

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION
ISSN 0972-3587

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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
Published Every Thursday
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GREETINGS ON EID-UL-ZUHA – MARCH 6, &  
HOLI – THE FESTIVAL OF COLORS, MARCH 9 & 10, 2001  
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#### IN THIS ISSUE

##### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Speed Post Passport Service  
New Stamps Released  
Philatelic Management Program at Postal Staff College  
Special Postmark at Kundalpur  
Philatelist Visiting Capital

##### ALSO IN THE NEWS

Newspaper Scan  
- Delivering The Right Punch  
- People Prefer Military Symbols On Stamps  
- Buddha Smiles, But Only On A Stamp  
- Passport Making Decentralised  
- Report On Fire Mishap Likely To Be Ready In A Fortnight  
- Speed Post Passport Service Launched  
- Passport Making Decentralized  
- Game Shows: The Mail Tale

##### RESEARCH NOTES

Postal History of Pakistan – Part 11

##### STAMPSOFINDIA.COM UPDATES

New Issues: Stamps, Postal Stationery, Postmarks, Other Items  
Events: 2600th Birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Mahaveer Exhibition  
Auctions: KPS Auction In Aid of Gujarat Earthquake Victims  
Publications: Philately Newsletter

##### READERS FORUM

S L Bansal

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##### JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

This issue is the first to get delayed by more than a day. We apologize for the inconvenience and assure better service in future.

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](mailto: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:  
Sudhir Jain, Satna.

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

##### SPEED POST PASSPORT SERVICE

The Minister of Communications, Ram Vilas Paswan and the Minister of State for External Affairs, Ajit Kumar Panja launched the "Speed Post Passport Service" at a function held at Dak Bhavan, India Post HQ on March 5, 2000. The Ministry of External Affairs has evolved a partnership with the India Post for accepting passport applications through Speed Post Offices. The step is one of the key initiatives of India Post to develop business opportunities and customer-focus other than carriage of mail and other articles.

Under Speed Post Passport Service passport applications forms will be accepted at select Speed Post Offices, on behalf of the Ministry of External Affairs. This service will have two basic components: Sale of Passport application forms along with envelopes; and Acceptance of filled up Passport application forms and dispatch to Passport Offices.

Speed Post Passport Service initially will be a pilot project and will be available in select towns of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, throughout Kerala and Karnataka. Later, the service will be extended to other parts of India.

##### ~~~~~ SHOPPING ON INTERNET TONIGHT FOR PHILATELIC ITEMS/COLLECTIBLES?

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Telephone: 532-653272, Mobile: 9839087232  
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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

Viren J Shah, Governor of West Bengal released the commemorative stamp in the denomination of Rs. 3, the inland letter rate, to mark 150 years of Geological Survey of India at Kolkata on March 4, 2001. K Krishnaunni, Director General of Geological Survey of India, Dipak Chatterjee, Secretary Department of Mines and S B Bhattacharya, Chief Post Master General West Bengal Circle were present on the occasion besides several other dignitaries.

Geological Survey of India designed the stamp and First day Cover, priced at Rs. 2. Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. 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 one million. The issued sheet contains 40 stamps.

Lieutenant General G K Duggal, AVSM, Vir Chakra, Director General Assam Rifles was the chief guest at the release function of the commemorative stamp in the denomination of Rs. 3, the inland letter rate, to mark the 200 years of Fourth Battalion of the Maratha Light Infantry at Secunderabad on March 6, 2001. Chief Post Master General Andhra Pradesh Circle was also present on the occasion.

Sankha Samanta designed the stamp and First day Cover, priced at Rs. 2. Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. An informative brochure containing

write-up and technical data, priced at Rs. 2, was also brought out. Calcutta Security Printers Limited of Kanpur printed the stamps by photo-offset in four colors on matt chromo paper in the quantity of 700,000. 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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PHILATELIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AT POSTAL STAFF COLLEGE
Postal Staff College at Ghaziabad is conducting a week long Philatelic Management Program for officers of India Post from March 5, 2001. P N Ranjit Kumar, Assistant Director General (Philately), India Post HQ and G B Pai, eminent philatelist addressed the participants on the first day.

