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

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

After sulking for couple of weeks, MJ has finally acquired a new mobile  
phone and a new number - 93505 37037.

The earlier number 98681 40089 has also been revived and shall remain in  
use for now, but is planned to be phased out after couple of months.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Ramakrishnan  
P, and Press Trust 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

December 10: Bhagat Puran Singh, Rs 5  
December 12: Nupeelal, Rs 5  
December 14: National Energy Conservation Day  
December 21: Sahitya Akademi  
December 27: Bhaskara Sethupathy

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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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

DULA BHAYA KAG

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of rupees five on Dula Bhaya Kag, on December 25, 2004 at Ahmedabad on his Birth anniversary.

A poet, a nationalist, a composer and singer of folk songs, Kag was inspired by the freedom fighters of his time and by such great personalities like Vinoba Bhave and Mahatma Gandhi, his poetry became the instrument for expressing his nationalistic feelings.

Born in the year 1903 in a village in the Saurashtra Region, Kag could only receive education up to Class five due to shouldering the responsibility of minding the cattle which belonged to his family. Even then, he devoted the time available to him to poetry as he tended the cattle. Due to his involvement in the national movement he evinced interest in the prohibition activities after the formation of Saurashtra State He donated his land to Vinoba Bhave's Bhudan Movement. Kag's poetic excellence and effective recital set apart him from his contemporaries. He published 'Kagvani' in eight volumes, devotional songs, episodes from Ramayana and Mahabharata and songs based on Gandhian philosophy and the Bhudan Movement. He was honoured with Padmashree Award in the year 1962. Kag passed away on 22nd February 1977.

Benoy Varghese designed the stamp and the First Day Cover. 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 0.6 million.

AGA KHAN AWARD FOR ARCHITECTURE

Union Minister of State for Communication and Information Technology Shakeel Ahmed released a set of 2 se-tenant commemorative postage stamps, in the denomination of Rs 15 each, and a miniature sheet on the Ninth Aga Khan Award for Architecture on November 28, 2004 at Agra. Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting and Culture, Jaipal Reddy, Uttar Pradesh Minister of Tourism Kokab Hamid, Member of

Parliament from Agra and popular cine star Raj Babbar, and the Aga Khan were also present at the function.

The stamps depict the Agra Fort in all its splendor and also Khas Mahal inside it that was built entirely of marble in 1637.

Aga Khan said the stamp release functions along with the awards started back in 1980. Pakistan was the first to release special stamps.

The Aga Khan Award for Architecture has completed eight cycles of activity since its establishment in 1977 by the Aga Khan, the forty-ninth hereditary Imam of the Shia Ismaili Muslims to enhance the understanding and appreciation of Islamic culture as expressed through architecture. The Award seeks to identify and encourage building concepts as a conscious endeavour to sustain the inheritance of cultural pluralism. The Ninth Award cycle covers the period from 2002 to 2004 and the prize amounts totaling up to US\$ 500,000 which is considered to be the largest and most prestigious award in the world in the field of architecture. The award winning project is selected by an independent Master Jury every three years. The awards for architectural excellence are given keeping in view the past, present and future possibilities in the field.

Aga Khan Awards for architecture were given away by Prime Minister of India, Dr Manmohan Singh to seven international institutions at the gardens of the historical monument 'Humayun's Tomb' in New Delhi on November 27, 2004.

Vinay Jain designed the stamps, miniature sheet, and the First Day Cover based on the photographs of Michael Peuchert. 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 0.8 million each in the sheets of 10 stamps (5 se-tenant pairs). The miniature sheet is printed in the quantity of 200,000.

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NEW MEGHDOOT POSTCARDS

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were released on December 1, 2004, the World AIDS Day:  
Ad in Hindi - AIDS, National AIDS Control Organization

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

The issues scheduled for release in December 2004:
03 Dec 2004: 87 Armoured Regiment Silver Jubilee
06 Dec 2004: 66 Armoured Regiment Standard Presentation
12 Dec 2004: The Brigade of the guard 8th Reunion
15 Dec 2004: 90 Armoured Regiment Silver Jubilee

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NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INDIA POST

R Ganesan took over the charge of the office of the Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Communications & Information Technology on December 1, 2004 from Vijay Bhushan who superannuated on November 30, 2004. He shall also be the Chairman of the Postal Services Board, Director General of India Post, as well as the Chairman of the World Association for the Development of Philately (WADP).

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PRADIP JAIN ADDS ANOTHER GOLD

Congratulations to Pradip Jain of Patna whose book 'Indian Air Mails - Development and Operations 1911-42' won Gold medal at CHICAGOPEX 2004

held from November 19 to 21, 2004 in USA. CHICAGOPEX is organized by the Chicago Philatelic Society every year.

