

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION
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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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READERS FORUM

Premnath Kudva

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We quote from the email from the latest Indian entrant to the Grand Prix Club, M A Sayeed: "Some very active philatelists are based at Ahmedabad, which came severely under Earth Quake disaster. It will be very helpful to the other philatelists to hear from your Bulletin the welfare of all our member friends, colleagues, and specially Mr. Desai, Bayanwala and others".

We have extensively covered the Gujarat Earthquake in the last two issues. As soon as we learned of the quake we did call up Ahmedabad on the afternoon of January 26 itself to ascertain the well being of our friends. However we missed out on reporting the same here. We are now happy to report that all philatelists and stamp dealers in Gujarat are fine.

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: Arun Kumar Agarwal, Kanpur

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KINDLY MENTION THIS NEWSLETTER WHEN CONTACTING  
OTHER PHILATELISTS, DEALERS, AUCTIONEERS AND ORGANIZATIONS.  
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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HONG KONG 2001 AWARDS

M A Sayeed won the coveted Grand Prize International at Hong Kong 2001, the 15th Asian International Philatelic Exhibition, for his exhibit "Great Britain - Early Line Engraved Issues", in addition to a Large Gold Medal and a Special Prize.

Rajan Jayakar won Gold with Special Prize, Anil Suri won Gold, Rajan Jayakar won a Large Vermeil, V V Meher won two Vermeil medals, E P James, Moomin Sinha, and Tofan won Large Silver, and Shakil Ahmed, Renu, and Raja won a Bronze. Savita Jhingam received Good and B Madhini a Certificate of Participation.

SHOPPING ON INTERNET TONIGHT FOR PHILATELIC ITEMS/COLLECTIBLES?

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Visit our online shop [www.anilshop.com](http://www.anilshop.com) for Stamps of India, Indian States, Nepal, Asian countries - Singles, Sets, Revenues, Postal Stationery & Postal History. Also Vintage Postcards, Prints, Raja Ravi Verma Oleographs, Photographs, Posters etc. ANIL'S COLLECTIONS, 390/296 Attarsuiya, Allahabad 211003 [anil@anilshop.com](mailto:anil@anilshop.com)  
Telephone: 532-653272, Mobile: 9839087232  
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NEW STAMP RELEASED

Ram Vilas Paswan, Minister for Communications released a stamp to mark the Census of India 2001 in the denomination of Rs. 3, the inland letter rate, on February 10, 2001 at a function held at Central Secretariat of Government of India. L K Advani, Home Minister, Tapan Sikdar, Minister of State for Communications, and Registrar General of India were also present on the occasion. This stamp was earlier scheduled for release on February 8 and later rescheduled to February 9. Kamleshwar Singh designed the stamp and First day Cover priced at Rs. 2. The pictorial first day postmark was designed by Alka Sharma. 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. The issued sheet contains 40 stamps.

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HELP THE DRIVE TO INCREASE READERSHIP  
RECOMMEND THIS NEWSLETTER TO FRIENDS  
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CONGRATULATIONS!

Noted philatelist and postal historian K D Singh has been elevated to the post of Additional Secretary to Government of India in the Ministry of Law with effect from January 25, 2001. Singh has been a Joint Secretary for past six years and is well known for his work. He was recently presented with the Law Day Award for his contributions to the law.

INDIA & INDIAN STATES – Mint & Used

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Rajesh K Agarwala, [rkstamps@rediffmail.com](mailto:rkstamps@rediffmail.com)  
Capital Stamp Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Chanana Complex, 2215 Hardhyan Singh Road,  
Karol Bagh, New Delhi 110005  
Telephone: (91-11) 5816045, After Hours: 567 1349, Mobile: 98102-26692  
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BACK ISSUES OF THIS NEWSLETTER ARE AVAILABLE FOR FREE
DOWNLOAD AT <http://www.stampsfindia.com/content/download/SICC.htm>
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##### WADP SYMPOSIUM & WORKSHOP

World Association for Development of Philately (WADP) is organizing a Symposium on February 19, 2001 at Tunis, Tunisia. The Symposium will be followed by a Workshop for postal administrations in Africa from February 20 to 23, 2001.  
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INDIA AND COUNTRIES OF SUB-CONTINENT