Participants from other postal administrations attend various programs conducted by the Postal Staff College, this program also is no exception and S H Masoumi, Director of Stamp Bureau, Tehran, from Iran is a participant.

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**INDIA & INDIAN STATES – Mint & Used**  
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.stampsofindia.com/content/download/SICC.htm>  
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SPECIAL POSTMARK AT KUNDALPUR
India Post provided a special postmark on February 22, 2001 at Kundalpur, a renowned Jain pilgrimage center situated in Damoh District of Madhya Pradesh. The occasion was the Mahamastakabhisheka Ceremony of twelve feet idol of first Jain Tirthankar Bhagwan Adeenath on completing 1500 years of it's Pratishtha. This idol is popularly known as 'Bade Baba'. There are 58 recognized temples on the hill and the ground at Kundalpur. Large numbers of Jain devotees visit here daily. On completion of 1500 years, a grand Mahamastakabhisheka Mahotsawa function was organized here from February 21-27, 2001.

Sanjay Jain, Convenor of Abhishek Samiti along with Dr. Ravindra Pahalwan, President of Indore Philatelic Society and Sudhir Jain, Secretary of Central India Philatelic Society, were instrumental in sponsoring this special postmark

The postmark depicts flying Indras showering holy water on the idol of Bhagwan Adeenath. The Organizing Committee has also issued a special cover. Interested philatelists may contact the Sudhir Jain for supply of Special Cover with Special Postmark.

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PHILATELIST VISITING CAPITAL
This week Ashok K Bayanwala, President of Gujarat Philatelists Association visited New Delhi on a private visit from March 5 to 7, 2001. It is always a privilege and pleasure to hold discussions on various postal history matters with a renowned scholar like him.

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NEWSPAPER SCAN

Business Line, March 5, 2001
DELIVERING THE RIGHT PUNCH by R. Desikan
<http://www.indiaserver.com/businessline/2001/03/05/stories/100517m3.htm>

The Times of India, March 5, 2001
PEOPLE PREFER MILITARY SYMBOLS ON STAMPS
<http://www.timesofindia.com/050301/05indi36.htm>

The Times of India, March 6, 2001
PASSPORT MAKING DECENTRALISED
<http://www.timesofindia.com/060301/06indi38.htm>

The Hindu, March 6, 2001
REPORT ON FIRE MISHAP LIKELY TO BE READY IN A FORTNIGHT
<http://www.indiaserver.com/thehindu/2001/03/06/stories/04064010.htm>

The Hindu, March 6, 2001
SPEED POST PASSPORT SERVICE LAUNCHED
<http://www.indiaserver.com/thehindu/2001/03/06/stories/04062238.htm>

The Times of India, March 6, 2001
BUDDHA SMILES, BUT ONLY ON A STAMP
<http://www.timesofindia.com/060301/06mhyd5.htm>

The Times of India, March 7, 2001
GAME SHOWS: THE MAIL TALE
<http://www.timesofindia.com/070301/07mdel19.htm>

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 today!

RESEARCH NOTES
Segment Coordinator: Manohar Lal mlal@stampsfindia.net
Mailing Address: 9-B/6654 Dev Nagar, Gali # 6, New Delhi 110005.

[Most of the writings here are the first time publication of Manohar Lal's painstaking research conducted over eight years, full time, at National Archives of India and other

institutions 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.]

POSTAL HISTORY OF PAKISTAN – Part 11

Earlier parts were published in our issues # 18 to 25 and 27 to 28.

CONCESSIONAL POSTAGE RATES FOR REGISTERED NEWSPAPER

February 26, 1950: The concessional rates of postage for registered newspaper from Pakistan to Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia are available with effect from January 16, 1950, says a Press Note.

They will be at the rates applying to surface transmission of registered newspapers by inland post. The conditions applicable to the posting of registered newspaper in the inland post will be applicable to the posting of such newspapers to these countries.

PAKISTAN SOUTH AMERICA AIRLINK

For the first time in the history of civil aviation Pakistan will be directly linked with South America, when the Argonaut Airliners of BOAC operating on Tokyo-Karachi-London, Hong Kong-Karachi-London and Calcutta-Karachi-London routes will continue their flight on ward to the East Coast of South America and across the Andes to Santiago (Chile) on February 28, 1950.

