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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The First, Free & Only weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India
AWARDS: Silver Medal with 'Felicitations of the Jury' at BELGICA 2001

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Issue # 63 - May 2, 2002. Published Every Thursday  
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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I N T H I S I S S U E

New Stamps Released  
INPEX 2002 Update  
Philatelic Workshop in Jaipur  
Last Post for Ind Dak  
Proposals for 2003  
More Stamps Used Before Their Official Release  
India & States at David Feldman Auction  
Stamps Stolen from India Security Press  
Worldwide Philatelic Auction Calendar  
Periodicals Received - Vadophil, SIPA Bulletin  
Philately in Transition in India, Part 6  
Readers Forum - Suraj Jaitly from Ludhiana  
Also in the News - More On The Flavor Of The Season  
Research Notes - India Post In The Year 1873, Part 11

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

Recently we have reorganized the newsletter in three equally important segments - News & Announcements, Views & Opinions, and Features & Resources. As you can see our endeavor is to constantly fine-tune the format of this newsletter to pack more contents.

We have also started using 'links' in the newsletter for coverage, news items and advertisements. This feature would be fully utilized as and when the images can be uploaded on the site on a regular basis. Our idea has been to make the newsletter more readable, compact and precise.

As always we seek your feedback on these changes so that we can make our newsletter even better.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and sources to this issue: Ed Deschl of USA, Rajesh Paharia of Jaipur, Neeraj Kumar, and Press Trust of India.

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Mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists
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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW STAMPS RELEASED

Pramod Mahajan, Minister for Communications & IT and Parliamentary Affairs released a pair of se-tenant stamps to commemorate 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between India and Japan at a grand function held at the Oberoi Hotel, New Delhi on April 26, 2002.

The stamps are in the denomination of Rs. 15 that is the current overseas airmail letter rate. Kamelshwar Singh designed the stamp and the First Day Cover and Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. Calcutta Security Printers Limited of Kanpur printed the stamps by photo-offset in four colors on imported matt chromo paper in the quantity of 1.6 million pairs. The issued sheets contain 8 pairs of stamps. A Miniature Sheet containing the stamps and extending its design was also released. The Miniature sheet priced at Rs. 30 was printed in the quantity of 100,000 sheets only. An informative brochure, containing write-up by P N Ranjit Kumar and technical data, priced at Rs. 2 was also brought out.

The stamps, First Day Covers along with the information sheets are available on sale at nearly 1000 selected Post Offices, including all Philatelic Bureaus and Counters, all over India.

INPEX 2002 UPDATE

The 10<sup>th</sup> National Philatelic Exhibition - INPEX 2002 will be held from December 25 to 29, 2002 at the Convention Centre of Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubaneswar.

The first meeting of the Organizing Committee was held on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Official Hotel, The Marion, at Bhubaneswar.

The Prospectus and Entry Forms are now available. Please contact the Organizing Secretary, B K Sinha [bksinha@yahoo.com](mailto:bksinha@yahoo.com)

PHILATELIC WORKSHOP IN JAIPUR

Rajasthan Philatelic Society (RPS) shall be conducting a philatelic workshop on May 4, 2002 at Maharani Gayatri Devi School in Jaipur. This is one of the prestigious all-girls schools in India.

RPS organizes an annual interschool philatelic exhibition every year at St. Xavier's School. This year for the first time, SCHOOLPEX 2002, is included in St. Xavier's yearly program duly printed in their diary.

LAST POST FOR IND DAK

Vara Prasad, Director of Philatelic Research Library & Publications of India Private Limited, the publishers of "Ind Dak" informs that the publication of Ind Dak is closed and the last issue published was that of November-December 2001. Dr. P S Dixit, erstwhile editor of Ind Dak has already shifted to somewhere in Gujarat from Bangalore.

PROPOSALS FOR 2003

India Post used to release in September every year its program of new issues for the next calendar year. However the Program of Issue for the year 2002 is not yet issued for some unknown reason/s that India Post has decided not to share it with all of us.

