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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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Issue # 74 - July 18, 2002. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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To subscribe or to unsubscribe send email to [stampsofindia@bigfoot.com](mailto:stampsofindia@bigfoot.com)

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I N T H I S I S S U E

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Readers Forum - Mansoor Bolar from Mangalore

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Also in the News - Print Stamps On Your Personal Computer

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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

"Collaboration" this is the new buzzword in business today and the reason for its popularity is it continues to add value to the work of an individual. Philately lends itself well to collaboration as no individual can complete research on a given subject on his own.

Regarding our column 'Research Notes', we have mentioned in our previous issues that we think the subject may be better served, by dealing with it in more depth, albeit less frequently...in a separate publication....". Our feedback has also suggested the same to us.

We will continue with our column 'Research Notes' in every issue of this newsletter in a new 'avatar' it will now be more newsy, more informative and more collaborative. The new version of Research Notes makes its debut in this issue.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and sources to this issue: ChennaiOnline News Service, Associated Press.

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Mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists  
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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW ISSUES IN AUGUST

India Post has scheduled following stamps for release in the month of August 2002:

- 01 - Anna Bhau Sathe
- 09 - Ananda Rishi ji Maharaj
- 10 - Sant Tukaram
- 10 - Vithal Rao Vikhe Patil
- 16 - Rose, Rs. 2, Definitive

NATIONAL COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED

The PCI Governing Council appointed the following National Commissioners on April 28, 2002:

G Madan Mohan Das, Chennai for
PHILAKOREA 2002, August 2-11, 2002, Seoul, Korea

Madhukar Jhingan, New Delhi for
ESPANA 2002, November 17-22, 2002, Salamanca, Spain

Dr. R S Gandhi, Patna gandhi@giasdl01.vsnl.net.in for
BANGKOK 2003, October 4-13, 2003, Bangkok, Thailand

Anil Suri, New Delhi anilksuri@email.com for
SINGAPORE 2004, September 2004, Singapore

The PCI Secretary General appointed the following National Commissioner on April 28, 2002:

Sahadeva Sahoo, Bhubaneswar sahadevas@yahoo.com for
CHINA 2003, May 2003, Mianyang, China

The commissioners may be contacted at their email addresses for further details.

POSTAL STATIONERY ISSUES IN AUGUST 2002

The postal stationery with following advertisements is scheduled for release in August 2002.

The information in the listing is presented in following format:
Date, Printer, Language, Message

- POSTCARD - Panch Mahal, 50 Paise, Brown
- SPC, August 1, SPP, Hindi, Education
- SPC, August 1, SPP, Assamese, Education
- SPC, August 1, SPP, Bengali, Education
- SPC, August 1, ISP, Gujarati, Education
- SPC, August 1, ISP, Marathi, Education
- SPC, August 1, SSP, Kannada, Education
- SPC, August 1, SPP, Tamil, Education
- SPC, August 2, SPP, Telugu, Education
- SPC, August 2, SPP, Malayalam, Education
- SPC, August 2, ISP, Urdu, Education

SPC, August 2, SPP, Oriya, Education
SPC, August 2, SPP, English, Servo Engine Oil
SPC, August 10, SPP, English, UCO Bank
SPC, August 25, SPP, Tamil,
SPC, August 25, SPP, Tamil, [same as #71]
SPC, August 25, ISP, English, 'Know AIDS for NO AIDS'
SPC, August 25, ISP, English, Blood Donation
SPC, August 31, SPP, Tamil,
SPC, August 31, SPP, Tamil,
SPC, August 31, ISP, Hindi, Union Bank of India

INLAND LETTER CARD - Panch Mahal, Rupees 2.50, Blue

ILC, August 2, SPP, English, Servo Engine Oil
ILC, August 3, SPP, Malayalam,
ILC, August 10, SPP, Malayalam,
ILC, August 25, SPP, Tamil,
ILC, August 25, SPP, Tamil, [same as #71]
ILC, August 27, SPP, Assamese, Registrar of Births & Deaths
ILC, August 25, SPP, Hindi, Anti- AIDS
ILC, August 25, SPP, English, G R Thanga Malligal, Jewellery
ILC, August 28, SPP, English, United India Insurance
ILC, August 31, ISP, Hindi, Union Bank of India

AEROGRAMME - Panch Mahal, Rs. 8.50,
25, SPP, English, G R Thanga Malligal, Jewellery

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NEW PHILATELIC BUREAU

The existing philatelic counter at Ajmer Head Post Office will be upgraded to Philatelic Bureau from September 1, 2001. With this the number of philatelic bureaus in the country will rise to 61.

A Special Cover with Special Postmark may be issued on the occasion. Interested philatelists may contact the Philatelic Bureau, Ajmer H O 305001

In our issue # 73 while reporting about new Philatelic Bureau at Mysore, we made a mistake about the total number of philatelic bureaus in the country as we had earlier missed out on reporting that four new philatelic bureaus were opened on October 9, 2001 at Bhubaneswar, Jabalpur, Kurnool, and Udaipur.

