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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----  
The First & Only Weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India

Issue # 171 - June 3, 2004. Published Every Thursday  
Edited by Madhukar Jhingan and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

At the recently concluded ESPANA 2004, the exhibit of Rajan Jayakar, who  
also happened to be the commissioner there, was downgraded from Gold to  
a Large Vermeil.

And at the immediately past world exhibition at BANGKOK 2003 the exhibit  
of Dr R S Gandhi, who also happened to be the commissioner there, met  
with the similar fate.

Is this an indicator of the future of Indian philatelists?

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Abhai Mishra,  
Press Trust of India,

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

June 17 - Jyoti Prasad Agarwala, Rs5  
June 19 - P N Panicker, Rs5  
June 28 - Great Trigonometrical Survey, Set of 3, Rs5 each  
June 28 - Great Trigonometrical Survey, Miniature sheet, Rs15  
June 30 - Aacharya Bhikshu, Rs5

RESCHEDULED STAMP ISSUES

Bhagat Puran Singh, From June 4 to a new date to be announced

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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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

PROFESSOR DR INDRA CHANDRA SHASTRI

India Post released a stamp in the denomination of Rs5 to commemorate the renowned scholar Professor Dr Indra Chandra Shastri, on May 27, 2004.

Dr. Shastri was a great philosopher, exceptional author and an authority on poetics and a pursuer of individual spiritualism who was inspired by Jainism. Born on May 27, 1912 at Dabwali Mandi, now in Sirsa district of Haryana, Dr. Shastri came to Bikaner for education where he studied Sanskrit and Prakrit. He was deeply influenced by Mahatma Gandhi and actively participated in the freedom movement. In 1942, he campaigned against Bal Diksha, a practice of forcible adoption of poor children by Jain ascetics in Rajasthan, prevalent in those days. This resulted in the tabling of a bill in the Assembly of Bikaner. Dr. Shastri became Secretary, Akhil Bharatiya Sanskrit Sahitya Sammelan in 1954-58. In 1957, he organized Delhi Session of All India Oriental Conference. In 1959, he was appointed as the first Head of the Department of Sanskrit in the Institute of Post Graduate Studies in the University of Delhi. Due to loss of eyesight in 1961, he resigned from the post. He was subsequently appointed Professor emeritus under the University Grants Commission Scheme. His writings were marked with high scholasticism. He wrote about 70 books and more than 600 research papers. In recognition of his pioneering efforts and creative talent, he was awarded the 'Sahitya Seva Samman', by the Hindi Academy. He was also conferred the 'Sahitya Ratna Alankaran' by the Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University. The President of India awarded him a 'Certificate of Honour' on August 15, 1986. Dr. Shastri passed away on November 3, 1986.

Bharti Mirchandani 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 printed the stamps by Photo Gravure in the quantity of 0.4 million.

Visit the following link for illustrations:  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/171a.htm>

#### WOODSTOCK SCHOOL, MUSSOORIE

Vijay Bhushan, Director General of India Post released a stamp in the denomination of Rs5 to commemorate the 150 years of Woodstock School, in a special function at Mussoorie on June 2, 2004. Woodstock School has been providing distinctive international education in Mussoorie for nearly 150 years, and is one of the few schools in India which is known world-wide.

First established in 1854 as an English-medium school for Protestant girls, the school became co-educational in 1926. In 1958, Woodstock School became the first school in Asia to receive international accreditation. The school currently holds accreditation through both the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (USA) and the Commission on International and Trans-regional accreditation. In India, Woodstock's awards are recognised by the Association of Indian Universities and the Council for Indian School Certificate Examinations. Woodstock School's mission is to lead the way in international education in Asia by providing world-class international education taught by highly qualified international staff and by bringing students from different cultures and religions together in a unique residential setting in the Indian Himalayas. The school aims to inspire each student to be a responsible citizen, committed to service to others and stewardship of the earth. Woodstock's vision is for a worldwide family committed to one another and to building a better 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.

Madras Security Printers Limited printed the stamps by Photo Offset in the quantity of 0.8 million.

