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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The First & Only Weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India

Issue # 206 - February 3, 2005. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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I N T H I S I S S U E

Forthcoming Stamp Issues  
Postal Stationery Update  
New Meghdoot Postcards  
Army Postal Service Issues  
Recent & Forthcoming Events  
Reliance Infocomm Ties up with India Post  
Bhutan Post Quits Passenger Transport Business  
India Security Press  
Fake Stamp Scam Updates  
Space Shuttle Columbia  
St. Valentine's Day

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

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

The year 2005 celebrates an important landmark in the India's struggle for independence; it is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's historic march to Dandi demanding abolition of salt-tax. The 'Salt Satyagraha' was symbolic; its real significance was to break all tyrannical and unjust laws. The Dandi march started the Civil Disobedience Movement in all parts of country.

Mahatma Gandhi set out, on foot, on March 12, 1930 with seventy-eight of his followers and disciples from Ahmedabad on the 241-mile march to Dandi on the sea. All along the way, he addressed large crowds, and with each passing day an increasing number of people joined Gandhi on the march. On April 6, 1930 Gandhi at Dandi picked up a small lump of natural salt and broke the law as the manufacture of salt was a government monopoly.

The effects of the salt march were felt across India. Thousands of people made salt, or bought illegal salt. As the march mobilized many new followers from all of Indian society and the march came to the world's attention.

There are plans underway to reenact this march to keep the memory of the Mahatma alive and rekindle the spirit of sacrifice in today's youth.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Dandi March was celebrated in the year 1980 and India Post paid homage to the memory of the Mahatma by issuing a set of 2 stamps. No announcement has been forthcoming from India Post on

whether it is commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this important occasion through the issue of stamps.

We feel that this occasion definitely deserves to be commemorated in a suitable manner. We seek your opinion on the same and would also like to know if there is any other occasions in the year 2005 and 2006 that you feel should be commemorated by issuing stamps.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Manohar Lal

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

February 3: Padampat Singhania, Rs 5

This issue 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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POSTAL STATIONERY UPDATE

India Post released 52 items of postal stationery with advertisements in the year 2004. It includes 18 different postcards, 31 different Inland Letter Cards, and 3 different aerogrammes. However 2 postcards and 1 Inland Letter Card that were scheduled for release during November and December 2004 are yet to be issued.

In addition 79 Meghdoot Post Cards were issued in 2004 and are listed separately (see issue #205 of January 27, 2005).

Also issued during the year is a postcard with message - "Philately: King of Hobbies, Collect Postage Stamps, Contact Nearest Philatelic Bureau" printed by SPP and probably released in September 2004. This is not treated as postcard with advertisement by India Post. It is utilization of the space available on the quantity of postcard with no advertisement for promoting philately. In 2003 these messages appeared for the first time on postcard, and reply postcard from ISP, and Inland Letter Card from SPP.

We are still in process of gathering data on the postal stationery inscribed 2004 but without advertisement and seek your cooperation. Please report if you have postcard, reply postcard, inland letter card, envelope, and aerogramme without advertisement and inscribed 2004.

We will also appreciate English translations for messages in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, and Malayalam where 'xxx' appears in the list.

The complete list of postal stationery issues of 2004 is available at:
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/ps2004.htm>

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NEW MEGHDOOT POSTCARDS

Following Meghdoot has recently been issued at Philatelic Bureaus:  
Date of issue, Message, Language, Quantity in million, Remarks if any

November 12, 2004: Total Cleanliness Campaign, Gujarati, 0.1  
January 12, 2005: AIDS Orissa, Oriya, 0.2

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

February 1: 89 Armored Regiment, 25 years

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

SATNAPEX-2005

Colonel Prathviraj Kumar, Chief Postmaster General, Chhattisgarh Circle inaugurated the district level Philatelic Exhibition at Satna on January 29, 2005. The two day exhibition was organized by India Post with Central India Philatelic Society. Each day a special cover and special cancellation was released. Special cover of January 28 commemorated the 125th Anniversary of Satna city's oldest temple, Digamber Jain Mandir and an ancient sculpture of 10<sup>th</sup> century from Patiyandai Jain Temple was depicted in the special postmark. Special cover and special postmark of January 29 featured Satna Cement Works of Birla Corp Ltd. Total 24 participants of Satna District participated in the exhibition. Sudhir Jain, Secretary, Central India Philatelic Society was the Jury member. J S Banthia, Joint President, Birla Corp Ltd was the chief guest on prize distribution function. Following awards were given -