We believe now is the time to propose and finalize the Program for the year 2003. We suggest that India Post should invite proposals from public at large for this.

Some of our recommendations for the next year are as follows:  
A set of stamps may be issued on Centenary of Powered Flight - Wright Brothers. The 50 Years of Air Transport Nationalization, formation of Indian Airlines, and 50 Years of Naval Aviation shall form an interesting Set of stamps on aviation in addition to the Centenary of Powered Flight issue.

The Death centenary of Paul Gaugin, and the Birth Centenary of George Orwell, who was born on June 25, 1903 at Motihari, Bihar, India should also be commemorated by issuing stamps. The centenary of the first postage stamp of Jaipur State may also be observed by issuing stamps depicting stamps of Jaipur.

Although a stamp and Miniature Sheet has been issued on 150 Years of Railways this year, we recommend that a set may also be issued in 2003 especially as Railways is a very popular internationally collected theme.

We hereby request our readers also to send their suggestions for the stamp they would like to see issued in 2003. We would use this platform to reach those proposals to the concerned authorities.

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MORE STAMPS USED BEFORE THEIR OFFICIAL RELEASE

Further to our report in the previous issue under this title we regret to learn another stamp, for which the date of issue are yet to be announced by India Post, has also been seen used on mails. This stamp is in honor of Brijlal Biyani. This stamp is the 5th stamp of the year 2002 that is sold prematurely.

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INDIA & STATES AT DAVID FELDMAN AUCTION

David Feldman [admin@davidfeldman.com](mailto:admin@davidfeldman.com) is holding a sale at Feldman Galleries in Geneva, Switzerland on May 28 to 31, 2002. There are three well-produced catalogs, British & Overseas, Europe, and the Collections & Accumulations.

There are over 40 lots of India and Indian States. The highlights are a red Scinde Dawk estimated at SFR 10,000, and a blue Scinde Dawk on cover, King George VI high values in blocks of 4 of all Convention States except Faridkot, the collections and lots containing Essays & Proofs of revenues of Alwar, Benares, Ratlam, Rewa, Savantvadi, Suket, and Tihri Garhwal estimated up to SFR 50,000.

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STAMPS STOLEN FROM INDIA SECURITY PRESS

For the first time in the history of India Security Press, Nashik Road stamp papers worth Rs. 8.4 million were stolen from its central stamp depot late night on April 28, 2002. The thieves apparently entered by cutting the asbestos roof of the three-storey building and then used ladders to reach the strong room before they decamped with the stamps.

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WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTION CALENDAR

The Calendar Of Worldwide Philatelic Auctions for the month is updated in the beginning of every month with detailed information and

announcements. The information for May 2002 is now available at  
<http://www.geocities.com/mjhingan/Content/Auctions/a702.htm>

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PERIODICALS RECEIVED

VADOPHIL, #90, April 2002, Quarterly
Editor: Prashant H Pandya vadophil@yahoo.com
Publisher: Baroda Philatelic Society
Address: "Jaya" Dala Patel's Pole, Narsinhji's Pole, Vadodara 390 001
Annual Subscription: Rs. 100 in India

SIPA Bulletin, Vol.22 # 5, September-October 2001, Bimonthly
SIPA Bulletin, Vol.22 # 6, November-December 2001, Bimonthly
Editor: G Madan Mohan Das
Publisher: South India Philatelists' Association
Address: 41, Perumal Mudali Street, Sowcarpet, Chennai 600079
Annual Subscription: Not Indicated

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, Part 6  
Judging is a thankless job, a juror recently told us. The argument went on that you couldn't satisfy the exhibitors no matter what the award. Our plea was that this can not be a reason for not trying.

We continue to focus on judging, with specific instances, this time on only one discipline - revenues.

