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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 # 83 - September 19, 2002. Published Every Thursday
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

From the time that newspaper publishing has been in existence, the editors continue to receive and exchange information from various sources. Well that was in the snail mail days, if we may say so. As we keep mentioning with the advent of technology, the publishing of newspapers and magazines has also undergone lot of changes. In India alone there are several daily newspapers that are composed at one location and transferred through the satellite / broadband for printing to several other locations.

Even the established philatelic publications have come up with online editions as mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter. We are now wondering, to keep pace with technology, how does one editor send reciprocal copies to the other editors for exchange of information. Do the concerned editors have any ideas? We look forward to hearing from them.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and sources to this issue: Naveen Banura from Amritsar, A S Mittal from Jaipur, Satish Misra from Bareilly, Ed Deschl from USA, and Premnath Kudva from Mangalore.

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

##### NEW STAMPS RELEASED

On September 12, 2002 a set of three stamps were issued on Social Reformers in the Personalities Series by Dr. Sanjay Paswan, The Minister of State for Communications & IT at a special function held at Trivandrum. The personalities featured are, Ayyan Kali, Chandraprabha Saikiani, and Gora.

Kali, 1863-1941, led a struggle of epic proportions in Kerala against the evils of caste-based discriminations. Saikiani, 1901-1972, pioneered a movement for the emancipation of women in Assam and led crusades against various malpractices prevalent in the society. Gora, 1902-1975, was a social reformer, freedom fighter and educationist and strove to eradicate caste differences and untouchability.

The stamps are in the denomination of Rs. 5 each, the current inland letter rate. Sankha Samanta designed the stamp and the First Day Cover, priced at Rs. 2. Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. Information Sheet containing write-up and technical data and priced at Rs. 2 were issued on the occasion. Calcutta Security Printers Limited of Kanpur printed the stamps by photo Offset in four colors on matt chromo paper in the quantity of 0.4 million each. The issued sheets contain 40 stamps.

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NEW ISSUE UPDATE: KANIKA BANDYOPADHYAY

India Post's next stamp issue on Kanika Bandyopadhyay in the denomination of Rs. 5 is scheduled for October 12, 2002.

The stamp shall be produced in the quantity of 400,000 only. The stamp along with the First Day Covers and the information sheets, at Rs. 2 each, shall be available on sale at nearly 1000 selected Post Offices including all Philatelic Bureaus and Counters in the country.

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##### POSTAL STATIONERY ISSUES IN OCTOBER

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

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

POSTCARD - Panch Mahal, 50 Paise, Brown  
01, SPP, Kannada,  
26, ISP, Hindi, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men  
27, SPP, Hindi, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men  
27, SPP, English, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men  
28, ISP, English, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men  
27, SPP, Telugu, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men  
27, ISP, Punjabi, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men

27, SPP, Oriya, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men  
27, ISP, Marathi, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men  
27, SPP, Bengali, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men  
28, SPP, Tamil, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men  
28, SPP, Kannada, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men  
28, SPP, Malayalam, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men  
28, ISP, Gujarati, A Modern Method of Birth Control for Men  
29, ISP, Hindi, Anti-Malaria  
29, ISP, Marathi, Anti-Malaria  
29, SPP, Bengali, Anti-Malaria  
29, SPP, Telugu, Anti-Malaria  
29, SPP, English, Anti-Malaria

INLAND LETTER CARD - Panch Mahal, Rupees 2.50, Blue

15, SPP, Karur Vysya Bank  
20, SPP, Vijaya Bank, New vertical format used earlier by CSP & MSP  
29, SPP, English, Anti-Malaria, Vertical  
29, SPP, Hindi, Anti-Malaria

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TRANSFERS & POSTINGS OF SENIOR POSTAL OFFICERS

With effect from September 10, 2002 the following officers of Indian Postal Service were transferred:

Jyotsna Diesh from Director Postal Staff College, Ghaziabad to the Chief Postmaster General (CPMG) of Delhi Circle

Kamleswar Prasad from PMG of Gorakhpur Region in Uttar Pradesh Circle to CPMG of Jharkhand Circle

M V Narayanan from PMG of Muzaffarpur Region in Bihar Circle to CPMG of Uttaranchal Circle

P R Kumar from CPMG of Uttaranchal Circle to CPMG of Chhattisgarh Circle

Raghav Lal from PMG of Kolkata Region in West Bengal Circle to Deputy Director General - International Relations at India Post HQ, New Delhi

Harinder Singh from CPMG of Delhi Circle to Director Postal Staff College, Ghaziabad

A Ghosh Dastidar from CPMG of Jharkhand Circle to Postmaster General (PMG) - Foreign Mails, Mumbai

