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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
Issue # 314 - November 8, 2007. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

May this Diwali illuminate the hearts and minds of our brethren with  
the grace and light of the Lord.

Wishing you a Happy Diwali - the Festival of Lights

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: P R Krishnan  
Rajesh Paharia, Ashok Bayanwala, Atish Kumar Jain, and Ajit Kumar Dash

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

FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Nov 14: Children's Day, Set of 2 Stamps + MS

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 STAMP RELEASED

India Post released a postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 to commemorate the centenary of Maharashtra Police Academy on November 3, 2007.

Maharashtra Police Academy was established in 1906 at Pune as Central Police Training School. It was shifted to Nasik, its current location in 1908. It was renamed Police Training College in 1960 after bifurcation of Bombay Province in to Maharashtra and Gujarat States. In 1990 it was upgraded and once again renamed as Maharashtra Police Academy.

Kamleshwar Singh 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 stamp by photogravure 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>

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NEW POSTAL STATIONERY

Following Meghdoot post cards were recently released:

Chhattisgarh Tourism Board, Bengali  
Care of pregnant, Hindi  
Education of All,

The grand total till date is now 480, with 204 added in 2007 alone.

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

Following envelopes were issued earlier this year:

2007, Rock cut Chariots Design with 2007 dateline, SPP, Yellow Paper  
2007, Rock cut Chariots Design with 2007 dateline, SPP, White Paper

For an illustrated list of all kinds of Envelopes in 2007, visit

<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2007EN.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 2: Bhubaneswar, Day of Dedication

Oct 2: Cuttack, Day of Dedication

Oct 2: Berhampur, Day of Dedication

Oct 6: Rourkela, Youth Hostel Association of India, National Conference

Oct 26-29: Jaipur, 12th Inter School Stamp Exhibition, 2 Covers
Contact: Rajesh Paharia shreeshell@hotmail.com Mobile 9351716969

Oct 31-Nov 2: Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Philatelic Exhibition, 4 Covers

Nov 2-4: Raipur: Chhattisgarh Philatelic Exhibition, 3 Covers
Contact: Dr Pradeep Jain jain_pradeep2000@yahoo.com Mobile 9425554530

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

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INPEX 08 - AN UPDATE

We have not heard from the organizers on the several issues raised in the lead story in this Digital Weekly Issue #312 of October 25, 2007 regarding INPEX 08. One of the many issues we raised was the glaring omission of the ban on display of archival material of India. The organizers soon after have quietly, without acknowledging that this issue has been raised publicly, inserted an incomplete and unclear note at an inappropriate place in the Bulletin on the web site and pasted a slip to the same effect in printed copies of the Bulletin. It seems raising the issues did impact somewhat even though without an acknowledgment of the fact that the issue was raised by this Digital Weekly.

The text of the note inserted reads as follows:

All colour proofs, colour trials, progressives and other security materials generated during the course of designing and production of a stamp will not be displayed. This ban will be applicable to all such security (sic) materials relating to special / commemorative / definitive stamps issued/being issued by the Department since 15.08.1947. This ban was extended upto 30.06.2006 and will continue for a period of five years from 01.07.2006.

The wording of this note is very ambiguous and strangely leaves out archival material of all postal stationery issues of India since August 15, 1947. This note is mischievously inserted below para 4.2.2 Traditional Philately as if to reemphasize that it affects only this particular class and the exclusion of all other classes from application of this ban.

This note should have come in at the end of Clause 5 - Eligibility and Qualifications for Participation in the Bulletin as provided for in the Model Bulletin included in the India Post Handbook on Philatelic Exhibitions. The India Post Regulations for Philatelic Exhibitions also provide in Clause 6.12 that every exhibitor will abstain from exhibiting material that does not conform to the laws of the land. The legal restrictions and/or the details of the items not acceptable at exhibitions under patronage, recognition or support of India Post shall be published in Special Rules of the exhibition.

The list of items not acceptable is also not included in the INPEX 08 Bulletin. The legal restrictions as provided for in the laws of the land include, for example, the bogus issues in the name of Nagaland, and Khalistan, the stamps where the boundaries of India have not been shown correctly, the unissued stamp on Guru Granth Sahib, and similar philatelic products.

The printed copies of the INPEX 08 Bulletin started arriving after the mailing of Issue # 312 of October 25, 2007 of this publication. Interestingly the first mailing of the Bulletin used the list of Philatelic Organizations in India from [www.stampsofindia.com](http://www.stampsofindia.com) and once again but not surprisingly without permission and acknowledgement! It would be great to find out who supplied this list to the organizers?