Mainly Postal History Material

2000 Lots First Auction Coming Soon Online

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PAPER VARIETIES OF INDIAN COMMEMORATIVES

It has been noted that commemoratives on several occasions have been printed on more than one type of paper. It is a subject for study. Vijay Seth of New Delhi wrote in that he discovered a new distinctive type of paper while buying commemorative stamps from one of the stamp vendors in March 2000. The Rs. 3.00 stamp depicting Mask for Chhau dance of the UPU set was printed on white paper and the overall design was in a deep orange colour. The earlier stamp was available in cream paper. The Rs. 3.00 Muria Ritual object followed this, was also printed in white paper with the design in reddish colour. The Yeshu Krist Jayanti stamp followed this, also printed on white paper. In 2000 the First sunrise of the new millennium was printed on cream paper and in January 2001 it was available in white paper with the red colour being very deep, if compared to the earlier issue. To commemorate the National Philatelic exhibition MILLEPEX 2000, a setenant pair was issued on Turtles, this set was also available in white paper. It is presumed that the second printing of these commemorative stamps have taken place and on white paper. This forms an interesting study of the commemorative issues of the recent years.

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112 Punjabpura, Bareilly 243003, Fax: 91-581-448970  
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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE

APS will issue the following special covers in March 2001:

March 15 - Diamond Jubilee, 4/8 Gorkha Rifles

March 22 – Centenary, 5 Sikh

March 31 - Golden Jubilee, 126 Light AD Regiment

Priced at Rs. 7 each. Orders from civilians may be placed thru the nearest philatelic bureau.
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## INDIA MINT YEAR PACKS, FOREIGN THEMATIC SETS & PACKETS

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

AUSTRALIA: DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL STAMPS

From July 2000 Australia Post had two ranges of stamps, domestic and international, the domestic stamps are for use on domestic mail and international stamps for use on international mail. This ensures the customers pay no General Sales Tax (GST) on international mail but do so on mail sent within Australia.

Australia Post previously introduced a phasing in period from July 2000 to February 2001 to help customers adjust to the new arrangement. During this period mail users could continue to use domestic stamps on international mail but not thereafter. The current phasing in period will be extended to 4 March. From 5 March, if you prefer to use domestic stamps on international mail you may, but a 10% surcharge must be paid to cover the GST element of domestic stamps. This is because Australia Post must pay GST to the Tax Office on all domestic stamps sold, regardless of their use. For example, if you wish to use domestic stamps on a standard letter to Asia, you will need to affix stamps to the value of \$1.10. The same letter using international stamps

would cost \$1. If you wish to send a standard letter to Europe or the USA, you will need to affix domestic stamps to the value of \$1.65, while the same letter using international stamps would cost \$1.50.

The addition of the 10% surcharge was a suggestion made by a number of collectors, and was supported by the collector and dealer organizations Australia Post consulted to find a practical solution. The Australian Consumer and Competition Commission (ACCC) has been consulted on this approach and raised no specific issues.

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BUY OR SELL - SEND YOUR WANT LIST India, Errors, Varieties, Stationery  
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NEWSPAPER SCAN

Linn's Stamp News, February 19, 2001

QUEEN WILL SELL ROYAL DUPES

<http://www.linns.com/print/archives/20010219/news1.asp>

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WANTED REGULAR CORRESPONDENTS EVERYWHERE IN INDIA

We shall reimburse the costs of photos, covers, publications, courier and other charges. Your contribution shall appear with your byline. Please Contact [admin@stampsfindia.com](mailto:admin@stampsfindia.com) today!

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RESEARCH NOTES

To be continued in the next issue.

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

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FOR STAMPS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD ON INDIAN TOPICS

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STAMPSOFINDIA.COM UPDATES

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ISSUES

STAMPS

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

February 10, 2000: Census of India 2001

Next Issue:

February 18, 2000: International Fleet Review

POSTAL STATIONERY

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

POSTMARKS

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

ARMY POSTAL SERVICE – SPECIAL COVER & POSTMARK

<http://www.stampsfindia.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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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>

COINEX

Indraprastha Numismatic & Philatelic Association is organizing an exhibition of coins, bank notes, and stamps on February 17 and 18, 2001 at Shree Lakshmi Mahavidyalaya, Faiz Road Chowk, Near Bus Terminal, Karol Bagh, New Delhi. For details please contact Rishi Chandiook at telephone 5772127.

KANPHILEX

India Post is organizing a district level philatelic exhibition at the Philatelic Bureau, Kanpur on February 17 and 18, 2001. Arun Kumar Agarwal and Gopal Mehrotra shall be the members of the Jury. In addition to display of stamps there will be a Quiz on the first day, a Workshop and a Seminar on the second day. Shyam Bihari Mishra, Member of Parliament, shall inaugurate the exhibition and Dilip Trivedi, Deputy Inspector General of Police will distribute the awards. Interested philatelists may contact the Philatelic Bureau, Head Post Office Kanpur for supply of Special Covers with Special Postmarks and Souvenir.