ORIENT AIRWAYS

March 3, 1950: Orient Airways have pleasure in announcing the following increased CONVAIR services with effect from March 13, 1950

Monday, Thursday, Saturday

Karachi – Delhi – Calcutta – Dacca – Delhi – Karachi

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday

Karachi – Delhi – Dacca – Calcutta – Delhi – Karachi

SALE OF POSTAL ENVELOPES OVERPRINTED “PAKISTAN”

It is notified that the sale and use of Bharat 1½ annas ordinary envelopes overprinted “Pakistan” will be discontinued with effect from April 15, 1950. All such envelopes posted on or after April 18, shall be treated as unpaid and disposed of accordingly.

ORIENT AIRWAYS

Orient Airways have pleasure in announcing the following revised CONVAIR service with effect from March 27, 1950

Monday, Thursday

Karachi – Delhi – Calcutta – Dacca – Delhi – Karachi

CORRECTION

March 4, 1950: M/S Orient Airways Ltd regrets the wrong announcement of dated and frequency of its service in Yesterday’s issue of this publication. Public is therefore requested to ignore the previous date and note the dates mentioned in the above advertisement.

POSTING OF LETTERS IN MAIL VANS

March 30, 1950: A large number of letters and postcards is posted by the public at the Railways Stations in the letter boxes, provided in the mail vans attached to the mail carrying trains with a view to expeditious transmission of these articles, says a Press Note.

Under the rules articles posted in the mail van letter box must bear an additional fee in postage stamps of 1 anna in the case of inland articles and 2 annas in case of foreign articles.

In quite a large number of cases the late fee is not affixed by the public and consequently the articles posted without late fee are, as required by the rules, detained the post delayed by one delivery. The object of putting the articles in the mail van is thus defeated.

The public are therefore, advised not to resort to posting in van letter boxes without making sure that the article being posted bear the prescribed late fee.

NEW RATES FOR PACKET POST

April 5, 1950: With effect from April 1, 1950, the rate of surface postage for Book Packets in the inland service, for every additional 2 ½ tolas or fraction thereof, have been reduced from 6 pies to 3 pies, says a Press Note issued on Thursday April 4, 1950. For the first 5 tolas or fraction thereof, the rates remain unchanged, i.e. 5 tolas or fraction thereof, the rates remain unchanged, i.e., one anna.

The existing rates of surface postage for Pattern and Sample packets in the inland service shall remain unchanged. The reduced rates for Book Packets shall also apply to Book Packets intended for Bharat (India), Ceylon, Nepal and Portuguese India. It continues: The late fee on foreign articles posted in train letterboxes has also been reduced from 2 annas to 1 anna per article.

The Press Note further adds. There have been some other changes in the rates for ancillary services rendered by the Post Office such as Certificate of Posting, fee for Acknowledgement Due and Late Fee on articles posted in the Post Offices, etc, the details of which can be ascertained from the nearest Post office.

FOREIGN SURFACE POSTAGE RATES FOR NEWSPAPER REDUCED

April 22, 1950: To encourage and facilitate the free flow of knowledge and information, a 50 percent reduction has been made in foreign surface postage rates for newspapers, periodicals, books, pamphlets, sheet music and maps from Pakistan to foreign countries, from May 1, 1950 says a Press Note. The revised rates shall be one anna for the first two ounces or part thereof, and six pies for each additional two ounces or part thereof.

From the same date registered newspapers can also be sent from Pakistan to Indonesia by surface post at the rates and conditions applying to surface conveyance of such newspapers in the inland service. This concessional rates service is already available for Bharat (India), Aden, Ceylon, Nepal, Portuguese India, Egypt, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia.

ANNOUNCEMENT

ORIENT AIRWAYS

Orient Airways have the pleasure in announcing that they will be increasing their Karachi – East Pakistan and return flights from four to five CONVAIR services a week. The additional service, which will run on Saturdays, will be Karachi – Delhi – Dacca – Calcutta – Delhi – Karachi

The first additional service will operate on Saturday, May 13, 1950

BHARAT TAKES OVER CHANDERNAGORE

May 2, 1950, Chandernagore: Bharat today took over administration of this 250-year old French settlement, 20 miles north of Calcutta by agreement with French Government. It has a population of 45, 000.

