

ISSN 0972-3587

----- 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 # 115 - May 8, 2003. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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address, and philatelic interests and "subscribe" in the subject line.  
To unsubscribe send email with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

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Back issues of this newsletter are available for free download at
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Download/archives.htm>

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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

India Post's Next Stamp Issue
New Stamps Released
Recent & Forthcoming Events
Recent Periodical Publications
PCI Cases Update
New Team of Jamshedpur Philatelic Society
Correction
Fake Court Stamp Racket Busted
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ATA Central Headquarters moves to Texas
Philately in Transition in India, Part 56
Readers Forum - Yoga Jeppu
Also in the News - Stamp Collecting in the News

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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

We request you to pay special attention to the 'Also in the News'
section of this issue carrying 'Stamp Collecting in the News'. This is
the text of a full page advertisement of well known German philatelic
firm of Hermann Sieger in 'Flash' the quarterly publication of
International Philatelic Federation (FIP).

We are sure that each one of us can take inspiration from this message
and help in bringing Stamp Collecting in the news.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: The Hindu

Please 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.stampsofindia.com/Content/Ads/ads.htm>  
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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INDIA POST'S NEXT STAMP ISSUE

India Post has scheduled for release a set of 4 commemorative stamps in the denomination of Rs.5 on May 15, 2003 on famous playback singers Mukesh, Mohammed Rafi, Kishor Kumar, and Hemant Kumar - the Golden Voices of Yesteryears. A miniature Sheet will also be issued.

The issue along with the First Day Cover and the information sheet, at Rs.2 each, shall be available on sale at nearly 1000 selected Post Offices including all Philatelic Bureaus and Counters.

NEW STAMPS RELEASED

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The Prime Minister of India, A B Vajpayee, released a commemorative stamp at New Delhi on May 2, 2003 on Durga Das, a legendary journalist.

Das, 1900-1974, started his career with Associated Press of India (now known as the Press Trust of India) in 1919 and rose to become its Chief Parliamentary Reporter. Thereafter he was with the Statesman as Special Representative from 1937 to 1943. He became Joint Editor and political columnist of the Hindustan Times in 1944 and its Chief Editor in 1957. He founded the India News & features Agency in 1959. He also served as the Chairman of the Press Gallery Committee of the Parliament, President of All India Newspaper Editors' Conference; founder President of the Press Club of India and a member of the Press Council of India.

Suresh Kumar designed the stamp in the denomination of Rs.5, the inland letter rate. Rohini Gosain designed the First Day Cover, priced at Rs.2, and Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. Information Sheet containing write-up and technical data and priced at Rs.2 was issued on the occasion.

India Security Press of Nashik Road printed the stamps by photo gravure in four colors on imported unwatermarked adhesive gravure coated stamp paper in the quantity of 0.4 million in sheets of 35 stamps.

##### ~~~~~ RECENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

India Post organized district level philatelic exhibitions on March 29 and 30, 2003 at Anantpur, Rajamundry, and Ramachandrapuram.

Army Postal Service Corps and the Delhi Postal Circle jointly organized a philatelic exhibition and on the spot painting competition at Air Force Bal Bharti School New Delhi on May 7, 2003. A workshop for students was also conducted by yours truly who also served as jury.

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

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

STAMPS & STAMPS, 4th Quarter 2002, Quarterly

Editor: S Sahoo

Publisher: Orissa Philately & Education Trust

Address: D-3, BJB Nagar, Bhubaneswar 751014

Annual Subscription: Rs.40 in India

G P A NEWS, Whole # 64 & 65 - November December 2002, Combined Issue

G P A NEWS, Whole # 66 & 67 - January February 2003, Combined Issue

G P A NEWS, Whole # 68 - March 2003, 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

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PCI CASES UPDATE

The suit filed by Rajesh Varma against PCI and others came up for hearing on May 7, 2003. The next date for hearing is now fixed for July 9, 2003.

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NEW TEAM OF JAMSHEDPUR PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Members of Jamshedpur Philatelic Society met recently at the residence of S S Basan to celebrate the grand success of the exhibition, which was held from 3rd to 5th April 2003. In the meeting it was proposed to form a new team of the society to accelerate the activities of the society in this steel city as well as Jharkhand state. The need to do so was also felt due to sudden death of M L Tiwary & Dr. Kuldip Singh.

The new team is as follows: Patron - Sarosh J Ghandy, President - S S Basan, Vice Presidents - Suchinda Banerjee & K K Rikhi, Secretary - Syed Hafizuddin, Assistant Secretary- Ashok Kumar Tiwary & Rajendra Singh, Treasurer - R K Choudhary, Editor - Ashok Kumar Tiwary, Cordinator - Arindam Chakraborty.

Tiwary & Chakraborty were also given the charge of promoting philatelic activities in schools.

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CORRECTION

Victor Manta, the President of the Philatelic Webmasters Organization wrote that "Romania wasn't and isn't a country of the Eastern Europe; it belongs to the Central Europe and to Balkans." He was commenting on our report of UPU Conference in issue # 113 of April 24, 2003.