GONDIAPEX

Nagpur Moffusil Division of the India Post is organizing a District level philatelic exhibition on February 24-25, 2001. Interested philatelists may contact the Philatelic Bureau, Nagpur GPO, Nagpur for supply of Special Covers with Special Postmarks and Souvenir.

HARPEX

Sahadev Sahoo and Dr. S P Gupta will be the members of the Jury at the second zonal exhibition organized by Haryana postal circle of India Post at S D College, Ambala Cantonment from February 23 to 25, 2001. Interested philatelists may contact the Philatelic Bureau, Head Post Office Ambala Cantonment for supply of Special Covers with Special Postmarks and Souvenir.

NEPHIL 2001

South Asian International Philatelic Exhibition, NEPHIL 2001, is being held on February 16-20, 2001 at Kathmandu, Nepal. Dr. R S Gandhi of Patna is the National Commissioner for India. M G Pittie, Secretary General of the Federation of Inter-Asia Philately (FIAP), and P Gupta, former President of the Philatelic Congress of India (PCI) are the members of the Jury from India. Dilip Shah, President-Elect & Secretary General of the PCI shall also attend the show. The Indian participants are: Nishi Agarwal – India After Independence, Pradeep Agarwal - Barwani, Rajendra Bhatnagar – Holkar State, Kishor S Chandak – Indian Postal Instructional Labels & Markings 1874-1907, K S Gandhi – India Cancellations & Postmarks 1861-1918, N K Agrawal – Indian Airmails 1911-1942, Prashant Pandya – British India Postal Stationery, L P Singh – How & Why of Birds, Bharti Jain – Jainism, Paramjit Singh – Sikhism, Chandrakant Andhare – The Bridges, Shakil Ahmed – Memoirs of a Beautiful Young Woman, Anjali Dutta – Fiscals of Gwalior, Pragya Kothari – India Heritage & Culture, Mihir Pandya – The Vision of India, Ananya Dutta – British India Postage Stamps, Sachin Goyal – The Story & Study of Flowers, Jyoti Dutta – India Post Computer Printed Labels, and R S Gandhi – Indian Postal Meter Markings.

The entries in the Philatelic Literature class are: Surendra Kotadia – Indian Inland Post Cards Advertisements & Slogans, Surendra Kotadia – Indian Inland Letter Cards Advertisements & Slogans, Philatelic Society of India – Stamps of Indian Native States, Philatelic Society of India – The Scinde Dawk & Lithographs of India, and Sushma Suresh – Who's Who on Indian Stamps.

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Join INDIAN STAMP COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION, for details

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#### AUCTIONS

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

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#### PUBLICATIONS

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

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Join REVENUE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

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#### ORGANIZATIONS

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

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#### DEALERS

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

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#### ARTICLES

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

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#### NEW LINKS

ORISSA POSTAL CIRCLE

<http://www.orissapost.com>

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

Premnath Kudva, Mangalore

I wish to talk about the Indian definitive stamps, which seem to have deteriorated in quality. The earlier definitives starting with the architecture series all seem in very good condition even today.

From my subscription at the HPO I have now received the 10 stamps from the 8th series. And they all are uniformly bad in print, image, paper and perforations. The image of the tiger in the Rs 10 stamp is very bad; they could have used a better artist or maybe image. Likewise the Rs 5 Sanchi Stupa of the 7th series was very bad in execution in terms of image quality and also the coloring.

Even the Rs 20 and Rs 50 stamps are no better, with the perforations being of substandard quality, so much so that they cannot be torn off neatly.

I do not understand why Indian Post have to give definitives a step motherly kind of treatment, especially when they are earning more revenue from it, considering the issue will be running for a long time when compared to the commemorative stamps.

Also considering that most commemoratives are of the Rs. 3 denomination, and definitives in the 8th series have come with Rs 10, 15, 20 and 50 the quality of such stamps should have been far better than the affair dished out so far.

I collect mint stamps from various other postal administrations abroad, and find that their definitives are of the same quality as the commemoratives. In fact they sometimes look like a commemorative issue from the work that has gone into it.

I hope that someone somewhere is able to persuade the Indian Postal authorities to start improving their act on the definitives issues.

#### 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](mailto:edit@stampsofindia.com) We look forward to hearing from you!

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#### THANK YOU.

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#### ABOUT THE EDITORS

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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#### ABOUT THE PUBLISHERS

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