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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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I N T H I S I S S U E

Forthcoming Stamp Issues  
Walchand Hirachand Stamp Released  
Postal Stationery New Issues  
New Meghdoot Postcards  
Army Postal Service Issues  
Recent Special Postmarks & Covers  
New Stamp Cards  
Recent & Forthcoming Events  
Design A Stamp Contest  
First Philatelic Society in India  
Stamps Do Well at Public Auctions in China  
Carrier of Words, Snail Mail Souped Up, The Postman Knocks Thrice

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<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/Download/archives.htm>

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

MJ lost his mobile phone for the third time in one year! Naturally all  
the losses have occurred at philatelic exhibitions at district, state,  
and international level.

At the time of writing of these lines he is still without a mobile  
phone. Watch this space for further developments.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Abhai Mishra,  
and Press Information Bureau.

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

November 25: Dula Bhaya Kag, Rs5

November 28: Aga Khan Award for Architecture: Agra Fort 2004, Set 2 stamps and a miniature sheet, Rs 15 each and Rs 30

The stamp and miniature sheet, Rs 15 each, on TAJ MAHAL is expected to be issued in December 2004. The announcement of an issue date is awaited.

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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WALCHAND HIRACHAND STAMP RELEASED

The Prime Minister of India, Dr Manmohan Singh, released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Seth Walchand Hirachand, the founder of Hindustan Construction Company (HCC) and the Hindustan Aircraft Limited (HAL) on his 121st birth anniversary on November 23, 2004 at New Delhi.

The Minister of Agriculture, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Sharad Pawar, and the Minister of State for Communications & Information Technology, Dr Shakeel Ahmad, were also present at the function.

Born in the year 1882 at Sholapur, Walchand had done his schooling at Government High School, Sholapur and College education in Pune. After losing in jowar and cotton trade, Walchand switched over to contract business which he thought to be remunerative. He entered into the contract business on partnership basis with one Laxman Balwant Phatak who was a former railway clerk then. Their partnership earned the contract for construction of the railway line known as the Barsi Light Railway which was a great success. Thereafter all the projects of Walchand got full steam which laid the foundation for the country's basic means of transportation. Walchand successfully completed the Bhorghat tunnel in Maharashtra which was considered to be beyond the capabilities of any Indian company in those days. Over the years, Hindustan Construction Company (HCC) was formed which went on to build some of India's landmark construction projects.

Besides projects on the surface, Walchand had also entered into the field of aeronautics. During one of his trips abroad, Walchand met the President of an American aircraft company which resulted in his resolve to manufacture planes in India. He established the famous Hindustan Aircraft Limited much ahead of schedule and the first Harlow trainer plane manufactured by HAL took off in July 1941. Later on HAL was acquired by the Government of India and continued to be building planes and guarding the Indian skies. Walchand's thirst never ended here. But he continued to put his landmark in the fields of navigation and road transport also. He founded the Scindia Steam Navigation Company which had a fleet of 54 steamers. Likewise in the automobile sector he established the Premier Automobiles Limited which rolled out the first indigenously built trucks and cars in 1947.

Walchand cared for the well-being and welfare of his employees and the community at large. He also established many educational and business institutions such as Walchand College of Engineering at Sangli in Maharashtra. Walchand passed away on April 8, 1953 after leaving an indelible imprint on Indian industry and infrastructure.

The design of the stamp and the FDC is based on the material provided by the proponents of the issue. 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 Rs 2 each. India Security Press printed the stamps by Photo Gravure in the quantity of 0.7 million in the sheets of 42.

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POSTAL STATIONERY NEW ISSUES

The following postal stationery with advertisement was scheduled for release in December 2004.

The information in the listing is presented in following format:

Date, Printer, Language, Message, Quantity in million, Remarks  
'M' denotes multicolor printing.

