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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
Issue # 296 - Jul 5, 2007. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We have heard from a few subscribers that previous two issues, # 294 and 295 were received blank. We have made enquiries and haven't found the cause and cure, yet. As majority of subscribers have got the issues alright it seems that there may be some sort of bug in the subscriber's computer that could be responsible, however we are not sure. Using regularly updated antivirus and deploying firewall, we believe, is a must nowadays.

This issue comes to you on the eve of the closing of voting to select new Seven Wonders of the World. There is still some time left to vote before the results are announced on live television around the world on 7-7-7. Please log on to [www.new7wonders.com](http://www.new7wonders.com) and vote for the Taj. In India you can also SMS 'Taj' to 6767.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Abhai Mishra, Rajesh Varma, and Shrikant Parikh

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

PHILSENSEX JULY 2007  
By P R Krishnan, Coimbatore

I thank all the viewers of this column and I appreciate their point of views, comments, criticism etc. Again I would like to make a mention that my work is just to create awareness of the value among collectors and to increase the collector base for India stamps. Thanks for all the support.

Just for a Thought

The number of sheet-lets issued for Rose is around 40000 pcs  
The number of sheet-lets issued for Fairs of India is around 66666 each  
Which one will become scarcer in the future??

Sheetlets issued by Department of Post? This may be the next dark horse Watch!!!!

Please take extra care for issues with 0.4 million quantity!!!!

Stamp to Watch

There is a considerable movement of AIDS stamp among investors. 1947 & 1969 Gandhi Sets are in strong demand among dealers and collectors. INS Tarangini Miniature sheet is the lime light. 1947 - 57 issues are heating up? Will R K Shukla cross the 2004/05 peak!!!!!!!

I am pleased to release the data for July 2007 on Indian Post Independence mint stamps for the benefit of collectors, dealers and investors.

Visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/philsensex0707.htm> for viewing the data.

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Jul 13: Personalities, 3 stamps, Rs 5 each

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 2007, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2007stamps.htm>

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NEW POSTAL STATIONERY

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:

Malaria,  
Consumer Rights 1, Hindi  
Consumer Rights 2, Hindi  
Consumer Rights 3, Hindi

The grand total till date is now 417, with 141 added in 2007 alone.

The complete illustrated list of Meghdoot Post Card is available at:  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/meghdoot.htm>

Following post card with advertisement was recently released:

Apr 27, Adult Education, Kannada

For an illustrated list of all kinds of Postcards in 2007, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2007PC.htm>

Following Inland Letter card with advertisement was recently released:

Apr 27, Adult Education, Oriya

For an illustrated list of all kinds of Envelopes in 2007, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2007EN.htm>

For an illustrated list of Aerogramme & Inland Letter in 2007, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2007ILC.htm>

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

For an illustrated list of Special Postmarks & Covers in 2007, visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/2007pm.htm>

For an illustrated list of Army Postal Service Issues in 2007, visit
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/aps/2007aps.htm>

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STAMPS ON INDIA: INDIA JAPAN FRIENDSHIP YEAR

Japan has issued a sheetlet of 10 different stamps to mark the India Japan Friendship Year 2007 on May 23, 2007

Visit <http://stampsonindia.com/nir001.htm> for the images

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26TH INDIAN ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

The 26th Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica returned in March 2007. It also brought mails from the Maitri post office at the Indian base in Antarctica.

To view the cover from the 26th Indian Antarctic Expedition

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/antarctic/pole.htm>

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FIRST DAY COVERS OF THE MINIATURE SHEETS

Shrikant Parikh of Ahmedabad [shrikantparikh@rediffmail.com](mailto:shrikantparikh@rediffmail.com) has added another feather to his cap by completing the collection of all miniature sheets issued in India on the first day covers. He has also prepared a CD of this collection to share it with fellow collectors. With his permission we will soon be uploading all the images on [www.stampsofindia.com](http://www.stampsofindia.com).

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ITS COLLECTORS' DIRECTORY

Indian Thematic Society (ITS) has announced a new edition of their "ITS Collectors' Directory" to mark tenth year of publication of "ITS Stamp News" quarterly journal.

Earlier in 1997 & 2002, ITS had published its two editions, which were well received and recognized. This the third edition will include section wise alphabetical and cross referenced, listing of stamp collectors, dealers & auctioneers in not only stamps, postal history and covers and also Postcards, Phone-cards, Coins, Banknotes and other small collectibles. There will be a separate section for foreign countries. A theme wise list of collectors is also being planned. Also to be included will be the addresses and currencies of the World's Postal Administrations, lists of Philatelic Publications, Catalogs plus others yet to be decided features in accordance with your suggestions.

This edition will be sold to collectors and dealers throughout the world, and all collectors, dealers and other professionals may include, in addition to their free listing, an attention grabbing bold type, bold & boxed listing or even better, a display advertisement.

Contact Suraj Jaitly, General Secretary of the Indian Thematic Society indianthematicsociety@gmail.com for an application form for free listing and advertisement space in third edition of ITS Collectors' Directory. The closing date is September 30, 2007 and only the entries received on prescribed form by post will be included.

Few copies of last edition (2002) are still available for Rs.100 for delivery in India by Registered post or US\$4 for overseas airmail delivery.

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

PHILATELY NEWS LETTER, Whole # 14, Apr Dec 2006  
Editor: Kavery Banerjee  
Publisher: Philately Division, India Post  
Address: Dak Bhavan, Parliament Street, New Delhi 110001  
Annual Subscription: Free

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SECURITY PRINTING & MINTING CORPORATION OF INDIA
Security Printing & Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL), a wholly owned company of Government of India, has been incorporated in January 2006 with its headquarters in New Delhi.

