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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 # 135 - September 25, 2003. Published Every Thursday  
Edited by Madhu Jhingan and Savita Jhingan

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I N T H I S I S S U E

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Now also available in print and on CD - details at the end of this issue

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

From Mumbai to Ahmedabad to Jaipur to Hyderabad to.... we have packed  
our bags, have you? With so many exhibitions coming up with some having  
the same dates it is so difficult to decide where to visit and what to  
miss. We have made a choice and with holidays around the corner why  
don't you also visit some of these exhibitions and have a break.

It is a wonderful feeling to see so much philatelic activity happening  
in all corners of the country and we hope that it will bring forth lots  
of enthusiastic new faces to the philatelic community.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Dr. S K Sondhi, The Hindu, and Indian Express.

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We invite your inputs, please email to [stampsofindia@tatanova.com](mailto:stampsofindia@tatanova.com)

Please mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists.

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

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACCESS TO YAHOO GROUPS BLOCKED

An order from the Department of Telecommunication issued on September 10, 2003 instructed all the Internet service providers (ISP) in India to block the website: groups.yahoo.com/groups/kynhu as it was found to be promoting anti-national news and containing material against Government of India & State Government of Meghalaya.

These orders were issued by the DOT as per the instructions of Indian Computer Emergency Response Team, (CERT-In) under Department of Information Technology (DiT) who are duly authorized for this purpose. This is the first time that a website has been blocked under CERT since it came into being in July this year.

ISP's have implemented this order by blocking the entire domain groups.yahoo.com saying that blocking of a sub group is not technically possible. Consequently Indians are deprived of access to any yahoo groups several of whom serve public interests. There are hundreds of philatelic groups at yahoo and yours truly subscribes to about a dozen groups and hopes for an early resolution of this problem.

The official release of September 22, 2003 says that the representatives of Yahoo in India were requested to remove the objectionable material but they declined to comply.

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NEW STAMPS ON WATERFALLS

India Post will issue a set of 4 special stamps on Waterfalls on October 3, 2003. A miniature sheet will also be issued on the occasion. The stamps depict Athirapalli Fall, Jog Fall, Kakolat Fall, and Kempty Fall in the denomination of Rs 5, Rs 15, Rs 5, and Rs 5 respectively. The miniature sheet is priced at Rs 30.

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.

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JANARDAN SWAMI STAMP RELEASED

The Vice President of India Bhairon Singh Shekhawat released a commemorative stamp on Janardan Swami at Kopargaon, Maharashtra on September 24, 2003.

Brahm Prakash designed the stamp and Binoy Verghese designed the First Day Cover, 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. The FDC is also priced at Rs 2.

India Security Press of Nashik Road printed the stamps by photogravure in single color on imported un-watermarked adhesive gravure coated stamp paper in the quantity of 0.4 million in the sheets of 48 stamps.

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POSTAL STATIONERY WITH ADVERTISEMENTS

The postal stationery with following advertisements is scheduled for release in October 2003. This month has monocolour items after all multicolor items for three consecutive months.

The information in the listing is presented in following format:

Date, Printer, Language, Message, Quantity, Remarks.

'M' denotes multicolor printing.

MEGHDOOT POSTCARD - MAHABALIPURAM, 25 Paise, Red, Multicolor

04, SPP, Tamil, xxxxx, 100000, M

22, SPP, English & Hindi, State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur, 100000, M

29, SPP, Tamil, xxxxx, 100000, M

Inland Letter Card - MAHABALIPURAM, 250 Paise, Blue

01, SPP, English & Hindi, Indian Airlines 50 years

- 220 flights to 80 destinations daily

01, SPP, English & Hindi, Indian Airlines 50 years

- Committed to the Cause of the Nation

01, SPP, Hindi, Indian Airlines 50 years

- We take you where others don't

04, SPP, English, India International Trade Fair 2003

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NEW SPECIAL POSTMARKS

India Post will provide a special postmark on September 30, 2003 at New Delhi on the Golden Jubilee of the Institute of Electronics & Telecom Engineers.

For availability and charges, please contact the Philatelic Bureau, Sansad Marg Head Post Office, New Delhi 100 001.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The following list of events scheduled till the end of the year is subject to change. We update it in every issue with the information received during the week. The organizers may be contacted for further details.