We regret this error that was part of the news release we used as source for this report. We also have forwarded Manta's message to that source as well.

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FAKE COURT STAMP RACKET BUSTED

The CB-CID counterfeit currency wing busted a fake court fee and currency racket at Villivakkam on May 7, 2003 following the arrest of two persons. Based on their information, another person was arrested from Vellore. Apart from counterfeit court stamps with a face value of Rs.10 and currency notes with a face value of Rs.50, machinery worth Rs. 200,000 was seized from a printing press in Vellore.

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BAN ON STAMP PAPERS CAUSING CHAOS

The Inspector-General of Registration and Commissioner of Stamps, D Satya Murthy speaking on 'Recent changes in registration and stamp duties', at the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI) at Bangalore on May 6, 2003, said the public could now pay stamp duty at the sub-registrar's offices or in designated branches of the State Bank of Mysore (SBM), State Bank of India and the State Bank of Hyderabad by cash, demand draft, or cheque after ascertaining the value of stamp duty to be paid at the sub-registrar office. The facility in banks was inaugurated on May 3, 2003. Karnataka State Government had replaced the non-judicial papers with special document sheets from April 1. Instead of stamp paper, payment could be made through a document sheet for non-registered documents. For registered documents, a receipt resembling a cheque leaf would be issued to the customer on payment. The sub-registrar's offices would be linked to the SBM branches to receive stamp duty. Other banks and financial institutions would be roped in later.

The decision to do away with the stamp paper system follows the unearthing of the stamp paper scam. The aim of rationalizing the stamp duty and registration charges was to eliminate fake stamp papers. The new method would ensure transparency and was people-friendly.

K N Jayalingappa, FKCCI President, said the Government should ensure that reforms were customer friendly to make registration of documents quick and hassle-free. Long queues could be seen in front of the sub-registrar's offices in Bangalore because of scarcity of document sheets, he said and urged the Government to look into the problem immediately. With the Government sending a proposal to the Centre seeking abolition of revenue stamps and asking the Treasury Department not to issue revenue stamps to any department or stamp vendor, the revenue stamps had disappeared from the market causing hardship to the public and traders. He urged the Government to resume supply of revenue stamps till an alternative mechanism was evolved.

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ATA CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS MOVES TO TEXAS

The American Topical Association central headquarters officially opened March 1, 2003, in Arlington, Texas, according to an announcement of the new ATA Executive Director, Ray E. Cartier.

The new mailing address is ATA, PO Box 57, Arlington, TX 76004-0057. The new telephone number is 817-274-1181, and the new FAX number is 817-274-1184. The e-mail address remains the same as before:
americantopical@msn.com

The new ATA central headquarters is located at 318 W. Main Street in downtown Arlington, Texas. Arlington is located midway between Dallas

and Fort Worth, and is known as the home of the Texas Rangers Major League Baseball team and Six Flags Over Texas Amusement Park.

This is the fifth city where ATA central headquarters has been located in its 54 year history. Previous locations have been Milwaukee, Wisconsin (1949-1984 directed by Jerry Husak); Johnstown, Pennsylvania (19840-1995 directed by Donald W. Smith); Tucson, Arizona (1995-1998 directed by Douglas A. Kelsey); and Albuquerque, New Mexico (1998-2002 directed by Paul E. Tyler).

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FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is the most effective way to reach the highest targeted readerships for Indian Philately worldwide. The advertising is FREE for the subscribers. The ads are published online in an Advertising Supplement. Send in your ad, today. Click here to view the ads and for the Terms for submitting your ad <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Ads/ads.htm>

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, Part 56

President Philatelic Congress of India Sahdev Sahoo has been gainfully associated with philately for many years. He was the President while his wife Sumitra Sahoo was the Secretary as well as the Treasurer of the Rourkela Philatelic Club. When the Club published the first issue of its quarterly magazine 'Stamps & Stamps' in 1981 Sahoo was its editor.

Sahoo, a government servant, was posted out of Rourkela to Sambalpur. We glean from the pages of 'Stamps & Stamps' that Sahoo's wife was elevated to the post of the Associated Editor while retaining the post of Treasurer and the Rourkela Philatelic Club continued as publisher up to 1985.

In 1986 the ownership of the 'Stamps & Stamps' was misappropriated by the Sahoos. The first statutory 'annual statement of ownership and other particulars' we have found is in the issue for the 1st quarter of 1988. It lists Sahoo's wife as publisher, printer, and sole owner of the publication.

Mrs. Sahoo died on May 15, 1999 and her name started appearing in each issue since then as the Founder Publisher of this publication. Radharani Sahoo, the daughter-in-law of the Sahoos was appointed the new publisher.

Reportedly a private trust grandiosely titled as 'Orissa Philately & Education Trust' was set up before senior Mrs. Sahoo's death. However the name of the Trust as the publisher started appearing only in 2001.

In 1999 Sahoo also setup a printing press 'Stamps & Stamps Press' apparently from the funds collected for a national 'MILLEPEX 2000'. The accounts for this exhibition are not yet audited.

