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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

At this time our thoughts are with Rajesh Varma, our friend and a wellknown fellow philatelist who very fortunately survived a bus accident on early hours of September 14, 2004.

Varma who is President of Uttaranchal Philatelists Association and Secretary General of Olympic Philatelists of India was traveling from Dehradun to New Delhi in the night bus when it crashed in to a stationary truck loaded with sugar bags near Murad Nagar on National Highway # 58. Police removed the injured to hospital and Varma was admitted to a hospital in Ghaziabad that contacted us at 5.30 am, the time when he was expected to arrive at New Delhi. He was fortunate in getting the life saving first aid at the hospital in a timely manner.

His right leg is seriously hurt with multiple fractures and his hip bone was dislocated. Dr. S P Gupta, a renowned orthopedic surgeon and a senior philatelist from nearby Meerut rushed to Ghaziabad on learning about his accident. Several other friends, philatelists, and family reached him in no time.

He had already been operated twice and amazingly was back in good spirits by September 16, 2004.

We wish him speedy recovery and shall be pleased to convey your messages to him, please email to [rajeshvarma@stampsofindia.com](mailto:rajeshvarma@stampsofindia.com)

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, and The Hindustan 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

WORLD STAMP CHAMPIONS

We realized rather late that in the hurry to meet the deadline we have forgotten to report the winners of the first World Stamp Championships.

The top three winners of the inaugural competition came not only from different countries, but also from very diverse backgrounds. Yet, they were brought together by a common interest – stamps.

The dairy farmer from Thailand, Surajit Gongvatana, won the prestigious World Stamp Champion trophy. In second place was professor of medicine from Italy, Saverio Imperato and third place, banker from Japan, Sato Koichi.

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SUBRAHMANYAM STAMP RELEASED

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs. 5 on September 10, 2004 on K Subrahmanyam, a pioneer filmmaker of South Indian Cinema.

Subrahmanyam instilled the nationalist spirit and a commitment to social issues in his films. He was the first South Indian filmmaker to produce a film in Hindi namely 'PremSagar'. The credit of first Indian to direct a Sinhalese film also went to Subrahmanyam.

Subrahmanyam had his graduation from Kumbakonam College and done his Law at the Madras Law College and became a lawyer. But soon the creative urge in him drew him to the film industry where he began his career as an Assistant Director under the then noted film Director Raja Sandow. Apart from silent films Subrahmanyam made several mythological and social movies in Tamil and also a few in Malayalam, Telugu and Kannada.

Subrahmanyam was the Honorary Adviser for the then constituted Development of Visual Education of the erstwhile Government of Travancore. Subrahmanyam played a vital role in the formation of Film Finance Corporation, Children's Film Society of India, NFDC, the Film Institutes at Pune and Chennai, the National Film Archives in Pune, the Film Federation of India and the Central and State Sangeet Natak

Academies. He was nominated by UNESCO as the Honorary Advisor to its International Films and Television Council for India and Far East. Subrahmanyam has the pride of honored by world's two greatest Studios of USSR and the Hollywood.

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 0.6 million.

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

September 1: Mumbai, Sony TV's 'Jassi Jaisi Koi Nahi' 1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.  
September 15: Ahemdeabad, Mahatma Gandhi Labor Institute, 25 years, 1  
September 15: Ahemdeabad, Mahatma Gandhi Labor Institute, 25 years, 2

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

September 8, World Military Dental Congress, New Delhi

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PCI COURT CASES UPDATE

The suit filed by Madhukar Jhingan against Philatelic Congress of India came up for hearing on September 9, 2004. The next date of hearing was fixed for September 21, 2004.

On September 9, 2004 an application for initiating contempt of court proceeding against Philatelic Congress of India, Vispi S Dastur, Dilip Shah, and M G Pittie was filed for violating the order of the Hon'ble court of August 7, 2004. The Hon'ble court issued notice to the parties and the next date of hearing was fixed for October 11, 2004. This is the third application for initiating contempt of court proceedings against PCI and its officers.

