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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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Edited by Madhu Jhingan and Savita Jhingan
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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

The oldest intergovernmental organization in existence - Universal
Postal Union (UPU) was founded on October 9, 1874. All over the world,
the Day is celebrated as World Post Day. It is the Day of World-Post
(international mail) and not a World Day of the Post (in general).

India Post celebrates World Post Day with a National Postal Week that
begins from October 9 and goes on until October 16 every year. Awards to
postal workers for meritorious services are presented and meets with
postal customers are held during this week.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Anil Suri of New Delhi, and The Times of India.

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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

YAHOO GROUPS ACCESSIBLE AGAIN

It has been possible to access Yahoo Groups at least since October 5, 2003 although we have not been able to ascertain whether the Government of India has withdrawn its order that resulted in blocking yahoo groups.

The government had asked Internet Service Providers (ISPs) in the country to block www.groups.yahoo.com/groups/kynhun for "promoting anti-national news and containing material against the government of India and the state government of Meghalaya". However, since the technology to block a particular group is complicated, ISPs blocked access to the whole of Yahoo Groups.

It was possible during the ban to log on to www.anonymizer.com then access www.groups.yahoo.com. The Internet is not built for control and however hard the government tries to rein in the Net, web users will find ways to circumvent bans.

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

India Post will issue commemorative stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 on Narendra Mohan on October 14, 2003 and on Govindrao Pansare on October 21, 2003.

These issues 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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WATERFALLS STAMPS RELEASED

India Post released a set of 4 special stamps and a miniature sheet on Waterfalls on October 3, 2003. 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.

The Athirapally Waterfall is located on the fringes of the famous Sholayar forest ranges of Kerala. About 80 feet high, it crashes through gorges into the Chalakkudy River.

The world famous Jog or Gerusoppa Waterfall that is located northwest of Shimoga city of Karnataka in a hamlet called Jog. The Sharavati River flowing over a rocky bed takes a leap from a height of 292 metres and

divides into four smaller distinct falls known as the 'Raja', the 'Roarer', the 'Rocket' and the 'Rani'.

The Kempty falls is located about 15 kms from Mussorie and 50 kms from Dehradun on the Mussorie-Yamunotri road in Uttaranchal. With water cascading down from an altitude of 4500 feet and splitting into five smaller falls, the Kempty waterfall offers a panoramic view. The name Kempty is probably derived from 'camp-tea' as the British would organize their tea parties there.

The Kakolat waterfall is located about 33.6 kms from Nawada on the Ranchi road in Bihar. The fall is about 150-160 feet and just below it, there is a deep reservoir, natural in character.

Suresh Kumar designed the stamps, miniature sheet and the First Day Cover. 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.

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 sheets of 40 stamps. The miniature sheet is printed in the quantity of 50,000 only.

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FIRST AFRO-ASIAN GAMES

India Post will issue a Meghdoot Postcard in the denomination of 25 paise on October 24, 2003 to mark the opening of the first Afro-Asian Games being held at Hyderabad from October 24 to November 1, 2003.

This is in addition to the Postal Stationery with Advertisements scheduled for release in October 2003 as published in issue # 135 of September 25, 2003.

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SPECIAL POSTAL STATIONERY

India Post issued a Post Card in September 2003 printed by India Security Press Nashik Road in the quantity of 10 million with the message "Philately: King of Hobbies, Collect India Postage stamps, Contact Nearest Philatelic Bureau". The area of distribution was Maharashtra.

This is not an advertisement but promotional message by India Post to promote philately in India. To meet the demand for the Inland Letter Cards these were to be printed and distributed in a particular area. As there were no ads available matching the criteria, these would normally have been printed with out an ad as was done till now. India Post ceased this opportunity for the promotional message.

Earlier an Inland Letter Card was issued on May 5, 2003 printed by Security Printing Press (SPP) at Hyderabad and was later made available at philatelic bureaus.

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NEW SPECIAL POSTMARKS

India Post provided a special postmark depicting Mahatma Gandhi's signature in Gujarati on Mahatma Gandhi's 134<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary on

October 2, 2003 at Ahmedabad. Gujarat Philatelists Association brought out a special cover on the occasion.

India Post provided a special postmark on May 15, 2003 at Bikaner on the 75<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Jaskaran Bothra. The All India Philatelists Association, Bikaner, also brought out a special cover designed by Siddharth Bothra on this occasion.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

India Post organized district level philatelic exhibitions at Raipur and Shahjahanpur on September 29 and 30, 2003.