The four Mints, two Note Printing Presses, two Security Printing Presses and one Security Paper Mill were earlier functioning as departmental organizations under Currency and Coinage Division of the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India. These nine units have been transferred to SPMCIL with effect from February 10, 2006 along with all assets and liabilities.

The main function of the Mints is minting of coins to meet domestic requirements. High Quality security inks are also manufactured and supplied. The Assay Departments attached to Mumbai and Kolkata Mints assay gold, silver and alloys for coins, medals, badges and

commemorative coins etc. Mints Possibilities of taking up export assignments in minting is being explored. While the note printing presses are involved in printing currency/bank notes, the security printing presses produce non-judicial stamp papers, postage stamps, postal stationery, travel documents etc.

There are more than 18,000 employees working in these units. The total turnover of these units is more than Rs 14 billion during financial year 2005-06. Capital base of the units is more than Rs 8 billion whereas total assets are more than Rs 32 billion. The corporatization of these industrial units is expected to make these units vibrant. These units earlier have been working against a budget hence management practices of efficiency were not widely known to them and the accounting was done on cash basis.

SPMCIL though a new entity is composed of units that have a rich & long history of handling the security printing & minting in the nation. The units of SPMCIL are:

India Government Mint, Mumbai (Maharashtra)

This Mint was established in the year 1829 which is one of the oldest mints of the Country. British sovereign were minted during 1918 as this Mint was declared as branch of Royal Mint of London. It has got the capacity of minting coins, medals & further, it is also taken care of refining of Gold and Silver and other metals.

India Government Mint, Kolkata (West Bengal)

Minting of coins started at Calcutta Mint in the 18th Century. In 1790 modern machinery was brought from England and second Mint was established. Bronze, silver and gold coins were getting minted from these mints. One of the mints was modernised in the year 1952 and it was known as Alipore Mint. Later-on it was renamed as India Government Mint, Kolkata.

India Government Mint, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)

India Government Mint, Hyderabad was originally started in the year 1903 in the Hyderabad city however, after modernization, it was re-located to a place - Cheralapalli, near Hyderabad in the year 1997. This is the most modern minting unit in the country having refining facility as well as facility to mint coins, medals and medallion.

India Government Mint, Noida (Uttar Pradesh)

This Mint was established in the year 1988. The Minting facility at Noida takes care of the requirement of Coins. This is one of the modern mints in the Country.

Currency Note Press, Nasik (Maharashtra)

Currency Note Press, Nashik Road, was established in the year 1928 with the objective of printing currency/bank notes of denominations as per the requirements and indents placed by Reserve Bank of India from time to time.

Bank Note Press, Dewas (Madhya Pradesh)

Bank Note Press, Dewas, was established in 1973 and it is a "ISO:9001 and ISO: 14001 Certified Unit". It prints Bank Notes of Rs 20, Rs 50, Rs 100 and Rs 500 denominations. This Press also manufactures high quality security inks for various security printing organizations.

India Security Press, Nashik Road (Maharashtra)
India Security Press, Nashik Road was established in the year 1925. It prints & supply Judicial/non-judicial stamp papers all types of postal & non postal stamps & stationery, passports, visa & other travel documents, MICR & Non-MICR Cheques in continuous Stationery form, Identity Cards, Railway Warrants, Income Tax Return Order Forms, Saving Instruments (IPOs & KVP, IVP Certificates,) etc.

Security Printing Press, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)
This organization was established in the year 1982. It is responsible for printing & supply of low denomination Non-Judicial Stamp papers, Postal Stamps & Postal Stationery to Department of Post.

Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad (Madhya Pradesh)
Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad was established in 1968. This unit is responsible for manufacturing of different types of Security Papers.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Aug 10-12: Bangalore, KARNAPEX,  
Exhibitors Apply before July 20, 2007

For a list of exhibitions in 2007, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events2007.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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THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

The Calendar for July 2007 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.

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ADVERTISEMENTS

Rs 250 per insertion, Discounts available for 5 or more insertions  
All advertising must be prepaid. Send your ad to [ad@stampsofindia.net](mailto:ad@stampsofindia.net)

- Terms: 1. This facility to advertise the wants and for sale philatelic items is a privilege available only to the subscribers of the Stamps of India Collectors Companion.  
2. A Subscriber can insert only one ad per issue.  
3. The maximum size acceptable is 5 Lines of 64 characters per line.  
4. All ads shall be published at the sole discretion of the editors who reserve the right to refuse any advertisement.  
5. Stamps of India does not endorse any advertiser and can not be held liable for transactions of any advertiser.

WANTED in white-gum/pristine Mint Never Hinged Condition  
Jai Hind 1947 Complete Set of 3 for Rs 200  
UPU 1949 Complete Set of 4 for Rs 600  
Can also buy the above in Indian or tropicalised gum condition,  
for prices please contact: Ashish Talwar [talwar2002@hotmail.com](mailto:talwar2002@hotmail.com)

BUYING Rajkumar Shukla - Sheet for Rs 20,000, Single for Rs 400  
WANTED Gandhi 1948 mint 4 value, 3 value, in sheets, singles, blocks,  
mounted or unmounted and on covers, Also Gandhi Service stamps on  
covers Please send your offers to Ramawtar B Jain, Mobile: 093777 66365

Visit [www.delcampe.net/stores/rajus2001](http://www.delcampe.net/stores/rajus2001) for Lions Club, Masonic Lodge /  
Freemasonry, Mushroom, Reptiles, Birds, Animals and many more themes  
from hundreds of countries with images at very reasonable prices.  
ABDUL AZIZ, E-mail: [rajus2001@gmail.com](mailto:rajus2001@gmail.com) A - 32/146 Chittanpura,  
Varanasi-221001, India. Mobile: 0 98389 70190

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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.>

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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

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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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