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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
'BELGICA 2001' World Philatelic Exhibition, Brussels, June 9-17, 2001

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

This issue is dated May 6 and every stamp collector knows that the world's first adhesive postage stamp, Penny Black, was issued on this day 164 years ago. The introduction of the Penny Black stamp played an important role in the reform of the British postal system. Earlier postage fees were based on weight and on distance involved. Postage had to be calculated for each letter, and was typically paid by the addressee. The introduction of the Penny Black shifted the cost of postage to the sender and eliminated the complexity of postage computation by requiring a uniform, low rate.

Today the Internet email is becoming increasingly expensive for message recipients due to spam. The seriousness of the spam problem goes far beyond the mere annoyance of flooded email inboxes and offensive messages; spam threatens the viability of email as a communications medium. We are all harmed in terms of productivity. Moreover, measurable costs associated with spam are incurred by providers of network services, and these costs are increasing daily.

Legislative solutions have proved futile as spammers simply have no motivation to comply with laws. One suggestion of actually charging everyone a penny per email is rife with unsolvable issues such as who controls the money? Who determines "exempt" status? How do poor people or poor countries pay a penny per email? These problems are politically

insurmountable. Anti-spam software just doesn't cut it either as spammers are using randomly generated copy to consistently beat these.

By far the best proposal for eliminating spam is the one that requires all outbound email to perform a 10-second calculation. It's like postage, but you pay in CPU cycles, not real money. It would significantly slow all mail servers including your computer while sending the email. Today, you can likely send 100,000 emails per hour but under this solution, you will be able to send only 360 emails per hour. This solution is the only truly promising anti-spam solution that has surfaced and is aptly called the "Penny Black" solution. Bill Gates promises that Penny Black will stop all spam by 2006.

We would like to see perhaps five, not five hundred, emails in our inboxes and wish all the best to the second coming of the Penny Black.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Rajesh Varma, Press Trust of India, The Times of India, and Mid Day Mumbai.

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

May 15 - Siddhar Swamigal, Rs5

May 27 - Professor Dr Indra Chandra Shastri, Rs5

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NEW MEGHDOOT POSTCARDS

Following two Meghdoot post cards were released recently:

Ad in Marathi - Women and Child Development

Ad in Oriya - Kinetic King Mobike

Visit the following link for illustrations:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/167a.htm>

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INDIAN PARTICIPATION IN ESPANA 2004

The next world stamp exhibition is being held at Valencia, Spain from May 22 to 30, 2004. There was overwhelming response to the ESPANA 2004 and it received 1,411 entries for more than 6,400 frames. Selected 965 exhibits in 3999 frames will be on display at the show. 7 exhibits in 40 frames plus 5 literature entries have been accepted for participation from India. The entries are:

Ajay Kumar Mittal -Kishangarh

Rajan Jayakar -Fiscals of British India 1800-1900

Kishor Chandak -Early Indian cancellations & postal markings 1852-1900
Ranjit Singh Gandhi -Indian postal meter markings
Anuj Bagri -My own atlas
Ananya Dutta -British India postage stamps
Jayoti Dutta -India post counter printed labels

Literature entries:

Indian airmail letter cards with advertisement & slogans, Indian inland post cards with advertisement & slogans, and Indian inland letter cards with advertisement & slogans by Surendra Kotadia; Indian airmails Development & operation 1911-42 by Pradip Jain; and Deccan Philatelist by Col Jayanta Dutta.

Rajan Jayakar is the commissioner and there are no Juries from India.

RECENT & 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 6-9, Dhanbad, Jharkhand State Level

Jury - R S Gandhi & R D Binani

Special Postmarks: Sal Tree, Dancers legs, Coal Washery, & Mobile Phone

June 18-20, Nainital

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

ANOTHER COURT CASE AGAINST PCI

Rajesh Varma has filed another suit against the Philatelic Congress of India (PCI) on April 15, 2004. It came up for hearing on April 22, 2004 and the next date of hearing was fixed for May 22, 2004.

This is Varma's second case against PCI and is regarding decision of AGM in 2001 that newly crated states in India shall be represented in the PCI governing council but at the elections in 2002 it was ignored. Varma's earlier case filed in 2002 was regarding judging at and organizing of philatelic exhibitions in India.