Gold Medal:

Tarang Goenka (Mahatma Gandhi) - Junior Group A (Upto 15 years)  
Anurag Jain (Meghdoot Postcards)- Junior Group B (15 to 18 years)  
Rajendra Agrawal "Shashi" (Medical) - Senior Group

Silver Medal:

Mayur Goenka (Horror) - Junior Group B (15 to 18 years)  
Akshay Jain (Save the Environment) - Senior Group  
Namrata Tiwari (Music) - Senior Group

Bronze Medal:

Pramit Agrawal (Great Men)- Junior Group B (15 to 18 years)  
Ashok Jain (Environment) - Senior Group  
Pravin Khatri (Horse) - Senior Group

February 3-4, Sangrur, District Level  
February 4-5, Vadodara, District Level  
February 4-6, Coimbatore, COIN-STAMPEX  
February 9-13, Mysore, COINEX  
February 10-12, Jaipur, District Level  
February 11-12, Birbhoom, District Level  
February 12-14, Howrah, South Bengal Regional  
February 23-27, Jaipur, Science Thematic  
February, Jaipur, District Level, DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED  
March 1-3, Gangtok, Sikkim

August 11-15, Coimbatore, South Zone

Contact: The Philatelists Coimbatore, 5 Eleventh Street, Tatabad,  
Coimbatore 641 012

MEETINGS - Guests are welcome

February 7: 2 to 4 PM, Delhi Philatelists  
2214-15, Hardhiyan Singh Road, 2nd Floor, Chanana Complex, Karol Bagh,  
New Delhi 110005

Contact: Madhukar Jhingan 93505-37037

February 13: 11 AM to 1 PM, Delhi Coin Society  
23 Bhai Vir Singh Marg, WRC Building, Gole Market, New Delhi 110001  
Contact: Goga Jain 93123-18401

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RELIANCE INFOCOMM TIES UP WITH INDIA POST

Reliance Infocomm Ltd has tied up with India Post to deliver its prepaid cards and vouchers of Reliance Mobile phone service across Andhra State. The tie up will give Reliance a foothold in newer regions and access to over 16,000 post offices located in some of the remotest places. Reliance's subscribers base in Andhra is on the verge of hitting the one-million mark.

The prepaid cards and vouchers will initially be available at six outlets in the state. They are the GPO and S R Nagar post office in Hyderabad, Secundarabad head post office, Vijayawada, Karimnagar and Adoni post offices. As Reliance Infocomm expands its network in Andhra, these would be available at up to 104 Head Post Offices, 2,364 sub post offices and over 13,000 branch post offices across the state.

Andhra Circle of India Post already has a tie up with BSNL to market its India Telephone Cards.

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BHUTAN POST QUILTS PASSENGER TRANSPORT BUSINESS

Bhutan Post is surrendering all its public passenger service routes except the Thimphu-Phuentsholing route from March 1, 2005. Bhutan Post is retaining the Phuentsholing-Thimphu route because a bulk of the mail transaction is done through Phuentsholing. Bhutan Post would be selling about 15 buses together with the routes.

Deputy managing director of Bhutan Post Jigme Tenzin said that the corporation had suffered excessive losses running the service since the emergence of private operators. "The service would be more profitable if run by private operators since they do not need an establishment," he said. "We also want to concentrate more on our core business which is mailing services."

Bhutan Post took over the passenger transport service from the Bhutan Government Transport Service in May 1997.

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INDIA SECURITY PRESS

India Security Press, Nasik Road, invites sealed Tenders from ink manufacturers only for supply of Bi-Fluorescent (Blue/Red) ink to be used for high speed Dry Offset, Letterpress printing process by using nyloplates for a total quantity of 100 kg. The last date for receipt of Tender is February 25, 2005. For more details please contact, The General Manager, India Security Press, Nasik Road 422101. Telephone 91-0253-2465583

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

CBI on January 31 2005 charge sheeted stamp scam kingpin Abdul Karim Telgi and his alleged accomplices, Delhi Police Inspector Puran Singh

and Sub-Inspector Gaurav Aggarwal in connection with fake stamp paper racket unearthed in New Delhi last year. The charge sheet against Telgi was filed in the court of Designated Judge HP Sharma. In total, the agency filed three charge sheets on Monday in connection with the fake stamp racket dealing with different alleged conspiracies hatched by various accused.

