

ISSN 0972-3587

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

Issue # 250 - December 8, 2005. Published Every Thursday  
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

~~~~~  
I N T H I S I S S U E

Forthcoming Stamp Issues  
New Stamps Released  
Recent Special Postmarks & Covers  
New Stamp Packs  
New Stamp Booklets  
African Elites in India  
Recent & Forthcoming Events  
Recent Periodical Publications  
Fake Stamp Scam Updates  
International Reply Coupon Design Contest  
Paper Chase

~~~~~  
To SUBSCRIBE, send email giving your name, postal address, and  
philatelic interests to [subs@stampsofindia.com](mailto:subs@stampsofindia.com)

To UNSUBSCRIBE, send email to [end@stampsofindia.com](mailto:end@stampsofindia.com)

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

~~~~~  
JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

With this the 250<sup>th</sup> issue we reach another milestone. At this time our thoughts go out to the score of contributors and correspondents who have helped to gather news from corners of India and bring it together for all the readers.

We also can not ignore the response of our readers who have continuously given us their feedback and helped us to constantly innovate and improve.

All we can say is that here is to the next 250 issues, we look forward to your support and suggestions as always.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Ken Robbins, O K Prakash, ARC Shah,

We invite your inputs, please email to [writeback@stampsofindia.com](mailto:writeback@stampsofindia.com)

~~~~~  
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.

~~~~~  
NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

M S Subbalakshmi, Probably on Dec 16 or 17  
N M R Subbaraman, postponed from Nov  
Jadavpur University  
16 Squadron Air Force, postponed from Nov, Dec 27  
Integral Coach Factory, postponed from Oct  
De Facto Transfer of Pondicherry, postponed from Jan  
Guru Granth Saheb, postponed from Sep

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.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2005, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2005stamps.htm>

~~~~~  
NEW STAMPS RELEASED

JAWAHARLAL DARDA

The Vice President of India, Bhairon Singh Shekhawat released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of rupees five in honor of Jawaharlal Darda, a veteran freedom fighter, statesman and the founder of Lokmat Group of Newspapers at a function in Parliament House, New Delhi on December 2, 2005. Somnath Chatterjee, Speaker Lok Sabha, Shivraj Patil, Home Minister, L K Advani, Leader of Opposition, Lok Sabha, Dayanidhi Maran, Minister of Communications & Information Technology, S Jaipal Reddy, Minister for Urban Development & Culture, Vilasrao Deshmukh, Chief Minister of Maharashtra were also present and spoke on the occasion. Several other Ministers, leading politicians and renowned persons were present.

Born in Yawatmal District in Maharashtra on July 2, 1923, Shri Darda joined the freedom struggle at the tender age of 17. He actively participated in the Quit India Movement in 1942. In 1947, Shri Darda launched "Nave Jag" a weekly newspaper from Yawatmal to foster the spirit of nationalism. Later he launched "Lokmat" a Marathi weekly in 1952 which was transformed into daily in 1971. Shri Darda was elected to the Maharashtra Legislative Council between 1972 and 1995. He made a mark in the governance in Maharashtra by his admirable handling of the portfolios of energy, industry, irrigation, health, food and civil supplies, sports, youth affairs, textiles and environment as a Minister.

Brij Raj Goel designed the Stamp and the First Day Cover. Nenu Gupta 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.

BUILDER'S NAVY

President of India A P J Abdul Kalam released a commemorative stamp in the denomination of rupees five on India Navy on the occasion of the Navy Day on December 4, 2005. Kalam, along with UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi, Defense Minister Pranab Mukherjee, Home Minister Shivraj Patil and Leader of the Opposition L K Advani, also attended 'At Home' hosted by the Naval chief Admiral Arun Prakash at the Navy House on the occasion. Top brass of the armed forces, senior bureaucrats and Defense attaches of various embassies were also present on the occasion.

