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

The First & Only Weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India

Awards Received: Silver Medal with the 'Felicitations of the Jury' at
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To get BACK ISSUES, please see the end of this issue for details.

JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We have done it again! We can't believe that several issues in a row the
links have been given wrongly. We regret the incorrect link addresses
and the inconvenience they may have caused.

In Issue #163 there were some incorrect link addresses for the images;
the correct addresses are as follows:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/163a.htm>

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/163c.htm>

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/163d.htm>

And we got it right this time.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Virtual Stamp
Club

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

If you've found this newsletter useful, recommend it to a friend.
Better still, forward a copy of this issue. Also, please mention this
newsletter when contacting other philatelists.

Report the philatelic activities in your area for publication here. We shall reimburse the costs incurred on photos, philatelic items issued, publications, courier and other agreed charges.

Please send your queries in detail (images welcome) on all matters related to Philately and Postal History of India and Indian States. We will attempt to find an answer for you.

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPDATED STAMP ISSUE PROGRAM 2004

The following listing is a major update to the program. Added here are many more dates as well as additional issues. The first version was published in Issue # 158 of March 4, 2004.

January

- 10 - C D Deshmukh
- 16 - Nani A Palkhivala

February

- 06 - Dr B D Garware

March

- 18 - Annamacharya

April

- 01 - 9 Madras (Travancore)
- 14 - V Lakshminarayana
- 25 - Indian Institute of Social Welfare & Business Management Kolkata
- 25 - Circumnavigation Voyage of Indian Naval Ship Tarangini
- 28 - Peshwa Bajirao

May

- 15 - Siddahr Swamigal
- 27 - Professor Dr Indra Chandra Shastri

June

- 02 - Woodstock School, Mussoorie
- 04 - Bhagat Puran Singh
- 19 - P N Panicker
- 28 - Great Trigonometrical Survey, Set of 2
- 30 - Aacharya Bhikshu
- 00 - Jyoti Prasad Agarwala

August

- 26 - S S Vasani
- 30 - Panini
- 00 - Olympic Games, Set of 4

September

- 30 - M C Chagla
- 00 - Taj Mahal

October

- 01 - 150 Years of Postage Stamps, Set of 2
- 04 - Tirupur Kumaran
- 09 - Ashok Chakra Winners - Neerja Bhanot & others, Set of 2
- 10 - Guru Dutt
- 24 - Role of Indian Army in UN Peace Keeping Operations
- 24 - Maruthu Pandiyar Brothers

November

- 10 - Dr Tenneti Vishwanatham
- 14 - Children's Day
- 23 - Walchand Hirachand
- 25 - Dula Bhaya Kag
- 28 - Agra Fort, Set of 2

December

- 12 - Nupeelal

Dates To Be Decided

- Greetings Stamps, Set of 2
- India Iran Joint Issue, Set of 2
- Flora Fauna of Seven Sisters of North Eastern States, Set of 4
- Indian Breed of Dogs, Set of 4
- K Subramanayam
- King Bhaskara Sethupati
- Sahitya Akademi

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STAMP DATA CURTAILED FURTHER

Further to the news report in Issue # 161 of March 25, 2004 we find that now the number of stamps per issue sheet has also been withheld from publication.

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V LAKSHMINARAYANA STAMP RELEASED

India Post released a stamp in the denomination of Rs5 to commemorate the Professor of Music who introduced the western violin to Indian music, V Lakshminarayana on April 14, 2004.

At the age of 29 he became a professor of music and a talented composer, his compositions have been recorded and published and are performed even today. The rich tradition and heritage left behind by him has been carried forward by his son Padma Bhushan Dr. L Subramaniam nationally as well as internationally. The Lakshminarayana Global Music Awards have been instituted as a tribute to his memory by his son and the winners have been talented international artists including Yehudi Menuhin, Steven Seagal etc. Prof Lakshminarayana continues to live in the notes of music that has reached across the world.

Sankha Samanta designed the stamp and the First Day Cover and Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. Brochure containing write-up and technical data was issued on the occasion. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs2 each.

India Security Press of Nashik printed the stamps by Photo Gravure in the quantity of 0.4 million in the sheets of xx stamps.

Visit the following link for illustrations:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/164a.htm>

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NEW PHILATELIC PRODUCT

V Lakshminarayana stamp issued on April 14, 2004 was also made available in an album having a block of 4 stamps, a first day cover, and a brochure at Rs65 each. Please contact the Philatelic Bureau, Sansad Marg Head Post Office, New Delhi 110001.

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

April 25: (1) Indian Institute of Social Welfare & Business Management  
Kolkata, Rs5 (2) Circumnavigation Voyage of Indian Naval Ship Tarangini,  
Rs5

April 28: Peshwa Bajji Rao, Rs5

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.

