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

Issue # 223 - June 2, 2005. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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farming by crawlers and the resulting flood of junk mail.*

The BACK ISSUES are available as Printout, on CD, and on line at
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/Download/archives.htm>

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We are getting there. This year's focus on populating the site with lots  
of images, and lists is progressing well. We have added hundreds of  
images, thanks to Vijay Seth and Mihir Dhandha, and thousands more are  
in the pipeline.

The web site now has images of stamps, miniature sheets, sheetlets, and  
first day covers of all issues of 2005. Also available on the site are  
images of stamp cards, maxcards, special covers & special postmarks, and  
army postal service issues of 2005. Coming soon are booklets, and postal  
stationery of 2005. What have we missed out and what else would you like  
to see, your suggestions are always welcome.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Madhukar Deogawanka, Manohar Lal, Rajesh Paharia, Atish Kumar Jain, Rakesh Walia, Shyam Prasad Pradhan, and Press Trust of India.

We invite your inputs, please email to "writeback at 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

MILEPOST

Chief Minister of West Bengal, Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee released 'Milepost' a commemorative publication marking 150 years of Indian Postal Service on May 31, 2005 at Kolkata.

The book traces the birth and growth of postal service in the country. It was in 1854 the postal system in India came under a unified control system. The first postage stamp in India was also printed in the same year. The year also marked the inauguration of the Railway Mails Service. The chapters in the book are accompanied with apt illustrations and artists' impressions.

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Jun 5: World Environment Day - Green Cities, Rs5

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2005, please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005stamps.htm>

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POSTAL STATIONERY UPDATE

New Issue Seen:

Inland Letter Card with message, Philately King of Hobbies, SPP, 2004  
The name of the press is in the new format 'SPP-HYD' indicating printing and issue dates towards end of the year. The Inland Letter Card with this message was issued for the first time with '2003' imprint.

New Arrivals:

May 31: Post Card with advertisement, in Hindi, Education, 4 million, India Security Press Nasik, Strips of 5

May 31: Post Card with advertisement, in Marathi, Education, 2 million, India Security Press Nasik, Strips of 5

May 31: Post Card with advertisement, in Tamil, Education, 2 million, Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

May 31: Post Card with advertisement, in Kannada, Education, 2 million, Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

May 31: Inland Letter Card with advertisement, in Tamil, Education, 0.5 million, India Security Press Nasik, Multicolor

For a list of postal stationery in 2005, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005ps.htm>

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DANDI MARCH STAMPS BOOKLETS

Northern Region of the Kerala Postal Circle, Calicut issued a stamp booklet on May 26, 2005. The booklet is priced at Rs 40 and contains the 4 commemorative stamps issued to mark the 75th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's March to Dandi. Only 300 booklets are produced.

Philatelic Society of Rajasthan (PSR) issued a stamp booklet on June 1, 2005. The booklet is priced at Rs 50 and contains the 8 commemorative stamps as well as 8 self adhesive labels issued by the PSR to mark the 75th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's March to Dandi. Only 500 booklets are produced.

Earlier this year a set of 5 stamp booklets were issued by Chhattisgarh Postal Circle on February 26. The themes were Tajmahal, Mahatma Gandhi, Peacock, Dances, and Festivals. North Bengal & Sikkim Region of West Bengal Postal Circle issued a set of 4 stamp booklets on April 28. The themes were Orchid, Yak, Satyr Tragopan Pheasants, and Red Panda.

For a list of Stamp Booklets, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005sb.htm>

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Apr 29: Kolkata, 150 years of India Post

For an illustrated list of special postmarks and special covers issued in 2005, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005pmk.htm>

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

May 25: Central Armored Fighting Vehicle Depot centenary
Jun 01: Ladakh Scouts First Reunion

For an illustrated list of Army Postal Service issues in 2005, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005pmk.htm>

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UNIQUE PORTUGUESE INDIA STAMP AUCTIONED

The only known used example of the Portuguese India 1872 second issue 100 reis on soft wove paper that was recently listed by Scott (as no. 7A) on the basis of this example was sold by David Feldamn in an auction on May 24, 2005 at Geneva, Switzerland for Swiss Franks 24,000 (Indian Rupees 850,000).

Gerry Gonyea of New York, the consignor of this stamp, read in the issue No. 137 (Vol. 35, year 2000) of Porto Info, the official journal of the International Society for Portuguese Philately about an unused example that is in the collection of Bob Huggins, a knowledgeable specialist of Portuguese India. This prompted Gonyea to search his extensive holdings and find this gem. This find was also reported in 'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' issue # 49 of August 23, 2001.

This stamp was certified as genuine by both the ISPP (2001) and the APS (2001). Both certificates note repairs (to the top right corner) and a small scrape below "D" of "INDIA". It has decent margins; fresh color and sharp barred-numeral "5" cancel. This undoubtedly is the most important used stamp of the Portuguese Colonies and was offered for the first time at public auction.