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LUPHILEX

India Post is organizing a District level philatelic exhibition in Lucknow in October 2002. For more details please contact the Chief Post Master, Philatelic Bureau, Lucknow 226001.

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KARAN SYAL

Karan Syal died on July 11, 2002. Born in 1953, he joined the Indian Postal Service in 1978. He was serving as the Director - Public Grievance & Vigilance at the India Post HQ. May his soul rest in peace.

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NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS

The telephone number of Devika Kumar, Deputy Director General - Philately has changed. The new number is 309 6095. This is also the number for her fax.

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DECAAN PHILATELIST

The second issue of this journal edited by Lieutenant Colonel J Dutta is now in hand. Though it is not mentioned, we presume it is a monthly publication. Enquiries may be sent to P J Lewis, Secretary DPS, A-12 Sacred Heart Town, 75/2 Wanowrie, Pune 411040.

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THE NORTH POST

We received the April 2002 issue, Vol. 16, 17 # 4, 1-4, of the North Post. An Editorial Board consisting of Dr. S K Sondhi and Dr. R L Bansal edits it. Enquiries may be sent to the publisher - Ludhiana Philatelic Club, P O Box 246, Ludhiana 141008

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FAKE STAMP SCAM AT SIVAKSAI

The Tamil Nadu police claimed to have busted a racket on July 11, 2002 of printing and circulating of fake stamp papers by a gang at Sivakasi. Following information about circulation of counterfeit currency notes and fake non-judicial stamp papers, police conducted raids at several places in Sivakasi, leading to the seizure of fake non-judicial stamp papers worth Rs. 290,000 and arrested four persons.

During the raids, Anatharaj, a resident of Sivakasi, was found in possession of fake non-judicial papers in the denomination of Rs 5,000, Rs 1,000 and Rs 500, a police press release said. Lakshmanan, who was involved in three counterfeit currency cases, gave the fake stamp papers and the screen printers used for printing them to him. Following the confession of Anatharaj, two more persons, who were also involved in counterfeit currency cases, were also arrested, the release said. All the persons were remanded to judicial custody and further investigation was on, the release said.

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, Part 17

Judging and conducting of exhibitions seems to be the flavor of this season. After our focus on these subjects other editors and publications are also coming forth and writing on these topics.

Some pertinent excerpts are given below from the editorial by Dr. S K Sondhi in the 'North Post'. Dr. Sondhi is the Secretary General of the Philatelic Congress of Punjab, and the Governing Council Member of the Philatelic Congress of India.

"More than seventy per cent of the frames were either empty or to be erected at the time of the inauguration. Even on the last day of exhibition large number of frames remained unmounted due to defects in them. Even frames with good condition were not mounted for the reasons best known to organizers. In the invitee class there were ten exhibits to be displayed in about sixty frames. Some of these could not be displayed due to defective frames, thus, depriving the visitors of an opportunity to see and admire world class exhibits. Some of the exhibits were mounted using two side self adhesive tape. As a result number of exhibits got damaged while removing them after the exhibition.

Publicity for the exhibition was poor. No publicity material was sent to philatelic bureaux. We did not find any banners and posters during our stay at Nashik. Perhaps Publicity Committee was not active. May be due to financial constraints. This was one of the reasons for poor

response to the exhibition. Barring vernacular papers, there was no coverage of the show in electronic media and leading newspapers. There was no organized visit of school children. In fact most of the schools at Nashik were closed. Since space available for exhibition was not adequate and spread over three floors, most of the activities were confined to ground floor where dealers were located. The space between some of the booths and exhibit rows was so tight that it was impossible for visitors to pass through, giving an impression of large attendance.

The announcement of awards was delayed and list was displayed by noon on last day of the exhibition. Thus depriving the exhibitors of an opportunity to interact with the jurors. As soon as the list was put up, I found number of exhibitors showing their disappointment and air their feelings about the quality of judgment. I saw one exhibitor moving from one jury member to another and got the same reply that they have not judged his exhibit. This was contrary to the claim of the organizers that the jury judged all the entries. Even if all entries were judged, whether displayed or not, one cannot judge and appreciate the quality of the exhibit by going through one page at a time in comparison to viewing the whole exhibit at a time. Moreover the regulations for judging the Open Class were not adhered to, as these were not displayed and so evaluated by the visitors.

There were number of entries which were declared out of competition. One exhibit was debarred as he had won large Vermeil in earlier National and sent only 5 frames against the norms of 8. I would think it was the fault of the Allotment Committee. They would have asked him to apply for eight frames at the time of screening the entry forms."

