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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 # 112 - April 17, 2003. Published Every Thursday  
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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Back issues of this newsletter are available for free download at  
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We invite your inputs, please email to [stampsofindia@tatanova.com](mailto:stampsofindia@tatanova.com)

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I N T H I S I S S U E

Chennai Philatelic Bureau Renovated  
Recent & Forthcoming Events  
Ganesh Kumar Omar's Postal Auction  
Periodicals Received  
Paper Supplies for India Security Press  
India Post to Pay Candidate for Lost Exam Chance  
Pune Police Submits Report on Fake Stamp Scam  
News Issues from Nepal  
Philately in Transition in India, Part 53  
Readers Forum - Sidney Kitson from Kolkata  
Also in the News - Landlocked Country wins the America's Cup in Sailing!

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If you've found this newsletter useful, recommend it to a friend.  
Better still forward a copy of this issue.

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

In issue #110 of April 3, 2003 we had written about a fake message  
showing [mjhingan@yahoo.com](mailto:mjhingan@yahoo.com) in 'from field', and [madhukar1@email.com](mailto:madhukar1@email.com) in  
'return path field' mailed on April 1, 2003.

On April 10, 2003, immediately after the belated mailing on April 9,  
2003 of issue #110, the perpetrators, as if in defiance, reacted and  
sent another message once again fabricating and falsely showing one of  
our email addresses with 'Check this Out!' as the subject.

This appears to be the part of the ongoing character assassination  
campaign that has been carried out, so far mostly by word of mouth, at  
philatelic meetings and meetings with postal officers. These same set of

persons have now resorted to forged email messages in our name it seems they do not have the guts to use their own names.

We have always put our name while reporting all the activities in philately in India and we always will. That is why we do not understand the cloak and dagger approach of these persons. If they have some thing to say they should come out in the open and say it instead of hiding behind our own email ids.

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Anil Suri and Sharad Mohan from New Delhi, Ashok Kumar Tiwari from Jamshedpur, Shyam P Nhuchhe Pradhan from Nepal, Avinash B Jagtap from Switzerland, The Hindu from Chennai, and Mid Day from Mumbai.

Mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists

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The Advertising Supplement to 'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is now available on-line <http://www.stampsfindia.com/Content/Ads/ads.htm>  
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#### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### CHENNAI PHILATELIC BUREAU RENOVATED

The philatelic bureau at Mount road, Chennai is housed at a heritage building - 'Warwick Electric Theatre' built in 1913. It was the first theatre in this locality for the screening of films. A portion is now renovated in to a small hall for philatelic exhibitions.

Union Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology S Thirunavukarasar inaugurated this facility on April 13, 2003. The first exhibit was on 'Cinema' and shall be on display for a fortnight when it will be changed.

#### RECENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

##### RANPEX 2003

Shila Kishku, The Commisioner of South Chhotanagpur inaugurated the district level philatelic exhibition organized by Shashi Salini Kujur, Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, at Ranchi on March 28-29, 2003.

Two special covers were released on the occasion featuring Jonha Waterfall and a Coal miner. The special postmarks depict Sal Tree and Mander-a musical instrument of Jharkhand, respectively.

S S Basan & Ashok Kumar Tiwary, both from Jamshedpur served as the Jury.

Altogether 10 junior and 6 senior philatelists participated. In the senior category 2 Silver, 2 Silver Bronze & 2 Bronze medals were awarded. N K Kakkar's 'Indian Postal Stationeries' was adjudged the Best Exhibit of the show.

In junior category 1 Silver Bronze, 2 Bronze & 6 Certificates were awarded. Rupesh Kabra's 'India Post Independence' was awarded Best Junior Exhibit.

#### KATRE MEMORIUM-JPS2003

Jamshedpur Philatelic Society (JPS) celebrated its 30th anniversary by organizing a stamp exhibition from April 3 to 5, 2003 at Jamshedpur. This exhibition was dedicated to late M S Katre, the founder president of JPS.

On the inaugural day a special cover depicting the portrait of Katre was released by Sarosh J. Ghandy, President of JPS. The special postmark also shows the same portrait. A souvenir was released by K K Sinha, DPS Jharkhand Circle.

