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S T A M P S O F I N D I A C O L L E C T O R S C O M P A N I O N
The First, Free & Only Email Newsletter on Philately, Postal History, & Postal Services of India.
AWARDS: Silver Medal with 'Felicitations of the Jury' at BELGICA 2001 World Stamp Exhibition

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# 51, September 6, 2001. Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan. Published Every Thursday  
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I N T H I S I S S U E

New Minister of Communications

New Stamps Released - Jagdev Prasad

Philately Development Fund Proposed

EMPIREPEX, MAHATMAPEX , CITPEX-2001

More Felicitations

Mittal Postal Auction

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Also In The News – World's Fastest Stamp

Newspaper Scan – UTI Bank Says In Pact With Post Office, Postal Dept Clueless About Fraud

Research Notes – Notes on Pakistan Part 33

Readers Forum – S D Bhatia

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

With our last issue, our 50<sup>th</sup>, we moved certain parts of this newsletter such as disclaimers etc. that were being repeated without change in every issue to the web site and only the links are being provided here. We hoped that it would make the newsletter slimmer till we think of new and innovative ideas to fatten up her again but believe it or not we failed in our first attempt itself as the last issue minus the items removed still ran to 11 A4 pages!

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors to this issue:

Press Information Bureau, Government of India, New Delhi; Prashant Pandya, Vadodara; Sudhir Jain, Satna; Ashok Kumar Bayanwala, Ahmedabad;

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Kindly mention this newsletter when contacting philatelists and our advertisers.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

The Minister of Information Technology and Parliamentary Affairs, Pramod Mahajan took over charge as the Minister of Communications on September 2, 2001. On his arrival at Sanchar Bhavan, the Chairman of Telecom Commission and Secretary of Telecommunications, Shyamal Ghosh and senior officials from both the Departments of Posts and Telecom received the Minister. Later, Mahajan held a meeting with the senior officials in which he was briefed on important issues of the Ministry.

Pramod Mahajan was given the charge of Ministry of Communications on September 1, 2001 by the Prime minister of India in a cabinet expansion and reshuffle exercise. Former Minister of Communications, Ram Vilas Paswan, was moved to Ministry for Coal & Mines.

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

JAGDEV PRASAD

The Minister of Coal & Mines, Ram Vilas Paswan released a commemorative postage stamp on Jagdev Prasad, at a function in Patna on September 5, 2001. Issued by the Department of Posts (DoP) the stamp is in the denomination of Rs.4, the current inland letter rate.

Jagdev Prasad (1922-1974) was a fearless leader from Bihar who fought for the cause of the backward and downtrodden sections of the society. The socialist ideology of Ram Manohar Lohia had a tremendous influence on Jagdev Prasad. He joined the socialist Party and contributed his mite to fight social inequalities and economic exploitation.

He played an important role in forming the first ever coalition government in Bihar with Mahamaya Prasad Singh as the Chief Minister. He also made a mark as the Health Minister in the State Government. He left the Government and the Party in anguish and formed his own 'Shosit Dal' as he realized that there was no honorable representation of the backward and downtrodden sections in the Government. However, his stand was vindicated subsequently when the Union government itself took note of the handicaps embedded in our social structure, which prevented the backward sections of the society from realizing their legitimate aspirations and appointed the Backward classes Commission and later, implemented the recommendations contained in the Commission's report.

Jagdev Prasad was also noted for his suave penmanship. His journalistic career started in 1953 with 'Janata', the organ of the Socialist Party. Later, he also edited the English weekly, 'Citizen' and the Hindi weekly, 'Uday'.

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113 Manhar Park, Tarsali, Makarpura, Vadodara-390 010 TEL (0265) 635892 FAX (0265)649308

PHILATELY DEVELOPMENT FUND PROPOSED

A 'Philately Development Fund' is proposed to be created for the promotion of philately in the country and to increase the base of stamp collectors, particularly, among the younger generation. The proposed fund will be used for holding philatelic exhibitions, besides seminars, workshops.