#### RESCHEDULED

Jyoti Prasad Agarwala, from April 19 to a date-to-be-announced

#### NEW MEGHDOOT POST CARDS

Six Meghdoot post cards in addition to the four reported in Issue # 163  
of April 8, 2004 were sponsored by the Petroleum Conservation Research  
Association (PCRA) with scheduled date of release as February 15, 2004.  
Following is the complete list of 10:

Ad in Telugu - Conserve Gas  
Ad in Kannada - Conserve Gas  
Ad in Bengali - Conserve Gas  
Ad in Gujarati - Conserve Gas  
Ad in Punjabi - Conserve Gas  
Ad in Malayalam - Conserve Gas  
Ad in Hindi - Gas is now available in 5kg Cylinder  
Ad in Marathi - Gas is now available in 5kg Cylinder  
Ad in Oriya - Gas is now available in 5kg Cylinder  
Ad in Tamil -

Visit the following link for illustrations:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/164b.htm>

#### RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

April 13, New Delhi, 50 years of Sir Gangaram Hospital

Visit the following link for illustrations:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/164c.htm>

#### RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

April 10, 17, & 24 - 10am to 5.30pm  
Philatelic Exhibition Hall, Anna Road Head Post Office, Chennai  
The present exhibition is the 20th in the series and also marks the  
first anniversary of the new exhibition hall dedicated for the promotion  
of philately. Exhibit on 'Postal History' of Tamilnadu form the personal  
collections of G Ram Mohan, retired Commissioner of Railway Safety,  
Government of India. The exhibit throws light on postmarks, fiscals and  
post cards used in Tamilnadu, about Tamil language, literature, famous  
temples, arts and crafts, Tamil cinema and commemorative stamps used in  
honor of great Tamilians. Exhibits on 'Aerogrammes' are the personal  
collections of D H Rao and 'Post Independence India' the collections of  
H B Maheswari.

April 11-13, Kharagpur, Region Level

#### CALENDAR OF 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.

April 16-18, Mumbai, 13<sup>th</sup> Shukla Day Bombay Coin Fair - 10am to 7pm  
Tejpal Galleries, August Kranti Maidan, Gowalia Tank, Mumbai 400007

May 1-2, Kolkata, Stamp Fair - 11am to 7pm and 10am to 4pm  
Rotary Sadan, 94/2 Chowringhee Road, Kolkata, Near Nehru Children Museum

May 6-9, Dhanbad, Jharkhand State Level  
Jury - R S Gandhi & R D Binani  
Special Postmarks: Sal Tree, Dancers legs, Coal Washery, & Mobile Phone

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

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

The General Manager of Nashik-based India Security Press, Ganga Prakash has been dismissed from service on April 1, 2004 in the interest of the security of the state after a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation found that he had helped stamp scamster, Abdul Karim Telgi. Prakash was arrested by the CBI on December 19, 2003 in Hyderabad for alleged security lapses which helped Telgi, prime accused in the multi-billion Rupee fake stamp paper case, in spreading his network across the country. CBI registered a case into the security lapses at the press in which Telgi was also named as an accused and searched Prakash's house from where it said Rs 186,000 in cash and some other material were found. CBI findings said the official had committed various acts of omission and commission which facilitated Telgi and his associates to acquire technical know-how for printing fake stamps and non-judicial stamp papers. Prakash sought help of the scamster in getting a promotion and, in return, promised all help from the press.

Besides Telgi and Prakash, four other employees of India Security Press named in the case were retired machinist N A Bhusare, works manager Mahendra Singh, assistant controller of stamps, P P Konkane and head clerk D S Shaligram. The works manager, who was then in-charge of the disposal cell in the ISP, had allowed Telgi to visit the letter-press section of the ISP and also facilitated his meeting with Prakash, the CBI alleged. The retired machinist had helped Telgi in repairing the printing machines which were brought from disposal cell of the ISP by one J K Singh, an accomplice of the scamster. The machinist also provided perforating pins for use in the old perforating machine. The assistant controller and head clerk were instrumental in creating artificial scarcity of various fiscal stamps to different states even though sufficient stock was available with the ISP, it alleged. The CBI said that Prakash had not dismantled the printing machines as per the rule after being sent for auction by the government.

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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>

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

READERS FORUM

<Dear Reader, Your feedback is important to us as it helps evolve the newsletter. Please do let us have your thoughts and suggestions.>

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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

APFELBAUM CHARGED WITH FRAUD
US Stamp dealer John D Apfelbaum of Philadelphia was sentenced to three years' probation on March 31, 2004 by United States District Court Judge John E Sprizzo in New York City in connection with an auction bid-rigging scam that ran from the early 1980s until at least 1997.

In addition, his company, Earl P L Apfelbaum Inc, was fined \$130,000 and John Apfelbaum himself, the firm's executive vice president, \$20,000, the Department of Justice told The Virtual Stamp Club.

The company also agreed to pay \$200,000 in restituting to satisfy a judgment in a case brought by the Attorneys General of New York, California and North Carolina.

Under federal sentencing guidelines, Apfelbaum could have received up to six months in prison after pleading guilty January 28, 2002, to two felony counts of violating the Sherman Antitrust Act in a criminal probe of bid rigging at stamp auctions.

However, because of his "substantial cooperation with the government in the case, probation became an option," prosecutor Charles Reilly, the U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division office in New York City, told Linn's Stamp News.

According to the plea agreement filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, Apfelbaum and his firm agree to continue to cooperate with the Antitrust Division "and provide full, complete and truthful information concerning any matter about which" the government asks - which could mean providing information about the activities of the other alleged auction bid-riggers.

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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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WEB SITE UPDATES

STAMPS OF INDIA <http://www.stampsofindia.com>
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.

STAMPS ON INDIA <http://www.stampsonindia.com>
The site devoted to the stamps from all over the world on Indian topics

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ADMINISTRIVIA

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<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Guide/w04.htm>

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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)

Vol.5 2003, Part 2, Issue #123-148, (July-December) Coming soon

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION, Back Issues on CD

Issue # 1 - latest issue, Rs.500 or US\$ 10 postpaid

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION, Back Issues on the Web Site

Issue # 1 - latest issue, No Charge

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Download/archives.htm>

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