The second day was celebrated as Music day. A special cover depicting portrait of 4 legends of Indian playback singers was released by K Midha, a senior executive of Tata Steel. The postmark featured the portrait of K L Sehgal and the date, fortunately happened to be his 99th birth anniversary.

The third day was celebrated as Polar environment day. A special cover and postmark was released depicting Whales & Penguin.

Nidhi Katre, Deputy Commissioner of East Sinhbhum district distributed the prizes to the participants in the evening. Aisha Fahreen's Environment was adjudged as the best exhibit & Yamini's Indian wildlife got the second prize. One special prize, donated by Pradip Jain, was won by Pratic Katre for his exhibit 'Cats'. Altogether 17 children got prizes.

Some of the senior collectors who participated were, S S Basan - Antartica, S Hafizuddin - Balloon Mails, A K Tiwary - Amateur Radio, R K Chaudhary - Pigeongramms, Arindam Chakraborty - Orchids, A K Tiwary - Scented stamps, R K Sinha - Maps, and N K Kakkar - Indian Cinema. All participants in this category received certificates of participation.

#### 150 YEARS OF THE RAILWAYS IN INDIA

Central Railway is mounting an exhibition at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus on the evolution of the railway both in India and abroad.

The exhibition is open to the public from April 16 to 21 between 10.30 am and 5.00 pm. It is being held in the main building that houses the General Manager's office at Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus.

It features the collections of two philatelists who also are railway men, S P S Jain, General Manager of the Central Railway, Mumbai and Mohammad Mujibullah of the Eastern Railway, Kolkata.

DOONTOPEX

Slogan postmarks publicizing this exhibition, separately in Hindi and English, were introduced at the General Post Office at Dehradun on inward mails with effect from March 11, 2003.

For a list of exhibition held this year, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Events/a300.htm>

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GANESH KUMAR OMAR'S POSTAL AUCTION

Ganesh Kumar Omar, P O Box, 60, K-4A Yashoda Nagar, Behind Mahender Singh Yadav Office, Kanpur 208001, Telephone (0512) 2632133 is holding his 3<sup>rd</sup> postal auction. The 1000+ lots auction closes on April 28, 2003.

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PERIODICALS RECEIVED

SIPA Bulletin, Vol.24 # 1, January-February 2003, Bimonthly  
SIPA Bulletin, Vol.23 # 6, November-December 2002, Bimonthly  
Editor: G Madan Mohan Das  
Publisher: South India Philatelists' Association  
Address: 41, Perumal Mudali Street, Sowcarpet, Chennai 600079  
Annual Subscription: Not Indicated

SIGNET, Vol. 25 #3-4, October 2002 - March 2003, Quarterly  
Editor: S Sahoo [signetpci@yahoo.com](mailto:signetpci@yahoo.com)  
Publisher: Radharani Sahoo of Orissa Philately & Education Trust on behalf of Philatelic Congress of India (PCI)  
Address: 'Suket' 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 29-B Dongersi Cross Lane, Mumbai 400006  
Annual Subscription: Rs. 100 in India

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PAPER SUPPLIES FOR INDIA SECURITY PRESS

India Security Press, Nashik Road invited sealed bids (in Two Bid System) only from the manufacturers having in-house facility for the supply of 3500 reams of Woodfree, Unwatermarked, Gravure Coated Paper Duly Gummed with Transparent PVA type Adhesive, size 535 x 508 mm. for printing of special postage stamp.

The last date for submitting the bids is April 19, 2003

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INDIA POST TO PAY CANDIDATE FOR LOST EXAM CHANCE

A consumer disputes redress forum has directed the Postal department to pay a compensation of Rs.25,000 and Rs.1,000 as costs to a postgraduate, whose application was delivered late, depriving him of an opportunity of writing an all-India competitive examination.

The forum ordered that the amount be paid by the department. It could be recovered later from the salary of erring officials.

S. Venkata Ramanan of Sendur, Tindivanam Taluk, complained to the District Consumer Disputes Redress Forum, Villupuram, that he had sent his application to the Union Public Service Commission for the IAS preliminary examination, by EMS Speed Post through the Tindivanam head post office, in January 2002 after paying Rs.50. But the post reached the UPSC 14 days after the last date for receipt of applications.

Hence his candidature was rejected. Having completed 28 years, he lost a chance of writing the competitive examination. Only one more opportunity was left for him.