The Philatelic Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Communications (PAC) at its first meeting, held under the Chairmanship of the Minister of State for Communications, Tapan Sikdar, on September 3, 2001 at New Delhi, also recommended broad basing the stamp proposals by soliciting public participation, keeping in view the vastness of the country and the potential for stamp issue offered by its rich cultural and natural diversity. It was of the view that public participation in philatelic program would help popularize the hobby and lead to increase in revenue generation. The PAC also approved holding a World Philatelic Exhibition, likely to be held in 2004, to celebrate 150 years of "First Postage Stamp of India".

Earlier, the Minister of State of Communications, Tapan Sikdar, in his address stated that the Department has made great strides in taking commemorative and special postage stamps to the common people. The Minister, particularly noticed the increase in the number of philatelic outlets from around 250 to around 900, which he stated, was one of the major recommendations of the Philatelic Advisory Committee. Another initiative, which Tapan Sikdar noted, was that of increase in the print order of selected commemorative postage stamps to 3 million from the earlier 1.4 million. This, he said, has helped increase visibility of stamps and to take the messages carried by the postage stamps to a larger section of the people.

The PAC was reconstituted recently with 4 official members and 28 non-official members and the Minister of Communications as the Chairman. The Secretary, DoP is the Vice-Chairman. The Committee has representation from experts in the field of art, culture, academia and science.

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## EVENTS

### EMPIREPEX UPDATE

A day long meeting of this national exhibition's organizing committee along with all other committees was held on August 26, 2001 at Conference Hall, Chief Postmaster General's Office, Mumbai from 10.30 am. Gautam Gupta, Member (Operations), Postal Services Board, was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Vinod Dhamija, Deputy Director General (Philately) and D S Bhalchandra, Chief Postmaster General, Maharashtra also participated in this meeting.

Besides Committee of Honor and Organizing Committee, the other committees formed are, Fund Raising, Program & Youth Activities, Publications, Allotment, Trade, Publicity, Awards & Design, Security, Reception, and Exhibition.

### MAHATMAPEX

Gujarat Philatelists Association (GPA) in association with India Post is organizing a philatelic exhibition entirely devoted to Mahatma Gandhi on October 2 and 3, 2001 at Lions Hall, Near Mithakali Six Roads, Ahmedabad. This will be the second philatelic exhibition exclusively devoted to Mahatma Gandhi. The first, an international one, was organized in Kolkata in 1970 and postal administrations from all over the world were invited to display their issues on Mahatma Gandhi. MAHATMAPEX will be the first exhibition ever to give an opportunity to the collectors to display their thematic exhibits on the theme 'Mahatma Gandhi'.

GPA that meets normally once in a month, decided to meet twice a month in August and September in view of the organization of MAHATMAPEX. For more information please contact GPA, Care of D Desai & Co., 1/M National Chamber, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad – 380009, Telephone 079-6580688

CITPEX-2001 TO BE HELD AT SATNA ON OCTOBER 6 & 7

Central India Philatelic society is going to organize a Regional Philatelic Exhibition at Rewa (MP) on October 6 & 7, 2001 on the occasion of World Wild Life week. Lions Club of Rewa City is co-organizer of this show. Central India Philatelic society is issuing a multicolored special cover and India Post is providing a special postmark bearing world famous white tiger. This special postmark is related to Wild Life, Lions International, and Social Service themes. The cost of this special cover is Rs. 10 each inclusive of stamp affixed on the cover and duly postmarked. Postage extra. Mail orders for these special covers may be sent to The Secretary, Central India Philatelic society, Sushma Press Compound, Satna 485 001 along with the amount as above in the shape of M.O. / Bank Draft / I.P.O. in favor of "Central India Philatelic Society" payable at Satna.

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#### MORE FELICITATIONS

#### VICTOR MANTA, PRESIDENT OF PHILATELIC WEBMASTERS ORGANIZATION

Congratulation for the first anniversary of "Weekly News", a newsletter that I read each time with much interest. Internet isn't a philatelic medium of the future anymore, it's one of the best means of promoting the philately now, and "Weekly News" use Web's potential, satisfying our thirst for high quality philatelic information. Dear Madhukar and Savita, thanks a lot, and keep up your great newsletter on behalf of all stamp collectors!!

