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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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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 have uploaded the list of Se-tenant Stamps of India compiled by  
Shrikant Parikh. Next we will list all the combinations thereof. We plan  
to eventually illustrate all possible combinations, God willing.

Akshay Borad has created a poll at  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/indianphilatelists/polls> asking "Is  
continuous issue of stamps of personalities from a particular region is  
justified when India is so large country?" Go and vote now.

We have extended the date for the "Stamp Poll 2005" to March 31, 2006.  
If you have not voted yet, please do so now, visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/stamppoll.htm>

The Hindu of Saturday, March 11, 2006 carried not one but two features  
on stamp collecting including the lead story of its magazine section.  
Read it online at the links provided in the Newsscan column.

Keep on sending your feedback.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Som Kamei,

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

STAMP POLL 2005 - VOTE & WIN

Don't forget to vote for your favorite stamp of 2005. Please select from  
the commemorative and definitive stamps issued in 2005 displayed at  
<http://www.stampsfindia.com/other/stamppoll.htm>

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Mar 30: 2 commemorative issues are likely, details awaited

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2006, please visit

<http://www.stampsfindia.com/lists/stamps/2006stamps.htm>

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

India Post issued a commemorative postage stamp to mark the World  
Consumer Rights Day on March 15, 2006 in the denomination of Rupees  
five.

US President John F Kennedy gave a landmark speech on March 15, 1962.  
The speech was made to the US Congress where he first outlined four  
basic consumer rights - right to satisfaction of basic needs; right to  
safety; right to be informed; right to choose. This was landmark step  
for the protection of consumer rights worldwide. Later, the consumer  
movement gained recognition for four more consumer rights - right to be  
heard; right to redress; right to consumer education & right to a  
healthy environment.

In 1983 the UN formally declared 15 March as World Consumer Rights Day.  
Then on April 9, 1985 the UN General Assembly adopted the United Nations  
Guidelines for Consumer Protection.

World Consumer Rights Day is an annual occasion for celebration and  
solidarity within the international consumer movement. But more  
importantly it is a time for promoting the basic rights of all  
consumers, for demanding that those rights are respected and protected,  
and for protesting the market abuses and social injustices which  
undermine them.

India has been observing 15 March since 1989 as the National Consumers'  
Day. The Department of Consumer Affairs in the Ministry of Consumer  
Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, is the nodal Department in the  
Central Government to deal with the various matters related to the  
protection and welfare of the consumers in the country.

Suresh Kumar 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 35.

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#### NEW MEGHDOOT POST CARDS

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:

Social Forestation, Marathi

Small Savings, Tamil

Xxx, Tamil

Registration of Births & Deaths, Hindi

Registration of Births & Deaths, Punjabi

Registration of Births & Deaths, Gujarati

Registration of Births & Deaths, Marathi

Registration of Births & Deaths, Oriya

Registration of Births & Deaths, Telugu

Registration of Births & Deaths, Tamil

The complete illustrated list of Meghdoot Post Card is available at:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/meghdoot.htm>

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#### ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

Feb 1: 24 Infantry Division Silver Jubilee

Mar 1: 18<sup>th</sup> Battalion Dogra Regiment Silver Jubilee

For an illustrated list of Army Postal Service issues in 2006, please

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/aps/2006aps.htm>

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#### INDIAN PARTICIPATION IN EXHIBITIONS ABROAD

International philatelic exhibitions are competitions between philatelic exhibits from all over the world or continent. Your exhibit competes with the best in its class. Just getting accepted as a participant by the organizers is an achievement in itself and getting a medal transcends all personal achievement and adds to the glory of your organization, and the nation. Therefore we urge all those who are eligible to participate in forthcoming exhibitions and bring laurels to India.

All those exhibits that have previously participated in an international exhibition and won an award in last 10 years are eligible.

A new exhibit (not the exhibitor) must have received a minimum of 75 points (70 points in Age Groups A and B of Youth class) in a national exhibition within the last 10 years.

No previous award is necessary for Literature class, One Frame and Open class. However the exhibits in One Frame and Open class should be good enough to be in a world exhibition.