Visit the following link for illustrations:  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/171b.htm>

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

June 1, Dehradun, National Hydrographic Office, 50 years of

Visit the following link for illustrations:  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/171c.htm>

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ESPANA 2004 AWARDS

#### INDIA

Large Vermeil Medal  
Rajan Jayakar -Fiscals of British India 1800-1900  
Ranjit Singh Gandhi -Indian postal meter markings

Vermeil Medal + Sepcial Prize  
Ananya Dutta -British India postage stamps

Vermeil Medal  
Kishor Chandak -Early Indian cancellations & postal markings 1852-1900  
Pradip Jain -Indian airmails Development & operation 1911-42 by  
Ajay Kumar Mittal -Kishangarh

Silver Medal

Anuj Bagri -My own atlas

S Kotadia -Indian airmail letter cards with advertisement & slogans

S Kotadia -Indian inland post cards with advertisement & slogans

S Kotadia -Indian inland letter cards with advertisement & slogans

Silver Bronze Medal

Jayoti Dutta -India post counter printed labels

Jayanta Dutta -Deccan Philatelist

NEPAL

Large Vermeil Medal

Shyam Prasad Nhuchhe Pradhan - Revenues of Nepal

Vermeil Medal

Deepak Manandhar - Postal Stationery Of Nepal

Shristi Nhuchhe Pradhan - Nepal Postal Stationery Youth

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PCI COURT CASES UPDATE

The suit filed by Rajesh Varma against Philatelic Congress of India in 2002 came up for hearing on June 2, 2004 and the next date of hearing was fixed for July 3, 2004.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

June 18-20, Nainital, District Level + State Level (Youth)

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

G P A NEWS, Whole # 82 - May 2004, Monthly

Editor: H C Mehta

Publisher: Gujarat Philatelists Association

Address: 1/M National Chamber, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad -380009

Annual Subscription including membership: Rs.200, Entrance Fee Rs.100

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POSTAL SERVICES BOARD

G Mohanakumar, Principal Chief Post Master General of Rajasthan Circle has joined as the Member of Postal Services Board, New Delhi on May 31, 2004 in place of R S Nataraja Murti who superannuated that day.

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

Fake stamp racket mastermind Abdul Karim Telgi was produced in a special Court, Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA) Court, in Pune on May 29, 2004 on the expiry of his 10-day custody with the Central Bureau of Investigation and was remanded to police custody till June 8, 2004. The police, however, surrendered Telgi's police custody after they learnt from CBI that as per the Supreme Court order he could not be handed over to any investigating agency other than Karnataka police and CBI which was probing 48 cases in the country.

Telgi under the custody of CBI had revealed the list of his bulk customers from banking and insurance sector including Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), United Insurance, Punjab National Bank, and State Bank of Patiala had been ordering stamp papers from his agents despite knowing that the stamp papers were fake.

THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

The Calendar for June 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>

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We Offer for Sale - India & India Princely States: Stamps, Postal Stationary, Postal History, Revenue/Court Fee/Court Papers. Paper & Coin Currency: Freak, Oddities, and Fancy Numbers, Hundi, Cinderella's, Old Telegrams & Other Collectables. Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh & Burma's Stamps Collection. Enquires are solicited for price lists. We wish to Buy or Exchange British India Notes.

MARU TRADERS, Opp Sec No.3, Behind Sonu Monu School, M P Colony, Lalgah, Bikaner 334 005 (India). Email: [marubkn@hotmail.com](mailto:marubkn@hotmail.com)

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, PART 72

It all began in November 1976 when soon after its inception Philatelic Congress of India (PCI) became a member of International Philatelic Federation (FIP). In fact the PCI was formed for this purpose only. However today, PCI does not even have a valid registered office which is the basic requirement under the law for a society incorporated under the Societies Registration Act; this is the status since last 8 years.

PCI has also violated several other laws of the land on large number of occasions leading to filing of criminal proceedings and court cases against the organization and individuals controlling the organization.

