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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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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We have to skip another two issues due to delay. There will be no  
issues for July 27 and August 3, 2006.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Vijay  
Navlakha, Pulak Gupta, Ashok Tiwary

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

POST OFFICE TO ACCEPT INCOME TAX RETURNS

India Post would accept the income tax returns in nearly 2000 select Post Offices all over India, with effect from July 26, 2006. There will be no additional charge levied for availing this facility.

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Aug 14: Oil & Natural Gas Commission, Rs 5

Aug 15: Ma Po Sivagnanam, Rs 5

New issues along with the First Day Cover and the information sheet, at Rs 2 each, are put on sale on sale at nearly 1000 selected Post Offices including all Philatelic Bureaus and Philatelic Counters in India.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2006, please visit

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

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on the High court of Jammu & Kashmir on July 29, 2006.

The full-fledged High Court of Judicature for the Jammu and Kashmir State was established in the year 1928. Earlier, the Ruler of the State (Maharaja) was the final authority in the administration of justice.

In the year 1889, the British Government asked the then Ruler of the State, Maharaja Partap Singh to appoint a Council. The judicial member of the Council exercised all the appellate powers, both on civil and criminal side. The State having two provinces - Jammu and Kashmir, had chief judges exercising judicial authority but they acted under the superintendence and control of the Law member of the Council. Later the Council was abolished and a Minister designated as Judge of the High Court was appointed by the Ruler to decide judicial cases. In 1927 a new Constitution was adopted by the then Ruler of the State and in the place of Law Member, a Ministry in the Judicial Department was created. By virtue of Order No.1 dated March 26, 1928, the High Court of Judicature was established and for the first time the High Court was to consist of the Chief Justice and two Judges. The Maharaja appointed Lala Kanwar Sein as the First Chief Justice of the Court and Rai Bahadur Lala Bodh Raj Sawhney and Khan Sahib Aga Syed Hussain as Puisne Judges. The usual places of sitting of the High Court are Jammu and Srinagar.

In 1939, the Ruler promulgated the Constitution Act of 1996 (1939 AD), which incorporated the provisions of law relating to the High Court, and conferred upon the High Court a substantial measure of Independence. The High Court was invested with powers of superintendence and control over the Courts / District judiciary.

The 1996 Act also constituted 3 members Board of Judicial advisers akin to the Privy Council in British India. The Board was to advise the Ruler in the disposal of the civil and criminal appeals against the decisions of the High Court.

The Board of Judicial Advisers at the time of its abolition by the Constitution Act 1956 had 17 appeals pending before it. On request of the Chief Justice, the Government of India in consultation with the Chief Justice of India, constituted a Special Bench of the Supreme Court of India consisting of Justice Mehar Chand Mahajan, Chief Justice of India, Justice S R Das and Justice Ghulam Hassan for disposing off the pending 17 appeals. The Bench heard the appeals in Srinagar and upheld the judgment of the High Court in all the 17 appeals. It was a historic event, when a Bench of Supreme Court held sitting outside the place of its seat at Delhi. On September 10, 1943, Letters Patent was conferred on the High Court.

The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court was extended to the State of Jammu & Kashmir vide Constitution Application Order of 1954. Under Article 32 (2-A) of the Constitution of India, the State High Court was for the first time given power to issue writs for enforcement of the fundamental rights so far as they are applicable of the State of J&K. In 1957, by the Jammu and Kashmir Constitution Act, an independent judicial body with the High Court of Judicature at the top was created.

The High Court has at present a sanctioned strength of 14 Judges including 9 Permanent Judges and 5 Additional Judges. From May to end October, The Chief Justice and the administrative Wing of High Court shifts to Srinagar and from November to end April, the HQ is at Jammu. However, Court sections of both the Jammu and Srinagar Wings of the High Court function throughout the year.

Brahm Prakash 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.

#### PANKAJ MULLICK

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 in honor of music maestro Pankaj Kumar Mullick on August 4, 2006.

A gifted singer and composer, Pankaj Kumar Mullick was a pioneer in the field of film music, composing music and singing for over 100 films in Bengali and Hindi.