A M Mollah was quoted in a report published in 'The Revenue Journal of Great Britain', Vol. 11 # 1, June 2000, as follows:  
"Abdul Mollah recently attended a National Stamp Exhibition at Bhubaneswar, the capital of Orissa State where the judges didn't seem to like revenue exhibits"

The judging of revenue exhibits later in the year at INDEPEX-ASIANA 2000 was the same story. These were evaluated in a very strange manner. On inquiry the Jury held Indian members responsible for this. The results were as under: Anil Suri won a Gold with Special Prize, for his exhibit that is winning Gold at World level since PHILAKOREA 1994, and Rajan Jayakar won a Gold for the first time. After this all other participants uniformly were awarded a Vermeil, it seems without applying any yardstick whatsoever - Dr. Anjali Dutta (first time exhibit), Anil Suri (another exhibit), Ajay Kumar Mittal, Rajan Jayakar (another exhibit), Sahadeva Sahoo, and the veteran revenue philatelist & Bureau Member of the Revenue Commission of the International Philatelic Federation - A M Mollah. This is not only unjust but also insulting to the exhibitors. Under no stretch of imagination these exhibits will earn the same award in a properly judged show. Some will definitely go down in evaluation while some will deserve higher awards. Indian jurors' aversion to revenue exhibits is well known. We appeal for evenhanded treatment of this prominent area of philately.

Earlier Anil Suri of New Delhi wrote in a letter to Secretary General of PCI on April 24, 2002. We reproduce excerpts as follows:  
"I have been collecting Revenues of Indian Princely States for nearly two decades, exhibiting for over eight years, and brought the highest awards in the class to the country. I am very much concerned with the

whole approach and judging for the Revenues Class in India. Without being prejudiced towards anybody I personally would have liked to have at least one specialized member of the Jury from this discipline. Unfortunately it is becoming clearer that the collective attitude of PCI towards this discipline is a bit negative."

"Inpex 93 was the first national to have the Revenues Class. It is a common knowledge that at the confidential Jury sessions behind closed doors all fiscal exhibits were ruthlessly downgraded."

The complete text of his letter is available at <http://www.geocities.com/mjhingan/Content/Features/suria-revenues.htm>

Secretary General of PCI, Dilip Shah of Jabalpur replied to Anil Suri on June 20, 2002. We reproduce excerpts as follows:

"The Department of Post in India has no interest in the promotion of the Revenue and Fiscal and there is a strong feeling that they have nothing to do with it. Time and again, serious objections have been raised by the Department officials questioning their support and inclusion of the Revenue Class in the State, National and International Exhibitions which were being organized by the Department. If the PCI had not taken keen interest for the promotion of the Revenue philately in India, it would have long been out of the exhibitions organized by the Department of Post, which has no interest or obligation to include it."

It is convenient for PCI and some of its office bearers to pass on the blame to India Post however the areas in which the Department is interested in, have been losing favor with the Indian collectors on the behest of the PCI as they are not the current international collecting favorites like the collection of FDC's that use to generate large volumes of sale and still can for India Post. We once again reiterate that India Post definitely needs to decide what is of national importance and frame their exhibiting regulations accordingly. A handful of international level collectors should not be impacting the fun derived by tens of thousands of young collectors of First Day Covers.

The above-mentioned letter further goes on to mention "The PCI accredited Jury are qualified to judge all the disciplines up to National level. It is not possible or practical to have separate specialist Jury for each discipline at the State and National level exhibitions. For selection as an Apprentice Juror, besides having certain minimum qualifications and wide experience, the person should also have a suitable temperament and ability to work together in a team or a group and above all an unbiased approach and unquestionable integrity. Therefore, the Apprentice Jury nominations have to be approved by the PCI Governing Council."

The complete text of this letter is available at <http://www.geocities.com/mjhingan/Content/Features/shahd-revenues.htm>

Anil Suri responded with another letter to Secretary General of PCI on July 18, 2000 that remains unanswered till date. We reproduce excerpts as follows:

"If the Department of Post has no interest or obligation towards revenue philately that is very much understandable. There has never

been a Revenue Class at district or state level so far. And last national the Department had organized was in 1993, therefore I fail to understand what PCI had done in this regard that you have been gloating about. And I do have evidence of PCI opposing revenues during this period that I have held back."