An extract from the order of Parveen Kumar, the then Civil Judge, Delhi dated August 23, 2002 in one of the court cases pending against PCI seeking to declare the Memorandum of Association and the rules and regulations as null, void and not binding on its members and to ensure fair elections:

"Considering the facts and circumstances of this case I am of the opinion that at this stage it would not be proper to stay the elections which are scheduled to be held on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2002. However it will be in the interest of justice that the result of the elections should not be declared till the next date of hearing in this case. During the course of arguments, learned counsel for the plaintiff requested that elections be held under some Court Observer so that fair and impartial elections may take place. In my opinion the apprehension of the plaintiff is genuine. Therefore, I hereby appoint Shri Munish Gupta, Advocate, Chamber No. 126-127, western Wing, Tis Hazari, Delhi as Court Observer in the present case. Learned court observer shall see that the elections of Philatelic Congress of India at Rajasthan Mahila Mandal, Fojate Street, Cross Lane, Opp. Saibaba Mandir, Mumbai - 36 are held in a fair and impartial manner."

On the other hand PCI in their various submissions has stated that they are without a governing council since August 25, 2002. Meanwhile there is no officer appointed to conduct the business of PCI on their behalf. This is also mentioned in the Editorial in the 'Signet' their quarterly journal, Vol. 26 Issue 1 dated April-June 2003:

"Governing Council of the PCI is unable to function because of operation of a stay order on the last elections held in Mumbai"

Besides the above case there are two more court cases against PCI currently pending in court. These pertain to wayward judging and organizing of philatelic exhibitions in India; not honoring the decision of the AGM in 2001 that newly created states in India shall be represented in the PCI governing council yet it was ignored in the elections in 2002.

The country's premier investigating agency CBI has registered a case against Dilip Shah for smuggling of antiquities while similar charges are under consideration against M G Pittie, S Sahoo, A R SInghee and others. Police complaints for criminal activities against B K Sinha (Secretary of PCI) are also pending. Many more such cases may come up against PCI now that the philatelists of India are aware of the continuous wrongdoing of PCI and its officers.

All the above has not deterred Dilip Shah, who is falsely and illegally acting as the President of the PCI. He was 'President-Elect' till August 24, 2002 and according to the rules & regulations of the PCI was to automatically take over as the President in the succeeding meeting after the elections where Sahoo would have become the immediate past president and would have continued in the governing council for the next two years. However no meeting of PCI general body or the governing council has taken place since last 2 years hence Shah can not claim himself to be the president.

Yet PCI is still continuing to send their own men and women as jurors and commissioners to exhibitions abroad in violations of the laws of the land and those of FIP and FIAP, with impunity. Even the participants are selected from the recognized sycophants, favor seekers, hangers-on and owners of unqualified exhibits showing Indian philately in very poor light.

PCI is still indulging in activities which in normal course no organization would even dream of when the matter is sub-judice. All efforts to put the affairs of PCI in order have been frustrated. M G Pittie led coterie of a few individuals better known as 'P Company' that wants to control the affairs of PCI treat it as their private property. These people don't care about spoiling the image of the Philatelists of India for their own vested interests. PCI's erstwhile Treasurer, Damyanti Pittie who is a close relative of M G Pittie has spent huge amount of PCI money since August 25, 2002 in an unauthorized manner.

PCI records have not been accessible to the membership and no minutes have been circulated of meetings after April 28, 2002. However this does not deter PCI from publishing and circulating a hoard of lies in their publication 'Signet' not only against those who don't tow their line but against India Post as well. This is also the subject matter of Contempt Of Court proceedings pending against them.

The above is an internal matter for Indians yet it affects the standing of Indians in the International philatelic arena. Hence an appeal to all member federations of FIP, FIAP and all organizers of exhibition under FIP or FIAP patronage to take cognizance of the facts above and not honor any appointment by Dilip Shah and/or any one else on behalf of PCI without the approval of the courts in India.

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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.>

Dr. SATYENDRA KUMAR AGRAWAL

Now it is very easy. Just paste your rubbishes from your stock book on a A4 size paper and give some title e.g. India, Bharat Ratna, Birds, Freedom Fighters etc. and start searching a State Level Philatelic Exhibition. Our 'eminent' jurors in the name of promotion of Philately are now given enough freedom to grant GOLD and SILVER medals as many as they want taking benefit of the unpublished new Rules and Regulations of judging made by Department of Post with effect from January 2004. In future if you are lucky enough to witness any National level Exhibition again you will have the same opportunity under these new Judging Rules.