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#### MITTAL POSTAL AUCTION

Mittal Stamp Company has mailed out the catalog of their 16<sup>th</sup> postal auction closing on October 10, 2001. The sale features over 2000 lots of India, Indian States, Cinderella, Fiscals, and foreign illustrated in 64 black & white and 4 color plates. For a free copy of the catalog please contact Mittal Stamp Company, P O Box 253, Jaipur 302003 [miitalstamps@yahoo.com](mailto:miitalstamps@yahoo.com)

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#### INDIA POST AND UTI BANK SIGN AGREEMENT

India Post and UTI Bank signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with UTI Bank at New Delhi on August 31, 2001 for introducing value-added financial products and services to the customers of both the organizations. The Minister of Communications, Ram Vilas Paswan and his junior colleague, Minister of State for Communications, Tapan Sikdar were present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Paswan said that the MOU will greatly help the Department in tapping financial service opportunity and in further expansion of its business activities. He said, towards exploring the opportunities, the DoP has already entered into agreements with the Prudential ICICI, the IDBI, the Western Union and the SBI Mutual Fund. The Minister said that the Postal Department is venturing into new services, which will benefit the Department as well as public at large. Paswan also unveiled a plaque on the occasion.

The MOU, among other things, envisages setting up of UTI Bank ATMs in post office premises; utilization of the postal network for all India collections and payments under the Cash Management Services of UTI Bank; Remittance and collection of drafts; Collaboration for provision of loans by UTI Bank against various financial products of the Department of Posts, and the cross-selling of each other's financial products.

The Post Office has traditionally been a distributor of financial services, from Money Orders to Banking Services. The Post Office Savings Bank (POSB) is the largest retail bank in the country, operating from over 1,50,000 branches. In the last financial year alone, the Post Office Savings Bank collections stood at Rs.1820000 million. Over the years, the Post Office has also added to its distribution network and today, apart from its physical locations spread over the length and breadth of the country, it also boasts of a dedicated VSAT network connecting 1250 post offices via satellite. These 1250 post offices are evenly distributed throughout almost all the districts of the country. Further additions are planned in the current financial year, but already the Post Office enjoys a reach unparalleled by any other institution or bank in the country - a fact that makes it an extremely exciting distribution network.

The UTI Bank, one of fastest growing private sector banks in the country has a network of 88 branches, 19 extension counters and 375 ATMs.

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POSTAL STATIONERY issued in the year Jan-Dec 2001. 1 each, Postcard, Inland Letter Card (Inland Aerogramme), Aerogramme, Envelope, Registered Envelope. Regular, Commemorative, and Advertisement issues COMPLETE: US\$ 20 including delivery by registered airmail. Also available, GREETING CARDS and their Pre-Stamped Envelopes from the first issue to date. Box # 01, Stamps of India Collectors Companion, 18 School Lane, New Delhi 110 001 India
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Join INDIA POST'S STANDING ORDER DEPOSIT ACCOUNT
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Links/post/d403.htm>
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#### NEW WEB SITE

Prashant Pandya of Vadodara has launched another web site on Indian Philately. The URL is [www.geocities.com/indianphilately](http://www.geocities.com/indianphilately)

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#### FEATURE

##### POSTAL STATIONERY ISSUED IN 2001

With the next issue we also will be reporting in advance, as and when we receive information, on forthcoming issues of postal stationery of India.

