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

The First & 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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To get BACK ISSUES, please see the end of this issue for details.
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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

P Stamps have attracted a lot of attention from the time that they have  
been introduced on the philatelic horizon. The attention has been both  
positive and negative. India Post had also experimented with the issue  
of P Stamps and is now planning to launch them. NDTV News had recently  
done a story on P Stamps and invited yours truly to provide the  
philatelists insight on P Stamps.

The India Post is expected to introduce P Stamps in November 2004. We  
are sure that all philatelists and the general public would look forward  
to P Stamps.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: The Mid Day  
Mumbai, The times of India, and Eric Jackson.

We invite your inputs, please email to [feedback@stampsfindia.com](mailto:feedback@stampsfindia.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. 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

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 Baji 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.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

April 7-9, Udampur, Army Postal Service

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.

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

June, Nainital

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

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

SIPA Bulletin, Vol 24 #5 - September October 2003, Bimonthly

SIPA Bulletin, Vol 24 #6 - November December 2003

SIPA Bulletin, Vol 25 #1 - January February 2004

Editor: G Madan Mohan Das

Publisher: South India Philatelists Association

Address: 76 Perianna Maistry Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Periamet, Chennai 600003

Annual Subscription including membership: Rs?

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PHILATELIC SEMINAR AT SAHARANPUR

A seminar on Philately was organized at the Postal Training Centre, Saharanpur on April 19, 2004. The panelists were H C Agrawal, Director of Postal Training Centre, P D TShering, Director (Technology) at Postal Directorate, New Delhi, S C Kalra Instructor at Postal Training Centre and yours truly. The participants were officers in charge of philatelic bureaus who were at the Training Centre for a week long course on philately.

Tshering, the former Assistant Director General in the Philatelic Division, spoke on promotion of philately by India Post with special emphasis on marketing. Agrawal spoke on India Post's association with

partners such as philatelists, philatelic dealers, journalists, and educational institutions. Kalra spoke on the relevance of stamps in schools both as teaching aids and as a hobby for students. Yours truly focused on the role of philatelic societies in promotion of philately.

The participants were divided in two teams and were given a project to prepare a marketing plan.

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TRANSFERS & POSTINGS OF POSTAL OFFICERS

Smriti Sharan was posted as Director Postal Services (Headquarters), Punjab Circle with effect from April 19, 2004.

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

Special judge S M Shembole on April 16, 2004 granted permission to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to interrogate three accused in the fake stamp paper racket, who are presently lodged in the Yerwada jail. The CBI had submitted two applications before the court requesting permission to interrogate Jaikishen Ramprasad Singh, alias Bengali of Nasik; Shivshankar Kamaleshwari Singh of Jharkhand; and Vijay Dattatray Salunkhe, alias Vijay Patil of Warje Malwadi, Pune. The CBI submitted that the names of the three had surfaced in the investigations of police inspectors Puran Singh and Gaurav Surendrakumar Agarwal, who were arrested by the CBI and are presently in judicial custody.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) filed a supplementary charge sheet against the nephew of multi-billion rupees fake stamp scam mastermind Abdul Karim Telgi for the murder of one of his employees. The charge sheet was filed against Tabrej Ahmed Telgi in the court of additional chief metropolitan magistrate in Mumbai for the murder of Christopher Chennapa Bhatti, an employee of his uncle. Bhatti had allegedly misappropriated Rs.300,000 from the amount made from sale of fake stamps. Mumbai police had found his body on Aug 28, 2001.

Abdul Karim Telgi had prepared a learner's manual on how to run the fake stamp paper scam. One such manual, titled 'Special Points', was discovered from the residence of one of Telgi's close associates Mohammed Sayyed in Kolkata some months ago. The document is now handed over to the CBI for further investigation. The manual, written in the form of a circular and in English, has 12 detailed points on how to go about operating the scam. Investigating agencies admit that Telgi being a highly intelligent person, the manual ensured that anyone could become a pro at the art of fake stamps, having mastered the manual. The 'Special Points' had phonenumberes of various core people in the scam, addresses and contact points of people involved, who to contact if things went awry in the plan, a rough plan of the scam, the contact points for Telgi, and some information about money transactions.

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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

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, PART 71

This merits mention in the 'Ripley's Believe It Or Not'. Dilip Shah has nominated himself (under what capacity?) as Bureau Member of FIP Commission on Fakes & Forgeries. In our view this a direct insult to all acknowledged philatelic experts in the world.

Shah is well known as a person who is not even capable of holding a discussion even on his main exhibit that got him a Grand Prix du Honneur! He has used the inherited wealth to buy stamp collections, experts to prepare exhibits, juries and awards. He also bought posts in philatelic organizations. All articles published in his name are ghost written for him by various persons.

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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

6.5 MILLION REVENUES FOR SALE

National Postal Museum, USA, unveiled in the first week of January 2004 its plan for 'Deaccession and Disposal of Duplicate Revenue Stamps'. For nearly fifty years the museum has housed and cared for 7.8 million revenue stamps in approximately 1,900 distinct revenue stamp varieties and as many as 50,000 copies of a stamp in many cases. About 250 copies of each variety were incorporated into the reference collection and made available to researchers in 1980. The balance occupies approximately 4,000 linear feet of space.

The Museum planned to dispose 7.3 million copies of 1,845 varieties in three sales in 2004, 2005, and 2005 in an appropriate number that do not adversely affect the marketplace and to use the proceeds to acquire critical philatelic or postal history objects. The remaining copies of these varieties will either be retained by the museum, donated to other museums or non-profit philatelic organizations (with the restriction that the stamps can never be sold) or destroyed.

This plan has generated much discussion in the philatelic community. While almost everyone welcomes the sale, most are against the destruction. Also criticized is the emphasis placed on 'appropriate number that do not adversely affect the marketplace'. Eric Jackson, a dealer specializing in revenue stamps and the president of the American Revenue Association, gives an example 'there is only one recorded example of the 1 7/10c Wine stamp (Scott RE182D) in private hands. The museum has 50,000, but its fact sheet states that only three examples will be sold. The owner of the one stamp is not pleased, but neither are scores, or possibly hundreds or thousands, of other collectors who might like to own one of these stamps. The museum is attempting to manipulate the rarity of this stamp'.

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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>

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION, 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)

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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