In 1997 Sahoo had volunteered to edit, print and mail the 'Signet' published quarterly by PCI at his costs while PCI could retain all

advertisement revenue. Sahoo's offer was accepted by the PCI governing council.

The 'annual statement of ownership and other particulars' of the Signet for the year 1998 lists Sahoo as publisher and printer and the PCI as the sole owner, however no address for PCI was given. The statement for 1999 lists Sahoo as publisher and printer and also as an owner besides PCI and once again no address for PCI was given. In 2000 the statement lists Radharani Sahoo as printer, Sahoo as publisher and PCI as owner with the address of B Mehta in Delhi as the address for PCI. The statement for 2001 lists Radharani Sahoo as printer, Sahoo as publisher and PCI as owner with a fake address - Next to the National Philatelic Museum, Dak Bhawan, New Delhi. The statement for 2002 lists Radharani Sahoo as printer, Sahoo as publisher and PCI as owner with another address - Dak Bhawan (annexe), New Delhi. This accommodation was allotted by India Post at their HQ and was inaugurated in November 2001, however the allotment was cancelled vide their letter dated August 13, 2002. In the statement for 2003 Radharani Sahoo is listed as the printer, Sahoo as publisher and PCI as owner, with address of PCI as 'care of publisher'.

In middle of 2001 the name of the 'Orissa Philately & Education Trust' started appearing as publisher on behalf of PCI that is not reflected in the statutory statements for 2002 and 2003. This Trust assumed publishing of Signet without any reference to PCI governing council.

The above just reflects the arbitrary way in which some persons run the associations in India be it at the local, state or national level. It is so because these handful of persons take it as their proprietary concern without keeping in mind the interests of the collective members.

As Sahoo is fond of saying - It happens only in India!

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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>

YOGA JEPPU [yvj\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:yvj_2000@yahoo.com)

I am looking for scanned images of Indian stamp fakes. I could find quite a few at the princely states website. Ron Rice has given me permission to use it. In case of any stamps of India subscribers have Indian stamp fakes I would be glad to get scanned images them with a small write-up. I require this for the Limca Book of Records feature.

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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

#### STAMP COLLECTING IN THE NEWS

Each time I meet dealers or collectors at exhibitions or other philatelic events many people are asking me about the future of stamp collecting.

Dealers and collectors are anxious that stamp collecting is not as popular as it was years and years ago.

They think that the young people are only playing with computers and the Internet and not collecting stamps. Dealers and collectors are continuing to ask, but personally they don't do anything.

You, everybody who is reading this advertisement which is not a normal advertisement you can do something to bring stamps in front of the news.

It's absolutely not complicated and it is not expensive.

But you have to use your own mind and a little bit of your time and your money.

Normal newspapers, magazines, small radio stations and television stations are glad to get new (not old) information, information about things everybody is interested in.

Don't talk to them about old-fashioned philately, about the 15 different shades of colour of this and that stamp, about the differences of cancellations used 130 years ago.

Don't think they are interested in small varieties, watermarks, perforations and all this stuff.

If you want to bring stamps in the news you have to give the newspaper, the radio, the television something which is really new.

For instance stamps which are just being issued for a royal wedding all the newspapers, radio stations and television stations are reporting about.

Send them the samples free together with information (not too much information), they will report about the stamps. Or send the new Swiss stamps showing roses and smelling like roses to a magazine for people interested in flowers. Send golf stamps to the golfers' magazine.

Show the French issue with motorcycles to your local Harley Davidson dealer, because there is a Harley on these stamps.

Send stamps with information related to Christmas to the editor of your church's newspaper.

Tell the people making a small Rotary or Lion's magazine (if you are a member) about the nice stamps which have been issued for Rotary and Lion's.

Even inform the radio station and the television that you have a stamp issued in France showing a Concorde, but with the licence number: "F-BTSC".

This is the licence number of the plane with the very bad accident where many people lost their lives. The French administration was asked to stop selling this stamp, but it wasn't possible, the issue was almost sold out.

If a stamp is issued for a famous woman or a man you can be sure the newspaper and the radio and television station of the place the famous people were born will be glad to report about this issue.

There are magazines related to cars or to antique cars or to motor-racing - send them stamps with the newest cars, with antique cars or with the Ferrari which won the world championship - they will show these stamps in the magazine.

Sure you have to spend some minutes of your very valuable time, you have to spend some money for postage and some money for the stamps, because you have to send real samples, if possible not only one, but two or three, but you will bring stamps into the news,

Explain to a local dealer selling the equipment for winter sports that you can help him with a nice decoration showing winter sports on stamps, stamps related to the Olympic Winter Games, I think he will agree. But of course, you cannot ask for money.

There are so many things you can do and if many people will do this it will help.

Don't stop your activity if you will not be successful the first, the second or the third time. Try and try again.

Don't combine the information and sending of free samples with something like "product placement" for your business. Just give information, new information, information average people will be glad to read, to listen to or to see.

Spend some money - like the money I personally spend for this advertisement, an advertisement which is being published to tell to all the IFSDA members, that everybody can do something to bring stamps again in front of the news.

Hermann Walter Sieger  
D-73545 Lorch/Württemberg

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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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