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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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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

Marriages are made in heaven. And heavens can't wait. For this heavenly  
reason this issue is got delayed.

Our niece was got married on June 24 at Kanpur and we were there to  
fulfill our responsibilities. It was special for us as this was the  
first wedding in the next generation of our family.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Press Trust of  
India, The Indian Express, and The Times 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 28 - Great Trigonometrical Survey, Set of 3, Rs5 each  
June 28 - Great Trigonometrical Survey, Miniature sheet, Rs15  
June 30 - Aacharya 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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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

JYOTIPRASAD AGARWALLA

India Post released a stamp in the denomination of Rs5 to commemorate the renowned musician and poet Jyotiprasad Agarwalla (1903-1951), on June 17, 2004.

Agarwalla devoted his life to rejuvenate the Assamese society - the theme of unity between ethnic groups of Assam flows through his literary output. For his contribution to Assamese literature, music and culture, he is lovingly called the "Rupkonwar", the prince of beauty.

At the age of 14, Agarwalla wrote "Shonit Kunwari" - a musical dance drama with experimentation in 'Padumkali' dance, a combination of 'Bihu' and 'Bhawna'. In 1924 the dance-drama was staged for the first time in the Ban Theatre and became a milestone in the history of Assamese drama. His other works included "Karingarligiri", "Rupalim", "Labhita" and "Nimati Kanya".

He left Tezpur High School, inspired by the influence of Mahatma Gandhi, when the latter visited Tezpur in 1921. He completed his education from Chittaranjan Das University and National College, Kolkata. In 1927, he joined the Edinburgh University in Britain. He became an active 'satyagrahi' in the 1930s and toured extensively in the rural areas of Tezpur, composing many patriotic songs that inspired the younger generation. During the Quit India Movement, as a commander of the volunteer force, he remained underground and spread revolutionary messages.

Agarwalla also studied cinematography in Berlin in 1929, which helped him make "Joymati", the first film in Assamese. This happened to be one of the first "talkie" movies in the age of silent films.

A prolific poet, he wrote with a flourish using chaste and sweet Assamese words. He also wrote "Jyoti Ramayana" considered one of his most notable contributions to children's literature.

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

Visit the following link for illustrations:
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/174a.htm>

P N PANICKER

India Post released a stamp in the denomination of Rs5 to commemorate the P N Panicker who immensely contributed to the cause of literacy and education in Kerala on June 19, 2004.

It was the work of Panicker on education and development carried to the remotest corners of Kerala that lead to total literacy in the state of Kerala in the year 1990. Born in 1909 in Travancore State, Panicker showed a keen interest in reading at an early age and use to read to illiterate people of all ages. He started a reading center called Sanadanadhrmam Library that had a ripple effect in the state for spreading literacy.

Panicker was an admirer of Mahatma Gandhi and was inspired by the words "illiteracy is a curse and shame of the country and it should be wiped out as early as possible". He also worked to foster social amity and harmony. The National Literacy Mission has been inspired largely by the work of Panicker who converted a simple slogan of "Read and Grow" in to a powerful movement.

Benoy Varghese 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/2004/174b.htm>

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POSTAL STATIONERY UPDATE

Following two Meghdoot post cards were recently released:

Ad in Hindi - Bhagalpur District Water & Sanitation Committee

Ad in Hindi - Bihar State Co-operative Bank Limited

Visit the following link for illustrations:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/174c.htm>

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ANNUAL PACK OF FIRST DAY COVERS

India Post has launched its first ever FDC that contains all 41 FDC along with their brochures issued during 2003. The cost of the stamps, FDC, and brochures comes to Rs 611 and the pack is priced at Rs 615; it is available at philatelic bureaus all over the country.

The pack does not contain FDC for Miniature Sheets and definitive issues.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NAINITAL

Uttaranchal Circle of India Post organized a combined philatelic exhibition (district level - general and state level - youth) in Nainital from 18-20 June 2004. Three special covers with special cancellation were bought out: The Governor of Uttaranchal, Sudarshan Agarwal released the special cover depicting Rajbhawan at Nainital on June 18, 2004; The Director of ARIES Observatory, Professor Ram Sagar released the special cover depicting Aries Observatory on June 19, 2004; The Vice Chancellor of Kumaon University, Professor R C Pant released the special cover depicting Naini Lake on June 20, 2004.

