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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 and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

Welcome to the first issue of the 5<sup>th</sup> year.

We were away to World Stamp Championship in Singapore and then to Kuala Lumpur Stamp Show in Malaysia, hence the delay in mailing this issue. We will be writing about our experiences in these shows in the forthcoming issues.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Ashok Tiwary, Sudhir Jain, Press Trust of India, Indian Express, & Times of India.

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 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

AWARDS AT SINGAPORE

Gold Medal

Anil Suri's Fiscals of Cochin

S C Sukhani's The Third Printing India 4 Annas of 1854

Vermeil Medal

Rajan Jayakar's Dead Letter Office

Dr. Satyendra Kumar Agrawal's Roses

Pradip Jain's Indian Airmails Development & Operations 1911-1942

Silver Medal

Umesh KaKkeri's Postal History of Portuguese India

Pragya Kothari's Man Measures His Environment

Silver Bronze Medal

Vijay Seth's Indian Airmails 1947-2003

Bronze Medal

Umesh Kakkeri's Portuguese India

Padmini Balan's Quiz on Philately

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

September 10 - K Subrahmanyam, Rs 5

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

S S VASAN

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp on S S Vasan, in the denomination of Rs 5 on August 26, 2004, the day he passed away in 1969.

Thiruthuraiipoondi Subramanian Srinivasan, popularly known as S S Vasan, was an unparalleled film producer, distributor, journalist and media baron. Vasan was conferred with Padma Bhusan for his meritorious services in the field of art and culture. Vasan commenced his career as a journalist by translating English novels to Tamil and by writing original novels, which he sold to publishers. He sensed immense business potential in catalogue trading through VPP - a predecessor to tele-shopping. Besides his advertising business, Vasan's other line of activity, mail order, equally novel for the day, did fairly well. He wished to run a publication of his own. So in 1928 he acquired 'Ananda Vikatan' a Tamil weekly and within months he had increased its circulation threefold by doubling the contents and reducing the price. 'Ananda Vikatan' became the nursery for many budding writers and cartoonists. He was also actively associated with the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society and All India Newspaper Editors' Conference. Later, Vasan founded the famous Gemini Studios in Madras in 1941 soon after he put his foot in the film industry in 1939. Vasan occupies a prominent position in the film world and is a pioneer in the production of Hindi films in South India. He was the first Chairman of the Film Federation of India and also the President of the South Indian Film Chamber of

Commerce and the South Indian Motion Picture Producers' Association. He was nominated to the Rajya Sabha in 1964.

Sankha Samanta designed the stamps 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.

#### PANINI

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on August 30, 2004 in commemoration of India's Heritage in Grammar and Mathematics which was influenced by the accomplishments of Panini, one of the greatest grammarians of all time whose work revolutionized the use of language not only in India but also in the rest of the world.

Panini, whose lifetime was believed to be between 520 BC and 460 BC, was born in Shalatula, a town near Taxilla on the Indus river in the present-day North-West Province in Pakistan. Though the dates given for Panini's birth range from the seventh to fourth century BC, it is believed he was born about 520 BC. Panini's brilliant account of the structure of the Sanskrit language seeks to provide a complete, maximally concise and theoretically consistent analysis. It unfolds a theory of human language where the infinite language is generated by finite grammar which modern linguistic acknowledges as the complete, generative grammar of any language yet written. Panini gives formal production rules and definitions to describe Sanskrit grammar. There are four major components of his grammar (I) Astadhyayi or Astaka (ii) Sivasutras, (iii) Dhatupatha and (iv) Ganapatha. Today, Panini's grammar has been compared to Euclid's geometry and his constructions can be seen as comparable to modern definitions of a mathematical function. Panini's rules are said to be perfect - that is, they perfectly describe the Sanskrit morphology, and are regarded as so clear that computer scientists have made use of them to teach computers to understand Sanskrit. Panini uses metarules, transformations and recursion in such sophistication that his grammar has the computing power equivalent to a Turing machine. In this sense Panini may be considered the father of computing machines.

Kamleshwar Singh designed the stamps 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.