Postcard

01, SPP, Telugu, xxxxxx, 1  
03, SPP, Tamil, xxxxxx, 1, M

Inland

05, ISP, English, Aushadhi Pharmaceutical Corp, 1, M  
05, ISP, Telugu, Health & Family Welfare, 1, M

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NEW MEGHDOOT POSTCARDS

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:

Ad in Hindi - State Bank of India Dairy Plus Scheme
Ad in Hindi - State Bank of India Education Loan Scheme
Ad in Hindi - UCO Bank Kisan Credit Card
Ad in English - Rajas Colleges

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

Nov 11: 2(I) Armored Brigade, Centenary  
Nov 19: The Dogra Regiment, 13<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Nov 23: Corps of Electronics & Mechanical Engineers, Colors Presentation & 8<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Nov 25: The Rajputana Rifles, 13<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Nov 25: 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Dogra Regiment, Silver Jubilee

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

November 20: Dehradun, Cambrian Hall School, Golden Jubilee
November 22: New Delhi, 33rd International Federation of Training and Development Organisations (IFTDO) World Conference & Exhibition

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NEW STAMP CARDS

Uttaranchal Circle of India Post released a set of 9 picture post cards reproducing stamps of India on November 15, 2004. The cards are priced at Rs 5 each. The stamps reproduced are:

1. Indian Military Academy,
2. Mother Teresa,
3. Madhubani Mithila Painting,
4. Panchtantra - Lion and the rabbit,
5. Dhruv Helicopter,
6. Light Combat Aircraft,
7. Ascent of Mount Everest - Golden Jubilee,

8. Children's Day 2003, and
9. Raj Kapoor.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

VIRASAT

'Virasat' is the Cultural Festival of Uttaranchal held every year since 1999 and this year was held from November 15-25, 2004. Uttaranchal Circle of India Post participated in this festival for the first time. Philatelic exhibit in 10 frames was displayed at their stall in 8 pages per frame in landscape format. Abhai Mishra conducted a philatelic workshop for around 200 children on November 20, 2004. A philatelic Quiz was also held. The Director Postal Services, Uttaranchal Circle, Amrit Raj gave away the prizes.

November 19-20: Madurai, District level
Venue: Kendriya Vidyalaya, Narimedu

FAPCCI-HYPEX 2004

Andhra Pradesh Finance Minister, K Rosaiah, inaugurated a three day philatelic exhibition organized by the Federation of Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FAPCCI), in association with India Post and Hyderabad Philatelic & Hobbies Society, on November 19, 2004 at Hyderabad. About 100 exhibitors from all over the State, mostly students, displayed their collection of stamps, coins and currency notes in the three groups - senior, junior and sub-junior. The FAPCCI had also organized an exhibition in 2003 with 40 frames on display.

November 25-27, Bhopal, District Level [NEW DATES]

Venue: Kamla Nehru Girls H S School, T T Nagar
Contact: C D Mandsorwale (Secretary) Tel 0755-2772989, 2531206, 2770239.
For Hotel Bookings - Saleem M Khan (Philatelist) Mobile 0 9826426280
Dealer Stalls are available for Rs1500

November 29-30, Patiala, District Level

Venue:
Contact:

December 4-5, Sholapur, District Level

Venue:
Contact:

December 18-21, Patna, State Level

Venue: Sri Krishna Science Centre, West Gandhi Maidan
Contact: Sanjeev Ranjan, Chief Post Master, Patna GPO

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DESIGN A STAMP CONTEST

Chandigarh Division of Punjab Circle of India Post organized 'Design a stamp contest 2004' at Government Museum & Art Gallery, Panchkula on November 14, 2004. The theme of the competition was 'Festival or Celebrations'. About 100 children from various schools participated in the competition that was open for students up to the age of 17 years.

A sale counter was also setup at the venue by Philatelic Bureau for opening of philatelic deposit account and sale of stamps.

The prizes to the winners were given away by Nirmaljit Singh, Senior Superintendent of Post Offices. Bharti Sharma of Carmel Convent School bagged the first prize while the second and third prize was won by

Tushar Khanna of St. John High School and Jagbir Singh of Shishu Niketan, respectively.