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SATISH MISRA'S MOBILE NUMBER

Wellknown auctioneer from Bareilly, Satish Misra now has a new mobile number: 94125 66374.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

November 5-7, Gwalior, District Level

November 25-27, Jammu, State Level

December 4-5, Sholapur, District Level
Venue: St. Joseph High School

December 5-6, Jalgaon, District Level

December 18-21, Patna, State Level
Venue: Sri Krishna Science Centre, West Gandhi Maidan
Contact: Sanjeev Ranjan, Chief Post Master, Patna GPO

December 20-22, Rajkot, District Level

December 28-30, Pune, Coins & Paper Money

2005

January 8-9, Vardha, District Level

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EXPRESS PARCEL POST TARIFF

The tariff for Express Parcel Post was revised with effect from October 25, 2004 and the new rates are as follows:

Local:

Rs 10 per KG upto 3 KG,  
Rs 3 for every additional KG

Upto 500 Kilometers:

Rs 15 per KG upto 3 KG,  
Rs 5 for every additional KG

501-1000 Kilometers:

Rs 20 per KG upto 3 KG,  
Rs 13 for every additional KG

1001-2000 Kilometers:

Rs 25 per KG upto 3 KG,  
Rs 25 for every additional KG

2001 Kilometers Onwards:

Rs 35 per KG upto 3 KG,  
Rs 35 for every additional KG

The minimum tariff rate for booking Express Parcel Post is for 3 KG and the maximum weight is 35 KG.

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DHL ACQUIRES BLUE DART

DHL, the world's leading express and logistics company invested 128 million euro in India towards an acquisition of a majority stake in Blue Dart, the premium domestic courier and integrated air express package

distribution company. The agreement, signed on 6th November, 2004 gives DHL Express a 68 per cent stake in Blue Dart subject to regulatory approvals.

With an extensive domestic geographical footprint and air express infrastructure, Blue Dart will strengthen DHL's presence in India. Customers will also benefit from inherent synergies derived from DHL's world-class expertise and Blue Dart's extensive network covering over 13,700 locations in India.

This announcement comes after DHL's recent commitment of over 180 million euro in China. With these investments, DHL becomes the only global air express company to have comprehensive domestic and international express services in two of the fastest growing economies in the region - China and India.

Following the completion of the acquisition, Blue Dart will be managed as a stand-alone company under the leadership of the existing management team. It will be business as usual and all existing client relationships will remain unchanged.

DHL is owned by Deutsche Post, the former German post office that has diversified into courier and mail services in several countries and aims to become the leading company in the mail communication, parcel, express, logistics and financial services markets, both in Europe and worldwide.

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

The judicial custody of all the accused in fake stamp scam has been extended till December 18, 2004 after police expressed inability to provide adequate security to them at Special MCOCA at Pune on November 26, 2004, due to other engagement of police personnel in view of visit of Vice-President of India, B S Shekhawat. Shekhawat is on a two-day visit to Pune from today and tight security arrangements have been made in the city, police said. None of the accused, lodged in Yerawada Central Jail, were produced before the Special Judge S H Shembole on the expiry of their custody. However, former Mumbai Police Commissioner R S Sharma and ex-Deputy Commissioner of police Pradeep Sawant, who are out on bail, were present at the MCOCA court. There were 65 accused, including prime accused Abdul Karim Telgi, who were lodged in Yerawada Jail at Pune and a few others released on bail. Meanwhile, the court rejected the interim bail application of Abdul Rashid Kulkarni saying there was no need at the moment to grant any interim relief to the applicant.

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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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STAMPS ON INDIA

MAHATMA GANDHI FROM FIJI

On May 24, 2004, Fiji released two miniature sheets to commemorate United Nations International Year of Peace. One miniature sheet consists of three \$3 stamps featuring Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, and Martin Luther King. The 2<sup>nd</sup> miniature sheet contains one \$2 stamp depicting peace dove.

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

CHINESE FAMILY NAMES

China issued a set of 128 stamps on November 18, 2004 on Chinese family names. The issue is sponsored by the Chinese Culture Research Institute.

A 1982 government survey was used to select the most common surnames or family names, which account for nearly 90 percent of the population. These have been used on 100 stamps. The remaining 28 stamps feature the historical names include figures such as Yandi (Red Emperor) and Huangdi (Yellow Emperor).

Li (plum) is one of the most common family name and makes up about 8 percent of the Chinese population.

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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

Published by Madhukar Jhingan mjhingan@yahoo.com for 'Stamps of India', Apartment 49-D, Block BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. India
Phone: +91-11-25281578, Mobile: +91-9868140089
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