September

27-28, Ferozpur, District Level

27-29, Mumbai, District Level

October

2-4, Ahmedabad, GUJPEX, State Level

8-9, Lucknow, Philatelic Festival

9-11, Bilaspur, District Level

10-13, Jaipur, RAJPEX, State Level  
16-19, Hyderabad, APPEX, State Level

November

8-10, Coochbehar, District Level  
27-30, Thrissur, KERAPEX, State Level

December

26-29, Dharwad, KARNAPEX, State Level

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

G P A NEWS, Whole # 74 - September 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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MITTAL POSTAL AUCTION

Mittal Stamp Company has mailed out the catalog of their postal auction number 19A closing on October 10, 2003. The sale features over 1600 lots of India, Indian States, Cinderella, Fiscals, and foreign illustrated in 20 plates. For a free copy of the catalog please contact Mittal Stamp Company, G P O Box 253, Jaipur 302003 or email to [miitalstamps@yahoo.com](mailto:miitalstamps@yahoo.com)

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

1

Hyderabad Police Commissioner M V Krishna Rao has placed under suspension four policemen who were directly associated with the investigation into the fake stamp case when Telgi, the main accused in the scam, was arrested in the city in 1999. The four, K Vijendhar Reddy, Ashwaq Ahmed Khan, Janaranjan Das and Sridhar were directed not to leave the headquarters without prior permission.

While Vijendhar Reddy worked as Begum Bazar inspector when the scam first broke out in 1999, Ahmed Khan and Sridhar were sub-inspectors. Janaranjan Das was in the Crime Investigation Department (CID) to which the case was entrusted later. The four are alleged to have manipulated the investigation and colluded with scamster Telgi. The officers, despite knowing that Telgi was the kingpin, listed him as the 28th accused in the case. The officers are also accused of registering cases under bailable offences which helped the accused get out soon after their arrest. After the case was handed over to CID, Das reportedly went slow in the investigation.

2

Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) and former Minister C Krishna Yadav, whose police custody expired on September 20, 2003 in the multi-billion fake stamp scam was produced before the court of judicial magistrate M N Bondre at Pune and remanded to further police custody till September 26, 2003.

Yadav, accused in the countrywide fake stamp racket was picked up on September 6 from Hyderabad and brought to Pune after being arrested. He was produced before the court and was remanded to police custody.

Of the 54 arrested, so far only five remain to be chargesheeted. They include Yadav, senior police inspector of crime branch Mumbai, Dattatrey Dhal, and Abdul Wahid who looked after Telgi's finances.

Telgi and others are facing charges of printing and distributing counterfeit stamps and stamp-papers all over India causing losses to the government to the tune of several billions of Rupees.

3

A Special Investigation Team of the Maharashtra police, investigating the multi-billion fake stamp scam, has raided the houses of C Krishna Yadav in Hyderabad. The raids, led by Deputy Commissioner of Police P R Choudhary, began on the night of September 18, 2003 and continued on the next day at the MLA quarters at Hyderguda, in another house at Lal Darwaza in the old city, Yadav's petrol pump at Amberpet, a farmhouse in Gandipet and in Saidabad.

The legislator's brother Mahender Yadav and other family members were questioned about his financial dealings. The Maharashtra police are on the lookout for Yadav's associates to ascertain their role in the racket. Police also questioned his associate a local jeweler. Some documents have been seized.

4

Two other Andhra Pradesh legislators offered to resign after their names were published in the media for their alleged links to the multi-billion-rupee stamp racket. Chief Minister Naidu had directed his two party legislators, P Rama Rao and Srirambhadriah, on September 17, 2003 to wait for his return and not to resign in haste in an attempt to prove their "innocence".

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FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

The Advertising Supplement to 'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is available on-line <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Ads/ads.htm>

'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

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>

N NAYAK

Let me first thank you for updating me on Indian Stamps.

I've read Mr Kudwa's letter and am amazed to read about Bodhisatva error stamp sold in USA for Rs.10000.

Having lived in USA for more than 3 decades and being a philatelist all along, I've not seen any upsurge in interest for Indian stamps unlike those for the stamps of Americas, Europe and Australia. I'm certain that the stamps could have fetched some extra-ordinary (for Indians in India) price such as \$20 or 30 but I doubt highly any price above that range, especially the used and handled specimens such as shown in the website.

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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 DESIGNED BY LENNON SOLD

A lot of stamps designed by Beatle John Lennon sold for £1,200 against a pre-sale estimate of £800 at Sotheby's rock 'n' roll and film memorabilia auction sale at in London on September 17, 2003.

Lennon's support of postal staff was typical of his political activism and the stamps designed by him to support striking postal workers in 1971 depict a clenched fist.

During the 1971 postal strike in UK, the Royal Mail licensed several private business and institutions to carry mail. Several of these carriers issued their own stamps.

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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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STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMAPNION, Back issues in Print  
Vol.1 2000, Issue #1-19, Rs.500  
Vol.2 2001, Issue #20-52, Rs.950  
Vol.3 2002, Issue #53-97, Rs.1250  
Vol.4 2003, Part 1, Issue #98-122, (January-June) Rs.650  
Complete Set, as above, postpaid: Rs.3500 (inland) or US\$95 (overseas)

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMAPNION, Back Issues on CD  
Issue # 1 - latest issue, Rs.500 or US\$ 10 postpaid

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMAPNION, Back Issues on the Web Site  
Issue # 1 - latest issue, Free  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Download/archives.htm>

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