The earliest-known reference to the 100r yellow-green on soft wove paper appears in the December 1930 issue of the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain. Writing in that publication, R B Yardley declared that "some time ago I acquired a damaged specimen [illustrated in the article] . . . in the normal pale yellow-green of the first issue, which is certainly not on the thin brittle paper of the first issue." Yardley stated that the stamp had been submitted to the expert committee of the Royal Philatelic Society London and that the committee was "satisfied that the stamp is genuine, and that the paper is not that of the first issue." "It is, in fact, on a medium, somewhat hard wove paper . . ." Yardley speculated that a small part of an early printing of the 100r yellow-green was completed on the thick paper, because the printer ran out of the thin paper. Regarding Yardley's 75-year-old revelation, Gonyea makes a tantalizing observation: "It appears that there may be one more used example somewhere in the world because the stamp shown in the 1930 article is not the one I have."

View the stamp at

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/223-pix.htm>

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INDIAN STAMPS EXHIBITION IN CHINA

Vice Governor of Sichuan province, Zhong Zuo Ha inaugurated an exhibition of Indian postage stamps as part of the China Western Region Commodities Fair at Chengdu on May 25, 2005.

Ha also inaugurated a photo exhibition of major Buddhist sites in India. The three-day fair will give an exposure to India and enable major Indian companies to expand their reach in China's western region and meet with potential Chinese partners and clients. Indian companies, along with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), organized a seminar, which was attended by senior executives of some 70 companies

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Aug 11-15: Coimbatore, South Zone

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

Aug 12-15: Salem, BARAMAHALPEX National Level Philatelic & Numismatic  
Venue: VMK VMG Wedding Hall, Swarnapuri, Backside of Hotel Salem Castle, Near New Bus Stand

Contact: N Vaithiyanathan, Treasurer, Baramahal Philatelic and Numismatic Association, 16 Gandhi Road, (Opposite Ganesan Hospital), Salem 636 007

For a list of exhibitions in 2005, please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events.htm>

MEETINGS

June 6: 2 to 4 PM, Delhi Philatelists

2214-15, Hardhiyan Singh Road, 2nd Floor, Chanana Complex, Karol Bagh, New Delhi 110005

Guests are welcome, please contact: Madhukar Jhingan 93505-37037

The schedule of meetings of the philatelic organizations is available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/clubmeet.htm>

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NEPAL NEW ISSUES

May 25: Golden Jubilee Of The First Ascent Of Mount Kanchanjunga, Rs12

Mount Kanchanjunga (8,586 meters) is the third highest peak in the world and the second highest mountain in Nepal. It was first ascended by George Band, Joe Brown, Tony Streater, Norman Hardie under the British expedition team on May 25, 1955.

Designed by M N Rana and printed by Austrian Government Printing Office Vienna by offset lithography in four colors in the quantity of one million in sheets of 50 stamps

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SRI LANKA NEW ISSUES

Xxx 00: Talalle Dhammananda Thero, Rs 5

Xxx 00: Hammalawa Saddhatisa, Rs 5

Mar 25: T B Tennakoon, Rs 5

Mar 31: D A Rajapaksa, Rs 5

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

More than 1,000 people were involved in the illegal business of printing fake stamps and stamp papers in the country and the government has so far not been able to nab them, according to Abdul Karim Telgi, prime accused in the multi-crore fake stamp paper case. "There is a huge stock of such stamp papers but nothing is done to check its proliferation", Telgi told his lawyer Harshad Nimbalkar at Yerawada Central Prison at Pune.

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THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

The Calendar for June 2005 has been updated and is now available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/2auctions.htm>

This information is provided by special arrangement with Charles E. Cwiakala and updates to this information are available at their comprehensive Website [www.cwiakala.com](http://www.cwiakala.com).

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ERRORS FREAKS & ODDITIES

Atish Kumar Jain from Kottayam contributes two interesting items in the miniature sheets of Flora & Fauna of North East with Vertical and Horizontal perforations misplaced

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/efos/200506.htm>

Pratisad Neurgaonkar from Pune contributes three interesting items with misplaced perforations in Taj Mahal miniature sheets

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/efos/200441.htm>

And Bandung Conference issue

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/efos/200509.htm>

Rajesh Varma from Dehradun contributes two interesting items, in Taj Mahal issue

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/efos/200441.htm>

And Bandung Conference issue

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/efos/200509.htm>

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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>

#### DANDI MARCH CINDERELLA

4 Different Colorful self-adhesive labels, Rs20 plus postage  
Hurry! Limited Stocks ATISH KUMAR JAIN [atishjain001@sify.com](mailto:atishjain001@sify.com)  
Telephone 0 9447756118, View the labels at  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/223a-pix.htm>

#### INDIA MINIATURE SHEETS

Select any 15(fifteen) different miniature sheets for Rs1100 Only  
Get 10 different miniature sheets of your choice for Rs1000 only  
Prices include registered post. Offers are for Indian philatelists only.  
PRADEEP KUMAR AGRAWAL, [Pradipphila@Hotmail.Com](mailto:Pradipphila@Hotmail.Com) 16a Arya Kumar Road,  
Rajendra Nagar, Patna 800 016 Mobile:0-9431011595

