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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
Issue # 309 - October 4, 2007. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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I N T H I S I S S U E

PhilSensex October 2007  
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Army Postal Service Issues  
Special Packs  
New Gandhi Cinderellas  
Auction Action  
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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

The 138<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2, 2007 was celebrated the world over as the first International Day of Non-Violence.

India post had begun the introduction of Mahatma Gandhi design for the postage stamp impressed on all forms of prepaid postal stationery with effect from March 1, 2007 and has befittingly concluded with issue of 2 envelopes on October 2, 2007.

The portrait of Mahatma Gandhi already adorns all denominations of the paper money of India although he never was as chubby in real life as shown in this design.

India issued first stamps on Gandhi in 1948 and USA was the next nation to issue stamps in his honor in 1964. Since then there is a regular flow of stamp issues from all parts of the world and from 1997 this flow seemed like a flood at times.

Gandhi, today is a global brand and it sells. A search on Google and eBay will convenience you of this fact. It is a paradox where anything remotely connected with Gandhi becomes an instant bestseller, there is an absence of usable information on Gandhi collectibles. Even after the recent publications of two large philatelic volumes on Gandhi by Dr Ramkissoon, and Manik Jain & M K Ray, that go a long way to help, the basic information is still elusive for the collector.

The basic information in our opinion includes status of all issues especially of those several issues which are being sold all over the world except in the country whose name they bear. It is also required to correctly identify and describe the ancillary material such as FDC, Postmarks, Sheets, imperforates etc. The fakes present a great scope for workaholics.

The basic information regarding Indian issues will include the First Day Covers and Special Place cancellations for all Gandhi issues, First Day Covers of the issues which are not on Mahatma Gandhi but which does depict him, Postal Stationery, Special Postmarks, Special Covers, Cinderella issues, Post Office named after Gandhi, and philatelic items in 'categories not covered above'.

Needless to say we are committed to collect and present this information for you as a part of our ongoing project gathering this data for all Indian issues since 1947. We have earlier published the most comprehensive list of Gandhi post offices in India which is available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/topic/Gandhi-POs.htm>. And now we take this opportunity to present a list of the Postal Stationery issues on Mahatma Gandhi at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/topic/Gandhi-PS2.htm>.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Vinod Sabharwal, and Rishi Chandio

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 OCTOBER 2007  
By P R Krishnan

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

I invite your comments, opinions, and suggestions.

Visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/philensex1007.htm> for viewing the data.

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Oct 08: Indian Air Force Platinum Jubilee
Oct 14: 4th Military World Games, Hyderabad - Mumbai,
Oct 15: Maharashtra Police Academy Centenary
Oct 24: Punjab Regiment

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 STAMPS RELEASED

SACHIN DEV BURMAN

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp on October 1, 2007 to mark the 101<sup>st</sup> birth anniversary of music maestro Sachin Deb Burman in the denomination of Rs 15.

Born in Comilla's Chortha village, 85 kilometer south of Dhaka (now in Bangladesh), on Oct 1, 1906, Burman was a noted Bollywood music composer and an all-time great Bengali singer and composer.

He belonged to the royal family of Tripura. His father Nabadwip Chandra Dev Burman, the eldest son of Tripura King, Maharaja Ishan Chandra Manikya, was denied a chance to succeed his father to the throne. His mother Nirupama Devi, a princess of the Manipuri royal family, also played a key role by encouraging Burman.

Burman left Comilla in 1924 to earn a Master's degree from Calcutta University. But there he was attracted in to music.

He was initiated in to the world of music at a young age by his father who was a sitarist and Dhrupad singer. He also learned music from Krishnachandra, who taught him the Dadra style of singing, and Bhishmadeb Chattopadhyay.

His first song recordings were done in 1923 for Hindustan Musical Company of Kolkata. His first film as a singer was Sanjher Pidim(1935). He became a music director initially in Calcutta with Rajgee(1937).

He married Meera, a lyricist, singer and dancer whom he met first in 1937 at a music conference in Allahabad.

He overwhelmed the world of music in Kolkata before leaving for Bombay in 1944. He gave unforgettable musical presentations one after another through the films like Kagaz Ke Phool, Bombai Ka Babu, Sujata, Kala Bazar, Bandini, Pyasa, Guide, Jewel Thief, Aradhana, Prem Pujari, Talash, Abhiman, Anurag, Kalapani, Taxi Driver, Munimji and so on. The sound track of Devadas(1955) was composed by him.

He was awarded the Sangeet Natak Academy Award in 1958.

Burman went into coma while recording the song 'Badi sooni' sung by Kishore Kumar for the film Mili and died on October 31, 1975 in Mumbai.

His son Rahul Dev Burman, born in 1939, also made it big in Bollywood as a music director.

Sachin Deb Burman was a maestro, whose music emerged from the core of perpetual Bengal life, its rivers and joy, love and pangs of separation perceived by its people. His haunting melodies, enchanting and yet melancholic, had the effect of carrying the spirit, like a wandering minstrel, incessantly in anxious search.

Bharati Mirchandani designed the Stamps 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. Security Printing Press, Hyderabad printed the stamps by Wet Offset in the quantity of 0.4 million.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2007, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2007stamps.htm>

#### CENTENARY OF SATYAGRAHA

Dr Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister of India released a set of four commemorative postage stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 each and a miniature sheet on October 2, 2007 to mark the Centenary of Satyagraha (Non Violent Resistance) launched by Mahatma Gandhi in Johannesburg, South Africa.

