

ISSN 0972-3587

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

Issue # 274 - Jun 15, 2006. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We have now cleared the backlog and are up to date. If you had sent news  
report that does not get published in the next issue, please contact us.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Akhilesh Arka,  
Abhai Mishra, H P Singh, Mohammad Ilyas Choudhary, and Kalyan Negal.

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

SERVICE TAX ON POSTAL SERVICES

Consequent to enactment of the Finance Act on April 18, 2006, the Central Board of Excise & Customs imposed Service Tax on some of the services provided by India Post with effect from June 1, 2006. India Post passed the entire burden to the consumers and a 12.24% Service Tax is now being collected on Speed Post, Express Parcel Post, Logistics Post, all types of Money Orders, Bill Mail Service, Western Union Money Transfer, Postal Life Insurance, all other time sensitive mail services, and Agency services.

All Head Post Offices in the country, about 850 in number, were asked to register with the respective Commissioner of Service Tax by May 30, 2006.

The software that operates the tens-of-thousands computers at the postal counters is yet to be updated and meanwhile the amount of the Service Tax is being noted on the back of the receipt, signed and postmarked with the date stamp. Many post offices are using rubber stamps for this purpose.

The philatelists and postal historians would be happy if the rubber stamp or its equivalent is also applied to the mail articles and or the tax is collected through postage stamps!

For an image of the hand-stamp used on the back of receipts at Sansad Marg Head Post Office, New Delhi, please visit:

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

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Jun 15: Sri Pratap College Srinagar, 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.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2006, please visit

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

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NEW MEGHDOOT POSTCARDS

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:

Education for All, Malayalam  
AIDS (Punjab), Punjabi and English

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

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

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Feb 17: Bangalore, 25 Years of The Art Of Living

Apr 04: Madikeri, General K S Thimmayya Birth Centenary

Jun 05: Dehradun, Environment Day

Jun 05: Siliguri, 125 Years of Darjeeling Himalayan Railway

Jun 16: Patna, 400 years of martyrdom of the 5th Sikh Guru Arjan Dev Ji

For an illustrated list of special postmarks and covers in 2006, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/2006pm.htm>

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ADVERTISEMENT ON THE POSTAL RECEIPTS

The computers at post office counters in Bangalore are issuing receipts for postal transactions such as registered post, speed post, money orders etc. that have an advertisement of a sugar substitute sweetener on their back. It is perhaps for the first time that the back of the receipt is being used for an advertisement, a new article of Media Post!

For the image, please visit:

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

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STAMP EXHIBITION IN TRAIN

A new record was set on the rail tracks at Siliguri Junction on June 5, 2006 when for the first time in India and across the globe, a running philatelic exhibition was conducted.

The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, UNESCO recognized world heritage, ran for 31 kilometers in 10 hours from was from Siliguri Junction to Agony Point, with a halt at Sukuna to mark its 125th year. The program jointly conducted by Siliguri Philatelic Society (SPS) and Sikkim Philatelic Club (SPC) had added a new page in the history of Indian Philately. Noted Railway Philatelist Vikas Singh of Ghaziabad, the man behind the concept, had booked the train for the day for this purpose.

The event named "Heritage 06" was held on June 5 and 6, 2006. On first day the exhibition was held at Siliguri Junction Railway Station where the well decorated Train 788-B was flagged off to Agony Point, Tindharia at around 7.30 am. Stamps, Special Cover and First Day Covers on Indian Railway mounted on 40 sheets were exhibited inside the two bogies of the toy train. Present on the occasion was K B Chursa, Superintendent of Post Offices Jalpaiguri Post Office, Dipok Dey - eminent philatelist from Kolkata, Vikas Singh, noted railway philatelist from Ghaziabad, S K Biswas President of Siliguri Philatelic Society, Shital Pradhan Secretary Sikkim Philatelic Club, Postal and Railway officials and the philatelists Chiranjiv Chakraborty, Biswajit Bhattacharya, Padam Parajuli, Sumnima Parajuli, all from Siliguri, Ganesh Pradhan and Shishir Pradhan from from Sikkim while Asit Ghosh and Manoranjan Bhattacharya represented Cooch Bihar Philatelic Association.

Shital Pradhan conducted the program in the running train. Biswas welcome all aboard and told the passengers on board the significance of the achievement of the day. He added that this event held in a small platform will generate enough curiosity in India and the other parts of the World. Pawan Aggarwal, Secretary, SPS also addressed the audience. Dipok Dey conducted a workshop on philately explained the beauty of the stamp and how can a beginner generate this hobby to its commercial use too.

A special cover and a stamp booklet were released on this occasion by the Chief Guest K B Chursa, who presented the first Special Cover to Vikas Singh.

The next phase of the function was held at Denabandhu manch. A stamp exhibition with over 2000 stamps was displayed followed by painting exhibition and quiz competition.

Both the associations of SPS and SPC are making efforts to mark the achievement recognized by entry in the Limca Book of Records and the Guinness Book of Records.

