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STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION

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

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Number 47, August 9, 2001

Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

Published Every Thursday

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Awards: Silver Medal with 'Felicitations of the Jury' at BELGICA 2001 World Stamp Exhibition

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## JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We are back from PHILANIPPON 01, after a visit to one of the most expensive cities in the world. The experience was interesting to say the least. The show was of a high standard but left a lot to be desired as the management was given over to a professional agency and one missed the personal touch of the local philatelists that is usually associated with these shows.

The Japan Post Office counters and the Children's area sales counter were very well managed with the pre printed order forms and pens made available to the prospective customers. The orders were filled very efficiently.

One got a chance to see the working of Japan Philatelic Society (JPS) with a membership of more than 30,000 members. It was an opportunity to see how to run a good philatelic organization and efficiently serve the interest of such large number of collectors.

The booth holders, one of the biggest revenue generators for the exhibition, were a neglected lot, especially those who had traveled far to be there. No special facilities were provided for them, even for simple water, tea and coffee they had to step out of the hall, as these were not allowed inside, contrary to the practice at most international shows these days.

It was a battle, especially for overseas visitors, to be able to make the P-stamps as everyone was expected to stand in the queue from 8.30 am or earlier to be able to get a reservation to make the P-stamps. This is the only exhibition, we saw, where revenue was being refused as the limit for making P-stamps was set to 400 persons per day. FIP got special arrangements made for members of Jury and National Commissioners. We wish International Federation of Stamp Dealers Association (IFSDA) should have done the same for the Booth holders. Believe it or not even Japanese citizens working at Japan Post Office and other stalls at the show could not get their P-Stamps!

World shows should make arrangements not only for Jury and Commissioners but also the booth holders, philatelic press persons, visiting exhibitors and other philatelists to be able to attend all official functions and organize separate or combined outings with or without payment. We personally spoke to visiting exhibitors from half a dozen countries that wanted to join the tours on payment, seats were vacant and still they were refused. May we request FIP, IFSDA, and also AIJP to work together on the ground at the world shows.

Every one is proud of their language and culture but when an International Exhibition is organized all signage and announcements should also be done in other languages for the comprehension of the visitors from overseas. Some organizational skills should also be applied for the hosting of formal dinners/gatherings as many visitors from overseas are vegetarian and others choose to be vegetarian because they are particular about the kind of meat they eat like Muslims and Jews.

We conclude with these thoughts for the organizers of the forthcoming international philatelic shows,

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors to this issue:

Robert de Violini, USA; Press Information Bureau, Government of India, New Delhi;

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#### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### AWARDS AT PHILANIPPON 01

The participants from India did well at PHILANIPPON 2001 Japan World Stamp Exhibition held at Tokyo, Japan from August 1 to 7, 2001. Anil Suri of New Delhi won the 9<sup>th</sup> GOLD in last 8 years for 'Fiscals of Cochin'. A M Mollah of Mumbai retained his LARGE VERMEIL for 'Fiscal Stamps of Indore & Jaora'. Ajay K Mittal of New Delhi got upgraded to LARGE VERMEIL for 'Indore'. Pradeep K Agrawal and Nishi Agrawal, both of Patna, won a VERMEIL each for 'Barwani' and 'India After Independence' respectively. In the Philatelic Literature class, Madhukar Deogawanka of Calcutta won LARGE SILVER for 'Brahmini Dawk' and R A Malviya won SILVER for 'Sorath Stamps & Postal History'. The only entry in Open Class by A M Mollah was withdrawn.

Dinesh C Sharma of Nauru won a VERMEIL for 'Summer Olympic Games'. Republic of Nauru is not a member of FIP and FIAP however the organizers accepted this entry. The exhibitor being an Indian national, the Jury asked Indian Commissioner to give his consent to let this exhibit be treated from India. The Indian Commissioner consented to after consulting the Immediate Past President and President Elect of Philatelic Congress of India present in the show.

