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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----  
The First, Free & Only weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India  
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Awards Received: Silver Medal with the 'Felicitations of the Jury' at  
'BELGICA 2001' World Philatelic Exhibition, Brussels, June 9-17, 2001  
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Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan  
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If you've found this newsletter useful recommend it to a friend.  
Better still forward this issue.  
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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We feel happy to be reporting that India Post is inviting proposals from the general public for selection of the subjects for issue of commemorative stamps for the year 2003. We congratulate the team for taking such a decision however the invitation to the public should have been done in a manner so as to reach a large audience and also done much in advance so like other nations India would also be in a position to announce the Program of Stamp Issue well in advance.

Any individual or organization can submit proposals on subjects relating to heritage and culture, flora and fauna, important events, arts, music, paintings, sculpture etc.

The proposals shall be examined on the basis of guidelines laid down by the Philatelic Advisory Committee (PAC). The Proposals finally approved by PAC will figure in the Stamp Issue Program for 2003.

The availability of appropriate designs/pictures for use on stamps may be indicated on the proposal. This material need not be sent at this

stage. In case the proposal is approved India Post will request for furnishing the same for further examination at a later date.

The last date for submission of the proposals is July 15, 2002 to the office of the nearest Chief Post Master General.

We request India Post to extend the submission deadline in order to enable more persons and organizations to participate.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and sources to this issue: O K Prakash from Perinthelmana, P J Lewis from Pune, and The Associated Press.

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Mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists  
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#### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### 13<sup>TH</sup> PCI CONVENTION AND ELECTIONS

The 13<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention, General Body Meeting, and Election for 2002-04 of the Philatelic Congress of India (PCI) will be held at Rajasthani Mahilamandal, Fojate Street, Cross Lane, Opposite Saibaba Mandir, Mumbai 400 036 on August 25,2002.

Points for inclusion in the agenda need to reach Secretary General Dilip Shah, 799 Gol Bazar, wright town, Jabalpur 482002, by August 15,2002.

Kindly intimate your arrival to Dhirubhai Mehta, 103 Dalamal Chambers, Sir V Thakarsay Marg, Mumbai - 400020 Tel. 022 2001460.

Nominations for 17 Institutional Members and 6 Life Members for election to the Governing Council 2002 - 2004 should be sent to Secretary General by August 15, 2002.

##### ~~~~~ NEW PHILATELIC BUREAU

The existing philatelic counter at Mysore Head Post Office will be upgraded to Philatelic Bureau from March 1, 2001. With this the number of philatelic bureaus in the country will rise to 56. A Special Cover with Special Postmark may be issued on the occasion. Interested philatelists may contact the Philatelic Bureau, Mysore 570001.

##### ~~~~~ PUNEPEX

The Post Master General of the Pune Postal Region of the India Post is organizing a district level exhibition from October 4 to 6, 2002 at Pune in cooperation with the Deccan Philatelic Society. For more information please contact Office of the Post Master General, Pune Region, Pune 411001.

##### ~~~~~ 67<sup>TH</sup> FIP CONGRESS

The 67<sup>th</sup> Biennial Congress of the International Philatelic Federation (FIP) will be held on August 10 and 11, 2002 at Seoul during PHILAKOREA 2002 world philatelic exhibition. This will be first FIP Congress to be held in Asia.

During the 66<sup>th</sup> FIP Congress held in Madrid in 2000 it was decided to reduce the strength of the FIP Board from 9 to 7. This will consist of the President, three Vice Presidents, and three Directors.

There will be election for three posts, that of the President, one of the Vice Presidents, and one of the Directors, to the FIP Board for a term of 4 years. There are two candidates in the fray for the post of President, Knud Mohr from Denmark who is seeking his second term, and Koh Seow Chuan from Singapore who is currently the senior most Vice President of FIP.

For the post of Vice President there are again two candidates. The first is Michael Adler, the President of the German Philatelic Federation, Vice President of European Continental Philatelic Federation (FEPA), and the Director of FIP. The other is Raymond Todd, the International Officer of Australian Philatelic Federation.

For the post of Director there is only one candidate, Tay Peng Hian from Singapore.

Great Britain has submitted a motion that at any one time only one person from any one FIP Member Federation may be elected to, or hold office within the FIP Board. It will be taken up at the Congress before the elections. Hence Singapore may win only one seat.

M G Pittie and A R Singhee will represent India in the FIP Congress as Delegates while G Madan Mohan Das and Madhukar Jhingan will attend the Congress as Observers.