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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>

INDIAN POSTAL GUIDE 1869

Stamps of India have launched its publication program with reprinting 'Indian Postal Guide Containing the Chief Public Regulations of the Post Office with Other Information April 1, 1869'.

This is first in the series of elusive but significant official publications that are primary resources for history of postal communications in India. This is the first issue of the official postal guide of India. A very brittle and moth eaten copy is rediscovered and rescued that is perhaps the only surviving example in the world.

Its content include: Chief Officers of the Department, Exclusive Privilege of Indian Post Office, Inland Post, Postage stamps, List of Indian Post Offices, District Post, Foreign Post, Official Correspondence, Registration, Time Tables of Mail steamers, Government Bullock Train, Passenger Service, Money Orders, and Telegraph Department.

The 236 page hardbound reprint is a facsimile enlarged from original octavo to A4 size. This limited edition is available at a special price for €50 post paid anywhere in the world or Rs 2750 post paid in India.

The remittance should be in favor of 'Stamps of India' and payable at New Delhi. Please send your orders to Stamps of India, 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063, India.

Overseas buyers can also send remittance in Australian Dollars, British pounds or U S Dollars equivalent to €50.

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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

SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA STS 107

The Czech Post issued a special miniature sheet featuring an image of the Petr Ginz moonscape drawing, with a nominal value of CZK 31 on January 20, 2005.

Born into a Jewish family in Prague, Petr Ginz (1928-1944) was a multi-talented boy from an early age who wrote for his school magazine. On October 24, 1942, he was deported to the Terezín ghetto, where he continued to write articles and draw pictures; these have been preserved thanks to a friend who survived the Holocaust. Ginz's drawings are kept at the Yad Vashem Art Museum, Jerusalem. Featured on the stamp is an image of Petr Ginz's famous pencil drawing entitled "Moon Landscape" - a view of the Earth as seen from the Moon.

The cruel fate of Petr Ginz, who perished in Auschwitz in the autumn of 1944, was tragically repeated in the Columbia shuttle disaster. Israel's first astronaut, Ilan Ramon took a copy of Ginz's drawing with him into space in an attempt to fulfill the dream of Petr Ginz 58 years on. On February 1, 2003, however, the space shuttle Columbia exploded, killing all seven astronauts as the ship re-entered Earth's atmosphere following a 16-day mission. The date of the disaster happened to be Ginz's birthday. India's Kalpana Chawala was one of the seven astronauts who died in the space shuttle disaster.

The stamp also contains a portrait of Petr Ginz and the text "Moon landscape - Terezín - 1942-1944, Petr Ginz (1928-1944)." The stamp was designed by Pavel Hrach and engraved by Václav Fajt. The stamp (26 x 40mm) and miniature sheet (76 x 116mm) were made by Poštovní tiskárna cenin Praha, a.s., using a black recess print from flat plates combined with full-colour offset printing. The miniature sheet depicts the Columbia shuttle in flight and contains the text "The Petr Ginz drawing is owned by the Yad Vashem Art Museum, Jerusalem."

A first day cover and a special postmark are being issued in conjunction with the stamp. The drawing on the cover depicts the lift-off of the space shuttle Columbia. The cover engraving is greyish-blue and was made using a recess print from flat plates.

The image is available at:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/0206-pix.htm>

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

If you're looking for a creative Valentine's Day idea for a friend or loved one, you might consider taking advantage of the United States Postal Service's love-themed postmarks on Valentine cards and letters.

The postmarks are offered from a dozen love-themed communities across the nation, and they are easy to obtain. Simply enclose pre-stamped, pre-addressed envelopes (envelopes should each have 37-cent postage, postcards 23-cents for up to 6 by 4¼ inches; 37 cents for large postcards) and mail in a large stamped envelope to:

Postmaster
(Town Name) Valentine Re-mailing
City, State ZIP Code

It's important to include a return address and ZIP Code.

While there are many communities bearing "loved-themed" names, the following is a listing of Post Offices that are offering special postmarks this year:

Bliss, NY 14024
Heart Butte, MT 59448
Juliette, GA 31046
Loveland, CO 80538
Loveville, MD 20656
Loving, NM 88256
Romance, AR 72136
Romeo, MI 48065
Sugar City, CO 81076
Valentine, NE 69201
Valentine, TX 79854
Valentines, VA 23887

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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.

PRINCELY STATES REPORT <http://www.princelystates.com>

Journal of Indian States History, Philately & Numismatics

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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