GUJPEX

India Post organized the 10th Gujarat State philatelic exhibition at Ahmedabad on October 2 to 4, 2003. The exhibition displayed exhibits in 185 frames in the competitive classes and 32 frames in the invitee class. Dr. Sita Bhateja, the well-known philatelist from Bangalore served as Jury along with H C Mehta as an Apprentice Juror. Dr. P S Dixit won the best exhibit of the show award for his exhibit on 'Birds'.

India Post released several interesting philatelic products. The special covers and special postmarks on Navratri - the longest dance festival, Amul - The Milk Cooperative, and Modhera Sun Temple were released on October 2, 3, and 4th respectively. A booklet featuring all the stamps issued by India Post on Mahatma Gandhi, a greeting card with 'Gandhi' and a peace message as well as a booklet of 20 Rs.5 definitive stamps again with Gandhi on cover were also issued.

The three-day event also included a workshop and quiz competition on philately for schoolchildren.

MAHATMA GANDHI

Dr U Srinivasaragavan, Chief Postmaster General of Tamilnadu Circle inaugurated a philatelic exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi on October 2, 2003 at the Philatelic Exhibition Hall, Anna Road Head Post Office, Chennai. All commemorative and definitive stamps of India, first day covers, postal stationery items on the theme of Mahatma Gandhi and other related themes like freedom Movement, Gandhian personalities, women leaders of India and Bharat Ratna Awardees were also on display.

The exhibition organized by India Post in association with South India Philatelists Association, Chennai, was open to public on October 3 and 4, 2003 and will also remain open on October 11 and 18 2003.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The following list of events scheduled for next few months 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.

October

9-11, Bilaspur, District Level
10-13, Jaipur, RAJPEX, State Level
16-19, Hyderabad, APPEX, State Level
xx-xx, Lucknow, Philatelic Festival

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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PHILATELIC WORKSHOP AND QUIZ

A workshop on philately followed by philatelic quiz was conducted by Rakesh Walia on behalf of Burning Brain Society as part of the 50th birthday of Chandigarh celebrations on October 8, 2003.

Walia also plans to hold regular workshops in the Central State Library and from a children's club to prepare young citizens of Chandigarh for participating in philatelic exhibitions.

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

1

The case pertaining to the counterfeit stamp racket is likely to drag on for years together as the Special Investigation Team (SIT) is still piecing together the evidence to assess its magnitude extending to several states.

Official sources said that the case would consume lot of time as the charge sheets filed by SIT against the accused in the Pune Court ran into thousands of pages. Copies of the charge sheet, supplied to each of the accused ran into 4,000 pages each.

2

The Opposition stepped up pressure on the Maharashtra and the Karnataka governments over the issue of investigating Abdul Karim Telgi, the main accused in the multi-billion rupee nationwide fake stamp scam.

Telgi, who was largely operating in Maharashtra and neighbouring states, including Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, had links with the ruling Congress party, leader of the Opposition in the Maharashtra state Legislative Assembly, Nitin Gadkari, alleged on October 7, 2003.

Gadkari alleged that "a senior minister in the (Maharashtra) state government has received Rs 200 million from Telgi and Rs 100 million from Bharat Shah" and even named two persons, who he claimed had delivered the cash to a minister. "The government should conduct lie-detector tests on them. The fraud is so serious that the Maharashtra and the Karnataka state governments would face dismissal if the matter was probed thoroughly," he added.

Telgi, who is facing charges of masterminding the scam, "during his police custody lived lavishly in five-star hotels, enjoyed night life of the metropolis and in Bangalore jail relished dry fruits and used three

cell phones," Gadkari said, quoting police findings of the probe into the racket.

Gadkari alleged that S S Puri, who has been given the rank of Director General of Police by the Mumbai High Court to probe the fake stamp scam has not been provided with any office or staff by the Maharashtra government. "I wonder whether Mr Puri will be able to complete the probe in view of the non co-operation by senior police officials," he said.

The Opposition leader demanded that a lie detector test be conducted on Telgi and his two accomplices to unravel the truth in the matter. Not only politicians but also high-level police officials were also paid millions for their complicity in the scam, Gadkari alleged, demanding that Maharashtra and Karnataka governments hand over the investigations to Central Bureau of Investigation.

Asked why he was not revealing the name of the Maharashtra minister to whom Telgi allegedly paid Rs 200 million, he said, "I will do it at the right time."

He alleged that the state's home department was not properly investigating the role of certain accomplices of Telgi and "ignoring certain facts".

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PAKISTAN STUDY CIRCLE NEWSLETTER

Issue #6 of the PSC Newsletter dated October 2003 that was recently published has 11 A4 pages of news, notes, and information.

Pakistan Study Circle is holding its first annual general meeting on November 15, 2003 in London, UK. The AGM will include elections to the committee, auction, besides the customary display by members.