Part 3, July – September 2001

##### POSTCARD WITH ADVERTISEMENT

July 20, 2001

Ghadi Detergent, in Hindi, ISP

August 27, 2001

For Healthy Living Keep Your Environment Green, in Hindi, ISP

Cleanliness, in Hindi, ISP

August 28, 2001

For Healthy Living Keep Your Environment Green, in English, SPP

August 29, 2001

Rivers are our Life Line Let Us Keep them Clean, in English, SPP  
Cleanliness: Let Us Have Toilets at Home, in Tamil, SPP

September 10, 2001

Mortein Mosquito Repellent, in Tamil, SPP

INLAND LETTER CARD WITH ADVERTISEMENT

August 27, 2001

Life Insurance Corporation, in Punjabi, ISP

August 28, 2001

For Healthy Living Keep Your Environment Green, in Hindi, ISP  
For Healthy Living Keep Your Environment Green, in English, SPP  
Rivers are our Life Line Let Us Keep them Clean, in English, SPP  
Cleanliness, in Hindi, ISP

August 29, 2001

Ghadi Detergent, in Hindi, ISP  
Roopani Chappals, in Hindi, ISP  
Cleanliness, Education Beautifies humans So Also Toilet Beautifies Home, in Tamil, SPP

August 30, 2001

AIDS, Lets Donate Blood Lets Save Lives, in Tamil, SPP

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STAMPSOFINDIA.COM UPDATES

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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ASK US <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Questions/f00.htm>

LINKS <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Links/z00.htm>

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

This week the following has been added to the site:

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

WORLD'S FASTEST STAMP

Gibraltar is poised to enter the Guinness Book of Records for producing the fastest ever stamp – a £2 value Souvenir Sheet featuring a portrait of the Queen for her 75th birthday which took 624 minutes from inception to going on sale. In an attempt to enter the record books the entire event was videoed at every stage, and was witnessed by the Press association and Michael Palin of Monty Python fame.

At 8 am on April 20 this year the officially approved artwork was collected from Buckingham Palace and sent to the British printer House of Questa in London. The stamp was printed by

conventional printing methods and the first supplies were then flown on a regular British Airways flight to Gibraltar. The souvenir sheets went on sale in Gibraltar Philatelic Bureau 10 hours and 24 minutes after the artwork was collected from Buckingham Palace.

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NEWSPAPER SCAN

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

The Times of India, September 5, 2001

UTI BANK SAYS IN PACT WITH POST OFFICE

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow.asp?catkey=-2128682902&art_id=1569643924&sType=1

The Times of India, September 5, 2001

POSTAL DEPT CLUELESS ABOUT FRAUD by Sunil Singh

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow.asp?catkey=-2128817995&art_id=649396507&sType=1

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RESEARCH NOTES

NOTES ON PAKISTAN – Part 33

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

Manohar Lal, our Research Coordinator, is now working his way in to the original records of Posts & Telegraphs Department held by the National Archives of India.

In the last issue we reproduced the Pakistan Posts & Telegraphs Department's Director General's Post Office Circular of 11th April 1948. We now reproduce the first part of the Postal Notice that accompanied the above Circular.

POSTAL AND MONEY ORDER SERVICES TO INDIA

The existing stand still Agreement with India concerning postal matters terminates on the 31st March 1948. With effect from the 1st April 1948 postal communications between Pakistan and India will be brought into line with postal relations with other foreign countries and will generally be governed by the provisions of Sections III, IV, V and clauses 359 and 360 of the Indian Post and Telegraph Guides, September 1946 edition except in region to matters for which provision has specifically been made in this postal notice as follows:

2. CLASSES OF CORRESPONDENCE:

The following classes of correspondence may be sent to India:

1) Letters, 2) Postcards, Single and Reply paid, 3) Packets of Business Papers, 4) Packets of Printed Papers (excluding registered newspapers), 5) Registered Newspapers, 6) Sample Packets, 7) Mixed Packets and 8) Blind Literature Packets. Units of weight, rates of postage and limit of size and weight and other conditions shall, except for registered Newspapers be the same as in the case of such articles addressed to any country other than Aden, Ceylon, Nepal, Portuguese India and the British Post Office Agencies in the Persian Gulf.

3. The service relating to REGISTERED NEWSPAPERS will be subject to the same rates of postage and conditions as apply to this service in the inland post. This concession shall, however, until extended, remain in force only for a period of six months from 1st April 1948.