"I am mighty pleased regarding the qualifications, experience, temperament, approach, integrity, and ability to work together for Jurors as mentioned. Please let me know how many of existing jurors, including yourself, can prove to be true to the requirements as stipulated by you."

The complete text of this letter is available at <http://www.geocities.com/mjhingan/Content/Features/suria-revenues-1.htm>

Philatelic world in general and Indian philately in particular needs stalwarts like Mollah who has been totally devoted to revenues for over two decades. He has been a Bureau Member of the FIP Revenues Commission from its very inception and has been exhibiting revenues internationally since 1988. Mollah has been associated with Koepfel & Manners catalogs of Indian States revenues and has authored a score of articles on revenue philately. It is high time that PCI includes specialists, like him, as a member of the Jury.

#### READERS FORUM

<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 do let us have your thoughts and suggestions. We also would like to learn how our newsletter impacts your collecting and the value you feel it provides to you. Do send in your comments, views, reports, articles and other features for publication>

#### SURAJ JAITLEY FROM LUDHIANA

I was also "Birth Place Cancellation" Collector at one time with so many other such collectors, but left collecting this category due to lack of proper information. It also reminds me of one of my old and good exchange partner in Switzerland, who collects "International Year of the Child" (IYC). He discovered and collected 27 different, in sizes, First Day postmarks of India's IYC issue of March 5, 1979.

#### NIPUN SHETH

As you are aware Brigadier Virk had published excellent research on the movement of Field Post Offices (FPO) during 2<sup>nd</sup> world war. Post-independence FPO have proliferated and the number now stands at 1600. Is there any book that lists the position of these other FPO?

Editors' Response: Brigadier Virk was an officer of India Post who was deputed to work for Army Postal Service that manages the movement of mail for the Indian Army. It was relatively easier for him to obtain information on the FPO's and their movements. This type of information remains classified for at least 30 years and even after that period the Government of India has to declassify it before it can be made available to research scholars. The philatelists interested in Military postal history should contact Ministry of Defense to declassify the information on the movements of FPO till 1972.

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FEATURES & RESOURCES

ALSO IN THE NEWS

MORE ON THE FLAVOR OF THE SEASON

Further to the story we carried in issue # 59 a German referee, Peter Hertel, has been identified as the man whose picture has accidentally been printed on stamps in Norway. They were supposed to feature Norwegian referee Lars Johan Hammer to mark the national Soccer Federation's centenary. But Peter Hertel's picture was used instead. Hertel says he found the mix-up amusing and he has nothing against the 1.3 million stamps on sale since April 12.

Germany released a special issue of stamps featuring all the World Cup winners - except England. Andrea Acker, the German designer, says the Queen's head would not fit into the "overall design" of the set - and denies any dishonor to the 1966 winning team. The stamps are on sale from May 2, and feature Brazil, Italy, France, Argentina, Germany and Uruguay. The stamps cost about 40p each.

A spokesman for the German Post Office, who commissioned the artist, said: "To be honest its all been a bit chaotic, postponing the release date, and now there is no English stamp. The stamps are being printed here in Germany and distributed around the world. There are two stamps to go on sale in each country that has won the World Cup, apart from England of course."

The Royal Mail said it would issue a response later.

NEWSSCAN

<We invite you to contribute clippings on philatelic and postal matters, from other print and electronic publications, for inclusion here>

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### RESEARCH NOTES

INDIA POST IN THE YEAR 1873, PART 11

### OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE RULES

Continued from Issue # 61

#### Post Telegrams

13. Officers in charge of Telegraph Offices, when posting telegraph messages for onward transmission by post, are entitled to get receipts for them. Such receipts must be presented ready written in the form ordinarily used by the Telegraph Officers when delivering telegraph messages to the addressees. The Post Master will compare the receipt so presented with the address of the cover accompanying it and if correct will affix the Post Office Stamp in acknowledgment of receipt. All cover for which receipts are claimed under this rule must be superscribed with the word "Telegram" (in addition to the usual official superscription) and must be fully prepaid.