The suit filed by Rajesh Varma against Philatelic Congress of India in 2004 came up for hearing on September 14, 2004 and as he had met with an accident in the early hours, the Hon'ble court granted 15 days time.

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MORE ON RAKHI SPECIAL ENVELOPES

The festival of Rakhi has come and gone but the philatelic and postal history of Rakhi Special Envelopes is far from complete. Here is the latest update:

Issued by following circles:

Delhi, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar

Not issued by following circles:

Kerala, Uttaranchal,

Issue sold out and Reprinted by following circles:

Rajasthan, Gujarat (With logo added)

Status unknown as yet:

Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Jammu & Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal, Andhra, Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Assam, North East

We once again request our readers to look out for these in their area and help add further information.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

An exhibition of the stamps of India was opened on September 15, 2004 at People Liberation Army's National Defence University (NDU) at Beijing, China to mark the 50th anniversary of the Panchsheel - the five principles of peaceful co-existence, first proposed by Chinese premier Zhou Enlai and first Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in 1954.

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  
Sardar Patel Seva Samaj, Opp Navrangpura Telephone Exchange, Off CG Road  
Contact: Ashok Kumar Bayanwala, 'Vrinda Niket', 96 Swastik Society, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad 380009, Mobile (Reliance) 079-31030758 (CORRECTED)

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](mailto:sklahoti@vsnl.net)

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

G P A NEWS, Whole # 84 - July 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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PHILATELIC WORKSHOPS IN SCHOOLS

South West Division in the Delhi Circle of India Post organized a philatelic workshop at Tagore International School, Vasant Vihar on September 10, 2004. The workshop was conducted by senior philatelist Pulak Gupta and attended by the students from class VI to VIII in a group of 50 students.

The workshop introduced the students to the hobby of collecting stamps, types of stamps, how to arrange them in the album with a different treatment for the mint and the used stamps followed by a practical demonstration on how to remove stamps from the paper. A brief was also given to the students on how to make exhibits for display in the exhibitions.

After the workshop an interactive session with the students was organized where the students asked questions. Several students brought their stamp collections to the school and requested to go through the same and give them advice. It was interesting to note that many teachers had also got there stamps albums. The most interesting was the sudden gate crash by a group of young toddlers from class II with their stamps albums.

It was decided to give prizes one each to junior, middle and senior classes. A special prize was also given to the teachers.

Also on the occasion the Department organized a special stall selling commemorative stamps.

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

Judicial magistrate first class S R Jaisal, remanding Telgi to judicial custody till September 28, 2004, had on September 13, 2004 asked the investigating agency to produce medical records of Abdul Karim Telgi before him. The CBI will produce before a local court medical records of multi-billion fake stamp scam accused on September 15, 2004 and also disclose the treatment provided to him till now. After he was remanded to custody, police took the accused to Yerwada prison in Pune where he is currently being lodged.

Two doctors of a Bangalore state-run hospital have been formally charged by the CBI for exaggerating the illness of Telgi to allow him to get bail. K N Channakeshava and K H Jananendrappa are currently in judicial custody for allegedly receiving illegal gratification and for abuse of their official position. The doctors held senior positions in Bangalore's Victoria Hospital and had issued medical certificates that highlighted about serious medical condition of Telgi and that he suffered from diabetes.

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FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

The Advertising Supplement to 'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is available on-line <http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/ad/ads.htm>

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, PART 77

In this column when we write about criminal activities such as smuggling antiquities, we have so far written about persons in their 50's and 60's. We have always been optimistic about younger generation.

However we were recently shocked to see an Indian exhibit at World Stamp Championship that included antiquities and were carried from India to Singapore by the exhibitor's father without mandatory permit from the Archaeological Survey of India. This person in his wisdom (?) chose not to inform about the inclusion of antiquities in his son's exhibit to the national commissioner for India.

To add insult to injury, he was also found telling other participants of World Stamp Championship who had antiquities in their exhibits and for whom permit was obtained by the national commissioner from the Archaeological Survey of India, about his 'smartness' and urging them to follow his example!

