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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  
Stamps in 2004  
Postal Stationery New Issues  
New Meghdoot Postcards  
Recent & Forthcoming Events  
S P Chatterjea Passes Away  
Nepal New Issues  
Fake Stamp Scam Updates  
India Bulgaria Diplomatic Relations  
Inland Parcels by Air  
Letter Arrives - 286 Years Late

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We wish to share with you what a fellow philatelist wrote in All Nations  
Stamp Club at MSN Groups <http://groups.msn.com/AllNationsStampClub>

"Hello All Members:

Those who have studied biology know that the tiny amoeba breeds through  
fission, partition. Is the same law of nature existing also in the field  
of stamp clubs?

We just saw the announcement that the International Music Stamps Group  
has gone to history. We also see other small groups and clubs  
languishing due to lack of support.

During the long period of 55 years I have been interested in the  
Albanian people, for many years now also as a translator and author,  
appreciating a people with many values but also many shortcomings. The  
Albanians have a saying, expressing their self-irony: "When two  
Albanians meet, three political parties are created..." - Each and  
everyone wants to stand on the pedestal as the Leader....

Living in the valleys between high mountains, where families and tribes  
have a stronger impetus than a central government, the Albanians are  
experiencing many obstacles in forming a strong, modern united society.

Are we stamp collectors suffering from the same weaknesses? Isolated in  
our rooms with our albums in front of us, we tend to underestimate the  
capacity of others and the value of combined efforts. Some of us want to

stand on the pedestal instead of joining forces with others. So one stamp collector may start two or three clubs....

I must say that the lack of collaboration is one of our weak points. Too few are doing a tremendous job for the benefit of others.... and the rest stand there just watching...

If you are a member of a big club and find that some features are missing in the club activities, you have got every chance in the world to join forces with the managing board and start a new section within the club. I think this will be a more successful action than running into the wilderness to form a new group or club of your own...

Instead of complaining about the shortcomings of our existing clubs, members should make constructive efforts towards improvement. This is in everybody's interest, and there is room for everybody. All-Nations Stamp Club has been outstanding in partitioning responsibilities, mostly due to Brian's (the Stampaholic) modest attitude right from the start.

With this message my purpose has not been to spread accusations or criticism but to contribute to a positive development in our internet stamp activities. I trust my message is an important one, perhaps it should have been written much earlier.

Ullmar aka Veriori  
Norrköping, Sweden, January 2, 2005."

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: S C Sukhani, and Shyam Prasad Pradhan.

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

January 9: Dogs, Set of 4 stamps, Rs 5, 5, 5, and 15, NO Miniature Sheet

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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STAMPS IN 2004

A total of 55 stamps (not 54 as erroneously reported in previous issue) for a total face value of Rs 343 were issued in the year. Also issued were 6 miniature sheets.

The complete list is available at  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2004.htm>

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POSTAL STATIONERY NEW ISSUES

The following postal stationery with advertisement was scheduled for release in January 2005.

The information in the listing is presented in following format:

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

Inland

31, SSP, English, Canara Bank, 1

ADDENDA to December 2004 published in issue # 196 of November 25, 2004

Inland

31, SSP, English, Tamilnad Mercantile Bank, 1  
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NEW MEGHDOOT POSTCARDS

Following Meghdoot post card with advertisement were recently released:  
Ad in English & Hindi - Taro Submersible Pumps  
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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

An exhibition on 'Japan-Thematics' is being organized by India Post this month in association with South India Philatelists' Association at Chennai. It features special features on New Year, Old dragon, animals, birds, insects, buildings and song series of Japan. The exhibits, which would be displayed on all Saturdays of the month at the exhibition hall in the Anna Head Post Office, were a collection of M R Ranganathan, senior philatelist. The exhibition would be open to public from 10 am to 5 pm and the entry was free.

January 8-9, Vardha, District Level

January 8-9, Vellore

February 23-27, Jaipur, Science Thematic

February, Jaipur, District Level, DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED

MEETINGS

January 9: 11 AM to 1 PM, Delhi Coin Society

23 Bhai Vir Singh Marg, WRC Buliding, Gole Market, New Delhi 110001  
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S P CHATTERJEA PASSES AWAY

S P Chatterjea died after a long illness on December 31, 2004 at Kolkata. Chatterjea was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Philatelic Officer of India Post and had served from 1959 to 1977. He took charge from the 1<sup>st</sup> Philatelic Officer - T N Mehta on his superannuation in 1965. He had served as an understudy for six years with Mehta.

During his tenure at India Post the National Philatelic Museum opened, National Philatelic Seminar conducted, multicolor stamps introduced, world's rarest stamp - British Guyana 1 cent was brought to India for display, and the post of the Philatelic Officer was upgraded to 'Director - Philately'. He was awarded 'Padma Shree' by Government of India for his services to philately.

After he superannuated from India Post in 1977, he worked for another decade as General Manager of the Children's Book Trust. Thereafter he left Delhi for good and migrated to Kolkata.

