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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
Issue # 328 - February 14, 2008. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

Very sorry for still being in the delayed mode. Hope to get back to  
schedule soon.

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

- M&SJ

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

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

NEW STAMPS RELEASED

The Prime Minister of India, Dr Manmohan Singh released a commemorative postage stamp in honor of one of India's great economists, Professor D R Gadgil on February 8, 2008 at Pune.

Dhananjaya Ramachandra Gadgil was born on April 10, 1901. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Arts degrees in History and Economics from Cambridge University. His dissertation in 1923 for the M Phil degree was on Industrial Evolution in India that was published by Oxford University Press in 1924.

He gave the coveted Indian Civil Service a miss and preferred to pursue a carrier in academics. He first joined the Finance Department of the Government of Bombay and later switched over to Principal of Maganlal Thakordas Balmukunddas (MTB) Arts College, Surat in 1925. He was Founder Director of the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics at Pune from 1930 to 1965.

In 1966 he was nominated to the Rajya Sabha, the Upper House of the Parliament of India. He served as Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission from 1967-1971.

His association with cooperative movement started in 1930 as a Director of Poona Central Cooperative Bank. Later he became Chairman of Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank and National Federation of Cooperative Banks. He initiated the scheme to provide the loans to farmers with crop as security. He was instrumental in establishing the first cooperative sugar factory in Maharashtra. He served as the Chairman of the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories, and National Cooperative Union.

Sankha Samanta 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, Nasik printed the stamps by photogravure in the quantity 0.4 million.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2007, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2008stamps.htm>

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Feb 14: Damodaram Sanjeevaiah

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 2008, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2008stamps.htm>

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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 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

Feb 05: New Delhi, Postal Life Insurance 125 Years
Feb 7-8: New Delhi, Dakiana, Trees of Delhi, 4 covers

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

2007 Dec 15: The Central India Horse Sesquicentenary  
2007 Dec 15: 22 Field Regiment  
2007 Dec 24: 67 Engineer Bridge Regiment Silver Jubilee

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

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VALENTINE'S DAY CARDS

India Post released 3 greeting cards on the eve of Saint Valentine's Day, February 13, 2008. The cards depict roses and have place inside to mount one of the scented stamps that were issued last year. The cover for all cards is same. The cards with cover are priced at Rs 10 each.

For images, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pss/valentine.htm>

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NOW BUY DECCAN AIR TICKETS AT POST OFFICES

Deccan Aviation is signing up a memorandum of understanding with India Post to sell air tickets in Maharashtra. Deccan is already selling air tickets at 500 post offices in Karnataka. India Post earns a 5% commission on the sales.

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INDIA POST OPPOSES LA POSTE'S ENTRY IN INDIA

India Post had opposed the French postal administration, La Poste's plans to enter the Indian market. GeoPost Group, the express parcel arm of La Poste, plans to tap the Indian market through a joint venture with Continental Air Express.

India Post argued that La Poste is also a member of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and is required to fulfill universal services obligations (USO) like India Post during recent deliberations at the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB). India Post, also a member of UPU, handles low-priced items like post cards and inland letters to fulfill its social obligations. GeoPost, on the other hand, plans to enter courier services like express parcel delivery which command a premium. Therefore, La Poste cannot poach on the creamy territory of the other, FIPB was informed.

India Post has also pointed out that La Poste was a state-owned entity and investment by no such entity has been permitted in India so far. India Post may invoke its monopoly and impose restrictions on foreign ownership in this sector.

FIPB directed that further analysis should be carried out as to whether any approvals have been accorded in the past to a state entity in the courier segment. It further said that USO obligations cast on members of UPU should be ascertained. The proposal was, therefore, deferred.

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SOUTH ASIA NEW ISSUES

We have now set up a page listing new issues of the countries in south Asia that is Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

[http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south\\_asia\\_new\\_issues.htm](http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south_asia_new_issues.htm)

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NEW WEB SITE

Ashish Talwar of New Delhi doing business as Aries Stamps & Collectibles have recently launched their web site

<http://www.ariestamps.com/>

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

DAKIANA 2008

Delhi Circle of India Post organized the 6<sup>th</sup> Delhi Philatelic Exhibition from February 7 to 9, 2008 at the National Science Centre, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The last state show was held 11 years ago in February 1997.

4 special covers, 2 each on February 7 and 8 were issued on Trees of Delhi. Only one special postmark was issued on each day. There was no special cover or special postmark issued on February 9, 2008. The covers with stamp and postmark are priced at Rs 15 each. A Stamp Pack priced at Rs 300 was also issued on the occasion.