It has also come to notice that the publication of Bulletin for INPEX 08, making its many details public was purposely delayed to avoid or at least make difficult any legal action against the exhibition. Watch this space for more disclosures.

India Post is organizing the State philatelic exhibitions for Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab, Delhi, and probably some others after November 15, 2007 - the last date for submitting entry forms for INPEX 08. It is therefore logical to extend the last date not only for submitting entry forms abut also for holding INPEX 08. There is no reason why India Post must rush thru either a state or national instead of organizing it properly to provide maximum mileage for promotion of philately and benefitting maximum number of collectors. In fact India Post should be cautious especially after the sad and bad experience of INPEX 93 the last national it organized.

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RAKHI ENVELOPES

After a search of 4 long months the remaining 2 of the 11 Rakhi envelopes released this year have been located.

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

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NEW STAMP BOOKLET

A new stamp booklet is privately issued recently in the extremely limited quantity of 50 individually numbered pieces. The booklet contains a strip of 5 National Parks stamps issued on May 31, 2007 and is priced Rs 75.

For an illustrated list of all Stamp Booklets, visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/sb.htm>

NEW PRIVATE FIRST DAY COVER

A First Day Cover is privately issued recently for the Mahatma Gandhi Bridge stamp of the recent Landmark Bridges issue. The cover is appropriately serviced with a First Day postmark from the Patna.

For an illustrated list of all FDC of 2007, visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/fdc/fday2007.htm>

NEW MAXIM CARDS

The Orissa Philatelic Association and Utkal Philatelic & Numismatic Association, Cuttack released a set of four maxim cards on Mahatma Gandhi priced at Rs.100 per set.

RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

THE FILA CAPSULE, Vol 2 # 5, Sep-Oct 2007, Bimonthly  
Editor: Ajit Kumar Dash [akdash2000@yahoo.com](mailto:akdash2000@yahoo.com)  
Publisher: Eastern India Philatelists Association, Bhubaneswar  
Annual Subscription including Membership: Rs 200

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

KOTTAYAM PHILATELIC AND NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

The society in Kottayam got registered under the Societies Registration Act recently as The Kottayam Philatelic And Numismatic Society.

RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Oct 2: Day of Dedication

The Orissa Circle of India Post organized several mini Philatelic exhibitions, Quiz competitions, and Stamp design contests, amongst the school students at different parts of Orissa on Mahatma Gandhi & Satyagraha to mark the 'day of dedication' on the first 'International day of Non Violence'. A special postmark on the 'Day of Dedication' was used by all postal divisions in Orissa Circle from October 2-8, 2007.

Nov 2-4: Raipur, Chhattisgarh State Philatelic Exhibition

The chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Dr Raman Singh inaugurated the exhibition. Sahadev Sahoo of Bhubaneswar was one of the members of the jury.

Nov 4: Kottayam

One day philatelic exhibition and quiz program was conducted on the occasion to commemorate the 1st death anniversary of George Joseph of Allapuzha, a senior philatelist and a quiz master. 8 schools participated in the quiz. There were 8 exhibitors showing Penny black to latest stamps of India and world over. 8 dealers participated with stalls.

Nov 14-16: Jaipur, District Philatelic Exhibition

Nov 23-26: Patna, Bihar State Philatelic Exhibition

Nov 30-Dec 2: Lucknow, Uttar 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

Dec 7-9: Pune, STAMPEX  
Venue: Sonal Hall, 19 Karve road, Next to Rasa Shala,  
Sales Stalls: Rs 4000, Two tables & two chairs. Breakfast & Lunch for  
two persons included. Last date booking: November 30, 2007.  
Contact: Rajendra Shah, Secretary ICSRI, (020) 24477660, 09890117252

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>

#### THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

The Calendar for November 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](http://www.cwiakala.com).