Other exhibits on India at the show scored as follows: GRAND PRIZE INTERNATIONAL & LARGE GOLD WITH SPECIAL PRIZE, Yaovanee Nirandara, Thailand, 'Burma Under Indian Postal Administration 1817-1870'. GOLD, M A Sayeed, UAE, 'India 1852-55'. GOLD; Nasreen Fatima, UAE, 'India: Queen Victoria, 1855-1900'. LARGE VERMEIL, Avinash Jagtap, Switzerland, 'Handstruck Stamps of India'. LARGE VERMEIL, Akihiko Koiwa, Japan; 'Indian Campaigns'. LARGE VERMEIL, Hasse Brockenhuus Von Loewenhielm, Sweden; 'Jaipur Postal Stationery'. VERMEIL, Ferose Akhtar, UAE, 'India Postal History 1750-1900'.

Other South Asia exhibits were as follows: Absent, Redwan Al-Karim Bhuiyan, Bangladesh, 'Provisional Period of Bangladesh'. GOLD WITH SPECIAL PRIZE, Leo Martyn, USA, 'The Development of Nepal's Postal System'. VERMEIL, Rishi K Tulsyan, Nepal, 'Nepal 1779-1911'. LARGE SILVER (Youth Class), Bineet Chandra Jha, Nepal, 'Lord Shiva in Nepalese Philately'. SILVER (Youth Class), Shristi Nhuchhe Pradhan, Nepal, 'Postal Stationery of Nepal'. LARGE VERMEIL, Khalid Malik, 'Pakistan, In the beginning (GB)'. LARGE VERMEIL, M Arif Balgamwala, Pakistan, 'Postal Stationery Overprinted Pakistan'. LARGE SILVER, Iqbal Nanjee, Pakistan, 'History of Palestine Mail'. LARGE SILVER (Literature), M Arif Balgamwala, Pakistan, 'Pakistan Overprints 1947-1949'. VERMEIL (Youth Class), Areej Arif Balgamwala, Pakistan, 'Postal Stationery of Pakistan 1947-1967'. VERMEIL, Shigeo Shimada, Japan, 'Ceylon'. GOLD, David Springbett, UK, 'Ceylon Revenues'.

The Jury awarded the Special Prize from the Philatelic Congress of India in the memory of D N Jatia to Masaaki Oshima from Japan for his Large Gold winning exhibit 'Postal Cards of Japan 1873-1974, Cherry Blossom Issue' in the Postal Stationery Class.

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#### NEW STAMPS RELEASED

##### CORALS

Aftaab Seth, Ambassador of India in Japan released the set of 4 stamps on Corals on August 2, 2001 at Tokyo. This was the only stamp release ceremony held during PHILANIPPON 01. Gautam Gupta, Member Operations, Postal Services Board, Knud Mohr, President FIP, Peng Hian Tay President FIAP, Hiroyuki Kanai, President Japan Philatelic Federation, and other international jury members, national commissioners and collectors of India were present during the ceremony.

The corals that figure on the stamps are *Acropora digitifera* (Rs 4), *Fungia horrida* (Rs 4), *Montipora acquituberculata* (Rs 15) and *Acropora Formosa* (Rs. 45). The first two stamps are for the Inland Letter Rate, Rs. 15 represents the Overseas Airmail Letter Rate, and Rs. 45 the Inland Express Mail Rate. The Rs. 45 stamp is the highest value commemorative stamp ever issued by India Post. Earlier in 1997 a Souvenir Sheet was issued in the denomination of Rs. 45 on Mother Teresa.

Coral reefs are among the greatest splendors of nature. About 250 species of corals are known to exist in Indian reefs, a majority of them in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The other areas with well-grown coral reefs are the Gulf of Mannar, Gulf of Kachchh and Lakshadweep. Coral reefs provide livelihood to coastal communities by way of food and ornamental fishes, shells, algae and tourism. Excessive human interference in the recent years has caused damage to this important ecosystem and awareness needs to be spread to prevent this. The Department of Posts strives to focus public attention on the need to conserve the delicate ecosystems of our oceans through these stamps on the Corals of India.