He was a signatory to the constitution of the Philatelic Congress of India in his capacity as Director-Philately of India Post. He later served its Secretary and Joint Treasurer for 1976-77, Secretary General for 1978-1982, Vice President 1982-1985, President Elect 1986-87, and President for 1988-1990. He remained a member of the Philatelic Congress of India till he breathed his last as a past president. He was also the editor of its quarterly publication 'Signet' since its launch in 1980 to 1990.

He was also a fellow of the Royal Philatelic society, London.

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NEPAL NEW ISSUES

SCULPTURE SERIES 200

Nepal issued a set of 4 stamps in the denomination of Rs 10 each on December 27, 2004 in the Sculpture Series 2004.

Jayavarma - this is the oldest dated image of Nepal. The pedestal inscription gives the date of 107 equivalents to 185 A.D. and name of the figure as Jayavarma. This is also the oldest secular image found in nepal.

UmaMaheswar - this is a unique example of UmaMaheswar. The image is the oldest of its type in Nepal. Such images are always flanked by the Nandi behind - the riding vehicle of the lord. Such an image is also traced in Kirtipur but in standing posture, where as this example is in seated position.

Vishwarupa - this is an image of Vishnu's Krishna incarnation, the cosmic form shown to Arjuna, in the battle field of renowned Mahabharat war. God expounds to Arjuna his universality, his immanence in all beings and objects, diversity of his nature and his variable manifestation.

Vamsagopala - this is the icon of lord Krishna playing a flute. Usually such figures used to be flanked by two figures of Radha and Rukmani, but this example is standing alone.

The stamp is designed K K Karmacjarya and printed by Austrian Government Printing Office, Vienna, Austria in the sheets of 16 stamps.

Postal Card

Nepal issued a postal card in the denomination of Rs 1 on December 31, 2004.

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

Jagjeevan Yadav, was arrested on January 5, 2005 at Indore and sent to prison by the special CBI magistrate S B Verma. The next hearing is scheduled for January 14, 2005. Yadav was booked in the case on the complaint of Bank of India. The case was registered at South Tukoganj police station. It is believed that several financial transactions were carried out through Yadav's accounts. With this arrest, all seven members listed in the CBI charge sheet, including Abdul Gafoor Mujahid who died recently, have been arrested across the country. Yadav, a licensed stamp vendor of Indore, had connived with accused Sohail Khan,

Abdul Gafoor Mujahid and Shabbir Ahmed Sheikh and furnished a Xerox copy of his vendor's licence that was used by the accused to convince the buyers about the credibility of the business operations of their firm Malwa Enterprises. Malwa Enterprises, situated at City Centre, was the front company of Abdul Karim Telgi, the kingpin in the scam, through which he spread his tentacles in Madhya Pradesh. The CBI had filed a charge sheet in the court on January 4, 2004 and the arrest warrant was issued against Jagjeevan Yadav.

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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

INDIA BULGARIA DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

On December 2, 2004, Bulgaria released a postcard to commemorate 50 years of Diplomatic relations between Bulgaria and India.

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RESEARCH NOTES

By Madhukar Jhingan

INLAND PARCELS BY AIR

Inland Parcels, both ordinary and registered, were accepted for transmission by air between Delhi and Karachi commencing with the flight of the Indian State Air Service due to leave Delhi for Karachi on September 9, 1931 and its return flight from Karachi on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Air fee, in addition to regular parcel postage, for every 40 tolas or part thereof was:

Annas 8 from Delhi to Karachi and vice versa,  
Annas 4 from Delhi to Jodhpur or Jodhpur to Karachi,

Insurance was not available.

An airmail label and an appropriate superscription 'Delhi - Karachi', 'Jodhpur - Karachi', 'Karachi - Jodhpur', or 'Karachi - Delhi' was mandatory.

Also from September 9, 1931 the parcels for Great Britain and North Ireland were also accepted at Annas 8 from Delhi and Annas 4 from Jodhpur per pound in addition to the combined Air fee and postage from Karachi.

Indian State Air Service ceased to function with effect from December 29, 1931. Thereafter Delhi Flying Club took over air mail service between Delhi and Karachi. This service discontinued carrying inland parcels although parcels for Great Britain and North Ireland were continued to be carried.

- Postal Notices of the Director General of the Post Offices of India Dated August 24, 1931 & November 6, 1931

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

LETTER ARRIVES - 286 YEARS LATE

Germany's postal service has set a new record after a letter was delivered to the correct address 286 years late. The letter from a Lutheran church official in the town of Eisenach was sent to officials in the nearby town of Ostheim in 1718, authorizing them to pick a new clergyman after the death of the former holder of the office. But it was delivered by mistake to a different Ostheim near Frankfurt, and ended up in the town archives.

Karl Schneider, 73, a local historian from Ostheim-vor-der-Rhoen which should have received the letter almost 300 years ago uncovered the mistake while discussing archive material with a colleague from the other Ostheim where it was mistakenly sent. Schneider matched the letter with names and events in his own town's history, and the letter was finally delivered Wednesday. December 15, 2004

In the early days of Germany's postal service mail delivery was done by cattle merchants, as the royal post only connected the main cities.

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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/siteguide/w04.htm>

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