All philatelists interested in any aspect of Pakistan philately will immensely benefit from joining the PSC. Please address all enquiries to George Rab, Secretary and Editor of PSC at [rabit1@breathemail.net](mailto:rabit1@breathemail.net)

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FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

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

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, Part 65

The latest issue of Signet, the PCI's quarterly publication arrived sometime back and predictably continued to spread falsehood. It states that the "Governing Council of the PCI is unable to function because of operation of a stay order on the last elections held in Mumbai issued by hon'ble Shri Ajay Goel, Senior Civil Judge, Delhi Suit no. 654 of 2002 of Tis Hazari Courts in Madhukar Jhingan vrs Philatelic Congress of India. It is a civil litigation. Hearing of witnesses are continuing."

The truth is that the Civil Judge Praveen Kumar of the predecessor Court gave the order and not Ajay Goel who is the Civil Judge and not a Senior Civil Judge, and the Court in its order has not stayed the functioning of the PCI governing council!

The P Company that now controls the PCI does not want PCI Governing Council to function as it is enjoying unprecedented freedom, to spend large amounts of PCI funds, appoint pliable persons as national commissioners and jurors for international exhibitions without having to provide answers to any uncomfortable questions at the governing council or general body meetings.

The Court in its order did not ask PCI to stop holding meetings; the order was for the conduct of fair elections. However, it is with nefarious designs that the P Company has not allowed any meetings to happen since August 25, 2002. Nevertheless all members of the P Company are in touch with each other on a regular basis and their usual hanky panky for appointment of juries, commissioners and management of awards continues.

At the same time, the PCI has been falsely submitting that either no appointments have taken place or the appointments have been made "as usual on rotation basis". The truth is that in their entire existence, there never was any roster of Judges and Commissioners and these were and still are being doled out as rewards for services rendered to the P Company.

It appears that the P Company has used this Court Order to help them roam free from being responsible to members of the Governing Council and General Body, not that they were being responsible earlier. Now even that small pretext of half-heartedly maintaining some semblance of a public society has also disappeared.

This is the 2nd issue of Signet that does not carry the list of the PCI Governing Council members that was a permanent feature. Yet it mentions Damayanti Pittie's designation as Treasurer of PCI, twice, and Suketu Jhaveri's designation as Joint Treasurer of PCI. Only the incoming Governing Council has the mandate to elect Treasurer and Joint Treasurer under the PCI Constitution. As the same has never even met, how can there be any members declared as elected to any office?

Signet also mentions Sahoo's designation as Immediate Past President, but as per the circulated version of the PCI Constitution, he will not become the past president until "the succeeding meeting" and no meeting

has taken place succeeding the meeting in which elections were held, over one year ago in August 2002.

The PCI is functioning under a strange dichotomy it claims to have Dilip Shah as President of PCI while he continues to sign documents submitted to various official agencies as Secretary General! Shah is the President when that is convenient and Secretary General when that is convenient.

Shah on behalf of PCI has also been submitting that the PCI has not held elections for life members on August 25, 2002; that only the tenure of a particular PCI Governing Council member ended on the day of the election; and that there is no governing council of PCI in existence.

Sahoo has submitted three different addresses as the registered address of the PCI and two of these addresses are out side the National Capital Territory of Delhi that violates the basic requirement under the law.

All law-abiding philatelists are ashamed of PCI's unlawful conduct.

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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>

ABHAI MISHRA from Dehradun

Two interesting cases of shifted perforation have been found in the mixed sheetlet of recently issued temple architecture stamps. One has upward shift in perforation while other had left shift in perforation. Has anybody else found a similar thing? The scanned images are available at - www.geocities.com/abhaimishra2000/philitem.html

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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

ROYAL MAIL POSTAL STRIKES

The postal workers will strike work for 24 hours on October 16, 2003 in a dispute over London living allowances to coincide with action by thousands of council workers in London in a separate dispute.

Earlier the postal workers in London staged a 24-hour strike on October 1, 2003. It took five days to clear the backlog of post that has crippled collections and deliveries in London. The stoppage cost the

Royal Mail up to £10 million. Thousands of managers were inducted to help with special deliveries and to empty postboxes.

The union is seeking a London weighting allowance of £4,000 a year while the Royal Mail has offered outer London weighting to £2,667 and inner London weighting to £3,784.

Adam Crozier, the Royal Mail's chief executive, said the strike was "madness" and told the union there was no more money available. Postal workers in London were already in line for basic pay rises of 14.5 per cent and increases in London weighting of up to 12.6 per cent, which was a "great offer".

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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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Vol.3 2002, Issue #53-97, Rs.1250

Vol.4 2003, Part 1, Issue #98-122, (January-June) Rs.650

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