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THE WORLD OF STAMPS IN MALAYALAM

The Secretary of the Philatelic Club Thrissur O K Prakash ceremoniously released the "Stampukalute lokam"(The world of Stamps) written by John Joseph and published by the Current Books by presenting the first copy to the President of the Club Dr. K S Mohan at their monthly meeting of on July 7, 2002. The Secretary, the President and the author spoke on the occasion.

Joseph is the Director of "Service Philately" and was a member of the Philatelic Advisory Committee of the Government of India during the year 1981-83.

The book is written in Malayalam with many colorful illustrations and is priced at Rs. 75. Enquiries may be sent to O K Prakash, Post Box 78, Perinthelmannna-679322, Kerala.

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POSTMARKS OF PAKISTAN

Dr. Munaf Billoo and Muhammed Rizwan Kodwawwala deserve congratulations for compiling an excellent work on "Special Postmarks of Pakistan, 1947-2001"

It is arranged in three sections, Slogans, Special, and First Day Postmarks. The Special Postmarks section is further subdivided in Official visits, Stamp Exhibitions, Industries & Trade Fairs, National Horse Cattle Show, Red Cross Week, Mother & Child Care Campaign, Scouting, World Letter Week, Miscellaneous, and First Flights. Other highlights adding to the utility of this publication are a Price Guide, and a Topical Index.

Although the book illustrates nearly 1100 postmarks the authors do not claim completeness and seek contributions from the readers. The authors have also launched a website dedicated to the postmarks of Pakistan. The URL is <http://www.postmarksofpakistan.com>

This 250-page book is a must buy for all philatelists interested in either Pakistan or Postmarks and for all topical philatelists. It is available at Rs. 400, \$ 15, £ 10 from the authors - [monafbiloo@hotmail.com](mailto:monafbiloo@hotmail.com) or [rkodwawwala@yahoo.com](mailto:rkodwawwala@yahoo.com)

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DECCAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Deccan Philatelic Society held a General Body Meeting on June 2, 2002 at Pune. Lieutenant Colonel J Dutta, P J Lewis, P H Ghyra, B D Modi, Pratisad Neurgaonkar were elected to the Management Committee for a three year term. The Management Committee elected Dutta as the President and Lewis as the Secretary.

The first issue of the 'Deccan Philatelist' the official organ of the Deccan Philatelic Society, Pune was published during June 2002. Its President and the Editor, Lieutenant Colonel J Dutta edits it.

The Deccan Philatelic Society meets every first Sunday of the month at 10.30 a.m. at 11 Kahun Road, Pune Cantonment. The Library of the Society is opened on every third Sunday from 10 to 11 a.m.

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PHILA RUNNER

The 3<sup>rd</sup> issue of the journal published by the Post Master General of the Pune Postal Region has been released recently. The issue is priced at Rs. 10 and is available from the Philatelic Bureau, Pune Head Post Office, Pune 411 001.

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SCHOOL VISITS PHILATELIC MUSEUM

Delhi Public School, R K Puram, New Delhi with a group of 42 students interested in collecting stamps visited the National Philatelic Museum on July 10, 2002. The Assistant Director General of the Philatelic Division of India Post, P N Ranjit Kumar conducted the tour. Madhukar Jhingan gave a talk and answered questions from the visitors.

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BAN ON THE USE OF STAMP PAPER

The Karnataka Government has decided to ban the use of stamp paper for registration of documents, including those related to property. The Council of Ministers took this decision at its meeting at Bangalore on June 6, 2002 primarily to end the menace of fake stamp papers,.

The State Government would request the Government of India to amend the Stamps and Registration Act to accord legal status to documents registered on plain paper. The Government was already encouraging registration of documents on plain paper on payment of stamp duty in cash.

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, Part 16

The veteran philatelist and Philatelic Congress of India (PCI) Governing Council Member from Delhi Brahm Mehta wrote to PCI President, Sahadeva Sahoo on July 9, 2002 with reference to the letter sent by Deputy

Director General - Philately, Department of Posts (DOP) to Shakil Ahmed about INPEX 2002 that was reported in our issue # 70. Given below are some excerpts from his letter a copy of which was given to us.

"I was shocked to read it. Since no reason had been mentioned, I wonder how DOP can do so on a complaint from an individual when all the formalities have been taken care of and approved with the Departmental Officers being at the helm of the Organizing Committee.

It is not clear why this drastic action when from INPEX 2002 gainer would be the DOP. After all you are doing this for promotion of philately and for your personal gains. To stop the INPEX 2002 at this stage will make PCI a laughing stock in the eyes of the collectors.

