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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 thank our readers for their very positive response to our  
facilitating reporting of 'Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud' relevant to  
Indian Philately.

This has encouraged us to bring out something that we have been  
thinking for almost two decades to implement. This was also one of the  
segments announced on the home page of first web site we uploaded in  
March 1997 - a resource on Indian laws that a philatelist must be  
familiar with. We are in the process of setting up a page at the web  
site that will eventually have complete details on Sales Tax and Import  
& Export procedures, amongst many others subject of interest. We hope  
that it would be of use to our readers.

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Contents/Guide/Misc/laws>

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and sources to this issue: Shyam Prasad Pradhan from Nepal, Ian Billings from UK, The Times of India, Federation of Inter Asian Philately and The Associated Press.

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

##### PHILATELIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO MEET

The Philatelic Advisory Committee (PAC) of the Ministry of Communications & Information Technology that was reconstituted in 2001 shall be meeting for the second time on October 4, 2002 at New Delhi. 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 are not in any way be binding on the Government.

Sahdeva Sahoo, Dilip Shah, Balkrihna Das, and Dr. R S Gandhi represent philatelists on the PAC while Manik Jain is the sole representative of stamp trade.

##### ~~~~~ STANLEY GIBBONS INDIA CATALOG IN COLOR

'India & Convention States' is the second title in the series of one-country digital catalogs published mid-August 2002 by Stanley Gibbons. The 72 loose leave, A4 punched 4-hole, catalog excludes Feudatory states, and is available in black & white for £ 9.95 and in full color for £20.

The 105<sup>th</sup> edition of 'Commonwealth and British Stamps 1840-1952' (formerly Part 1), 448-page hardbound shall be released on September 20, 2002 at £ 39.95.

##### ~~~~~ TRANSFERS & POSTINGS OF SENIOR OFFICERS

With effect from August 20, 2002 the following officers of Indian Postal Service were posted on promotion:

M K Banerjee, from Postmaster General (PMG) of South Bengal Region, West Bengal Postal Circle to the Chief Postmaster General (CPMG) of Assam Postal Circle

Vatsala Raghu, from PMG Mail Management, Chennai to CPMG Orissa Postal Circle

K N K Karthiayani, from PMG Rajkot Region to CPMG Kerala Postal Circle

D Kailasa Prasad, from PMG Hyderabad Region, Andhra Pradesh Postal Circle to CPMG Himachal Pradesh Postal Circle

K Noorjehan, from PMG Northern Region, Tamilnadu Postal Circle to CPMG Haryana Postal Circle

P K Chatterjee, from Deputy Director General - International Relations to CPMG North East Postal Circle

The following officers of Indian Postal Service on deputation and on training were also promoted:

S C Sarma, on deputation to Department of Fertilizers  
A Dasgupta, on training in APPPA course in IIPA

The following officers of Indian Postal Service were transferred:  
Manu Vyas from CPMG Orissa Postal Circle to CPMG Madhya Pradesh Postal Circle

S P Singh from CPMG Assam Postal Circle to CPMG Bihar Postal Circle

T S Govindarajan from CPMG Bihar Postal Circle to CPMG Andhra Pradesh Postal Circle

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POSTAL AUCTIONS

INDIAN THEMATIC SOCIETY

Indian Thematic Society of Ludhiana is holding its 18th postal auction. The 36-lot auction closes on October 15, 2002. For further details please contact indianthematicsociety@rediffmail.com

GANESH KUMAR OMAR

Ganesh Kumar Omar, P O Box, 60, K-4A Yashoda Nagar, Behind Mahender Singh Yadav Office, Kanpur 208001, Telephone (0512) 632133 is holding his 2nd postal auction. The 750+ lots auction closes on September 16, 2002.

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PCI CASE UPDATE

Munish Gupta, the Observer appointed by the court for PCI Elections submitted his report and the sealed ballot boxes in the Court of Civil Judge Ajay Goel on September 11, 2002. The PCI also submitted the written statement in the Court and the next date of hearing was fixed for October 3, 2002.

