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

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Edited by Madhukar Jhingan and Savita Jhingan

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This publication is best viewed with a fixed-width font, such as  
'Courier New' or similar.

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

On June 8, 2004 Asia and Africa got the best view of the transit of  
Venus and it being visible for more than six hours.

We found it very interesting to learn that it has been observed that  
whenever Venus has been this close to Earth, history has recorded  
momentous events. We would like to share it with you as it confirms that  
finally there is some relationship with mails and females.

In 1519, Magellan del Canoset about the first circumnavigation of the  
world. The Reformation began in Western Europe and the age of female  
rulers came to Europe - Mary Queen of Scots, Mary I, Elizabeth I, and  
Catherine de Medici and all reigned then.

The next Venus period in 1631 and 1639 coincided with the beginning of  
the first regular mail services in Europe. Also came the rise of  
rationalist science.

In the 1761 and 1769, Venus period, Napoleon and the Duke of Wellington  
were born. The American Revolution had its origins in this period.

In 1874 and 1882, the Venus transit coincided with the founding of the  
Universal Postal Union and the completion of the Atlantic telegraph  
cable. Also, in those years, Graham Bell conceived the idea of the  
telephone. In the same period, the rise of women's suffrage led to women  
being given the vote in New Zealand, the US and Australia.

What is to be expected of 2004-2012 Venus period?

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Sunil Joseph, Press trust of India, United News of India, and The Economic Times.

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

RECORD NUMBER OF COMBINATIONS FOR GEMS & JEWELRY STAMPS

Atish Kumar Jain of Kottayam enters the 2004 edition of the Limca book of Records with 123 different combinations of se-tenant pairs, strips, and blocks for the Gems & Jewelry set of 6 stamps issued by India on December 7, 2000. These stamps were issued in 7 sheets of 40 stamps, one normal sheet each for 6 stamps and 1 'mixed' sheet of all 6 stamps. It was the mixed sheet that provided the opportunity for these philatelic gems. A miniature sheet with 4 stamps from the set was also issued on December 11, 2000. Jain has 13 different horizontal blocks of 6, 18 different vertical blocks of 6, and 19 different vertical strips of 6 and 73 of other combinations.

Vijay Seth of New Delhi with 6000 stamps on Aviation and Aalok Jaggi of Gurgaon with 5000 stamps on Football also feature in this edition of Limca book of Records.

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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 - Acharya Bhikshu, 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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POSTAL STATIONERY UPDATE

New Arrivals

April 19, Inland Letter Card with advertisement, "Education for all", in Telugu, 1 million, Monocolor, Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

April 19, Post Card with advertisement, "Education for all", in Telugu, 1 million, Monocolor, Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

May 17, Inland Letter Card with advertisement, "Connecting India - BSNL Tamilnadu Telecom Circle", in English, 1 million, Monocolor, Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

Visit the following link for illustrations:  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/172a.htm>

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EXHIBITION OF AUTOGRAPHS

Autograph Collectors Club of India is holding an Autograph Exhibition from June 19 to 22, 2004 at Calcutta Information Centre, 1/1 A J C Bose Road, Kolkata 700 020. Autographs of prominent personalities of the world will be on display at the exhibition.

Participation is open to collectors from all parts of the country. Visitors will definitely include several philatelists who collect autograph on First Day Covers and Special Covers etc.

Those who wish to visit, participate or wish to have more information may contact Santosh Kumar Lahoti, Founder & Secretary, "Shree Sadan", 26, P K Tagore Street, Kolkata 700 006  
Tel: 033 2530 5293 and 2543 6471, Reliance Mobile 033 3101 2533  
Fax: 91 33 2474 6899 Email: [sklahoti@vsnl.net](mailto:sklahoti@vsnl.net) Website: [www.sklahoti.com](http://www.sklahoti.com)

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PHILATELIC CLUB, TRICHUR

At the 26<sup>th</sup> annual general body meeting of the Philatelic club Trichur, held on May 16, 2004 the following office bearers were elected for the year 2004-2006:

President: O K Prakash  
Vice President: C J Vincent  
Secretary: Olvex M Noronha  
Numismatic Secretary: E C Simon  
Treasurer: C P Seby

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

RAILPEX

The Silver Jubilee function of Mysore rail Museum was inaugurated by S P S Jain, Member Engineering, Railway Board, New Delhi, by lighting the traditional lamp on June 2, 2004. A philatelic exhibition displaying stamps on railways and important events pertaining to the railways was also inaugurated as part of the celebration. Stamp collections of well known philatelists including Jain, Md. Mujibulla - Heritage Assistant Eastern Railways, Vijay Kumar - Station Master Bangalore Division along with that of Ravindranathan, Mahalingeshwaran, Anandamurthy were on display.

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.