The Director-General of Postal Services, New Delhi; the Chief Postmaster-General, Tamil Nadu circle; the Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Pondicherry, and the postmaster, HPO, Tindivanam, were cited as opposite parties.

The department submitted that though the article reached New Delhi two days after it had been posted, it was held up at the delivery point, during handling of a large number of Speed Post articles addressed to the UPSC.

It was found nearly a fortnight after the close of receipt of applications and delivered the same day. There was no willful default.

The forum president, P. Perumalappan; and the members, Seenu Kalyanasundaram and Noorjahan Anwarbasha, referred to a National Consumer Disputes Redress Commission ruling, that "... not doing something one ought to do is also an act of will and therefore covered by 'willful act' mentioned in Section 6 of the Indian Post Office Act as one of the circumstances, where the liability can be fixed on the Postal department and its functionaries".

In view of this ruling, the department's arguments failed, the forum said. Its contention that the sender did not make any complaint with the post office was not sustainable because the delayed delivery came to light only after he had received the UPSC letter, rejecting his application.

When an article was not delivered to the addressee within a reasonable period, the purpose of sending it by Speed Post was lost. Holding up the article at the delivery point showed lethargy on the part of the department, the forum said.

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PUNE POLICE SUBMITS REPORT ON FAKE STAMP SCAM

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) report that has indicted Mumbai Police Commissioner R S Sharma for not taking appropriate steps to probe the multi billion fake stamp paper scam has also criticized Deputy Commissioner of Police Pradip Sawant. The report was leaked to the media in the first week of April 2003.

Sawant, who heads the Crime Branch, did not take action against the four-member Crime Branch team who allegedly escorted scam accused Abdul Karim Telgi to his Cuffe Parade flat despite being tipped off by Pune police, the report says.

The report says that on January 3, 2003, Sawant was told by Pune police over the telephone that the team of Assistant Inspector B P Kamat, Sub-Inspector G M Devre and constables P T Pise and M K Borude had taken Telgi to Alankar Lodge in Mumbai for "monthly collection". The team had been dispatched to Karnataka to bring Telgi to Mumbai. But instead of taking Telgi to the Crime Branch office, the policemen first took him to

the lodge and then to his Cuffe Parade flat. According to the report, Sawant assured the Pune police he would check the facts but failed to take necessary steps. A few days after the tip-off, the policemen were found, along with Telgi, at his Cuffe Parade flat, where he was seen leading a lavish life.

The raid at Telgi's flat was led by Deputy Inspector General of Police Subodh Jaiswal and Additional Director General of Karnataka Police R Sri Kumar.

The SIT report says when the raid took place, Telgi was found sitting comfortably in his flat, enjoying tea and biscuits. When the four policemen who accompanied him there were questioned, they said they had laid a trap to arrest another suspect, Tebraj Telgi. Tebraj was wanted in the case registered at Pune's Band Garden police station. The raiding squad found one of the officers, G Devre, asleep in a room adjacent to the kitchen.

The report has recommended dismissal of the officers found at Telgi's flat and demanded investigation into the conduct of the investigating officers and supervisory officers who monitored the day-to-day probe in the case.

The SIT says Telgi, since his arrest, has not made concerted efforts to seek bail. His lawyers too have not opposed police custody as it was comfortable for Telgi to be in police custody and carry out his activities.

The report says Mumbai was Telgi's main area of operation, and his presence in the city could help get rid of evidence in the case.

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NEW ISSUES OF NEPAL

The minister of Information and Communication Ramesh Nath Pandey released a postage stamp of Rs.5 on April 10, 2003 to commemorate the golden jubilee celebration of Nepal Chamber Of Commerce.

The Prime Minister of Nepal, Lokendra Bahadur Chand released a postage stamp of Rs.5 on April 11, 2003 to inaugurate "Industry Commerce Day 2003" celebrated by Federation Of Nepalese Chambers Of Commerce And Industry ( FNCCI ).

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NEPAL

For Buying, Selling and Exchange of Nepal Philatelic Items  
Please contact: Shyam P Nhuchhe Pradhan, GPO Box 2265, Kathmandu, Nepal  
Email: [pankajnp@ntc.net.np](mailto:pankajnp@ntc.net.np)

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, Part 53

The directory of philatelists has been a useful tool for putting philatelists in touch with each other since the early days of the hobby the world over.