The seaworthy shipbuilding in India can be traced to 2300 BC! Indian built ships were inducted in to British Royal Navy - HMS Hindostan in 1795, frigate Cornwallis in 1800, HMS Camel in 1806, and HMS Ceylon in 1808. The Bombay Dock constructed in 1835 is still in use as Naval Dockyard at Fort Mumbai.

Since independence, the Indian Navy established the Corps of Naval Construction in 1954, setup a Central Design Office in 1964, and decided to construct Leander Class frigates at Mazgaon Dock. The establishment of the Directorate of Naval Ship Design in 1970 followed by the Directorates of Ship Production and Submarine Design has metamorphosed in to the Controllerate of Warship Production and Acquisitions at the Naval HQ. The Indian Navy's resolute pursuit of indigenous design efforts, combined with the relentless endeavors of the shipyards in construction of warships and submarines has laid the foundation of what is proudly termed as "Builder's Navy".

Kamleshwar Singh 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 0.8 million in sheets of 21 stamps.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2005, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2005stamps.htm>

~~~~~  
RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Jan 29: Sivakasi, SIVAKASIPEX, 4 covers  
Feb 16: Thanjavur, Philatelic Festival Poondi Madha Basilica  
Feb 19: Nagercoil, Patel Institute Platinum Jubilee  
Apr 17: Tiruchirapalli, Dr G Viswanathan Pillai Birth Centenary  
Sep 2-3: Karur, district philatelic exhibition, 2 covers  
Nov 10-11: Kasargod, district philatelic exhibition, 2 covers  
Nov 12: Calicut, St Joseph's College Golden Jubilee  
Nov 16-17: Irinjalakuda, IPEX district philatelic exhibition, 2 covers

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

~~~~~  
NEW STAMP PACKS

Gujarat Circle of India Post released a stamp Pack priced at Rs 100 containing 20 stamps in the denomination of Rs 5. These are carried by Postmen for sale while delivering mails.

Delhi Circle of India Post released the second printing of their stamp Pack priced at Rs 100 containing 20 stamps in the denomination of Rs 5. This printing has the ads of Logistics Post and Direct Post while the first printing carried the ad of Oriental Insurance on the back of the pack.

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/packs/misc-packs.htm>

~~~~~  
NEW STAMP BOOKLETS

Nov: Letterbox, Calicut Philatelic Bureau, Rs 35

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2005sb.htm>

~~~~~  
AFRICAN ELITES IN INDIA

Edited by Kenneth X. Robbins and John McLeod

224 pages, 244 color and 95 b&w photographs

8.5 x 11" (215 x 279 mm), hardcover

February 2006

US\$ 65 / UK£ 40 / Rs 2500

Sub-Saharan Africans have a longstanding and distinguished presence in India, where they are most commonly known as Habshis or Sidis. Habshi is the Arabic for an Abyssinian or Ethiopian, and Sidi is apparently derived from the Arabic sayyidi, "my lord". In the last decade there has been a veritable explosion of scholarship on Habshis and Sidis in India.

This book is a contribution to this growing field, but with a difference. Rather than the groups hitherto studied, its focus is on the elite of Sub-Saharan African-Indian merchants, soldiers, nobles, statesmen, and rulers who attained prominence in various parts of India between the fifteenth and twentieth centuries, and on Africans who served at the courts of Indian monarchs as servants, slaves, eunuchs, or concubines.

This book is a series of snapshots, in the form of essays by specialists in the history, numismatics, architecture, the art history of South Asia, and of colour and black-and-white illustrations.

John McLeod is chair of the Department of History at the University of Louisville. A specialist in South Asian history, he is the author of *Sovereignty, Power, Control: Politics in the States of Western India, 1916-1947* (1999), *The History of India* (2002), and various articles and reviews.

Kenneth X. Robbins, a psychiatrist, has published more than forty articles on Indian history and art and he has curated nine exhibitions.