#### Government Officers on leave

14. Government officers when on leave and those who have retired from the service of Government can correspond only as private individuals.

#### Irregularity of addresses

15. Any irregularity of incompleteness of address, superscription or signature on a cover renders it liable to be treated as an ordinary unpaid cover, any service stamps which it may bear not being recognized.

Official correspondence with places abroad or between Indian Post Offices when conveyed by British or French mail packets.

16. The rules contained in the preceding paragraphs relate exclusively to official inland correspondence, i.e. correspondence conveyed between on Indian Post Office and another by Her Majesty's Indian Post. Official correspondence with places abroad or between Indian Post Offices when conveyed by British or French Mail Packets (e.g. between Bombay and Aden) is governed by the same rules as ordinary private correspondence, and must either be prepaid by service stamps (under the superscription and signature prescribed by rule I), or when prepayment is optional, be forwarded as unpaid subject to the levy of postage on ordinary.

The only exception to the above has reference to official letters (not newspapers or books or pattern packets) sent by British packets to or from the public functionaries or departments in London having special accounts for overland letter postage with the London Post Office. Official letters intended for such offices need not be prepaid if superscribed as "On Her Majesty's Service" under the full signature and official designation of the sender. The public functionaries or departments in London which have accounts with the London Post Office are Adjutant Generals office (House Guards / Admiralty/ Somerset House and Whitehall) audit and Exchequer Department (Somerset House), Board of Trade (Whitehall), Census Office (Craiges' Court) Chancellor's Office (Downing Street) Charity Commissioner (York street, St. James) Chelsea Hospital (Chelsea) Civil Service Commission (Cannon Row, Westminster) Commander-in-chiefs Office (House Guards), Council of military education (XXXX Street), Council office (Downing Street), Court of Bankruptcy (xasinghall street), Courts of Chancery (Lincoln's Inn Fields and Chancery Lane), Court of Probate (Doctors Coxxxx) Crown Agents for the colonies (Spring Gardens) Duchy of Cornwall (Buckingham Palace Gate, the Customs (Lower Thames Street), Ecclesiastical Department (Whitehall Place), Endowed Schools Commission (Victor Street), Exhibition Commissioners 1851 (Westminster), Foreign Office (Downing Street), Her Majesty's Home Office (Whitehall), House of Commons, India Office (Charles Street, Westminster), xxx Office (Great Queen Street, Westminster), Inland Revenue (Somerset House), Local Government Act Office (Richmond Terrace, Whitehall), Merchant Seaman's office (Adelaide Place, London Bridge), Metropolitan Police Office (Whitehall Place), Pay Master General (Whitehall), Local Government Board (Gwyder House, Whitehall), Post Office, Prisons Office (Parliament Street), His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Quarter Master General's office (House Guards), Registrar of xxx Societies (Axxngdon Street), Science and Art Department, Warden of Standards Stationery Office (Princess Street, Stoney's Gate)xithe Copyhold and enclosure Commissioners (St. James Square), Treasury Office (Whitehall), Tower Veterinary Department of the Privy Council (Princess Street, Westminster), War Office (Pall Mall), Woods, Forests and Land Revenues Office(Whitehall Place), Works and Public Buildings office (Whitehall Place).

Published by order of His Excellency the Governor General in Council



Signed R B Chapman, Secretary to the Government of India

[The content published above are the reproduction, to the best of our abilities to decipher the handwriting, of the copies of the original handwritten manuscript.]

Concluded.

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.

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.

STAMPSOFINDIA WEB SITE UPDATES

The Hub Site of Indian Philately presents info in following segments - NEWS, ISSUES, EVENTS, AUCTIONS, PUBLICATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS, DEALERS, and ARTICLES. In addition we provide question answers in ASK US. Also all Indian philatelic web sites as well as several useful philatelic sites are listed under LINKS.

THIS WEEK Updated Segments: News, Articles,

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