The entry in Championship class requires three Large Gold Medals (or has obtained 95 or more points) in three different years within ten years starting from the year in which the exhibitor won his/her first Large Gold Medal.

It is advisable to have good understanding of FIP Statutes, GREX, GREV's and SREVs and Guidelines for better results at the exhibitions. These are available at the International Philatelic Federation's (FIP) website at <http://www.f-i-p.ch>.

There are two shows this year where participation is still open for exhibitors from India. The first is the ESPANA 06 world philatelic exhibition to be held at Malaga, Spain from October 7 to 13, 2006. ESPANA 06 provides an opportunity to participate in all classes, viz. Championship Class, Traditional Philately, Revenue, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Aerophilately, Astrophilately, Thematic Philately, Maximaphily, Youth Philately, Literature, Open Class and One Frame Class.

The Entry fees are 30 Euros (Rs 1600 approximately) per frame for all classes except in Literature Class it is 30 Euros per exhibit and entries in Youth Philately are free of charge. In the Championship class Swiss Frank 100 per frame will be charged in addition to 30 Euros.

The last date for sending the entry forms to the national commissioner is March 23, 2006. Although Bulletin 1 and entry forms have now arrived from Spain it is better to download the Entry Forms and Regulations of ESPANA 06 including special regulations for One Frame and Open class available at

[http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/espana\\_06.htm](http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/espana_06.htm)

The National Commissioner for ESPANA 06 is Madhukar Jhingan [mj@stampsofindia.com](mailto:mj@stampsofindia.com) and his contact details are: 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063, Tel: 0 93505 37037.

The next show later this year is DUBAI 06 the 19<sup>th</sup> Asian international which we have covered in Issue # 259 of February 9, 2006. DUBAI 06 will be held from November 13 to 16, 2006 at Dubai, United Arab Emirates. This is a specialized show and will cover Traditional, Postal History, One Frame and Literature Classes.

Further details and availability of Bulletin 1 and forms shall be reported as soon as announced.

The National Commissioner for DUBAI 06 is Rajesh Kumar Bagri [bagri@iname.com](mailto:bagri@iname.com) and his contact details are: C/o Computer Management Centre, 33A Chowringhee Road, 5th Floor, Room-13, Calcutta 700071, Ph: +91 33 22265722, and Fax: +91 33 22885258.

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POST OFFICES NAMED AFTER MAHATMA GANDHI

Robin Aggarwal has compiled a list of Indian Post Offices named after Mahatma Gandhi. It is now available at

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/topic/Gandhi-POs.htm>

This is primarily the list of currently working post offices. There are a number of post offices that having been named after Mahatma Gandhi are now closed. We will appreciate that if you can add to this list to make it more useful for all.

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AUCTION ACTION

Indian Thematic Society's postal auction sale # 32, with 99 Lots, will close on April 22, 2006. Contact at [indianthematicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:indianthematicsociety@gmail.com) or [surajjaitly@hotmail.com](mailto:surajjaitly@hotmail.com) or ITS General Secretary Suraj Jaitly at his Mobile 09872851244.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mar 19-21: GUWAPEX 2006, district level
Quiz competition, stamp design competition, philatelic seminar
1 Special cover on the famous Sattriya Dance of Assam

For a list of exhibitions in 2006, 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

ITS STAMPS NEWS, Whole # 33 - Jan Mar 2005, Quarterly
Editor: Suraj Jaitly
Publisher: Indian Thematic Society
Address: MIG # 3464, Phase 2, Dugri Road, Ludiana 141013
Annual Subscription including membership: Rs.130 or US\$ 8

For a list of Indian periodicals, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/a602.htm>

BANGLADESH NEW ISSUES

Mar 6: 30 Years of Bangladesh China Diplomatic Relations, Set of 4 and 1 Miniature Sheet, TK 10 each and TK 40

ERRORS FREAKS & ODDITIES:

Pradeep Agarwal of Patna has contributed a major shifting of black color in the recent President's Review of Fleet issue.

For the images please visit:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/efos/1780.htm>

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.