Ramesh Sukumar designed the stamps and 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 3 Million each. The issued sheet contains 40 stamps.

The stamps, First Day Cover along with the information sheet was also made available for sale at the India Post stall at PHILANIPPON 01 besides being made available at all Philatelic Bureaus and Counters and at selected Post Offices.

D P MISHRA

Krishna Kant, Vice President of India released a commemorative stamp on Dwarka Prasad Mishra, freedom fighter and the first Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, at Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh on August 5, 2001.

The stamp is of Rs 4 denomination, the current inland letter rate. Alka Sharma designed the stamps, First day Cover, and 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 five colors on imported un-watermarked stamp paper in the quantity of 400,000. The issued sheet contains 40 stamps.

The stamps, First Day Cover along with the information sheet are available on sale at all Philatelic Bureaus and Counters and at selected Post Offices.

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NEW ISSUE UPDATE  
Date Announced: Sep 25, 2001 – Devilal, Former Deputy Prime Minister of India

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STANLEY GIBBONS CATALOGS, Stamps of the World 1995 (2 Vols.) – Rs. 2000, British C'wealth 1993 – Rs. 1750, 1995 – Rs. 2100, 1997 – 2500, 1999 – 2900, 2000 – Rs. 3000. Postage & Packing Extra, Only One copy each edition available.

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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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PHILATELIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
The Philatelic Advisory Committee (PAC) of the Ministry of Communications, Government of India was reconstituted for a term of two years from August 2, 2001. The functions of the PAC are to advise the Government on matters pertaining to postage stamps and philately, and such other matters as may be referred to it from time to time. Its recommendations are advisory in character and will not in any way be binding on the Government.

Chairman – Ram Vilas Paswan, Minister of Communications;

Co-Chairman – Tapan Sikdar, Minister of State for Communications;

Vice Chairman – B N Som, Secretary (Posts);

Member Secretary – Vinod Dhamija, Deputy Director General, Philatelic Division, India Post;

Official Members – Gautam Gupta, Member (Operations), Postal Services Board; Rekha Gupta,

Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, India Post; Navin Kumar, Joint Secretary (Coins & Currency)

Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of finance; V K Jain, General Manager, India Security Press, Nashik;

Non-Official Members – Prof Shankar Singh Vaghela, Member of Paliament (Lok Sabha); Dr. Laxmi Narayan Pandya, Member of Paliament (Lok Sabha); Manohar Kant Dhyani, Member of Paliament (Rajya Sabha); Balkavi Bairagi, Member of Paliament (Rajya Sabha); Sahadeva Sahoo, President, Philatelic Congress of India; Dilip Shah, Philatelic Congress of India; R S Gandhi, Philatelic Congress of India; G Balkrishna Das, Philatelic Congress of India; Manik Jain, Stamp Dealer; Prof. K Satchidanandan, Secretary, Sahitya Academy; Jayant Kastuar, Secretary, Sangeet Natak Academy; Sudhakar Sharma, Secretary, Lalit Kala Academy; Dr. R D Chourdury, Director General, National Museum; Rajiv Lochan, Director, National Gallery of Modern Art; Dr. O P Kejriwal, Director, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library; Prof. M G S Narayanan, Chairman, Indian Council of Historical Research; Sukumar Sarkar, Director General, National Archives; Dr. Darlie O Koshy, Executive Director, Natioanl Institute of Design; Prof. M Vijaymohan, Principal, College of Arts; Asoke Bose; Madhusudan Chakraborty; Brijesh Chatterjee; Prof. Jayalikhshmi; Ajay Upadhyaya, Chief Editor, Dainik Hindustan; M K Razdan, Editor-In-Chief & General Manager, PTI; Neeraj Bajpai, Co-ordinator, News (English), UNI; Subimal Chowdhary; Praveer Jain, Chief Photo Editor, Indian Express.