Born in Kolkata on May 10, 1905, Pankaj Mullick's love for music was inspired by his father Manimohan Mullick. Initially trained by Durgadas Bandopadhyay and Dinendranath Tagore, Rabindranath's grandnephew, Pankaj Mullick dropped out of college to embrace his first love, music. His career took off in the year 1927, when he got the opportunity of being a musician with All India Radio. He came to conduct weekly music lessons called 'Sangeet Shikhshar Ashar' on All India Radio, for an astonishingly continuous 47 years, arguably a world record. He also created the "Mahisasura Mardini" programme, setting Sanskrit slokas to

music, which is aired till today on All India Radio, every year on 'Mahalaya' morning, to usher in the Durga Puja, and has become an integral part of the Bengali Puja culture.

He was a big name in the Indian film world from 1928 onwards, conducting live-orchestras in movie theatres for silent feature films. Thereafter, he joined 'New Theatres' in 1930, where he trained and conducted rehearsals for artists, and he got his first break as an independent music director in P C Barua's film "Mukti" (1937).

A close friend and mentor of K L Saigal, he composed many of the songs which contributed to the popularity of Saigal. Immensely popular in his life-time, many of Pankaj Mullick's songs like "So Ja Rajkumari" (Sung by Saigal) and "Piya Milan Ko Jana" (sung by Mullick) remain timeless in their appeal. He was the first person to popularize the songs of Rabindra Nath Tagore through films, and his rendition of "Jana Gana Mana" was deemed as the definitive pioneer in introducing western instruments in Indian Film music. He was also instrumental in promoting the playing of 'Tabla' along with Rabindra Sangeet.

As the Honorary Advisor to the "Lok Ranjan Shakha" run by government of West Bengal, Pankaj Mullick also helped propagate social awareness amongst the masses through music and entertainment. He also authored four books on Indian music.

Pankaj Mullick was awarded the 'Rashtrapati Puraskar' for composing the music for two films, 'Yatrik' and 'Raikamal'. He was also given the titles of 'Sursagar' and 'Sangeet Ratnakar'. He was awarded the "Padmashree", in 1970, and the Dadasaheb Phalke award in 1972. Several other felicitations came his way, including the BFJA (Bengal Film Journalists' Association) Award.

He passed away in the year 1978, but his contributions to Indian popular music will remain unforgettable.

Sankha Samanta 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 0.4 million.

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POSTAL STATIONERY UPDATES

The following postal stationery with advertisement is scheduled for release in August 2006:

The information in the listing is presented in following format:

Date, Printer, Language, Message, Quantity in million, Remarks
'M' denotes multicolor printing and in case of single color, the color of the ad is mentioned in parenthesis if different than the color of regular printing.

Inland Letter Card with advertisement
Aug 05: Gujarati, AIDS, 1

Inland Letter Card with advertisement
Aug 05: Gujarati, AIDS, 1
Aug 12: Telugu, SPP, xxxxx, 1

For a list of postal stationeries in 2006, please visit
Post Cards <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2006PC.htm>
Inland Letter Cards <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2005ILC.htm>

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RAKHI ENVELOPES UPDATE

India Post did not disappoint the philatelists and this year's All India envelopes in 4 designs, by Ogilvy & Mather, finally resulted in 21 different collectible varieties.

There are four, #01-04, of the first batch of envelopes available on sale at New Delhi on July 17, 2006. The three, #01A-03A, were also found mixed up with the first batch and are without price inscriptions on the back. The fourth design has not been seen or reported without price inscriptions.

The second batch of envelopes, #05-08, carried additional inscriptions "Celebrating Security, Love & Family" and "In Support of SOS Children's Villages of India". The first two designs of these with 3 different advertisements. #05A, 05B, 05C, and 06A, 06B, 06C were available in Rajasthan Postal Circle only.

Finally these envelopes in slightly smaller size and without price inscriptions, #09-12, were available for sale through retail stores. These were not available for sale at the post office.

And this not enough, the design on #03, and 03A has a design error - showing the Rakhi being tied on left hand that has been corrected on #07 and 11.

Special Rakhi postmark was available on Rakhi mail posted at the Sansad Marg Head Post Office, New Delhi from August 4 to 9, 2006.

For an illustrated list of Rakhi envelopes, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pss/rakhi.htm>

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NEW MEGHDOOT POSTCARDS

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:

Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited + AIDS, Telugu
Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, Marathi

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

Special covers with Special postmarks

Feb 07: Coochbehar, Sunity Academy

Feb 14: Tirunavaya, Mamankam Festival

Apr 10: Kolkata, South Eastern Railway HQ Building Centenary

Jul 03: Berhampur, City High School Platinum Jubilee

This was released by President of India on July 4, 2006 as his program was rescheduled due to heavy rains.