In developing Satyagraha, Gandhi was influenced by the concept of 'ahimsa' (non violence) in the Hindu scriptures and the tenets of Jainism, as well as earlier theorists of nonviolent resistance and nonresistance including Jesus (particularly the Sermon on the Mount), the Imam Hussein, Leo Tolstoy (particularly The Kingdom of God Is Within You), John Ruskin (particularly Unto This Last), and Henry David Thoreau (particularly Civil Disobedience).

Sankha Samanta designed the Stamps 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, Nasik printed the stamps by Photogravure in the quantity of 0.8 million each. The Miniature Sheet is printed in the quantity of 0.2 million.

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

India Post issued the stamped envelope in the denomination of Rs 5 with a new motif of Mahatma Gandhi in two different single colors, Dark Brown and Dark Blue replacing the existing motif of '150 Years of India Post'. This was made available on October 2, 2007 at all the philatelic bureaus.

The new motif of Mahatma Gandhi had already appeared on Single Post Cards, Reply Post Cards, Inland Letter Cards, Registered Envelope, and

Aerogramme on March 1, 2007. The stamped envelope was excluded from the design change at that time.

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

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

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

Oct 02: all philatelic bureaus, International Day of Non Violence

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

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

Aug 05: Air Force Central Medical Establishment

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

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SPECIAL PACKS

India Post issued a special pack on October 2, 2007 for Rs 100 containing a Miniature Sheet, a FDC, and a brochure of the Satyagraha Centenary, plus a Special Cover for International Day of Non Violence.

Also available for sale on that day was a special pack for Rs 50 containing a FDC of the 53rd Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference issue.

For an illustrated list of packs in 2007, please visit <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/packs/misc-packs2007.htm>

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NEW GANDHI CINDERELLAS

Two different self adhesive labels were issued at Gandhi theme exhibition recently concluded at Surat.

For an illustrated list of Cinderella issues in 2007, please visit <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/cinderella2007.htm>

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AUCTION ACTION

Indian Thematic Society [indianthematicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:indianthematicsociety@gmail.com) is holding postal auction # 38. The 121 lots auction closes on October 20, 2007.

For a list of auctions in India, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/auction.htm>

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

ITS STAMPS NEWS, Whole # 39, Jul-Sep 2007, Quarterly
Editor: Suraj Jaitly indianthematicsociety@gmail.com
Publisher: Indian Thematic Society
Annual Subscription [by Airmail]: Rs 150 or US \$10 or Euro 8

STAMP TODAY, Whole # 8, Jul Aug 2006
Editor: Vijay H Seth
Publisher: Vijay H Seth
Annual Subscription: Rs 180

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Oct 6-8: Ahmedabad, Gujarat State Philatelic Exhibition

Oct 13-15: Gwalior, Coins & Stamps Exhibition  
Issues: 2 special covers,  
Sales Stalls: Rs 2000/ Rs 2500  
Contact: Neel Kamal Maheshwari, 0 94257 45455, 0 94444 50420

Oct 26-29: Jaipur, 12th Inter School Philatelic Exhibition Schoolpex  
Venue: St Xavier's School  
Issues: 2 special covers including 1 scented cover,  
Sales Stalls: Rs 600, Also accommodation assistance  
Contact: Rajesh Paharia, Mobile 9351716969

Oct 31-Nov 2: Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh State Philatelic Exhibition

Nov 30-Dec 2: New Delhi, Coins & Banknotes  
Contact: Goga Jain, Mobile 93123 18401

Dec 5-8: Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala State Philatelic Exhibition  
Venue: Kanakakunnu Palace

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 October 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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BUYING at 100 times of the Face Value: UPU & Masks Miniature Sheets, Begum Akhtar, 1948 Mahatma Gandhi 1½ annas, 3½ annas, & 12 annas Please send your offers to RAMAWTAR B JAIN, Mobile: 093777 66365

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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.>

SUBHASH C AGRAWAL, New Delhi
(Guinness Record Holder for most letters in newspapers)

Indian Posts Department should issue a series of colourful and perfumed postage stamps to commemorate Indian Cricket team winning 20-20 World Cup. Such series if properly publicised and printed in adequately large numbers, will be revenue-earning for the Posts Department firstly through philately and secondly by attracting users back to postal services in view of popularity of privately run courier-service. Denominations of stamps may be in most commonly used postal-tariffs including one each in local and inter-city Speed-Post service to popularise Speed Post service.

ATISH KUMAR JAIN,
Recently Dhoni and his team brought twenty 20 cup and thus they became first Twenty 20 World champions. Three cheers to them...

My suggestion to India post is to issue at least a set of commemorative stamps to honour our heroes. Recently our small neighbour Bangladesh had issued a set of beautiful stamps with beautiful FDCs featuring all the 12 players.

Our postal department should at least learn from our small neighbours at least. we are moving forward towards becoming a super power at least by 2020. So why our postal department is moving in a snail's pace? Can anybody reply?

Our postal department is very much forward in issuing "Personalities" series...Why not famous personalities???

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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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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, Credit cards & PayPal accepted, visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/shop/bookshop.htm>

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