ILC printed by CSP, without advertisement, was available at several post offices since mid November. The quantity printed by CSP is 2.5 million.

POSTMARKS

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

ARMY POSTAL SERVICE – SPECIAL COVER & POSTMARK

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

Next Issue:

February 15: 12th Reunion of the Corps of Signals

Price Rs. 7 Orders from civilians may be placed thru the nearest philatelic bureau.

OTHER ITEMS

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

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

EVENTS

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

PHILATELIC WORKSHOP AND EXHIBITION

India Post with the cooperation of Philatelic Society of Rajasthan organized a Philatelic Workshop and Exhibition on January 19, 2001 from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. at Pant Krishi Bhawan, Jaipur. N R Bhattacharya, Chief Postmaster General, Rajasthan Circle, Jaipur inaugurated this workshop. The workshop was attended by a large number of students from various schools, members of Philatelic Society of Rajasthan, Regional and Divisional officers of India Post, and staff working on postal counters and media persons.

Senior philatelist and Treasurer of Philatelic Society of Rajasthan J D Kumar talked about the invention of postage stamp, story of starting stamp collecting as a hobby, methods and advantages of stamp collecting. Yogesh Bhatnagar, life member of the society and Patron of Philatelic Club, St.Xaviers School, Jaipur presented the history of stamps, different types of errors and philatelic terms through a slide show.

A Mini Philatelic Exhibition was also organized for the benefit and knowledge of the students. It was a very nice function, organized for the first time by the India Post, Rajasthan Circle. Every one present was given a box of snacks.

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AUCTIONS

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

PUBLICATIONS

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

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ORGANIZATIONS

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

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF RAJASTHAN

Biannual elections of Executive Committee for the years 2001-2002 of Philatelic Society of Rajasthan were held on January 27, 2001 under the guidance of N L Jain, Principal, Modern School, Jaipur. The following persons were elected unanimously: A S Mittal - President, Ashok Sharma - Vice President, Rajesh Paharia - General Secretary, N L Ghei - Joint Secretary, J D Kumar - Treasurer, R K Soni - Librarian and

Ramesh Khanna, Yogesh Bhatnagar, Umesh Agarwal, N C Bhandari and Jayant Pandya as executive members.

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ARTICLES

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Features/a500.htm>

A Brief Postal History Of India

<http://64.37.110.48/Content/Features/a507.htm>

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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. 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.

ABOUT THE EDITORS

Madhukar and Savita Jhingan have been active in the national and global philatelic scene for over 45 years collectively and 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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ABOUT THE PUBLISHERS

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