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Please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/siteguide/x16.htm> for  
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Contact RAMAWTAR B JAIN, Mobile: 093777 66365

STAMP QUIZZES by Anil Dhir, 224 pages, 2007 edition, contains over 1500  
questions and answers. Comprehensive & detailed with quizzes on General  
Philately, India, Indian States, USA, Britain, Australia & New Zealand  
Must for all Philatelists & stamp clubs, Rs 300 post free in India.  
US\$20+ actual postage elsewhere, ANIL DHIR [anildhir2k5@hotmail.com](mailto:anildhir2k5@hotmail.com)

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WANTED India Stamp Booklets of King Edward VII, King George V & VI,  
Unexploded, exploded, and in all conditions,  
Contact MADHUKAR DEOGAWANKA [deogawanka@satyam.net.in](mailto:deogawanka@satyam.net.in)

#### VIEWS & OPINIONS

##### THE RAG TAG WORLD OF INDIAN PHILATELY

by Anil Dhir, Bhubaneswar  
(Anil Dhir is a philatelist, philatelic author and member of several  
philatelic organizations including PCI of which he is a life member.)

The present state of Philately in India can be well described as being  
in its last throes of life. It is just gasping to stay alive- thanks to

the persons at the helm of Indian Philatelic, the pseudo philatelic group managing the Philatelic Congress of India.

This preponderance of geriatrics that control Indian Philately and are wont to let the control be wrested out of their clique has resulted in India being pushed much lower down the ladder in the world philatelic community.

It is time a serious rethink was done and action needs to be taken to bring Indian Philately back on the rails. India Post too must take note of the sorry state of affairs of PCI and use its good offices to intervene and improve matters.

The old mandarins of PCI should take note that it is time to come out of the degeneration and look beyond. It seems that the only activity that the PCI is indulging in is the appointment of Commissioners and Jury members. Can PCI cite even one single act or deed that has been done to promote the cause of philately in India since the last six years? The "you scratch my back and I scratch yours" syndrome that is endemic since the days of the D N Jatia has ensured that the original clique of a dozen or so remain at the helm. The fact that most of these grand panjandrums have sold off all their collections is another matter. Should philately be in the hands of a selfish few that are suffering from a great sense of self-aggrandizement?

INPEX 2008 should be an opportunity when both philatelists and India Post should decide on the future of PCI. Maybe it is time to sound the Last Post and call it a day. All Philatelic Associations and Clubs across the country should decide on an alternate nodal body, an entity that shall not be based on Individuals, but for the cause of Philately. I am sure that there are many likeminded philatelists who too have similar views.

The old has to give way to the new, just as night gives way to day and summer gives way to winter. Old horses should be let free to graze, however if they still insist to run races, they ought to be dealt with in an appropriate manner. Some persons just do not know that it is time to say goodbye, that they have overstayed their hospitality, that they should hang up their gloves, and that they should take retirement. In the game of one-upmanship there are no winners, everybody loses, more so the organization.

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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.>

JEEVAN JYOTI, Shimla

I want to draw the attention of readers towards the design of brochure of recently issued stamp on famous music director Shri S D Burman through your esteemed column as many music lovers have pointed out this mistake. The design of the information sheet of S D Burman shows different jacket covers of the music discs of films in which S D Burman had given music. But one of the jacket of film 'Bhoot Bangla' has been wrongly displayed on the brochure as this film was not concerned with S D Burman at all. He had not given music in this film. The music in this film was given by R D Burman. So this disc jacket should not have been included on the brochure. Such mistakes should be avoided by India

Post. The details to be included in the information sheet for design and text must be checked properly through reliable resources before printing.

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FEATURES & RESOURCES

HISTORY OF POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS IN INDIA, PART 6  
By Sangeeta Deogawanka

Part 6 - MEDIEVAL INDIA (1030 - 1757 AD)  
Structure of the postal systems in Mughal period

With the advent of the Mughals, a milestone was erected in the history of Indian postal communications. The following section is entirely devoted to the study of the evolution of an organized postal route in India during the Mughal period.

The Arabic and Persian travelling historians attributed the foundation of a steady postal system to the Mughal rulers, in particular, Babar, Akbar and other rulers of the period such as Sher Shah Suri. This was possible because of rapid development of roads and administrative reforms undertaken by them.

Much later, the General Post Office established at Fort William of Bengal presidency in 1774, also owed its origins to the Central Postal Department in use by the Mughal emperors. However the Imperial system is often erroneously believed to be the precursor of the modern postal system, as it brought the entire country under one umbrella postal structure.

The author wishes to further evaluate this perception, giving detailed accounts of how uniform postal reforms and systems were evolved under the Mughal rulers stretching right upto the Deccan in the South. At the same time, parallel postal systems operated in local kingdoms or states and the European trade centres being established in India. Thus a milestone was erected with the uniformity of postal methods and routes under Mughal rule, with establishment of provinces (sarkars) and districts (parganas) right up to the Southern stretches of India.

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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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