Lieutenant Colonel J Dutta writing in the editorial in the 'Deccan Philatelist' also focuses on the same; once again we present the pertinent excerpts:

"The jury of our exhibitions tend to go totally by the book and come up with harsh decisions. The book rather than the spirit being the guiding principle. Adolescence is a time not just restricted to physical changes but also beset with psychological, emotional and social ones. In a situation plagued with dearth of true youth philatelists, the jury in India commit nothing short of child and adolescent abuse. We say this because they do not have any knowledge and hence any concern for the psychological and emotional trauma they cause to the vulnerable age group. It is a shame that at the last Nationals at Nashik there were just 16 entries in the youth group. Six of these we know were adult entries in the name of their children who have no interest or inclination in philately. That leaves 10. Let us assume that all 10 are genuine philatelists. One out of these was given 69 marks and thus a silver bronze medal. One more mark and the child would have got a silver. When he pleaded, we were told politely "No". A Silver medal after all will qualify for internationals. Who are we fooling?"

A time has come to think. Lets give up this silly jargon of promotion of youth philately. IT rings hollow. Lets not get bogged down with FIP Regulations for youth philately. Let us frame our own. Let us create jury members qualified to judge youth exhibits. These people must acquire knowledge of adolescent psychological and emotional concerns. If not there are a number of doctors who are PCI members.

Take their help. At an exhibition a member of the jury was explaining how the youth exhibit could be enhanced. "How can I improve?" asked the child. "Yours is a catalogued collection. You have to get some errors. The errors like the . . . error." The child was shocked. The error is a rarity in philately. Till then child be satisfied with silver bronze, because you cannot show treatment, knowledge and what have you to get a higher medal. And this is a true story of youth group A (12 - 15 year group)."

If the jury is making these kinds of suggestions to youth philatelists what direction can we expect philately to take?

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>

MANSOOR BOLAR FROM MANGALORE

Its good news to hear that India Post is inviting proposals from the general public for selection of the subjects for issue of commemorative stamps for the year 2003.

I would like to comment on the present postal rates of Picture Post Cards. Recently the Post Master General's office of Bangalore issued a set of 12 Post cards priced at Rs.3 each (not pre-stamped). The cards contains pictures of stamps released by India Post, which may act as an advertisement of the already released stamps, no doubt the cards have come out beautiful.

The question is of using these cards postally. When postage for a picture Post card costs Rs.6 to post, a common man may not afford to use it. It is ironic that when the same card is sent wrapped by a cover it costs only Rs.5 (the present inland charge) generally, it does not even has the writing space which the ordinary card of 50 paise has!

I wonder why India Post discourages the use of Picture Post cards?!!!!. Can anyone comment?

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#### FEATURES & RESOURCES

#### RESEARCH NOTES

##### INDIAN POSTAL HISTORY 1947 - 1997

Ashok K Bayanwala of Ahmedabad first wrote a brief article for the 'GPA News', the Monthly Newsletter Edited by H C Mehta and Published by Gujarat Philatelists Association (GPA), in May & June 1999 issues. This two-part article traced the history from 1947 to 1960 only. Later he expanded it for the Souvenir of the 8<sup>th</sup> National exhibition - MILLEPEX 2000. A further enlarged version appeared in the 'Year Book of Indian Philately 1999' compiled by Madan Middha of Gwalior.

An in-depth study begun with April 2001 issue in 'GPA News' that is still continuing and have already become a benchmark. We have exclusive

electronic media rights of his philatelic writings and this exceptional piece of literature is available online at <http://www.stampsofindia.com> Once the study is complete, it is planned to bring it out in a book form, incorporating new facts discovered meanwhile.

Bayanwala is an acknowledged authority on postal markings of India and accomplished postal historian. He has contributed a score of articles on diverse subjects to several philatelic publications. He prefers to be contacted by post. His address is "96 Swastik Society, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad 380009. All readers of 'Indian Postal History 1947 - 1997' can contribute in enhancing the final product by looking at their collections and by communicating corroborations, additions, and corrections directly to the author.

#### 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.

#### ALSO IN THE NEWS

##### PRINT STAMPS ON YOUR PERSONAL COMPUTER

Americans will be able to print out sheets of postage stamps on their personal computers, using a system approved Wednesday by the Postal Service.

Currently, individual stamps can be printed using computer software supplied by private vendors. That process was introduced in 1999 and the post office said there are currently 390,000 registered customers.

The new system will allow printing of sheets of 25 stamps at a time, which can be stored for future use. The stamps can be printed in any needed denomination.

Stamps.com, based in Santa Monica, Calif., is the first company approved to offer the service, called NetStamps. It will supply the software and stamp printing service, the post office said.

The stamps must be printed on special sheets of adhesive-backed label paper, which contains watermarks.

Stamps.com said the software and paper will be available immediately with the paper costing \$3.99 for a pack of 125 labels. The company charges a monthly fee for the service, in addition to the cost of the stamps.

The Postal Service said computer printing of postage has become particularly popular with small and mid-size businesses, making postage available at any time and providing automatic accounting of mailing expenses.

#### 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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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.

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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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