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NEW RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE DIVISION

A new Railway Mail Service (RMS) Division, RMS 'DH' Division with its headquarters at Dhanbad was created in Jharkhand Postal Circle with effect from September 1, 2002 by diversion of existing units from RMS 'C' Division, Gaya and RMS 'P' Division, Patna of Bihar Circle.

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OOPS: CORRECTIONS

Dr. Munaf Billoo points out that his correct email address is [munafbilloo@hotmail.com](mailto:munafbilloo@hotmail.com) and not [monafbilloo@hotmail.com](mailto:monafbilloo@hotmail.com) as published in the issue # 73 while reviewing his excellent work "Special Postmarks of Pakistan 1947-2001".

Abhai Mishra points out that his site is about 21<sup>st</sup> and not 22<sup>nd</sup> Indian Expedition to Antarctica as published in issue # 81.

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PHILA RUNNER

The 4th issue, dated August 2002, of this quarterly stamp collector's journal edited and published by A B Joshi, Post Master General of the Pune Postal Region has been released recently. Joshi may be contacted by email pmgpune@vsnl.com

A copy is priced Rs. 10 and the annual subscription is Rs. 30. The subscription should be sent either by money order or Indian Postal Order only to S N Tanvade, Secretary of Regional Philately Promotion Committee & Officer on Special Duty, Regional Office, Pune 4110001

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E-POST SERVICES THROUGH INTERNET

India Post is inviting sealed tenders from eligible bidders (class 'A' Internet Service Providers or Data Center Service Providers) for developing application software for 'e-Post' service and/or to host the package in the bidders facility. The last date for submission of the documents along with Rs. 500,000 as earnest money deposit is September 30, 2002

More details about 'e-post service' are available at the <http://www.indiapost.org/IndiaPost-E-Post.html> and about the tender are available at the <http://www.indiapost.org/Tenders.html>

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CASH STOLEN FROM AHMEDABAD POST OFFICE

Kuberbhai Maganbhai Vankar, a sub-postmaster of Anandnagar post office, has lodged a complaint with the Ellisbridge police station stating that an intruder broke into the post office on September 6, 2002 evening and stole Rs 133,000. The post office is located at Shalimar Complex near Mahalaxmi crossroads.

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A PASSAGE TO PAKISTAN BY POST

With the snapping of all rail, road and direct air communication, Indians and Pakistanis may no longer be able to visit each other. But the letters and parcels they send are still delivered on time via Dubai, and through manual exchange at Wagah border.

Despite the diplomatic and military standoff, India Post - the government-run mail service - says its business is as usual. "Mail exchange is continuing with Pakistan almost daily, both by road and air," department of posts secretary S C Dutta said.

Airmail is dispatched from Mumbai via Dubai but surface mail is sent by road to Wagah and carried physically up to the line demarcating the international border. There, a representative of Pakistan Post takes charge, handing over mail bound for India. The respective sacks are then hauled away for sorting and delivery.

Since the Pakistanis send more mail than they receive, India Post makes a lot of money.

"According to international norms, any country which sends more mail than it receives from another has to pay for delivery of the excess mail. Since we get more mail from Pakistan than sent from here, it has to pay extra," he said.

India scrapped the Delhi - Lahore bus and train services through the Wagah border and direct flights to and from Pakistan after terrorists attacked Parliament last year.

"We continue to receive nearly 200 mailbags from Pakistan at Wagah, while we send about 105mailbags in seven days," he said.

Dutta said the department has tied up with Indian Airlines and Emirates, with the option of using eight of their daily flights, to transport mailbags between Mumbai and Dubai, from where they are carried to various destinations.

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NEPAL NEW ISSUES

On September 6, 2002 the Minister for Information and Communication Shree Jaya Prakash Gupta released four new postage stamps depicting insects and social values by affixing the first day postmarks.