#### POSTAL STATIONERY UPDATE

##### New Arrivals:

March 15, Postcard with advertisement, Anti Tobacco, in Hindi, 2 million, Multicolor, Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

August 16, Postcard with advertisement, in Hindi, Anti AIDS, 3 million, India Security Press, Nashik

August 16, Inland Letter Card with advertisement, [www.manageyourheadache.com](http://www.manageyourheadache.com), in English, 1 million, India Security Press, Nashik

#### NEW MEGHDOOTS POSTCARDS

Following Meghdoot post cards were recently released:

Ad in Hindi - Sony TV's Jassi Jaisi Koi Nahin

Ad in Kannada - Pushkarnam August 22 to September 8, 2004

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SPECIAL POSTMARK ON GANDHI

A special postmark depicting Gandhi's Signature shall be available on October 2, 2004 at Port Blair Head Post Office, Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Those desirous of obtaining this postmark may send stamped envelopes or other articles of mail to Postmaster, Port Blair HO, before September 30, 2004. A handling fee of Rs.5 per article excluding Postage for special postmark shall be charged. This fee may be paid by the India Postal Order in the name of Postmaster, Port Blair Head Post Office 744101, A & N Islands.

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MITTAL POSTAL AUCTION

Mittal Stamp Company [mittalstamps@yahoo.com](mailto:mittalstamps@yahoo.com) is holding a postal auction of India, Indian States, Foreign, Cinderellas, and Fiscals. The 1500+ lots auction is closing on September 20, 2004.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

PHILATELIC FESTIVAL, JAMSHEDPUR

Jharkhand Circle of India Post organized a philatelic festival at Tulsi Bhawan, Jamshedpur on August 31, 2004. K K Sinha, Director of Postal Services Jharkhand circle inaugurated the festival. The only activity of the festival was a painting competition on the topic 'A rainy Day'. The members of Jamshedpur Philatelic society actively participated in the festival.

JAINISM, LADNUN

Jain Vishva Bharti Institute (Deemed University), Ladnun (Rajsthan) organized an exhibition of Stamps and Covers on Jainism collected by Sudhir Jain of Satna. This exhibition was organized at University Hall of Jain Vishva Bharti Institute at Ladnun on August 25, 2004 and was inaugurated by Dr. Jagatram Bhattacharya, Registrar of the Institute. 150 sheets Philatelic Collection on Jainism is organized in the following sequence: Essence of Jainism, Principles of Jainism, Conceptions of Jainism, Admirers of Jainism, Symbols of Jainism, Siddha, Panch Kalyanak, Dreams of Mother, Identification signs of Tirthankars, Some Tirthankars, Other Pious Souls, Jain Pilgrimage Centres, Jain architecture, Jain Personalities, Jain Celebrations, Jain Institutions, and Message to the World.

September 29-October 3, 2004, Port Blair, Philately Festival
Andaman Club and Jawaharlal Nehru Rajkiya Mahavidyalaya College
Contact: Ambesh Upmanyu, Director of Postal Services A & N Islands, Port Blair 744101

October 1-4, Jalpaiguri, Regional for North Bengal and Sikkim
Contact: Philately Bureau, Siliguri, West Bengal
The stamp booklets, maxim cards, picture post cards and special covers shall be released

October 1-3, Ahmedabad, Dak Bharti
Contact: Ashok Kumar Bayanwala, "Vrinda Niket", 96 Swastik Society, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad 380009, Reliance Mobile 079-3101 2533

October 9-15, New Delhi, Autograph Exhibition, National Level
AIFACS, 1, Rafi Marg
Contact: Santosh Kumar Lahoti, Secretary, Autograph Collectors Club of India (Regd.), "Shree Sadan", 26, P K Tagore Street, Calcutta-700006,

Phones: (033)25305293/25436471 - Resi. Reliance Mobile 033-3101 2533,
Fax: 91-33-24746899, Email: sklahoti@vsnl.net

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

SIPA BULLETIN, Vol. 25 # 2 - March-April 2004, Bimonthly

Editor: G Madan Mohan Das

Publisher: South India Philatelists Association

Address: 21 (Old), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, E V K Sampath Road, Vepery, Chennai 600007

Annual Subscription including membership: Not Indicated

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INDIA POST OFFERS FREE PICKUP

India Post has plans to introduce collection of bulk letters from the doorsteps of the customers in another effort to take on the private couriers.