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151 YEARS OF INDIA POST

The Chief Postmaster General of Karnataka Circle of India Post has published an address book to celebrate the 151 Years of India Post. The address book priced at Rs 130 is hardbound and includes about 60 pages profusely illustrated in multicolor of information on postal history, philately and post office along with 100 pages for addresses.

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AUCTION ACTION

Satish Misra satishmisra2@rediffmail.com is holding a postal auction closing on June 26, 2006. There are 860 lots in the auction. A 30 page illustrated catalog is available.

Mittal Stamp Company mittalstamps@yahoo.com is conducting their Postal Auction # 21A with last date as July 4, 2006. There are 1650 lots in the auction. A 60 page catalog with 15 photo plates is available.

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FOOTBALL THROUGH PHILATELY

The Minister for Fisheries & Registration, Kerala released a new book "Football through Philately" by Jose J Vattoth at the Ernakulam Press Club on June 11, 2006.

The book published by the Pen Books Pvt Ltd, Aluva has 128 pages on the history of football & philately, with about 50 pages in color & 20 pages in B/W (all football related stamps, covers etc), with pictures of stamps given in almost all the pages.

I M Vijayan, Former Indian Football Captain wrote the preface for the book. The author, Jose J Vattoth, who hails from Kalakety (Kanjirapally, Kottayam District), is a teacher of Antony's School, Vandemedu, (Idduki).

The book priced at Rs 100 (postage extra) is available from Sunil Joseph, [sjstamps@sancharnet.in](mailto:sjstamps@sancharnet.in) Travancore Stamp House, Flat # 3 C, Park Dale, SkyLine Apartments, Sastri Road, Kottayam, Kerala, India 686001, Phone- Mobile- 0 93871 24984.

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

JPS BULLETIN, Whole # 155, July-Dec 2005 & Jan-Apr 2006
Editors: S S Basan & Suchanda Banerjee
Publisher: Jamshedpur Philatelic Society
Address: P O Box 86, Jamshedpur 831001
Annual Subscription including Membership: Rs 100 (Outside Jamshedpur)

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

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Jun 29- Jul 2: NUPHILEX State Level by South India Philatelic and Numismatic Dealers Association (SIPNDA)  
Venue: The Good Shepherd Hall (between Valluvar Kottam and Hotel Palmgrove) 82 Kodambakkam High Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai 34  
Contact: A V Jeyachandran, Gen Sec SIPNDA, [collexons@yahoo.co.in](mailto:collexons@yahoo.co.in)  
16 Chetty Street, Pondicherry - 695001, Mobile 0 93454 11747

Oct 14-16: ORPEX-06, 8th State level Philatelic Exhibition of Orissa  
Venue: Bhanja Bhawan, Rourkela  
Contact:

RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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>

NEW WEB SITES

Sanjay Havaladar is putting up his philatelic collections of India at [www.havaladar.com](http://www.havaladar.com). Site is growing gradually and is still worth a visit.

INDIA POST & MULTI COMMODITIES EXCHANGE OF INDIA

India Post will soon tie up with the Multi Commodities Exchange of India (MCX) to provide farmers an opportunity to do business in the futures market and to enable farmers and traders in commodities to eliminate middlemen and reap maximum profits from their produce. Jalgaon, one of the major trading centers situated in north Maharashtra, has been chosen to start this venture.

MCX would set up the required infrastructure, including trading price boards and Internet-enabled computer systems introducing an online screen-based spot trading platform for buying and selling of farm produce at Jalgaon. MCX may charge a nominal fee from farmers and traders to access online trading prices.

PAKISTAN NEW ISSUES

Last reported in Issue # 272 - Jun 1, 2006

Apr 14: Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's Visit to Armored Corps Centre, 2 stamps, Rs 5 & Rs 5

ERRORS FREAKS & ODDITIES:

Rajesh K Agarwala of New Delhi has contributed a spectacular black color missing error in the recent India Cyprus Joint Issue.

For the image, please visit:

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

FRANCE HONORS INDIAN CINEMA

France recently issued a pre-stamped-envelope (PSE) that honors Bollywood - the home of Indian Movies.

For the image, please visit:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/274-plus.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.

Meghdoot Postcards 210 different arranged in display albums for Rs 850 including postage, Contact A R C SHAH, A-20 Gujarat Apartments, New Delhi Mobile Phone: 0 98101 79095

PAKISTAN POSTAGE STAMPS COLOUR CATALOGUE 2006-07 available with all Philatelic Bureaus of Pakistan Post Office, OR ask for further details, M. I. Choudhary, [michoudhary11@hotmail.com](mailto:michoudhary11@hotmail.com) 20-Singhar Centre, 16-Maclagan Road, P. O. Box 2424, Lahore-54000 Pakistan

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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.>

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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>

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ADMINISTRIVIA

'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is published by Madhukar Jhingan 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

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

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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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