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#### EMPIREPEX 2001

The Empire of India Philatelic Society, Mumbai is organizing the next national show at Nashik from December 22 to 26, 2001 to mark its Diamond Jubilee. EMPIREPEX 2001 is being held under the patronage of the Philatelic Congress of India and with the support of India Post, other philatelists and philatelic societies.

This will be the third national exhibition being organized by the philatelists in India. India Post organized six nationals between 1970 and 1993. Taking in to account the nationals organized before 1970 and later, we reckon this to be the 13<sup>th</sup> national philatelic show of India. Our list of nationals is as follows: Dijupex-57, Napex-65, Inpex-70, Copex-72, Plajupex-72, Inpex-75, Inpex-77, Inpex-82, Inpex-86, Inpex-93, Centipex-97, and Millepex-2000.

The Organizing and other Committees are being formed at present. B N Som, Director General of India Post, Chairman of Postal Services Board, Secretary (Posts) to the Government of India in the Ministry of Communications, Trustee of Universal Postal Union's 'Quality of Service Fund', and the Chairman of World Association for Development of Philately has accepted the invitation to be a member of the Committee of Honor.

The first joint meeting of the Organizing and other Committees will be held on August 26, 2001 at the Conference Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, General Post Office, Mumbai.

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#### 13<sup>TH</sup> FIAP CONGRESS

M G Piittie, Immediate Past President of Philatelic Congress of India and longtime Secretary General of the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP) was elected as one of the two Vice Presidents of FIAP at the thirteenth FIAP Congress held at Tokyo, Japan on August 6, 2001.

Following is the result of the elections held at the Congress: President – Surajit Gongvatana (Thailand), Vice President – M G Piittie (India), Vice President – William Kwan (Hong Kong), Secretary General – Malcolm Groom (Australia), Treasurer - Ng (Singapore), Committee Members – Liu (China), Michael Ho (Chinese Taipei), V T Nathan (Malaysia), Sukarno

(Indonesia), Moriyoshi Harada (Japan), Bryan Ogier (New Zealand), Chang Se Young (Korea), A Khoory (UAE), Mario Que (Philippines).

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#### AIJP MEETING AT TOKYO

International Association of Philatelic Journalists (AIJP) held a meeting at Tokyo, Japan on August 6, 2001 during PHILANIPPON 01. Otto Hornung RDP, the President and Charles Peterson, Vice President were present among others.

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#### E-POST SERVICE LAUNCHED IN FIVE STATES

The Minister of Communications, Ram Vilas Paswan launched the e-Post service of the Department of Posts (DoP) on August 2, 2001 at New Delhi. This new service will be available initially in the five States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, Kerala and Maharashtra and would be extended to the rest of the country later.

Paswan said that the benefits of new technology should reach people living in far off and inaccessible places. He said that the India Post should extend the e-Post facility to all part of the country in due course. Paswan said that the Department has launched a number of new services including Greeting Post, quick money transfer and instant money order, which will benefit the consumer. The Minister of State for Communications Tapan Sikdar urged the Department to extend the facility of e-Post to jawans serving in the border areas of the country.

The basic concept of e-Post is the facilitation provided to a user to send messages without going to the Post Office. The messages are sent through Internet and delivered at the doorstep of the addressee within a few hours. This service can be used to send mail from anywhere in the world to anywhere in India. Any user without having access to the computer/internet can also send messages using this facility.

To use e-Post service, a person has to register on <http://www.indianpostoffice.net/> and pay using either a pre-paid card or a credit card. Account will be created for the user and the amount credited therein. Alternatively, the sender can walk into any of the designated 200 e-Post centers in the five States and offer his message/document which can be scanned and sent through electronic means. These letters are received at the destination post office that will print it and get it delivered at the doorstep of the recipient. The pre-paid cards will be available at selected Post Offices all over the country in fixed denominations of Rs.250, Rs.500, Rs.2000, Rs.5, 000 and Rs.10, 000.