Karuna Pillai returning from leave to PMG - Mail Management, Chennai

Brigadier A R A Sah from Army Postal Service to PMG of Muzaffarpur Region in Bihar Circle

Indira Krishna Kumar from PMG of Northern Region in Kerala Circle to PMG of Northern Region in Tamilnadu Circle

Manojit Kumar from PMG of North Bengal Region to PMG of Kolkata Region in West Bengal Circle

Anjali Devasher returning from leave to PMG of South Bengal Region in West Bengal Circle

Colonel Om Prakash from Army Postal Service to PMG of Gorakhpur Region
in Uttar Pradesh Circle

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SCHOOLPEX 2002

Anjani Oza, the Chief Commissioner of Income Tax inaugurated the 7<sup>th</sup> inter school stamp exhibition organized by the Philatelic Society of Rajasthan and the St. Xavier's School with the support of India Post on September 13, 2002. The show involved 15 schools with 250 students participating.

The jury chaired by A S Mittal included Jayant Pandya, and P M Bhargava. SCHOOLPEX is the only show in India to have been providing written critique to all participants consistently over the years and this year an Expert Panel under Ashok Sharma was entrusted with this responsibility.

The regular monthly meeting of the Philatelic Society of Rajasthan, usually held at the Philatelic Bureau, was held at the venue of the SCHOOLPEX 2002 on September 14, 2002 for this month.

India Post held its annual Stamp Design Competition on September 15, 2002 in conjunction with SCHOOLPEX. Dr. Rajni Pandey of Rajasthan School of Art, Ambesh Upmanyu - Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, and Rajesh Paharia - General Secretary of the Philatelic Society of Rajasthan judged the entries. The award winners of the competition were also taken for an elephant ride.

Elephant mail was a major attraction of the show and received considerable media coverage. Well this could also be called the new age email the elephant mail. 'Manchali', a female elephant, carried the mail from the venue of SCHOOLPEX to Jaipur General Post Office on September 15 and 16, 2002 in a procession which was accompanied by several philatelists and postal workers. India Post operated a temporary post office at the venue and provided a special pictorial postmark on each day. A Letter Box for posting the mail to be carried by the Elephant was set up. India Post issued a multicolored card depicting Elephant - Silver figurine with 'Kundan Meena' work in the quantity of 1000 and priced at Rs. 5 each, without stamp. A stamp worth Rs. 6, being the inland printed postcard rate, was required to be affixed for the postcard to be carried by the Elephant Mail.

The Principal Chief Postmaster General of Rajasthan Postal Circle, T R Sharma, and the Director Postal Services of Jaipur Postal Region, Sarita Singh were the Guest of Honor and the Chief Guest at the Awards Ceremony on September 16, 2002 that was presided over by the Principal of the St. Xavier's School, Father Jose Philip SJ.

59 prizes were awarded for the 8 participating groups in two age groups, under 15 and over 15 years, with the St. Xavier's Trophy to Best Senior Entry going to Shipra Agarwal, the O P Bhatnagar Trophy to Best Junior Entry going to Apurva Daga and the A S Mittal Trophy to Best School going to India International School.

Another unique feature of the exhibition was the visit by a group of hearing and speech challenged working persons that meet at St. Xavier's School every week. Their visit to the exhibition impressed them so much

that they wish to now form a stamp club, which would probably be the first of its kind, at least in India.

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AMRITSAR PHILATELIC CLUB

The new postal address of the Amritsar Philatelic Club is Post Box No. 57, Amritsar - 143 099. The club now has an email address as well a.p.c.@sify.com

The club has also launched its web site <http://www.amphil.cjb.net> and would like to invite all philatelists to visit the same.

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POSTAL HOLIDAYS IN 2003

The Department of Personnel & Training, Ministry of Personnel Public Grievances & Pensions, Government of India decides on the 19 holidays to be observed in all government offices, including post offices, during the year. There are 14 compulsory holidays including the three National Holidays, 3 Variable Holidays and 2 Restricted Holidays.

All offices of India Post all over the country will observe following holidays during 2003:

National Holidays: 3

January 26 - Republic Day  
August 15 - Independence Day  
October 2 - Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday

Other Holidays: 11

February 12 - Idu'l Zuha  
March 14 - Muharram  
April 15 - Mahavir Jayanti  
April 18 - Good Friday  
May 14 - Id-e-milad  
May 16 - Budha Purnima  
October 4 - Dussehra  
October 25 - Diwali  
November 8 - Guru Nanak's Birthday  
November 26 - Idu'l Fitr  
December 25 - Christmas

In addition to the 14 holidays as above, the Employees Coordination Committee in the State Capitals shall decide 3 holidays from the list of 12 Variable Holidays. The final list of 17 holidays applicable uniformly to all Government of India offices within the concerned State shall be notified after approval of the Ministry of Personnel Public Grievances & Pensions.