#### BANGLADESH PROVISIONAL OVERPRINTS

On stamps, stationery, meter stamps, fiscals and postal documents of  
Pakistan: Wanted help with information, scans of materials for a series  
of articles that I am currently working on; also welcome offers of any  
available material. Other collecting interests are 1. Brahmini Dawk, 2.  
Mewar fiscals, and 3. Refugee Relief Tax. MANNAN MASHHUR ZARIF  
[shubhrosaurus@yahoo.com](mailto:shubhrosaurus@yahoo.com) 100 Shantinagar, Dhaka -1217, Bangladesh

#### POSTAL STATIONERY SPECIMENS

Available Post Cards, Meghdoot Post Cards, Inland Letter Cards,  
Aerogramme, Envelopes, Registered Envelopes, Greeting Card Envelopes  
A R C SHAH, A-20 Gujarat Apartments, Pitampura, Delhi 110034, Telephone  
9810179095

#### INDIAN POSTAL GUIDE 1869

The first issue of the official postal guide, reprinted by Stamps of  
India 2004, 236 pages, hardbound, enlarged from original octavo to A4  
size, limited edition, Special price - Rs 2750 post paid anywhere in the  
world. It is now possible to pay by credit card  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/99999.htm>

#### CHANDRAMUGHI MEGHDOOT POSTCARD

Issued on Mar 31, 2005 available with the Baramahal Philatelic &  
Numismatic Association through V M Ramasamy, President, VMR Theatre,  
Pallapatti, Salem, Tamil Nadu

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

READERS FORUM

<Dear Reader, Your feedback is important to us as it helps evolve the
newsletter. Please send us have your thoughts and suggestions.>

AVINASH B JAGTAP, Binningen, Switzerland

Today I received the Book 'INDIAN POSTAL GUIDE 1869'. On the outer
wrapper of the book you have affixed a block of 4 of Rs50 stamp plus one
Rs.20 Stamp. But the post office in New Delhi has put a registration
Code Label exactly in the middle of the Block of 4 and rendered it
useless for all philatelic purposes as can be seen by the scans
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/223b-pix.htm>

In the past I had received two registered covers, one from Varanasi and
the other from Jamnagar. Here also as you will find in the scan, the
registration code label has been affixed exactly on the stamps!

I do not understand why the post offices in India put the label exactly
on the stamps? Is there an internal convention that the label should be
affixed to the stamps?

I feel that India Post should take notice of this malpractice that must be stopped forthwith.

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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

INS Delhi

Fiji will issue a set of 10 se-tenant stamps in the denomination of 83¢ each on June 27, 2005 to mark the 60th Anniversary of the End of World War II. The first stamp depicts HMNZS Achilles that was later acquired by India and served as INS Delhi, independent India's first flagship of Indian Navy.

The INS Delhi was a Leander class cruiser built for the Royal Navy in 1931 as HMS Achilles and commissioned into the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy in 1937, becoming HMNZS Achilles on the formation of the Royal New Zealand Navy in 1941. She was returned to the Royal Navy at the end of the Second World War and was sold to the Indian Navy in 1948. The ship was re-commissioned as HMIS Delhi on July 5, 1948 and after India's independence was known as INS Delhi. In December 1961 she took active part in liberation of Goa. She served Indian Navy for 30 years and was decommissioned in 1978.

New Zealand had earlier issued stamp on this ship thrice on three different occasions.

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

PORTUGUESE OLYMPIC STAMP WINS GOLD

Portugal has won the 2004 Olympia Prize gold medal. This distinction, awarded by an international jury of renowned philatelists, artists, journalists and IOC members, honors the best stamps of the 2004 Olympic Games. The stamp shows an athlete clearing the high jump bar. The Prize will be presented to Portugal at the 117th IOC Session on 7 July in Singapore.

The 2004 Olympia Prize silver medal was awarded to Ukraine for its stamp illustrating the Games of Antiquity, while Australia won the bronze medal with a modern subject: the start of a race. Singapore's stamp received the distinction for originality for a historic subject showing athletes engraved on a stone.

The International Olympic Philately Federation (FIPO), which organizes this contest after each edition of the Olympic Games, will present, during the 117th IOC Session, the Olympia Prize finalists as well as some new philatelic items, particularly the stamps of the candidates cities for the organization of the 2012 Olympic Games.

See the Portugal's Olympic stamp here

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/223c-pix.htm>

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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>

The Telegraph, May 28, 2005

STAMP ON FIGHT AGAINST KILLER TOBACCO by Sudeshna Banerjee

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1050528/asp/calcutta/story_4795875.asp

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WEB SITE UPDATES

STAMPS OF INDIA <http://www.stampsofindia.com>

The Hub Site of Indian Philately

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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<http://www.stampsofindia.com/siteguide/w04.htm>

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