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#### Join INDIA POST'S STANDING ORDER DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

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#### PHILATELIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The apex training institute of India Post organized a Philatelic Management Program for the officers from July 30 to August 3, 2001. The objectives of the Program were to focus on promotional activities in philately after assessing the business options, customer requirements, and marketing strategies. Vishnu Saksena, Philatelic Consultant to India Post, Vinod Dhamija,

Deputy Director General & P N Ranjit Kumar, Assistant Director General from Philatelic Division of India Post HQ, and Pulak Gupta, philatelist were some of the speakers at the Program.

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#### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

SIGNET, Vol.24 # 1, April-June 2001, Quarterly  
Editor: Sahadeva Sahoo  
Publisher: Philatelic Congress of India  
Mailing Address: Mrs. Damayanti M. Pittie, Treasurer, PCI, 'Suket' 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Dongersi Cross Lane, Mumbai – 400 006  
Annual Subscription: Rs. 100 or US\$ 12 by airmail  
Mode of Remittance: By bank draft in favor of the publisher

G P A NEWS, Whole # 49, August 2001, Monthly  
Editor: H C Mehta  
Publisher: Gujarat Philatelists Association  
Mailing Address: D Desai & Co., 1/M National Chamber, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad - 380009  
Annual Subscription including membership: Rs. 100, Entrance Fee Rs. 100,  
Mode of Remittance: By bank draft in favor of the publisher

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#### STAMPSOFINDIA.COM UPDATES

This week the following segments have been updated on the site: News,

This week the following has been added to the site:

Our website, the Hub Site of Indian Philately, presents the information in following segments:

NEWS <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Issues/a100.htm>  
ISSUES <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Issues/a200.htm>  
EVENTS <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Events/a300.htm>  
AUCTIONS <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Auctions/a700.htm>  
PUBLICATIONS <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Publications/a600.htm>  
ORGANIZATIONS <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Orgs/a400.htm>  
DEALERS <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Dealers/a800.htm>  
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#### ALSO IN THE NEWS

#### STAMP SHOWS ON INTERNET

Two Internet-based philatelic exhibitions have been announced. The first was announced early this year, and is called PHILANED. Operated from the Netherlands, this is felt to be the first stamp exhibition on the Internet. It appears to be thematically oriented, with support from the Dutch Thematic Association and several other stamp clubs, and exhibits are welcome to be entered through the end of next February. The entry can be up to 10 Mb in size. Details are on their web site at [www.philaned.com](http://www.philaned.com). The site says the exhibits will be a part of PHILAALSMEER 2002, held 22 – 24 March 2002; some exhibits will be selected to be shown at AMPHILEX 2002

(30 August to 3 September in Amsterdam), and then at THEMANIFESTATIE in November. So far there have been 32 indications of interest to participate and the organizers have received 17 of them. Half are available for viewing at this time.

The second exhibition is tied in with the HAFNIA 01 FIP World Philatelic Exhibition. Called HAFNIADE, this is the first Internet-based exhibition to be directly associated with an FIP exhibition. Its web site is at [www.hafniade.dk](http://www.hafniade.dk) not to be confused with the web site for HAFINA 01 at [www.hafnia01.dk](http://www.hafnia01.dk). There are somewhat different classes, including a "work in progress" class, on the HAFNIADE site. The other classes are Traditional Philately, Postal History, Thematic Philately and Open Class. Except for the last class, these will be judged by Danish accredited judges. The Open Class exhibits must be at least 50 percent philatelic and will be judged by the public at HAFINA and also by people checking in via the Internet. The entry deadline is September 23, 2001, and the exhibit may be submitted as a ZIP disk or on a CD-Rom. The entry is to be less than 5 Mb but must have at least 16 internal links. Check their web site for details.

