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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION ------

The First, Free & Only weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India

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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We invite your inputs, please email to stampsofindia@tatanova.com

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

JHINGANS JOTTINGS

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We have finally overcome the difficulties and updated the Web site after nearly three months. This indeed is a long gap for a site that normally gets updated almost twice a week. We sincerely regret the inconvenience caused to our patrons.

The news segment is now fully updated and all issues of this newsletter are available for download. God willing, within a couple of weeks we will be able to update all pages.

Please report broken links and other problems with the site, to us.

We also plan to revamp the site and your suggestions are most welcome.

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.

The Advertising Supplement to 'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is now available on-line $\frac{http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Ads/ads.htm}{}$

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW STAMPS RELEASED

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM, CHENNAI

India Post released a set of three stamps, 2 in the denomination of Rs. 5, the inland letter mail rate, and 1 in the denomination of Rs. 15, the overseas airmail letter rate on June 19, 2003 on the Government Museum, Chennai. A Miniature Sheet containing one stamp each and priced at Rs. 25 was also issued on the occasion.

The Government Museum at Chennai, established in 1851, is one of the largest and oldest of India's museums and is considered an institution of excellence because of its varied collections, communicative galleries, conservation efforts and educational activities. The first Rs. 5 stamp depicts Natesa, a 12th century Bronze from Tanjavur and is notable for its vigor and details of ornamentation. The second Rs. 5 stamp features a sculptured medallion, circa 150 AD, from Amravati. The Rs. 15 stamp features the century-old semi-circular Museum Theatre.

Kamleshwar Singh designed the stamps, the miniature sheet, sheetlets, 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 was 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 0.8 million in the sheetlets of 20 stamps for Rs.5 denomination and in the sheetlets of 10 stamps for Rs.15 denomination. The Miniature sheet is printed in the quantity of 100,000.

V K RAJWADE

India Post released a stamp in the denomination of Rs.5, the inland letter rate, on June 23, 2003 on V K Rajwade.

Vishwanath Kashinath Rajwade, 1863-1926, one of the pioneering historians was a multifaceted personality and had left his imprint in several other disciplines such as Linguistics, Literature, Geography, Oleography, and Sociology.

The stamp design is based on the material supplied by the proponents. Nenu Gupta designed the First Day Cover, priced at Rs.2, and the 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 photogravure in single color on imported unwatermarked adhesive gravure coated stamp paper in the quantity of 0.5 million in sheets of 35 stamps.

NEW STAMP ISSUE

India Post will issue a commemorative stamp in the denomination of Rs. 5 in honor of music maestro Bade Ghulam Ali Khan on June 30, 2003.

This 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 in the country.

INDIA'S FORTHCOMING JOINT ISSUES

India Post is expected to have joint issues with France and Korea later this year.

Joint stamp issues are stamps released by two or more postal administrations on the occasion of a common event and are characterized either by a common design or the same date of issue or both.

Earlier India Post had joint issues with Russia in 1990 and with South Africa in 1995. Usually India Post joint issues consist of two stamps, one designed by India and other by the partner country.

RECENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

RAJPEX 2003

The $10^{\rm th}$ state level philatelic exhibition of Rajasthan will be held from October 10 to 13, 2003 at Jaipur.

SCHOOLPEX 2003

The Inter School philatelic exhibition of Jaipur is planned to be held in August 2003.

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

FAKE STAMPS SEIZED AT CHENNAI

The Counterfeit Currency Wing of the CB-CID arrested a three-member gang and seized fake non-judicial stamp papers worth Rs. 0.51 million from them on June 24, 2003.

The police team seized computers and screen-printing materials used for printing fake papers from them. The fake stamp papers were in the denominations of Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 500. The arrested persons include Sargunapandian, Babu and Jose.

TRANSFERS & POSTINGS OF SENIOR POSTAL OFFICERS

The following postal officers were transferred and posted with effect from June 16, 2002:

R Ganesan from Principal Chief Post Master General of Maharashtra Circle to the Member of Postal Services Board, Postal Directorate at New Delhi.

A K Bhatnagar from Senior Deputy Director General, Postal Directorate at New Delhi to Chief Post Master General of Maharashtra Circle.

Anju Das Gupta from Chief Post Master General of Punjab Circle to Senior Deputy Director General, Postal Directorate at New Delhi.

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

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>

ROHAN KHURANA

Can someone please tell me about the "Pearl Missing Error" which is found on Rs 2 stamp of KGVI? What exactly is this error and does this error only occur on Rs 2 KGVI stamp? I have consulted both Stanley Gibbons - 2003 BC Catalogue and Phila India - 2003 Catalogue but cannot find anything written about this error. I would request anyone who has information on this error to please let me know of this.

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

ALSO IN THE NEWS

PRIX OLYMPIA TO BE AWARDED TO POLAND POST

Stamps with designs relating to Olympic sports and Olympic culture are an effective instrument for spreading and developing the Olympic spirit throughout the world. The stamps are issued by many postal administrations on the occasion of the Olympic Games.

In 1985, the President of the International Federation of Olympic Philately (FIPO), Juan Antonio Samaranch, under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), created the 'Prix Olympia' a

competition to honor the most attractive postage stamps issued on the occasion of each Olympic Games.

The winners of the VIII Prix Olympia celebrating stamps for the Salt

Lake City Winter Olympic Games in 2002 are:

Gold: Poland Silver: Canada

Bronze: Serbia and Montenegro (ex-Yugoslavia)

Originality: United States of America

The prizes will be awarded during the 115th IOC Session in Prague in the presence of IOC President Jacques Rogge and IOC Honorary President for Life, Juan Antonio Samaranch, on 3 July 2003.

The following rules apply to the entry of stamps in the Prix Olympia: Entries are all stamps issued until the end of the Olympic year. Only stamps issued by postal administrations affiliated to the Universal Postal Union (UPU) may be entered in the competition. The issue of the stamps must have been approved by the IOC and only stamps issued by countries having a NOC are allowed to enter the Prix Olympia.

A first jury, composed of FIPO members, selects 60 stamps out of all the entries. A second Grand Jury, composed of FIPO and leading FIP members, selects 12 finalists. The Grand Jury, comprising of over 1000 members, will then vote for the three winners.

The evaluation of the stamps will be performed in accordance with the following criteria:

The general appearance of the stamp
The merit of the subject presented
Technical skill in portraying athletic motion
The artistic merit of the design
The use of colour

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.

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

About STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -- ADMINISTRIVIA

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