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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

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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FIRST PHILATELIC SOCIETY IN INDIA

Compiled by Jeevan Jyoti

Calcutta is the place from where Philately started blooming in India. It goes back to 110 years ago i.e. in February 1894 when Philatelic Society of Bengal was formed. It was largely an effort of B Gordon Jones, F S Gubbay and G J Hynes, the acting Postmaster General of Bengal and an ardent philatelist who was the president of the society. The society served Indian Philately in a splendid way. It enrolled about 60 members within four months. The admission fee was Rs 5 and membership subscription was Rs 3 per half year. The Official Publication of the Society was the 'Philatelic World' edited jointly by C F Larmour and Wilmot Corfield and published by B Gordon Jones. The half yearly subscription was Rs 5. The founder Secretary of the Society was E Berthovel. In November 1894 C Stewart Wilson, another senior postal officer, was elected President. All these names are still familiar as stalwarts to the philatelists interested in Indian philately.

In January 1896 Bombay Philatelic Society was formed in Bombay. It had 55 members. It published an official organ known as The Quarter Philatelic Circular.

At the same time another Philatelic Club called the North West (India) Philatelic Club was formed in United Provinces (now Uttar Pradesh).

In January 1897, the Philatelic Society of India was formed in Calcutta. Its office has been moving all over India and at different times was at Madras, Bombay, Lahore, and New Delhi. Since 1955 it has been stationary at Bombay.

After that several Philatelic Societies were formed in different parts of India and worked actively. These societies had good number of members. Postage stamps became passion and many people started collecting stamps. Some budding collectors became stalwarts of philately and earned fame in International Philatelic Arena. But it is really unfortunate in last few years many societies stopped functioning. The number of members is reduced day by day. The only reason behind it that young generation is not coming up to take up this hobby. It should be

joint effort of all groups of philatelists to do their best to keep this hobby alive in the years to come.

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

STAMPS DO WELL AT PUBLIC AUCTIONS IN CHINA

6,000 items were sold within in 13 categories at the China Guardian 2004 Autumn Auctions at Beijing, for China Yuan Renminbi (CYR) 480 million (US\$ 57 million). This is a new record for the sales of antiques & arts by auction in domestic market.

The last item of the four day event was the Stamps and Covers Collections of Lin Song, a renowned philatelist. This was the first time a personal stamp collection was auctioned in China.

Lin Song (1905-1999), started collecting stamps in the 1930s beginning with foreign stamps and stamps with medical themes, and later moved onto early stamps from various eras throughout Chinese history. His collection was especially rich in the liberation-period items and had won numerous awards at many exhibitions around China. This collection of over 1,000 stamps etc. sold for a total of CYR 7.79 million (US\$ 941,000).

Other Stamps at the auction made a total of CYR 4.23 million (US\$ 512,000). The items appraised by China Post, which conducted research on the historical background and significance of each piece, received a lot of attention.

China Guardian International Auction Company Limited was established in May 1993 and is a comprehensive national auction company ratified by the Ministry of Culture. China Guardian is fast becoming a large auction enterprise that possesses the most complete assortment and variety of auctioned goods in China.

China Guardian has a standing cultural relics and artwork auction catalog covering traditional Chinese calligraphy and paintings, oil paintings and sculptures, porcelain and jade works of art, classical furniture, rare ancient Chinese books, pearls and marbles, postal articles and coins. China Guardian also auctions property rights, real estate, intellectual rights, confiscated and mortgaged articles as well as abandoned properties.

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NEWSSCAN

The OUTLOOK weekly newsmagazine in its issue of November 29, 2004 carried a feature on 150 years of the postal services in India.

CARRIER OF WORDS

Pramila N Phatarphekar

[http://www.outlookindia.com/full.asp?fodname=20041129&fname=Postman+\(F\)&sid=1](http://www.outlookindia.com/full.asp?fodname=20041129&fname=Postman+(F)&sid=1)

SNAIL MAIL SOUPED UP

Gauri Bhatia

[http://www.outlookindia.com/full.asp?fodname=20041129&fname=Postman+\(F\)&sid=2](http://www.outlookindia.com/full.asp?fodname=20041129&fname=Postman+(F)&sid=2)

THE POSTMAN KNOCKS THRICE

Ruskin Bond

[http://www.outlookindia.com/full.asp?fodname=20041129&fname=Postman+\(F\)&sid=3](http://www.outlookindia.com/full.asp?fodname=20041129&fname=Postman+(F)&sid=3)

<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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