Three square miles in area, Chandernagore voted by an overwhelming majority for the merger in a referendum held by French Government.

This is the first foreign settlement in Bharat to free itself from Colonial rule since Bharat attained Independence. Reuter

QUETTA – KARACHI AIR SERVICE

May 8, 1950, Quetta: Air service between Quetta and Karachi which had been suspended in winter last and was resumed recently (suspended after Jungshahi air crash of PAK AIR Dakota), has now been suspended for indefinite period, due to lack of passengers, it was learnt here today.

To be continued in the next issue.

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

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ASK US

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#### ISSUES

##### STAMPS

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

March 4, 2001: Geological Survey of India, 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Rs.3  
March 6, 2001: 4<sup>th</sup> Maratha Light Infantry, Rs.3

Next Issue:

April 6, 2001: Bhagwan Mahavira

##### 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:

March 15 - Diamond Jubilee, 4/8 Gorkha Rifles

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

##### OTHER ITEMS

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

##### ~~~~~ JOIN PHILATELIC DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

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

##### ~~~~~ EVENTS

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

##### 2600TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF BHAGWAN MAHAVEER EXHIBITION

On the occasion of 2600th Birth Anniversary of 24<sup>th</sup> and last Tirthankar Lord Mahaveera, a Memorabilia on Jainism Exhibition was organized at Kolkata from February 27 to March 5, 2001. Philatelic & Numismatic collections, Paintings, Photographs, Artifacts, Manuscripts, and Literature, all related to Jainism, were exhibited in this exhibition. Venue of this exhibition was famous Academy of Fine Arts that is situated at the heart of the city, just opposite to the Victoria Memorial and adjacent to Birla Planetarium. Large number of Jains/non-Jains, local citizens and outsider tourists visited this exhibition organized by the Bhagwan Mahaveera 2600th Birth Anniversary Celebration Committee, Kolkata.

In Philately Section Sudhir Jain, Satna, Naresh Kumar Jain, Patna, Ajeet Jain, Kolkata, and Pragya Jain, Patna, exhibited their collections of Stamps, Covers, postmarks on Jainism. All these invitees were honored by presenting beautiful

mementos. J K Nahar was the convener of the Exhibition Committee and renowned Philatelist and Author Manik Jain was the In charge of Philatelic Section of this exhibition.

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AUCTIONS

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

KPS AUCTION IN AID OF GUJARAT EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

Karnataka Philatelic Society organized an auction sale on February 25, 2001 at Nehru Auditorium, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited Corporate Office, Bangalore. The catalogs were available from February 23 onwards at the Nursing Home of Dr. Sita Bhateja, the President of KPS.

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PUBLICATIONS

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

PERIODICALS RECEIVED THIS WEEK

PHILATELY NEWSLETTER, Whole # 5, Oct - Dec 2000

Editor in Chief: B N Som, Managing Editor: M Narayanan, Executive Editor: Tilak De

Publisher: India Post

Mailing Address: Director GPO, Kolkata 700001

Annual Subscription: Not Indicated

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ORGANIZATIONS

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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

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## READERS FORUM

S L Bansal, New Delhi

About the India definitive stamp of Rs. 15 depicting a butterfly mentioned by the writer in the last issue, he adds - I had also written to the editor of Philatelic Aurelian, the journal of the Philatelic Lepidopterists Association of USA. He has identified it and has informed, "it is *Acraea violae* (Fabr.) found in India and Sri Lanka and also on stamps from Maldives Islands (Scott 1266) and Sri Lanka (Scott 1286a)."

## 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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| [www.worldrevenuestamps.com](http://www.worldrevenuestamps.com) | India Post | MaxCards |

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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' (Question of 10 million) as well as 'Jeeto Chhappar Phaad Ke' (Win a Windfall), just remember you were warned so we won't be held accountable.

## THANK YOU.

## 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.

## ABOUT THE PUBLISHERS

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