The stamps on the insect theme are in the denomination of Rs 3 and 5 depicting a locust and a leaf beetle respectively. Leaf beetles rely on small shrubs and eat the leaves whereas locusts are found in the Terai belt of Nepal and are considered less harmful. The beetles can also be found in India, Pakistan and Afghanistan. It is believed that the postage stamps featuring the insects will help publicize them throughout the world and help their conservation.

The two stamps on the social values theme feature the slogans "no discrimination between son and daughter" and "untouchability is a social offence" in the denomination of Rs 2 and Re 1 respectively. These postage stamps with the slogans will definitely have a positive impact on the general public.

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Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud related to Indian Philately  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Contents/Guide/Misc/cybercrime>  
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VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, Part 23

One is always aspiring to do better and better but one must look up to an ideal role model to reach unprecedented heights. Today India and China are compared on many fronts beginning from billion plus population to development. India is ahead in some areas and behind in others.

In philately China is leaps and bounds ahead of India and that is what we would aspire to be like.

Here are some of the highlights of the Chinese philately:

1. The first stamp club in China was founded in August 1922 in Shanghai. It was known as "Philatelic Society of China, Shanghai".
2. All China Philatelic Federation (ACPF), the national body was formed in January 1982. This year sees ACPF go through the 20th Birthday.
3. Philatelic Clubs are formed in 31 provinces, Autonomous Region, Municipality. The following industries also formed their own philatelic clubs: Sports, People's Liberation Army - Second Artillery, Petroleum, Outer Space Industry, Coal & mine, Seamen, Water Resources and Aviation.
4. Total membership in all the philatelic clubs: 3.3 million members.
5. Stamp lovers: 14 million.
6. Philatelic publications - Philately monthly magazine: 400,000 copies per issue in circulation, the largest philatelic publication in the

world. China Philately Bi-weekly Newspaper: 200,000 copies per issue. Over 1,000 different kinds of philatelic books were published from 1982 - 2002.

7. Exhibitions - 10 major national stamp exhibitions were held since 1983 (including a Senior Citizen Mega Stamp Exhibition this year). The 9th Asian International Stamp Exhibition was held in Beijing in 1996, under the patronage of the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP).

8. ACPF members' participation at World and FIAP Stamp exhibitions: more than 50 times bagged 1477 Vermeil medals, 80 Large Vermeil medals, 30 Gold medals, 9 Large Gold medals, 1 Grand Prix National (at CHINA 1999), 1 Grand Prix D'Honneur (at HONG KONG 2001).

China has successfully spread philately in the last 20 years to the grass roots hence they have been able to have such large number of collectors. This is what we need to do in India to be able to once again popularize this hobby. In fact India Post has made a step in the right direction by proposing and conducting District Level exhibitions and we would like to offer our complete support to this endeavor.

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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>

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FEATURES & RESOURCES

ALSO IN THE NEWS

ELVIS IS STILL KING OF STAMPS

When it comes to collecting stamps Elvis is still king. Some 124 million stamps featuring the rock 'n' roll star have been purchased and never used to mail a letter, the United States Postal Service reports. That means the 29-cent Elvis stamp issued in 1993 made a tidy \$36 million profit for the post office.

The post office used surveys to track what it calls stamp retention; that is, stamps that are purchased but never used. Mostly it reflects the purchases of stamp collectors, but on special items like the Elvis or Marilyn Monroe stamps many people who are not normally collectors buy some of the stamps and save them too.

Placing second to Elvis were the 1992 wildflowers stamps, with a retention of 76.2 million, according to figures released by the United States Postal Service on September 5, 2002. Third at 75.8 million stamps are the rock 'n' roll/rhythm and blues stamps issued in 1993. The 1999 insects and spiders stamps are fourth at 60.9 million followed 53.9 million for Legends of Baseball issued in 2000.

Rounding out the top 10 are Baseball's Legendary Playing Fields, 2001, 49.0 million; First Moon Landing, 1994, 47.9 million; Civil War, 1995,

46.6 million; Legends of the West, 1994, 46.5 million; Marilyn Monroe, 1995, 46.3 million.

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.

NEWSSCAN

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

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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