Looking for exchange trade India KGVI mint-SG # 259,273,274.275,276,277 - 6 values with rare value of 14 Anna total SG catalog is more than £27.50 My price is only India Rupees 90 per unit of 6 stamps, all stamps are in sheets or part 1/2 sheets.any country mint material considered for exchange. Email me with details of your material. tariqpk@gmail.com

Available Mahatma Gandhi special covers issued on itihās 2004, Murshidabad @ Rs 80/-each.contact 91-353-2537280,9832445824, philababun@gmail.com or babun_1986@sify.com

VIEWS & OPINIONS

POINTS TO PONDER

By Suraj Jaitly, Editor ITS Stamp News

Life is full of ironies. It's something that almost every one in this world can attest to. Often the last thing we want to do in our life is what we exactly end up doing at one point or the other. Some people attribute it to destiny, some to Karma, some just say that's life & live with it! However, it's always encouraging to think that even ironies can

have a silver lining hidden in them if we look on the bright side of life.

Last year was full of philatelic exhibitions in India, but these were held only at District Level and couple of them at Circle or Regional Level. So many Philatelic Clubs & Societies of India can organise such exhibitions in much more better ways, if I am not wrong. The reason is well-known to all of us and can be read in these columns of some previous issues. The Postal Department is least bothered, if collectors are visiting such exhibitions or not. They are simply bothered to complete their file with much paperwork. At present no one knows in India, when we all will see the next Official National Exhibition. This is only possible, when the Postal Department decides about holding such exhibition. It is also bad luck for collectors of some states or circles in which State or Regional Level Exhibitions have not been organised since a long time. A very good example can be given of The Bengal Circle Philatelic Exhibition, which was organised at Kolkata after the lapse of a considerable time.

Earlier, due to recent policies of The Postal Department in connection with the special cancellations adapted for all First Day Issues at Regional Head Quarters, we all are after collecting various varieties of First Day Cancellations. But it may sound strange to all of us, when I say, that the Postal Department has decided to provide us with varieties of new stamps also. Recently issued set of four stamps on President's Fleet Review, Visakhapatnam, is a genuine example of this feat. Yet The Postal Department has banned the display Errors, Freaks and Varieties in India is another story.

Such varieties of cancellations and stamps badly confuse thematic collectors in particular. What do you think about the treatment of such varieties of cancellations and stamps in your thematic collection and what role they play in improving the standard of your collection? Do write to us frankly your own views on this topic, so that we may share your views along with other readers.

When other countries of the world are engaged in finalising their new stamp issues for the years 2007 & 2008, India is yet to announce their issue programme for the current year 2006. So I think it is high time for The Postal Dept. of India to ponder over these issues.

I know that in India there are so many collectors who can write and explain their views on such points, but due to some ego or other type of reservations they do not express what they think and prefer to remain good silent readers only. Is it good for the future of philately? By keeping such attitude are we going to help in flourishing this kind of hobbies? I think it is the right time for all of us to think over this subject and decide ourselves.

With this issue (of ITS Stamp News), we are entering in ninth year of publication of this issue and this is only, due to regular support from all of you. I hope to get your support in much more better way in future to keep this journal regular and more interesting for all of you.

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READERS FORUM

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

ZULAIHA MOHAMED

Let me congratulate you on the fantastic service you are doing to the Philatelic world. It was from your site that I came to know of the differences in sizes of stamps issued on President's review of the fleet. After that I saw both sizes of the stamp at Kochi philatelic bureau. But I also noticed that there was a definite colour difference in the 4th stamp (the one with the submarines), which was not mentioned in your write up. The background is quite pinkish compared to the larger sized stamp. Does it have any philatelic significance? Will it be classified as a rare one?

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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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NEWSSCAN

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

The Hindu, Mar 11, 2006

THE STAMP COLLECTORS

<http://www.hindu.com/thehindu/mp/2006/03/11/stories/2006031102740100.htm>

KEEPING A PASTIME ALIVE

<http://www.hindu.com/mp/2006/03/11/stories/2006031102730100.htm>

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ADMINISTRIVIA

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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>

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