On a pilot basis, the project will be first tried out in the three major cities of Kerala - Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi and Kozhikode. Under the scheme, the postman will collect the letters if they have bulk letters to post. Though there would not be any additional charge for ordinary stamped letters, the department would charge a nominal service fee from the customers who optionally entrust it with additional jobs like franking, enveloping and writing addresses. Though meant for bulk postal customers like institutions and offices, the scheme would also help private individuals wishing to mail invitation cards.

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

Andhra Police on August 30, 2004 unearthed a Rs 2.35 million stamp scam in Hyderabad. The scamsters reportedly have links with those involved in the Telgi racket. The prime suspect, Mohammed Azeemuddin Siddique, a stamp vendor, is absconding. The Begum Bazaar police have registered a case under various sections of the Indian Stamps Act as per the complaint lodged by V Srinivasulu, a deputy registrar at MJ Market.

Justice D G Deshpande of the Bombay High Court on August 30, 2004 granted temporary bail for four weeks on medical grounds to former Special Inspector General of Police Sridhar Wagal, arrested for his alleged complicity in the multi-billion fake stamp scam. Wagal has been admitted to Nanavati Hospital in Mumbai after he complained of neurological problem. He urged the court to allow him undergo a surgery suggested by doctors. Wagal was arrested in October 2003 under the Maharashtra Control of Organized Crime Act (MCOCA) on charges of shielding prime accused in fake stamp paper scam Abdul Karim Telgi, and helping his organized crime syndicate.

The Bombay High Court granted bail to former Deputy Commissioner of Police and head of the Mumbai crime branch Pradip Sawant, an accused in the Telgi stamp scam on August 27, 2004. Arrested by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) of Maharashtra police in January 2004, Sawant had been charged under various sections of the MCOCA for dereliction of duty and shielding subordinates involved in the scam. Sawant has been in judicial custody since March 2004.

Two other accused, whose bail applications were heard in the Bombay High Court on August 27, 2004, were former police commissioner R S Sharma and Police Inspector Krishna Yadav. Both were denied bail by Justice D B Bhosale. Currently, Justice Bhosale is also hearing the bail appeal of former police superintendent Baban Ranjane. Prior to this, Justice Deshpande had heard and granted bail to Police Inspector Vashist Andhale, also an accused in the Telgi scam.

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ILLEGAL STAMPS OF NAGORNO-KARABAKH

Government of Azerbaijan has denounced illegal stamps issued in the name of "the so-called Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh" informs Maria Libera maria.libera@upu.int of the World Association for Development of Philately (WADP). Universal Postal Union (UPU) has issued a circular on the subject that is the seventh such circular in 2004. The preceding circulars concern the postal administrations of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Iraq, Morocco (for the Sahara) and Sudan.

The circulars of similar nature continue to be in preparation by the following postal administrations that are victims of the production and distribution of illegal stamps: Afghanistan, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Union of Comoros, Congo (Republic), Congo (Democratic Republic), Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, East Timor, Eritrea, Estonia (its islands), Falkland Islands, Gambia, Georgia, Guiné-Bissau, Guinea (Republic), Kosova (UNMIK), Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Union of Myanmar, Niger, the Russian Federation (its internal republics and provinces), Rwanda, Sahara Republic (by Morocco), Sao Tome é Principe, Somalia, Sudan, Tadjikistan, Tchad, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

The circulars already issued in the names of a large number of countries have unfortunately not yet stopped the continued proliferation of illegal stamps. WADP renew their appeal for assistance to the philatelic community to receive as much material as possible that is on the market that is or may be doubtful in nature and which requires investigation.