A living example of all these is Jharpex 2004 the First Jharkhand Postal Circle Philatelic Exhibition held at Dhanbad ,the hottest city of Jharkhand from 6-9 May 2004 at a temperature of 46 OC in a hall cum oven. Exhibits were pasted on frames with the help of two sided tapes This not only damaged the protector sheets but its 2 mm thickness when pressed with the thumb of unskilled postal employee habitual of defacing the stamps with the cancellation like hammering the nail creased many philatelic items on the collection page. Due to excessive heat stamps curled and pages left the display board, fell down and stacked within the frame.

This exhibition was unique in many ways. The Visitor's book has one comment "An exhibition of Invited Collections". With the marathon effort of members of a Philatelic society succeeded in filling 49 frames in Competitive Senior Group and 16 frames in Youth Group. 117 frames were occupied by Invited collections out of which only few were able to grace their positions. One frame exhibit based on a SINGLE Personalized Stamp of a collector mounted on 16 pages as MINT, S/S, on Cover etc. etc. proudly occupied this category.

There was no need of prior acceptance. Even if any collector reached the exhibition hall with its stock book on second or third day he was advised to put them on A4 sheets and then it was proudly mounted and also jurors gifted a medal. Most of the exhibits had no Thematic Plan, lack of Philatelic Elements. Even Gold-Silver awarded collection containing ordinary stamps in used conditions. One became jealous looking at the Award List when he saw even a one frame collection was adorned with a Silver and three frame exhibit with a Gold.

For the first time one whole collection was mounted not the original but its Colored Photocopies only.

During critic scission when the question of high awards received by most of the sub standard exhibits was raised the jury said that he was bound under the new judging rules set by DOP recently. He himself is guilty of this and agreed that this new trend will ruin the future of Indian Philately even at the root level. But the question that "is it not our prime duty to raise voice against these rules boycotting the judging?", only a SILENCE received.

EDITORS' RESPONSE:

We agree with the views of Dr Agrawal about what happened at JHARPEX was not correct.

However we would like to record that India Post's Handbook on Philatelic Exhibitions, consisting of India Post Regulations for Philatelic

Exhibitions, India Post Philatelic Award System and India Post Philatelic Jurors Programme that have come in force since August 1, 2003 and were published in June 2003.

These have been successfully applied at a large number of exhibitions at district, regional, state, and zonal level since then. We have personally attended all the 6 state level exhibitions before JHARPEX and Judges were provided copies of these regulations at every occasion.

We wish India Post would implement their plan to make copies available to philatelists through philatelic bureaus as early as possible or at least put it up on their web site for download.

It is the duty of the jurors to understand the regulations framed by India Post before undertaking judging of the exhibits and implement the same without fear and favor.

We suggest you take a look at the 100 A4 size pages of these regulations and then look at the jury. We are sure you will realize the truth, that it is the jurors and not the rules that need to be blamed.

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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

COLLECTION OF MALTA SINCE INDEPENDENCE

On 1 May 2004, Malta's official philatelic agency, Maltapost, celebrated the accession of Malta to the European Union by releasing The Malta Stamp Collection 1964-2004, the most comprehensive collection of Maltese stamps ever offered. This album includes a selection of stamps from the 280 issues brought out by the Republic of Malta from the time it declared independence in 1964 through to its EU Accession in 2004. Also included is an album containing rich annotations offering specific background on every issue.

This is a wonderful opportunity to procure a rare and breathtaking collection, housed in a 380-page cloth bound volume, a specially designed Hagner folder, to preserve the mint stamps complete in its own limited edition box. The more than 1000 mint stamps have been sourced and hand collated from Maltapost's own vaults and other sources. They represent the last known collection still available and include several sets that are almost impossible to find elsewhere. Present day value of stamps is approximately Euros 707.

Each album is individually hand-numbered and introduced by the President of Malta, Dr Eddie Fenech Adami. It weighs more than 7 kilos and also has unique bookmark specially designed for this Collection. Red tipped pages of the album are just one example of the high quality finish.

Maltapost will give the first day cover of the EU Accession stamp issue cancelled in gold, which is only available with the album. Also included in The Malta Stamp Collection 1964-2004 is a philatelic essay covering the history of stamps in Malta from world renowned Maltese philatelist Anthony Fenech and six professionally written essays covering diverse



aspects of Maltese life - from the country's geography to arts to culture.

Call on +356 7970 3886 or email at [thecollecton@maltapost.com](mailto:thecollecton@maltapost.com) for more information.

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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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