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

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

FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

The Central Bureau of Investigation arrested on June 9, 2004 at Pune the prime accused in the multibillion fake stamp scam Abdul Karim Telgi in a fresh stamp case registered at Delhi. The two member CBI team led by H S Chopra, Additional Superintendent of Police arrived at Pune following the order passed by Metropolitan Magistrate Patiala court, Delhi, on June 7, 2004 allowing the CBI to interrogate Telgi and arrest him if necessary. After the interrogation of Telgi at Yerwada central prison, the CBI arrested him and approached the Special Court for his transfer. The Special court, then allowed CBI to take Telgi to Delhi following the application moved by CBI counsel Mohan Deshmukh seeking his custody. The special judge S M Shembole directed the CBI to produce the kingpin Telgi to the special court, Pune on June 25, 2004.

Yerwada Jail Superintendent D N Bendre told a special court at Pune on June 9, 2004 that there was no need to shift Telgi to the prison hospital as he was being offered all medical facilities. In a report on Telgi's health submitted to special MCOCA court judge S M Shembole, Bendre said the accused condition was stable and he was being provided all medical facilities. On June 8, 2004, Telgi sought the court's direction to be moved to the jail hospital in view of his deteriorating health condition. He had said he had been kept in solitary confinement despite his poor health. The court was informed that Telgi's HIV count had increased and his sugar levels too had gone up.

The CBI is looking into the role of stamp officers of five states, with the investigations into the stamp scam revealing that the majority of the fake stamp papers were sold through vendors and not via the treasury departments. Stamp papers are officially sold in a district either through the treasury department, which functions under a collector, or through licensed vendors. It has been observed that many vendors had mushroomed in the five states of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Delhi since 1994, raising suspicions about their authenticity. The CBI sleuths had noticed that even licensed vendors were selling fake stamp papers.

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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.>

SANJAY KANSAL

This is regarding the news item 'Speedpost Didn't deliver' in the 169th issue of newsletter. The matter has been resolved to the satisfaction of all. Due to the efforts of postal authorities, the Delhi University has agreed to accept the delayed forms.

SAMUEL W MANGIAMELI, PH.D.

I was a subscriber of this publication previously. Unfortunately my wife fell severely ill & I was her primary caregiver while she was at home. She died in hospital on May 2nd. I am consequently trying to get on with my life after 28 years of a happy & gratifying marriage. I hope resuming my philatelic activities will help. Unfortunately, my collecting was a joint hobby with my spouse. In any case, I would like to resume my participation in your group and receive the "Collector's

Companion," etc. I am a longtime member of the APS & ISC as well as other groups.

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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

THAT'S ALL RIGHT

2004 marks the 50th Anniversary of Elvis Presley's first recording, That's All Right™. In tribute, Sweden will issue the Elvis 50th Anniversary postage stamp and the Cook Islands will issue the Elvis 50th Anniversary Golden \$1 Coin. Both commemoratives are now available in the Elvis 50th Anniversary Tribute Collection from Fleetwood®.

The collection includes: Elvis 50th Anniversary First Day Cover Set of 4 featuring the new 2004 Elvis 50th Anniversary postage stamp from Sweden. This high-value stamp portrays Elvis® when he appeared on the Dorsey Brothers' "Stage Show" in 1956. Portraits by acclaimed artist Tom McNeely illustrate the set and capture Elvis at great moments in his amazing career. Certified with the official Stockholm First Day of Issue postmark, each cover includes a narrative about Elvis' career on its reverse.

Elvis 50th Anniversary Golden \$1 Coin has been issued especially for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Minted in gleaming aluminum bronze, it's in brilliant uncirculated condition and about the size of a U.S. silver dollar. It features a beautifully sculpted portrait of Elvis singing. As legal tender, the obverse depicts Queen Elizabeth II.

Elvis 50th Anniversary Proofcard® Set of 5 bear the 2004 Elvis 50th Anniversary stamps from Sweden and the official First Day of Issue postmark. Suitable for framing, each 6 by 9 inch Proofcard® Edition is elegantly gold stamped with Elvis' famous signature! Art by Tom McNeely shows five different portraits of Elvis: Young Rocker, Teen Idol, G. I. Elvis, Hollywood Elvis and Vegas Elvis. Each includes a narrative about Elvis' career on its reverse.

Elvis 50th Anniversary Golden \$1 Coin First Day Cover features the 2004 Elvis 50th Anniversary Golden \$1 Coin and stamp. Certified with the official Stockholm First Day of Issue postmark, the Certificate of Authenticity is included.

The Special Elvis 50th Anniversary Complete Mint Stamp Sheet includes nine stamps in post-office-fresh mint condition, beautifully displayed with a picture of Elvis surrounded by glittering stars. The stamp is engraved by Czeslaw Slania, the world's most revered engraver of stamps and banknotes ... and the Royal Court Engraver of Sweden.

For more information, contact:  
Fleetwood  
One Unicover Center  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82008-0001 U.S.A.  
Tel (307) 771-3000 • Fax (307) 771-3134

Toll Free Customer Service Tel (800) 443-3232

[www.unicover.com/ofr\\_cbby.htm](http://www.unicover.com/ofr_cbby.htm)

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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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