As part of strengthening the combat against the continuing proliferation of illegal stamps, collectors should continue to be particularly careful when they see issues on the market in the names of the above-mentioned countries, in particular during philatelic exhibitions, on the Internet, and in various advertising materials. It is important that they check the listing of the legal issues (through wnstamps.ch website) and double-check beforehand the authenticity of the stamps they want to purchase, than to regret their purchase later.

To be noted also that more and more of the countries concerned have their legal and official stamps on their own websites. More postal administrations are still signing up to the UPU's WADP Numbering system which lists the official stamps issued since 1 January 2002 (on the website, www.wnsstamps.ch). 156 postal administrations are currently participating in the WNS system.

The summary of circulars issued to date which denounce illegal stamps is being updated and is also available through the Philatelic entry in the UPU Website. Additional information on illegal stamps is available there also.

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THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

The Calendar for September 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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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.>

ASHOK KUMAR TIWARY

Department of post is doing a lot for promotion of philately in India. However, most of the finance for this purpose is being wasted due to bureaucracy. I am giving an example of recent 'Philatelic festival' which was held in Jamshedpur. According to the guidelines of the department of post, philatelic festivals should be held at those places where philately is less known. Jamshedpur is a well developed town in terms of philately. So there was no need to organize a philatelic festival there. But, Department officials were not willing to organize that at other places like Chaibasa or Saraikela, where some new philatelist can be born. So, festival at Jamshedpur was just a showpiece & wastage of fund. All other activities were held in this festival except philately! I would like to draw the attention of senior officials of the Department of posts to give clear instruction to the respective circles about 'Phialtelic Festivals' & 'Seminar on Philately'.

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FEATURES & RESOURCES

Indian Laws Relevant to Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/laws.htm>

Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud related to Indian Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/cybercrime.htm>

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RESEARCH NOTES

By Madhukar Jhingan

PRIVILEGED POSTAL RATES FOR ARMY

"The special privileged rates formerly allowed to Officers of the Army in India in respect of their correspondence with England were withdrawn, with effect from the 1st January 1870, the correspondence of Military Officers becoming thenceforward chargeable with the same postage rates as those applicable to the correspondence of the public generally."

- Annual Report on the Operations of the Post Office of India for the year 1869-70

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

SWAROVSKI - POSTAGE STAMPS WITH CRYSTALS

Austria will release on September 20, 2004 a miniature sheet of 2 stamps, Euro 3.75 each, on the Austrian company Swarovski. It is an absolute novelty world-wide as for the first time crystals have been applied to a commemorative stamp. The stamps are designed by Rente Gruber and produced by Photogravure in the quantity of 0.8 million.

The Austrian company Swarovski enjoys a world-wide reputation, not only for its famous crystals and crystal products, but also its small sparkling works of art for collectors. Such works of art are also shown on this valuable stamp sheet, the product of collaboration between the Austrian Post and Swarovski.

It was in 1892 that Daniel Swarovski applied for a patent for a machine that for the first time allowed crystal stones to be ground more quickly and more perfectly than by hand, an invention that revolutionised the processing of crystals. Together with his brother in law Franz Weis and Armand Kosmann, Daniel Swarovski founded today's Swarovski company in 1895, moving from his home in Bohemia to Tyrol.

From 1908 on, Daniel Swarovski and his two sons sought for the ideal recipe for the production of crystals, and built special smelting furnaces. In 1932, Swarovski was finally able to start production of his own crystals. These jewels were so brilliant and perfect that they immediately caused a stir around the world. Over the next few years, Swarovski extended his range of products by adding a number of high-quality items such as reflecting rear lights and optical precision appliances and crystal chandeliers (Strass®)

In 1995, Swarovski celebrated the 100th anniversary of the company's foundation, a highlight of the celebrations being the opening of the Swarovski Crystal Worlds at Wattens in Tyrol: a 2000 m² underground labyrinth of rooms bathed in the light and colours of millions of sparkling and glittering crystals that entice the visitor into a fantasy world designed by the artist André Heller. It was under his direction that the Crystal Worlds were also rebuilt in 2003, and inspirational wonder chambers are now an addition to the Crystal Worlds.

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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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