4. AIR MAILS – All classes of correspondence shown in paras 2 and 3 above will be accepted for transmission by air mail at the following rates of airmail fee and postage:

For a letter or packet up to half ounce – Six annas including ordinary postage

For every additional half ounce or fraction thereof – Six annas including ordinary postage

For a postcard – Three annas including ordinary postage

Air Mails for India will not be given transmission over Internal Indian Air Services. Air letter service will not be available.

5. INSURANCE of registered letters will be available under the same conditions as apply to such service in the foreign post generally and at the following rates for insurance fee:

Where the value insured does not exceed 200 Rs – -/5/6

For every additional 200 Rs. or part thereof – -/5/6. Insurance by airmail will not be available

6. EXPRESS DELIVERY – This facility will be available in the service between Pakistan and India under the same conditions and at the same rate of fee as apply in the inland post in Pakistan and as have been laid down in clause 28-B and 54-A of the Indian Posts and Telegraph Guide, September 1946 Edition.

7. RECALL OF POSTAL ARTICLES – Recall of postal articles posted in Pakistan and addressed to India will be confined to registered articles of letter mail and parcels, which have not been dispatched from Pakistan. The conditions for such recall will be the same as have been laid down in clause 18 of the Indian Post and Telegraph Guide, September, 1946 Edition. No alteration of address will, however, be allowed.

8. ARTICLES LIABLE TO CUSTOM DUTY – Printed paper packets liable to customs duty and letters and sample packets containing dutiable goods will be admitted for transmission to India under the usual conditions laid down in clause 206 of the Indian Posts and Telegraph Guide, September, 1946 edition. A separate customs declaration need not accompany such articles, which should, however, bear the prescribed green label.

9. PARCELS – Parcels for India will be accepted under the same conditions as are applicable to parcel for Iran. The rates of postage, shall, however be as follows:

For a parcel not exceeding 2 Lb. in weight – Rs.2 As. 10

For a parcel not exceeding 3 Lb. in weight – Rs.3 As. 1

For a parcel not exceeding 7 Lb. in weight – Rs.3 As. 14

For a parcel not exceeding 11 Lb. in weight – Rs.4 As. 11

For a parcel not exceeding 22 Lb. in weight – Rs.7 As. 12

No separate registered fee will be chargeable. Insurance of parcels will be available under the usual conditions which apply to such service in the foreign post generally and the following rates of insurance fee:

Where the value insured does not exceed Rs. 200 – Rs. 5 As. 6

For every additional Rs. 200 or fraction thereof of insured value - Rs. 5 As. 6

Acknowledgements: National Archives of India. New Delhi.

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@stampsofindia.com

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<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Publications/a600.htm>  
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READERS FORUM <Send in your views for publication here>

S D BHATIA OF NEW DELHI

Last time I had sent you a feedback regarding creating a Grievance Cell for postal complaints that was published in your newsletter and the Government did open a Grievance Cell for postal Complaints. This time I wish to report on Express Parcel Post. I enquired from Parliament Street Head Post Office about the rates per kilo and I was told to go to New Delhi Head Post Office to find out the same. I then requested the postal official to find out the same for me over phone which he refused to do. I think this is highly improper. I now request you to please find out the rates and publish the same in your weekly news for the benefit of the readers.

DEAR READER

Your feedback is important to us as it helps evolve the newsletter. We strive hard to bring you comprehensive coverage of the latest on Indian philately and improve with every issue. Please let us have your thoughts and suggestions. We also would like to learn how our newsletter impacts you collecting and the value you feel it provides to you. Do send in your comments, questions, news, reports, articles and other contributions to edit@stampsofindia.com

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CONTRIBUTORS INVITED

We require regular correspondents everywhere in India to cover the philatelic activities in their area. We shall reimburse the costs of photos, covers, publications, courier and other charges. All contributions shall be acknowledged. Please Contact [admin@stampsofindia.com](mailto:admin@stampsofindia.com) today!

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18 School Lane, 1st Floor, Babar Road Side Entrance, New Delhi 110 001 India

Telephone & Fax: + 91-11-3320052, 91-11-3356828 Email: webmaster@stampsofindia.net

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