Furthermore, each employee will also avail any two holidays from the list of 32 Restricted Holidays plus remaining 9 Variable Holidays.

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PERIODICALS RECEIVED

SIPA Bulletin, Vol.23 # 1, January-February 2002, Bimonthly
Editor: G Madan Mohan Das
Publisher: South India Philatelists' Association
Address: 41, Perumal Mudali Street, Sowcarpet, Chennai 600079
Annual Subscription: Not Indicated

G P A NEWS, Whole # 61 - August 2002, Monthly
Editor: H C Mehta
Publisher: Gujarat Philatelists Association
Address: 1/M National Chamber, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad -380009
Annual Subscription including membership: Rs. 100, Entrance Fee Rs. 100
Mode of Remittance: By bank draft in favor of the publisher

ITS STAMP NEWS, Vol.5 # 3, Whole # 19 - July-September 2002, Quarterly
Editor: Suraj Jaitly sjits@satyam.net.in
Publisher: Indian Thematic Society indianthematicsociety@rediffmail.com
Address: MIG # 3464, Phase 2, Dugri Road, Ludhiana 141002
Annual Subscription: Rs. 100 Inland or US 8 by airmail
Mode of Remittance: By bank draft in favor of the publisher

PHILANEWS, #4, July-August 2002, Bi-monthly
Editor: Rajesh Paharia, pahariarajesh@msn.com
Publisher: Philatelic Society of Rajasthan
Address: A S Mittal, President, Dhamani Market, Chaura Rasta, Jaipur -3
Annual Subscription: Rs. 50 in India

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FRAUD ALERT: NELSON W COLLAMER

Nelson W. Collamer, also doing business as 'Nelson & Jane Collamer', 'Collamer Philatelic Foundation', from the following addresses - 5806 N 25 St, Phoenix, AZ (602) 956-7372; 4233 East Fairmount, Phoenix, AZ; and P.O. Box 10175 (NE Sta.), Phoenix AZ

Collamer has defrauded several thousands of dollars from possibly hundreds of individuals and dealers for many years, in the U.S. and internationally. He would order or buy merchandise and present fraudulent checks (checks on non-valid accounts).

Collamer ordered US\$3,000 from Anand S Mittal of Mittal Stamp Company Jaipur, and sent a check #9211 dated November 6, 2001 drawn on Wells Fargo Bank, 4010 East Thomas Avenue, Phoenix, AZ, Account 0495608671. On receipt of the check Mittal dispatched the order and deposited the check in his bank. The check was subsequently returned on December 6, 2001 with the stamped endorsement "Unable To Locate" (translated this means, we are told, that the account has been closed in excess of six months). Repeated attempts by Mittal to contact Collamer, the Phoenix Postmaster, the Phoenix Postal Inspectors, the Phoenix Police Chief, and the Wells Fargo Bank have all been met with deafening silence.

Another victim from India has been Satish Misra, of Bareilly who lost about US \$ 1000 to Collamer in June 2000. An official of the American Philatelic Society wrote to Misra on August 10, 2000 "Mr. Collamer is not and never has been permitted to be an APS member, but the APS has in past years, been very much involved in trying to work with his victims. We have not been aware of Mr. Collamer's recent activity on the international scene. But several years ago we heard of a dealer in another country who had a problem similar to yours. At that time we alerted the U.S. Postal Inspector in Phoenix, Arizona, who we hoped would convince the U.S. Attorney to take additional steps to further curtail Mr. Collamer's activities. The individual we contacted is Postal Inspector Chuck Smith, P.O. Box 20666, Phoenix, AZ 85036, phone 602-495-2149."

Ed Deschl [edeschi@hotmail.com](mailto:edeschi@hotmail.com), P.O. Box 422, New York, N.Y. 10008 is presently coordinating on behalf of Mittal and Misra in the US.

We will appreciate the cooperation of our readers in spreading the word, and eventually getting Collamer apprehended.

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FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL ISSUES

An achievement, that surprisingly still has not been well publicized, is an unprecedented victory in the fight against illegal issues during PHILAKOREA 2002 world philatelic exhibition.

The Organizing Committee of PHILAKOREA 2002 took a major decision by adding two new paragraphs, Para 3 and 4 of the article 7, to the 'Regulations for the Sales Booth' barely two weeks before opening of the show. The text of the two paragraphs:

"Stamps that have been issued illegally shall in no circumstances be permitted to be sold at the exhibition site, nor be brought into the Republic of Korea. Should anyone be found possessing or dealing with such illegal philatelic items at the exhibition, the Organizing Committee shall take necessary action, including cancellation of the lease contract, laying a formal complaint before the law enforcement officers, etc.