Visit the following link for illustrations:  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/174d.htm>

#### DARJEELING

North Bengal & Sikkim region of the West Bengal Circle of India Post organized a stamp exhibition on Women Empowerment on June 21-22, 2004 at Darjeeling.

#### 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.

August 1-4, Madurai, TANAPEX Tamilnadu State Level  
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AUCTION ACTION

Rohini Andhare informs that unsold lots from their fifth auction sale of June 10, 2004 are available at 80% of the estimate + 5% Buyers Premium on first come first served basis.

The list of the lot numbers of unsold lots have been mailed to all regular bidders. The list may also be obtained by writing to P O Box 21, Behind Luthra Hospital, Nehrunagar, Bilaspur 495 001 or by email to crandhare@yahoo.com.
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#### NEW WEB SITE

Thematic Page of Indian Stamps at <http://www.geocities.com/stamparchive>  
The idea of the promoters - Vijaya & Venkat Tata is to present the 'story behind the stamp' and not just see stamps as only as miniature pieces of art. The site organizes the information on Indian stamps theme-wise. To maintain authenticity the text has mostly been taken from the Brochures (Information Sheets) published by India Post.  
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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

Fake stamp scam mastermind Abdul Karim Telgi was on June 23, 2004 remanded to judicial custody till July 7, 2004 by Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi, S K Sharma. The court also directed the CBI to take him back to the court in Pune where he is to be produced by June 25, 2004. Telgi had been brought from Pune on remand in connection to a case of recovery of fake stamp papers from near Hauz Khas on October 5, 2002. Two accused in the case had alleged his involvement. CBI prosecutor Rajan Dahiya today told the court that Telgi should be sent to Tihar Jail on a 14-day judicial custody in connection with this case. On October 5, 2002, the Delhi Police Crime Branch had filed a case against one Mohd Asif and Mansoor Ali for possession and sale of fake stamps.

The CBI arrested two residents of Delhi's Geeta Colony, on June 22, 2004 who are allegedly close associates of Telgi and who collaborated with him in selling counterfeit stamps. Fake stamps worth Rs.6.2 million were recovered from the office of Capital Services in Connaught Place and also from a government flat at R K Puram. The arrested - Ramneek Kanwar and Dhiraj Kanwar - had supplied counterfeit stamps worth billions to several multinational companies, banks and other organizations in Delhi, and neighboring cities of Noida and Gurgaon. The duo had opened several bank accounts in the name of Capital Services in Delhi in which the sale proceeds of fake stamps were credited and later the amount was withdrawn and given to Telgi. A case had initially been registered in September 2001 and four people, Sohail Khan, Mansoor Ahmed, Wasim Shah and Deepak Bhosle, were arrested.

The CBI has arrested main accused Telgi's driver during 1993-1999, Daniel V Kanikraj on June 20, 2004. Kanikraj was arrested at Belgaum in Karnataka, brought to Mumbai on a transit remand and was being interrogated for his alleged role in the collection of payments on behalf of Telgi. He was remanded into CBI custody till July 5, 2004 by Additional Sessions Court Judge Mumbai, U D Salvi, on June 21, 2004.

The CBI arrested Suresh Shyam Rao Bhatle, who is accused in case at Surat. Bhatle, against whom a warrant had been issued by a Gujarat court, was being interrogated by CBI sleuths camping at Surat.

The Criminal Investigation Department of the West Bengal Police has arrested Mohammed Isha Biswas from a car on the Bongaon-Chakdah road in North 24-Parganas on June 18, 2004 in a raid prompted by a tip-off, for his alleged involvement in the multi-billion rupees Telgi stamp scam. He was produced before the sub-divisional judicial magistrate in Howrah on June 19, 2004 and remanded in police custody for six days. The CID will hand over Isha to a team of CBI officials on June 20, 2004. Isha was wanted for several months for allegedly selling fake stamp papers worth Rs 5 million. They claimed to have unearthed Isha's links as the lid came off the scam.

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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.>

ABHAI MISHRA, Dehradun:

I fully endorse the views presented by Mr. Ashok Kumar Tiwary, in this esteemed newsletter. In this regard I would like to share my experience.

We had a district level in Dehradun in 2003 called DOONTOPEX. Being the first philatelic exhibition of Uttaranchal state, the exhibits were not up to the mark. But still the organisers allowed the entries to be displayed. Some of them were also awarded bronze medals. This was what happened in 2003.