I feel you must have been informed all about it before the letter went to Mr. Shakil Ahmed. As President PCI, you should have informed the members of the Governing Council. It is not too late, kindly call an emergency meeting of the members of the Governing Council in Delhi and discuss all the objections of the DOP. Since we have to work together with the DOP for promotion of philately, there should not be much hindrance in removing the objections.

During INDEPEX 97 (world philatelic exhibition), name of Brigadier D S Virk - Ex Officer of the DOP was downgraded and that of Brahm Mehta was removed from the Organizing Committee. PCI didn't resist at that time. If there is such a situation, we should agree to it. Thereafter we can put up the case back to DOP for their final approval.

Since this is more important, elections of PCI can be postponed to early 2003. For promotion of philately we will have to sacrifice our personal interests over national interests.

My view is that we must hold INPEX 2002 with active support of the DOP as we had been doing since INDIA 80." (For the information of our readers and Mehta, PCI has been collaborating with DOP since Asiana 77)

For the complete text of the letter please click on the following link <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Features/mehta-b.htm>

#### 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

Here is a scan of cover posted by Mr. Abhay Misra from South Africa January 26, 2002 and delivered on June 6, 2002 at Ludhiana, after five and half months. When I conveyed to him about the receipt of cover on June 21, 2002, Mr. Misra informed me as hereunder in his own wordings.

"So finally the cover landed. I would like to share a piece of information. The cover also bears the cancellation of Magdalena Oldendorff, the ship on which we went to Antarctica. After coming back

the same ship was hired by the Russians, as their own ship 'Academic Fiderov' was out of order. At that time people warned the Russians that it's late and the sea has started freezing so they may get into trouble. Moreover Magdalena is ice class ship and not icebreaker so it cannot cut the ice. Anyway they went to Antarctica in the second week of April. Now while coming back they are stuck in the icebergs. 24 hrs polar nights has also started with temp of -50 degree centigrade and wind of 170 miles/hr. only god knows what will happen to the ship. It contains 70 Russians scientist and 28 crewmembers. Rescue ship from South Africa 'S A Aghulav' has gone yesterday for their rescue. But it will take 10 days for him to reach there. Moreover it cannot go too far as the sea had frozen. They will try to rescue the peoples by chopper. Fate of the ship nobody knows. May be it will break if the ice pressure increases or may be some ice cutter ship will make way for her. Yesterday zee news and aajtak covered the story. So dear the cover you are holding has a story of its own. cheers - Abhai

VIJAY SETH FROM NEW DELHI

I have a suggestion to make as regards the multicolored advertisements issued in 2001 and 2002 on Postcards, Inland Letter Cards, and Aerogramme by India Post.

Why is it that the imprinted stamp motifs of all these items were untouched by color? It would have just taken an imaginative mind to change the stamp motif to colour instead of experimenting with new line drawings of the UNESCO declared World Heritage sites. The images in colour would have made the difference and also helped promote the new concept of color advertisements commercially.

I am sure in future all postal stationary with color advertisements will also have color images in imprinted stamp motif areas. We have lost very good opportunities in the few Postcards, Inland Letter Cards, and Aerogramme issued so far, but better late than never. Kindly keep up the good work.

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FEATURES & RESOURCES

PHILATELIC ORGANIZATIONS IN INDIA

We have compiled a list of philatelic organizations in India with their postal addresses and have uploaded the same at the web site. The link is <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Orgs/a400.htm>

Please do visit this link and help us make it more comprehensive. Please report additions / changes in the name of the contact person/s, telephone numbers, and email addresses for the organizations listed. We will be pleased to receive and upload new additions as well.

ALSO IN THE NEWS

KOREA TO HONOR COACH AND 23 NATIONAL SOCCER PLAYERS

Korea Post plans to issue a set of 24 stamps in August 2002 featuring former coach Guus Hiddink and 23 national soccer players to commemorate the country's first-ever entry to the semifinals in the World Cup.

Hiddink, who first arrived in Seoul in January 2001, became a national hero for guiding the team to the World Cup semifinals. Earlier in this week, the Dutch coach returned home to his former club PSV Eindhoven.

The stamps featuring the "Red Devils," the enthusiastic support group for South Korea's national team, are also being planned. The red-shirted supporters won acclaim for their raucous yet orderly cheering in and outside stadiums.

NEWSSCAN

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

RESEARCH NOTES

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.

Updated Segments This Week: News, Articles,

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