The organizers barely gave 10 days of time to collectors, to submit their exhibits, after announcing the show. Bulletin 1 was only available online and wasn't published in print. No publicity or mobilization drive was there for exhibits. Therefore it wasn't a surprise to see the number of frames in competition almost equal to a district level exhibition.

For the first time, no philatelists were included in any committee by the organizers.

Some exhibits that have won Silver medal at world level and should not have been accepted for competition in state level were allowed in violation of India Post Regulations for Philatelic Exhibitions (IP-PER) 6.5 as India Post did not maintain a database of awards.

IP-PER 7.3 provides that one jury should be there for each 100 frames of exhibits. Wonder why the Delhi Circle appointed 4 jurors for 100 frames?

The Jury consisted of Chairman of the Jury Raghav Lal, Principal Chief Post Master General of Delhi Circle, Ranjit Singh Gandhi, Dhananjay Desai, and Ambesh Upmanyu, Director of Postal Services Rajasthan Circle.

The Jury awarded 5 Gold medals - Dr Vijay Shukla for India with Best Exhibit Award, Vikas Singh for Railways, Pallab Bose for Cinema, Pulak Gupta for Indian Maxim Cards, and D Miglani in the Youth Class with Best Youth Exhibit Award.

The Gold medal to the exhibit of Indian Maxim Cards was a big mystery, if it had been evaluated according to the India Post Philatelic Awards System, the exhibit would not have scored a Bronze. The exhibit had a large number of maxim cards that failed to qualify on one or more counts such as mere reproduction of the stamp design, pictorial design of the postmark not having a direct connection with the subject of the stamp, incorrect subject picture postcard, picture area of the card less than the required 75%, and using 2 stamps and 2 stamp miniature sheets on the card.

Delhi Philatelists hosted a get together followed by a dinner at Clock Tower Restaurant on the first day and over 50 philatelists including visitors from all over the country enjoyed the interaction.

On the second day India Post also hosted a dinner where a few philatelists including exhibitors were invited; there were around 30 persons these included officials from the Department. Why only those exhibitors who have won Gold and Silver medals were invited while those with Bronze medal were not invited by India Post.

A Souvenir was released in the concluding function and was distributed only to dignitaries on dais while the common philatelists are still awaiting their copy.

Many philatelists in Delhi are still wondering for whose benefit this exhibition was organized.

For a list of exhibitions in 2008, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events2008.htm>

#### MEETINGS

The schedule of meetings of the philatelic organizations in India is available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/clubmeet.htm>

#### ADVERTISEMENTS

Please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/siteguide/x16.htm> for tariff and terms

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)

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)

#### 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.>

ABHAI MISHRA, Dehradun

Lot is being said about INPEX-2008, especially related to judging. Time has come, that we should start a serious discussion on the making and selection of jurors.

With the cost of classic era philatelic material shooting up, now a days more and more people are getting interested in MOPHILA and THEMATICS. Judging of these classes is a tricky business and with my little experience I think that the conventional jurors are not able to do justice with it. To judge these exhibits, one should have scientific temperament and he must do lot of homework before attempting to judge them.

An exhibitor does lot of R&D in preparing a thematic exhibit. To judge them the juror should at least have 25% of that know-how. To have a large gold does not mean that the person can become a good juror. Good cricketers are not always good umpires. Same thing applies here also. An excellent philatelist need not be an excellent juror.

There should be exam (written as well as practical) held for qualifying as juror. Proper syllabus can be framed for it. Classes can be held at some India Post training college. One should go to these places, stay there for a fortnight or so and pass those exams. Course can be designed for different exhibiting sections. These will not only create uniformity in judging, but also will deprive those people becoming jurors, who buy large gold with their money but are big ZEROES in term of philatelic knowledge.

PALLAB BOSE, New Delhi

I am a serious Philatelist, with many silver and bronze and recently gold medals to my credit. I am collecting on the following topics: Cinema, Lady Diana, WWF, Cricket, Nude Paintings, Walt Disney Cartoon Films.

Professionally, I am a Motivational Corporate Trainer, an Emcee/voice artist. My other areas of activity include Journalism/ Feature writing, Image Management / Brand Promotions.

I have been a fan of Stamps of India e-magazine since a long time. Kudos for the great effort and info - week after week.

It would be great if you have pages dedicated to buying/selling of philatelic items. You agency could charge a reasonable commission on sales henceforth.

Also a section on Coins, Banknotes and Autographs collection would be a further development to your vision and effort to providing the right platform to collectors to interact and make friends.

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

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