Jul 29: Jamshedpur, J R D Tata 102<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary

The Parents Association of Mentally Handicapped Children in association with the Jamshedpur Philatelic Society brought out this cover depicting JRD Tata with a mentally handicapped child. The special postmark shows JRD Tata & his autograph. Cinema and TV actor Mukesh Khanna released the cover in presence of the Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Jamshedpur. The Cover is priced at Rs 20 (plus postage) and available from P Babu Rao, Secretary of PAMHC, mobile - 09234672214. The sale proceeds will contribute for the PAMHC activities for the welfare of these children.

Special covers with date postmarks

Jul 19: Ahmedabad, Honorary Doctorate to Amitabh Bachchan

Aug 02: Gandhinagar, 42<sup>nd</sup> Establishment Day of Gandhinagar

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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POST OFFICE & SERVICE TAX

Service Tax is the fastest growing revenue stream for Government of India, and the list of items on which Service Tax can be levied is expanding. This is resulting in an ever increasing number of organizations that have to register themselves for payment of Service Tax, and in the number of Service Tax returns.

India Post's Business Development & Marketing Directorate has negotiated with the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC), and it has been agreed that (a) Service Tax Registration Forms, and (b) Service Tax returns would be accepted in select Post Offices. This would be done by charging the tax payer Rs 100 per form/return, as in the case of Speed Post Passport Service.

The Service Tax authorities would train the staff in identified Post Offices. At present, the work involves checking with a check list that the forms/returns are complete, and sending the forms/returns to the concerned Service Tax office in a time bound manner. However, India Post would work with the CBEC and the forms/returns may be filed electronically through Post offices in due course.

To begin with the Delhi Circle has taken up the work from July 1, 2006 in 22 Post Offices in Delhi. The Post Offices have been chosen keeping in mind the commercial areas where the workload would be adequate, and to ensure that forms/returns can be collected by a transport without deviating too much from the schedule and reaching the forms/returns to Service Tax office in time.

Acceptance of Service Tax registration forms/returns will soon be extended to other Circles.

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COMMERCIAL UTILIZATION OF POST OFFICES

India Post is the second largest real estate owner in India after Indian Railways. It has land and buildings in prime locations all over India.

India Post has roped in international property consultant Trammell Crow Meghraj to explore the commercial utilization of the premises.

TrammellCrow Meghraj will carry out the feasibility study in four places- Oshiwara in Mumbai, Chikamagalur in Karnataka, Delhi and Chennai.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

A philatelic Exhibition (YOUTHPEX-2006) among the school students was held on July 30, 2006 at St. Xaviers High School, Berhampur(Ganjam) jointly organised by The South Orissa Philatelists' Association and Young Hostel Association of India. 22 students from different schools participated in the exhibition. Ajit Kumar Dash, Secretary of EIPA was appointed as Jury for the exhibition. Pallavi Saraf, Tapaswini Pathi and Surabhi Patra stood First, Second and Third respectively in the Senior group. Srabani Dash, Saurav Saraf and Saurav Patra stood First, Second and Third position respectively in the Junior Group. P Nisha was awarded the special Jury award in the junior Category.

Aug 11-13: Baramahal Coinstampex-2006

Venue: Sumangali Thirumana Mandapam, Opp Anna Park, Near National Hotel, Salem (Tamilnadu)

Contact: V M Ramasamy, VMR Theatre, Pallapatti, Salem

Phone: 0427-2350380

Dealer Stall Fee: Rs 1,500

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>

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

GPA NEWS, June 2006

Editor: Ilyas Patel

Publisher: Gujarat Philatelists Association

Address: C/o M/s D Desai & Co., 1/M National Chambers, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad 380009

Annual Subscription including Membership: Rs 200

For a list of Indian periodicals, please visit

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

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BANGLADESH NEW ISSUES

May 5: National Tree Plantation, Tk 10

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THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

The Calendar for August 2006 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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FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

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- 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.