The Organizing committee shall set up a monitoring team whose duty it is to keep watch over any illegal transaction during the exhibition."

It had the desired effect on the sale of the illegal issues. One company did not turn up and their Sales Booth was vacant while the monitoring team restrained another Booth holder. This was the first time that any action has been taken.

The website of WADP Numbering System (WNS) <http://www.wnsstamps.ch> was launched during the 67th FIP Congress at Seoul, Korea on August 10, 2002.

Earlier the WNS, jointly developed by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and the World Association for the Development of Philately (WADP), was introduced on 1 January 2002 with the aim of creating a database of all authentic postage stamps issued by UPU member countries and territories on or after that date. The goal is for the WNS to become the central point of reference against which stamp issues can be verified, supporting the legal philatelic market by endorsing those stamps that are genuine.

Only those postage stamps that, once received by the International Bureau (IB) of the UPU have undergone the process of verification of authenticity and registration will be attributed a WNS number and added to the WNS website. The WNS website is therefore a reference tool and a control, by omission, of stamps that have been issued illegally and labels that are claimed to be stamps. WNS is one of the tools that has been introduced to help the postal and the philatelic market as a whole to combat this problem.

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

Our recent visit to Jaipur was so much fun that we ended up extending the short visit to all four days of the exhibition. It was very hearting and gratifying to watch the enthusiasm of the organizers, participants, and above all the visitors. Add good media management to this quality product and you have a successful SCHOOLPEX.

It is a fine example of a seamlessly joint operation by a team of individuals from the philatelic organization and India Post. This is a good sign and they must be doing something right to have been doing it for seven years now. It also made us wonder why more and more individuals either side of post office counter are not joining hands to organize more events like this to popularize the hobby.

The successful SCHOOLPEX was an example of what determined efforts of a few dedicated persons whether philatelists or postal officers, can achieve. It is activities like these that would help build up the large numbers of entry-level collectors that are required to sustain the hobby. In our humble opinion activities like these are a must for the very existence and survival of philately in India. Like we mentioned in our previous issue, China also made a beginning in a similar manner.

So here is wishing all the best to all those who want to come forward to make a similar effort. May we say that if any help is required from us we would be happy to extend it.

We would be traveling to Ahmedabad and Pune in early October in search of more such experiences where exhibitions once again will show the perfect blend of postal officers and philatelists working towards a common goal.

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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

Indian Laws relevant to Philately  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Contents/Guide/Misc/laws>

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

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PRESIDENTS OF THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

India Post issued a se-tenant block of 4 stamps on December 28, 1985 to commemorate the centenary of the Indian National Congress, depicting the portraits of all 60 former Congress Presidents and Allan Octavian Hume, the founder. The stamp or the Information Sheet didn't contain any information on the "who is who" of the portrayed personalities.

Alex Zimmermann of Israel asked us precisely for the same information. Yoga Jeppu has compiled the information on the identity of all the portraits featured in the issue and has presented it at

http://www.geocities.com/dakshina_kan_pa/art25/congress.htm

The image of the se-tenant block is split into the four individual stamps. To know the identity of the personalities featured on the stamps, place the cursor on the portraits for the name, year and the place they presided. Click on the portraits for details.

More details can be obtained from the Indian National Congress website
<http://www.indiancongress.org/HTM/history/presidents.htm>

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

#### PHILATELIC PERIODICALS ONLINE

A major advantage of online editions is that each issue is available the same day that the print edition is mailed therefore the readers save on the time it takes for postal delivery. The readers can click-through to advertisers' websites for immediate access and email a copy with one click of an article that would interest a friend or relative. The issues available online are completely keyword searchable.

Recently 'Linn's Stamp News' made available the entire content online - every column, feature, department, postal news, and classified ad, all in the same format as the print edition at US \$45.95 for one year - 52 issues and at US \$23.95 for 26 issues.

<http://www.linsonline.com> and <http://www.linns.com/>

Earlier 'Stamp Collector' had announced its 'online only subscription' of US \$42.98 for 1 year - 26 issues. The Stamp Collector established in 1931 includes formerly separate publication 'Stamp Wholesaler' as a dealer section in 1st issue of month. Their other regular features are U.S. and overseas stamp news, Meet the Designer, Postal History, New Stamps of the World, auction guide, show calendar, and special inserts.  
<http://www.collect.com/interest/periodical.asp?Pub=SC>

#### ~~~~~ 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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