With contributions from Bob Alderman, Fitzroy André Baptiste, Shailendra Bhandare, Richard M Eaton, Stan Goron, B N Goswamy, Faaeza Jasdanwalla, Nawabzadi Fatma Begum A Jasdanwalla of Janjira, Shihan De Silva Jayasuriya, Omar Khalidi, His Highness Nawab Dr Sidi Nasrullah Khan, Nawab Nasrut Jung Bahadur, Mubaruz-Ud-Daula, Nawab of Sachin, Lalit Kumar, Klaus Rotzer and Mehrdad Shokoohy.

~~~~~  
RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Dec: Jamnagar, CRICKETPEX thematic exhibition to be held as a part of the legendary cricketer K S Duleepsinhji Birth Centenary Year Celebrations

Contact: [nawaphilatelic@yahoo.co.in](mailto:nawaphilatelic@yahoo.co.in)

Dec 6-8: Jamshedpur, district level

Venue: Tulsi Bhawan, Bistupur

Contact: Ashok Tiwary 0 93346 17581

Dec 9-11: Bidar, district level

Dec 10-11: Puri, SRIPEX district level  
Venue: Zilla School

Dec 10-11, Ludhiana, district level

Dec 15-16: Kolkata, Dealers Bourse  
Venue: Swarbhumi The Hermitage Plaza  
Contact: Kalyan Negal [knegal@vsnl.net](mailto:knegal@vsnl.net), Arun Bhattacharya 0 98304 12286

Dec 17-19: Kolkata, State Level, NEW DATES  
Venue: Rangmunch, Swarbhumi The Hermitage Plaza  
Contact: Madhukar Deogawanka, 0 98311 51219

Dec 18-19: Amritsar district level

Dec 18-20: Jaipur, JPPEX district level  
Venue: Information Centre, Sawai Ramsingh Road  
Contact: Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Jaipur City Division  
Aman Sharma 0141 - 2374161, 2369532, 2364432

Dec: Jammu, Army Postal Service

2006

Jan 10-11: Valsad, , district level

Jan 14-15: Chandigarh,

Jan: Sambalpur, district level

Jan: Kolkata, Army Postal Service

Feb: Hyderabad, Army Postal Service

Mar: Kamptee, Army Postal Service

For a list of exhibitions in 2005, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events.htm>

#### MEETINGS

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

#### RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

BHILWARA PHILATELIC CLUB BULLETIN, Whole # 10, Sep 2005, Monthly  
BHILWARA PHILATELIC CLUB BULLETIN, Whole # 11, Oct 2005, Monthly  
BHILWARA PHILATELIC CLUB BULLETIN, Whole # 12, Nov 2005, Monthly  
BHILWARA PHILATELIC CLUB BULLETIN, Whole # 13, Dec 2005, Monthly

Editor: M K Jain

Publisher: Bhilwara Philatelic Club

Address: A-9 Shastri Nagar, Bhilwara 311001

Annual Subscription: Not Indicated

AJAIMERU PHILA VISION, Whole # 6 - Dec 2005, Bimonthly

Editor: Anil Kumar Jain [anil\\_art4u@yahoo.com](mailto:anil_art4u@yahoo.com)

Publisher: Ajaimeru Philatelic Society

Address: Sahu Sadan, Street No. 6, Ram Nagar, Pushkar Road, Ajmer

Annual Subscription: Not Indicated

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/a602.htm>

~~~~~  
FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

The Central Bureau of Investigation on December 05, 2005 informed a Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi, S S Rathi that investigation into the multi-billion fake stamp scam case involving Abdul Karim Telgi is over. A third supplementary charge sheet in the case against Telgi and 15 others was filed by the CBI on July 22, 2005 and the final charge sheet will be filed shortly.

~~~~~  
FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

The advertising is FREE for the subscribers of the Stamps of India Collectors Companion. Send in your ad, today.  
Terms: 1. Only one ad at a time from a subscriber will be accepted.  
2. Maximum 5 Lines, up to 64 characters per line.  
3. All ads shall be published at the sole discretion of the editors who reserve the right to refuse any advertisement.  
4. No correspondence regarding advertising will be entertained.  
5. 'Stamps of India' does not endorse any advertiser and can not be held liable for transactions of any advertiser.

WANTED INDIAN POSTAL ORDERS mint with counterfoils attached, Also International Reply Coupons sold from Indian post offices  
MADHUKAR JHINGAN, [mj@stampsofindia.com](mailto:mj@stampsofindia.com)

~~~~~  
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.>

~~~~~  
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>

~~~~~  
ALSO IN THE NEWS

INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPON DESIGN CONTEST

The International Bureau is organizing a competition to find a design for the new International Reply Coupons that will become available in 2006.