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NEWSPAPER SCAN

<Contribute newspaper clippings on philatelic and postal matters for publication here>

The Hindu Business Line, August 8, 2001  
DEPT OF POST PLANS GLOBAL MONEY TRANSFERS  
<http://www.blonnet.com/2001/08/08/stories/140868c1.htm>

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RESEARCH NOTES

NOTES ON PAKISTAN – Part 29

Earlier parts were published in our issues # 18 to 46, except # 26. These are available for free download at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Download/archives.htm>

ORIENT AIRWAYS LIMITED

1. Effective from Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July 1954 the Convair Service between Karachi, Lahore and Dacca will operate East bound on Thursdays and Sundays, West bound on Fridays and Mondays.  
Important change in the time schedule evening departure from Karachi and night flying from Lahore to Dacca.
2. Effective from Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> July 1954, the Convair Service between Karachi and Lahore will operate on Wednesdays.
3. Effective from Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> July 1954 the Dakota Service between Karachi, Lahore, Pindi and Peshawar will operate on Tuesdays and Saturdays. (The service will now operate on a day return basis to a completely revised time schedule)

INLAND AIRMAIL SERVICES NEW SCHEDULE

July 10, 1954: As a result of the recent changes in the schedules of PIA and Orient Airways services, says a Press Note, the inland air mail services will operate as follows: Between East and West Pakistan five days a week

East Bound: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays

West Bound: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays

Within East Pakistan – Six days a week. Dacca – Jessore – Daily except Sundays

Within West Pakistan – Karachi – Lahore – Karachi – Five days a week

Northbound: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays



Southbound: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays  
Karachi – Rawalpindi – Peshawar – Karachi – Twice weekly: Tuesdays and Saturdays  
Lahore – Rawalpindi – Peshawar – Lahore – Twice Weekly: Tuesdays and Saturdays

#### INDIAN OVERSEAS AIRLINES OPERATION SUSPENDED

Bombay airport authorities confirmed on Wednesday, July 27, 1949, that the Director General of Civil Aviation in India had suspended the operation of Indian Overseas Airline (Star Line) forthwith owing to its irregular flights.

They said that the Company's License was temporarily suspended and the time limit was not known. According to them the DGCA had requested Air India Limited to operate the Star Line route to Calcutta in addition to the usual flights between Bombay and Calcutta.

Indian Overseas Airline, which formerly ran a daily Bombay – Nagpur – Calcutta service, had, it is stated, of late considerably reduced the frequency of flights on that route, the majority of its aircraft having been grounded for lack of funds to renew their certificate of airworthiness.

#### AIR INDIA BOMBAY – AHMEDABAD AIRSERVICE

March 18, 1949, Bombay: Bombay will be linked by air with Baroda when a daily Air India service between Bombay and Ahmedabad via Baroda comes into operation on March 29, 1949. a survey flight was carried out on March 14. This route was operated by Ambica Airlines before the Company went into liquidation. A feature of this link is that it enables a businessman in Baroda or Ahmedabad to come to Bombay and return home the same evening. API

Departure – Bombay 16.00; Arrival – Baroda 17.30; Departure – Baroda 17.40; Arrival – Ahmedabad 18.10

Departure – Ahmedabad 07.15; Arrival – Baroda 07.45; Departure – Baroda 07.55; Arrival – Bombay 09.30

#### KARACHI BOUND PLANE IN FORCED LANDING

April 7, 1949, Bombay: An Air India 23 seater Viking Aircraft which took off from the Santa Cruz airport for Karachi, with a full load of passengers and a crew of four, this morning developed engine trouble and made a forced landing near Malad beach, ten miles from the airport. The aircraft was slightly damaged.... All occupants of the aircraft are safe.

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 and Karachi respectively.

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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, the American Philatelic Society, and members of Olympic Philatelists of India, Indian Philatelic Press Club, Philatelic Web Masters Organization and International Association of Philatelic Journalists.

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Most of the writings in 'Research Notes' are the first time publication of our Research Coordinator 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 medal' 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. - M&SJ

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