To this person, who has been a commissioner, jury, and a PCI governing council member, we have nothing to say as we consider him beyond salvage but we do pray that his son grows up to be a law abiding citizen and a good human being.

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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.>

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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

THE COLORS OF POSTAL STATIONERY

The Ministry of Communications had set up a Social Audit Panel and in 1992 it had recommended the all around improvement in postal stationery.

Accordingly it was decided to make available postcards in Blue, and Green in addition to the existing Buff and the Inland Letter Card in Pink, and Grey in addition to the existing Blue.

Private sector Security Printers were deployed for the first time for manufacturing postal stationery and these presses generally used better quality paper and gumming as well as introduced several new stamp designs. The new designs introduced were - postcard with Panda stamp design, Inland Letter Card with Ship stamp design, envelopes with Deer stamp design, aerogramme with Taj Mahal stamp design, and registered envelopes with lotus stamp design.

It was also contemplated to have Designer Stationery with a sizeable premium to cover the cost of the improvements. Congratulations & Greetings envelopes with Stationery Charge of 150% of the postage value were released. Other articles of postal stationery were also planned but not issued.

The new type of Inland Letter Card that were similar to the aerogramme i.e. vertical instead of the existing horizontal format were also made their debut during this period as also the large size registered envelopes.

The presses found procuring and stocking three different colored papers inconvenient and in couple of years this experiment was abandoned.

In 1995 Yellow paper that is used for manufacturing envelopes was used for making Inland Letter Card due to shortage of paper normally used for Inland Letter Card.

Thus we have 4 colors, and 4 printers for 75 Paise Inland Letter Card and these alone will make a very interesting one frame exhibit.

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

\$25 MILLION COLLECTIONS AT AUCTIONS

Greg Manning Auctions, Inc announced on September 13, 2004 that it has signed an exclusive agreement to auction the Edward M Gilbert collections of rare stamps and postal history, which is expected to realize proceeds of over \$25,000,000. This premier series of auctions will begin on October 22, 2004 at H R Harmer galleries in New York City, a wholly owned subsidiary of GMAI, and will feature a rare collection of Newfoundland stamps and postal history.

The second auction will take place in Monte Carlo, Monaco on December 4, 6-7, 2004 in concert with the Boule auction company of Paris and Monte Carlo, and will offer Mr. Gilbert's unparalleled collections of France and French Colonies stamps and postal history. The Monte Carlo auction

will be held as an official auction in conjunction with the "Monaco Phil2004" exhibition, sponsored by Prince Rainer of Monaco.

Greg Manning, First Vice Chairman, CEO and President, stated, "We are extremely pleased to announce the selection of H.R. Harmer to sell the Edward M. Gilbert collections of the world. Mr. Gilbert has been a serious stamp collector for over 50 years and he has told us that, while he has decided to pare down his collection, he will never stop collecting entirely. Once Mr. Gilbert has completed a country and the thrill of the chase is gone, the collection then becomes a candidate for auction. A majority of the individual country collections owned by Mr. Gilbert are complete or nearly complete, and therefore we have reached agreement to commence the sale of Mr. Gilbert's vast holdings in a series of auctions, which will occur over several years. The Edward M. Gilbert Collection is by far the finest collection that we have ever had the pleasure to sell at public auction, and its \$25 million pre-sale estimate places it among the most important stamp collections ever sold at public auction."

Andrew Kupersmit, President of H.R. Harmer of New York, noted, "H.R. Harmer has, since 1940, sold many important collections including the Franklin D. Roosevelt, Adolph Menjou, Alfred Caspary and Dale-Liechtenstein collections; however the Edward M. Gilbert Collection certainly ranks among the finest of the collections H.R. Harmer has sold in its 64-year history." He continued, "We are also pleased to announce our association with one of the finest philatelic auction houses in France, Boule, in order to offer Mr. Gilbert's collections of France & Colonies at a venue in Monte Carlo where many of the world's most important collectors will gather, the 'Monaco Phil2004' exhibition."

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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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