The current reply coupons will lose their exchange value on 31 December 2006, and will therefore need to be replaced. A new coupon design is therefore needed, and, in order to involve all UPU member countries in this process, it has been decided to launch an international competition. The theme selected for this design competition is "the postage stamp: a vehicle for communication"; reply coupons are most often exchanged for postage stamps, and it is appropriate that the future IRC design should reflect this postal transaction.

Each country should select a design or illustration at national level, and submit it to the International Bureau by 31 December 2005 at the latest. It is important that participating administrations observe this deadline in order to allow the International Bureau sufficient time to prepare the next stage of the competition, namely selection of the best

entry. All participating administrations are required to make a special effort to comply with this deadline, after which no entries will be accepted. The international jury responsible for selecting the design for the new international reply coupon will be made up of representatives from the 40 Postal Operations Council countries.

The country whose design is selected will receive free of charge 10,000 of the new international reply coupons to be introduced in 2006. Participating administrations are welcome to disseminate this information to their country's artists and, if need be, to organize a national competition to select the best design for submission to the Universal Postal Union.

The Rules for the Competition are available at the following link:  
[http://www.upu.int/irc/en/competition\\_for\\_the\\_next\\_new IRC\\_design\\_rules\\_en.pdf](http://www.upu.int/irc/en/competition_for_the_next_new IRC_design_rules_en.pdf)

When one writes to a stranger and requests a reply, it is considered polite to enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. This works well when both persons live in the same country; however, if they are from different countries, the enclosed postage stamp will not be valid.

This technical problem was solved in 1906 when the Universal Postal Union, during its Congress in Rome, introduced the International Reply Coupon service. As the service began before the days of airmail, the earliest coupons could only be redeemed for a single-rate ordinary postage stamp to a foreign country. In terms of today's UPU Convention, International Reply Coupons (IRC) are exchangeable in all member countries for the minimum postage of a priority item or an unregistered airmail letter sent to a foreign country.

The UPU's International Bureau processes several million coupons each year and deals with all accounting aspects. The International Bureau does not sell IRCs directly to customers; they must buy them from their local post office. Although Posts are not obliged to sell IRCs, it is mandatory for Posts of the UPU member countries to exchange the coupons. If a Post does not sell IRCs, it is possible to purchase them in a post office located in a neighboring country.

~~~~~  
NEWSSCAN

<We invite you to contribute clippings on philatelic and postal matters, from other print and electronic publications, for inclusion here>

The Indian Express, November 27, 2005

PAPER CHASE

[http://www.indianexpress.com/full\\_story.php?content\\_id=82752](http://www.indianexpress.com/full_story.php?content_id=82752)

-----\*\*\*\*\*O\*\*\*\*\*-----

ADMINISTRIVIA

'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is published by Madhukar Jhingan [mjhingan@yahoo.com](mailto:mjhingan@yahoo.com) for 'Stamps of India', 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. Phone: +91-11-25281578, Mobile: +91-9350537037  
Subject to Delhi Jurisdiction

Awards Received: Silver Medal with the 'Felicitations of the Jury' at 'BELGICA 2001' World Philatelic Exhibition, Brussels, June 9-17, 2001

Our now famous Disclaimer!

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

STAMPS OF INDIA also publishes:

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

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 worldwide. Credit cards accepted <http://www.stampsofindia.com/99999.htm>

=====  
© Copyright 2005, Stamps of India, New Delhi. All rights reserved.  
For reproducing content from Stamps of India publications please ask the publisher for permission stating exactly what you would like to use, and for what purpose, before using the same.