Recently from 18-20 June 2004 NAINIPEX-04 was organised in Rajbhawan, Nainital. Due to the positive attitude of the organisers during DOONTOPEX-03 previously, the exhibits from the Dehradun district this time were really improved and up to the mark. There were around 40 exhibits from Dehradun.

To our shock we got around 60 entries from Nainital. We never expected so many entries from Nainital, because this was the first ever philatelic exhibition held in Nainital. Obviously the standard of the exhibits from Nainital was very poor in comparison to Dehradun exhibits. With our experience from DOONTOPEX-03 we allowed all the exhibits from the Nainital to be displayed, irrespective of their standards. We got around 10 entries from the children just on the previous day of the exhibition. All the 100 frames were booked. There were 20 frames earmarked for INVITEE class. We reduced the Invitee class number from 20 to 10 and made sure that the exhibits of those children were displayed. We knew that turning them down, will kill the future philatelist, right at the budding stage and certainly I would never like to be part of that

blunder. Sufficient numbers of Bronze medal were also awarded to the exhibitors.

The encouragement provided during DOONTPEX-03 was visible in the standard of the exhibits during NAINIPEX-04. Similarly I believe that the encouragement extended to the budding philatelist during NAINIPEX-04 will bear its fruit in coming exhibitions.

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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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RESEARCH NOTES

By Madhukar Jhingan

DUTTIA

The postage stamps and postal stationery of Indian Princely State of Duttia (also spelt as Datia) were printed in Benares (also known as Varanasi or Kashi). The search is on to locate the printer.

Acknowledgements:

Director General of National Archives of India, New Delhi

ED DESCHL, from USA wrote

I was quite surprised by this week's edition (#173) - where in you correct an issue date for Indore. Thanks. I am currently playing with issue date for the early dates (small size cards) of Hyderabad - I have to learn more Urdu.

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

MICKY MOUSE AND FRIENDS ON US STAMPS, POSTAL CARDS AND STATIONERY

U S Postal Service issued a set of four stamps featuring Mickey Mouse, Goofy, Donald Duck and a host of Disney friends on June 23, 2004. These represent the first of three Disney-themed stamp panes that will be issued over as many years. As first in the series, 'The Art of Disney: Friendship', honors friendship as it appears in the art of Walt Disney. More than a quarter of a billion stamps were printed. Future Disney-themed stamps will showcase a breadth of quintessential Disney moments.

The Art of Disney: Friendship self-adhesive 37-cent stamps are available in panes of twenty in a booklet. Also issued along are 23-cent stamped postal cards in a package of 20 cards of the four designs same as the stamps and 37-cent stamped letter sheets in a pad of 12-sheets of the four designs same as the stamps. The 8x10 inch prints of all 4 designs with matching stamps affixed and an 18x10 inch poster of all 4 designs with matching stamps affixed are also available.

Mickey Mouse, Goofy and Donald Duck as the perfect fun-loving group: Mickey Mouse made his debut on Nov. 18, 1928, in the first synchronized sound cartoon, "Steamboat Willie." With help from his pals Goofy and the "fowl-tempered" Donald Duck, clever little Mickey quickly became an American icon.

Bambi and Thumper as childhood best friends: A friend can make good times even more fun and make bad times more bearable. In Walt Disney's "Bambi" (1942), an energetic rabbit named Thumper becomes a lifelong friend to a young deer. Thumper accompanies Bambi in both pleasurable pursuits, such as their winter adventures on ice, and in adversity.

Mufasa and Simba show the powerful bond between parent and child: Our parents can be our best friends, as the cub Simba learns in "The Lion King" (1994) when his father, Mufasa, comes to his rescue after Simba is chased by hyenas. Simba idolizes Mufasa and hopes to grow up to be just like him.

Pinocchio and Jiminy Cricket exemplify a mentoring relationship: Sometimes, as in Walt Disney's animated film classic, "Pinocchio" (1940), a friend acts as our conscience and keeps us out of trouble - or, at least, tries to. After he is magically brought to life, the wooden marionette Pinocchio is assisted by diminutive Jiminy Cricket in his effort to become a real boy.

The first-day-of-issue stamp dedication ceremony was held in front of the Sleeping Beauty Castle in Disneyland, Anaheim.

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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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