Following Miniature Sheets are for sale: Indian Railway, India Post, Taj Mahal, Golden Voices, Mountt Everest, Indo Japan, Handicraft, Jems and Jewellery. Plz contact: Rishi Kochhar at daredoc@rediffmail.com or 09814172352 or 09814172352

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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.>

SEKHAR CHAKRABARTI

I understand from the various media sources that Dept. of Post has contemplated to celebrate in a big way the 150th. Anniversary of the 1857 war of independence next year and several other celebrations in the coming months, viz. The centenary of the adoption of Vande Mataram, the 75th. Anniversary of Bhagat Singh's martyrdom, his birth centenary and the 60th. Anniversary of India's Independence.

In tune with above, may I, request that the Dept.of Post may also consider appropriate commemoration in its 60th. anniversary of the revolt of the Royal Indian Navy ( RIN ) ratings of February 1946 that took place in Bombay and Karachi by issuing a set of suitable postage stamps.

The RIN revolt was a burst on our national scene like time bomb which never happened before in the fighting forces in the British India, not after 1857. The RIN revolt conclusively proved the iron wall which the British created between the Indian Army and the Indian people had collapsed. Another major symbolic action of ratings was pulling down the Union Jack, the symbol of the imperial pride and its invincibility and replace the same with three flags, the Red flag depicting the hammer & sickle, the Congress flag and the Moslem League's flag. The act was described by Namboodiripad as "... an indication of the new social forces that were moving the thousands of men who had risen against the British rule".

In the word of an another historian '.... The revolt by the ratings and their demonstration of a political consciousness helped to undermine the British power and the authority in India. It also proclaimed the unity between Hindus and Muslims for the ratings displayed the flags of both the Congress and the League'.



MADHU AGRAWAL (Guinness Record Holder for letters in Newspapers), Delhi Indian Postal Department has done away with providing gumming on postage stamps of ordinary stamps causing users of postal services great difficulty in fixing postage stamps on mail-articles. An official in a Post office revealed that the step was taken after a huge lot of stamp-sheets had to be wasted because these sheets pasted with each other due to dampness while in storage. Surprisingly gumming still continues on multicoloured commemorative stamps with high print-cost.

Department of posts should use better quality of dry gumming so that sticking may be possible only after proper wetting of gummed side of stamps. With so many laboratory-tests available and newer techniques now available, people must not be harassed by doing away with gumming of stamps only because faulty gumming once caused stored stamp-sheets pasted with each other.

There are other methods to save printing-cost of postage stamps like reducing size of special commemorative stamps to that of stamps of definitive series. Also to bring newness in the system, a complete series of stamps of definitive series and postal stationery should be introduced on first day of new financial-year based on a particular theme keeping colour of stamps of particular denomination same for every year. Practice of stamp-sheets of commemorative stamps having stamps of more than one denomination should be abolished because users of stamps of different denominations are different.

RANJIT SINGH, New Delhi

This year there are some important centenaries especially 400 years of Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Devji and 400 years of Sri Akal Takht Sahib Amritsar.

It is sad, strange and regrettable that these two historic events are being ignored by India Post. Neither a stamp nor any special cover has been issued to commemorate such events of great importance.

It is a pity, lots of stamps are being issued every year but extremely important historical events are being ignored. It seems India post has a blinkered view of History and philately. Is this promotion of philately when stamps and covers are being issued to philatelically placate a particular region of India?

This biased attitude of India Post is not in the interests of Promotion of Philately. India Post has already made a mess of "Guru Granth Sahib" stamps.

I request again, please issue stamps on Guru Arjan Dev Martyrdom and on 400 years of Sri Akal Takht Sahib. Other neighboring countries have done it but India Post.....

O P GUPTA, Chandigarh

It is yet another case where India Post has added one more feather to its cap by showing two different designs, one on the Brochure and another on the stamp released on High Court of Jammu & Kashmir on 29.07.2006. It would be seen in the stamp the year of issue viz. 2006 is indicated in between the barricades around lawn/garden, whereas in the Brochure 2006 is indicated much above the barricades, just near the vertical perforations on the left side of the stamp. It is very

surprising how two different designs have again appeared. From this, it is very clear that such mistakes are being repeated and there is no fear in the officers/officials responsible for this job, of any action. Will India Post improve?

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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](mailto:mjhingan@yahoo.com) for 'Stamps of India', 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. Phone: +91-11-25281578, Mobile: +91-9350537037  
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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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