The best philatelic directories in India have always been published by individuals rather than any organization for some strange reason. In recent times the directories by A H G Sarma, Dipok Dey, and Suraj Jaitly deserve special mention.

L N Krishnan, the then Secretary of the Philatelic Congress of India (PCI), compiled the first Directory of Members that also listed individual members of the societies that were institutional members of PCI as well as much more useful information. It was published in 1982 and was much appreciated. However poor marketing ensured that it remained in stocks for ever.

Dilip Shah in 1997 brought out a List of PCI members without listing the individual members of the member societies.

In the end 2000 Shah once again published the directory of members. As a foretaste for the things to come, the covers were printed in black and it is popularly, some say appropriately, known as The Black List.

It was also a publication that money could not buy; as it was for the first time 'not-for-sale'. This was not the case with earlier publications. Needless to say this break from the norm was also, as is usual with other much more important decisions, never discussed in the Governing Council of PCI.

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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>

SIDNEY KITSON FROM KOLKATA

There is a fine collecting interest in miniature letter boxes that is historical, novel, and a great supplement to a philatelic collection. India Post may like to bring out, such miniatures in plastic, metal, or any suitable material, in the form of key chains, desktop models, and make these available through philatelic bureaus to promote the hobby, as souvenirs, or to promote exhibitions. These can also be sponsored. I think the leading collectors, and others will welcome and support this idea.

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FEATURES & RESOURCES

Indian Laws Relevant to Philately

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

Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud related to Indian Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Guide/Misc/cybercrime.htm>

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

LANDLOCKED COUNTRY WINS THE AMERICA'S CUP IN SAILING!

On March 2, 2003 the Swiss Alinghi Sailing Team succeeded in claiming the highest award 'The America Cup' in the Hauraki Gulf off Auckland (New Zealand). The skipper was New Zealander Russel Coutts and the navigator Ernesto Bertarelli, a Swiss Businessman. It was for the first time that a landlocked country like Switzerland brought that coveted sailing trophy to Europe in its racing boat named 'Alinghi'. This boat was designed and developed in collaboration with the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne.

As soon as the result of this prestigious sailing race was declared in Switzerland, the team was praised by the Swiss Press, Radio, Television, by school children and all members of the Swiss Parliament. Never before was there such demonstration of national rejoice and pride!

The Swiss Post normally strictly adheres to its stamp-issuing program declared almost a year before, yet Swiss post has issued sporadically Special Stamps (which Swiss Post terms as "SPECIAL EVENT STAMP") to commemorate certain event, which according to Swiss Post is of national pride and interest. One such stamp of 90 Cents denomination was issued in 1999 to commemorate the FIRST NON-STOP ROUND-THE-WORLD flight by balloonists Bertrand Piccard and Brian Jones, produced in record time. This stamp aroused so much of interest that it was sold out on the same day.

Last year Swiss Post issued an event stamp to Switzerland's accession to the UN (Switzerland was NOT a member of UN till 2002! Although many UN-Offices of different organizations are located in Geneva!) Now after the brilliant success of Switzerland in America Cup 2003, a stamp with the picture of 'Alinghi' sailing in Hauraki Gulf off Auckland was printed in a record short period of 5 days! This stamp with a denomination of 90 Cents was sold out on March 7, 2003, on the very day of issue.

The stamp sheet comprised of 10 stamps (5 stamps in two vertical rows, with inscription on the sheet margins) and was sold at a nominal price of 9 Swiss Franks. The FDC were not ready on the day of stamp issue and were sold at the philatelic bureaus in major cities of Switzerland a week later. The Swiss Post declared that unlike Balloon-Stamps, these stamps will not be printed again once they are sold out.

The Swiss philatelists hope that these stamps, although not a "Gold Mine", will be in their memory for time to come. The stamp will be of interest to the thematic collectors of Water-Sports, Sailing, and World Cup Events etc.



The Swiss Team of 'Alinghi' has not only written European sporting history, but has also shown the entire world the image of a competitive, innovative Switzerland!

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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.

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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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WEB SITE UPDATES

STAMPSOFINDIA

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,

STAMPS ON INDIA <http://stampsonindia.netfirms.com>

The site devoted to the stamps from all over the world on Indian topics

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About STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -- ADMINISTRIVIA

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