PCI COURT CASES UPDATE

The suit filed by Madhukar Jhingan against Philatelic Congress of India came up for hearing on April 17, 2004 and the next date of hearing was fixed for May 15, 2004.

AGM OF THE PHILATELIC CLUB, THRISSUR

The Philatelic Club, Trichur will hold its 26th annual general meeting on May 16, 2004 at Bini Tourist Home, North Round, Thrissur. An auction will also be held.

FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has filed a charge sheet on May 3, 2004 against Assistant Police Officer A B Sonwalkar for allegedly aiding and abetting fake stamp scam prime accused Telgi "knowingly and willfully" in spreading his network in Mumbai. The officer is arrested and presently in judicial custody. The allegations against the cop were that he along with Telgi and his associates knowingly sold counterfeit stamps by putting forged signature and rubber impression of General Stamp Office for personal gains and thereby cheated the state government of Rs1.9 million. The CBI alleged that Sonwalkar conducted

investigations of the case in a perfunctory manner in order to save Telgi and his associates from legal punishment.

The Central Bureau of Investigation today busted a major racket involved in printing of fake non-judicial stamp papers by arresting five persons in Patna and seizing two offset printing press machines used for the purpose. The arrest followed nabbing of four persons in West Bengal last week and recovery of Non-judicial papers worth Rs 2.5 million, Kisan Vikas Patra (Bonds) worth Rs0.7 million and court fee stamp for Rs57,560, National Saving Certificates worth Rs5,000, demand draft leaves of Punjab and Sind Bank, Bank of Baroda, Union Bank of India, postal stamps and judicial stamp papers. Further searches were conducted at an offset printing press on the basis of the information provided by the arrested persons and two offset printing machines were seized. The machines were being used to print fake non-judicial stamp papers and other government securities. Other items seized were printing blocks for printing monthly railway tickets/passes, printed pornographic material, negatives of court fee stamps, Indian non-judicial stamp of Rs 5,000, blank negatives, rubber stamp imprinted as OD, number punching machine and several containers of printing ink. CBI also arrested Dinesh Kumar, Basir Ahmed, Shahnawaz, M Chandra Chandy and Suraj Singh.

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THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

The Calendar for May 2004 has been updated and is now available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Auctions/a702.htm>

This information is provided by special arrangement with Charles E Cwiakala and updates to this information are available at their comprehensive Website [www.cwiakala.com](http://www.cwiakala.com).

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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>

WANTED, BUYING, PAYING 100% PREMIUM OVER FACE VALUE + POSTAL CHARGES for INS Tarangini Miniature Sheet released on April 25, 2004, in Quantity Contact: RAJESH KUMAR AGARWALA, CAPITAL EXPORTS, CAPITAL STAMP CENTER 2214-15, Hardhyan Singh Road, 2nd Floor, Chanana Complex, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110 005 Phone: (+ 91-11) 25728110, Mobile 9810226692 E-mail: rkstamps@bol.net.in OR rkstamps@rediffmail.com

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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.>

ATISH KUMAR JAIN, Kottayam, Kerala

Recently stamp on INS Taringini was released. Its brochure states that 40 stamps are issued in one sheet whereas fact is that only 20 stamps are there in these sheets.

I want to know whether anybody has received brochure which mentions 20 stamps issued per sheet?

EDITORS RESPONSE

There are no brochures with corrected figure and the Miniature sheet and its quantity printed is also missing from the brochure.

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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

IRELAND GETS CREATIVE WITH GEOGRAPHY

Ireland, current president of the European Union, has issued a postage stamp to mark the entry into the European Union of 10 new states. This stamp shows Cyprus as an island off the Greek coast - in a spot normally occupied by Crete, and even bearing a strong resemblance to the shape of Crete. Cyprus lies south of Turkey, some 700km east of Crete but on the stamp it is positioned just south of Greece and looks suspiciously like Crete in shape. It is longer and thinner than the real Cyprus and has a rectangular bump on the bottom of it, just like the Greek island.

The shape is closer to that of Crete than Cyprus although, to be fair, the designer does seem to have taken some artistic licence with the other countries too," said Peter Geoffrey, a Dublin philatelist.

A spokeswoman for An Post Anna McHugh said the position of Cyprus on the stamp was the result of an attempt to fit the entire new EU map onto a postage stamp. "The usual cartography solution which involves putting a country into a 'box' and superimposing on to the bottom of the image wouldn't work on something so small as a stamp," she said.

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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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