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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
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Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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I N T H I S I S S U E

Forthcoming Stamp Issues  
Recent Periodical Publications  
Recent & Forthcoming Events  
Philatelic Web Site  
Swiss Post Enters India  
India UAE Express Money Order Service  
Readers Forum: Anil Dhir,  
Numismatic as a Fascinating and Lucrative Hobby  
Some Collectors Find Value in Antique Scrips

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

From May 12 to 22, 2008 we shall be in Tel Aviv, Israel anyone wanting to contact us can do so on our local mobile number + 972 525737778.

Our visit will see us participating in the Round Table of World Association for Development of Philately (WADP) and visiting the World Stamp Championship ISRAEL 2008.

We look forward to meeting philatelists, dealers and other associates from around the world in Israel.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Timir Shah

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

May 17: Aga Khan Foundation, Rs 20, Stamp + Miniature sheet

Now days, issues are scheduled and rescheduled for release at very short notice say couple of days! As you can see that the world is moving at very fast pace and we are still bringing out an issue only after 7 long days. Thus it is impossible to inform our readers thru this weekly publication about forthcoming stamp issues of India. We however do our best to publish this information on the home page of [www.stampsofindia.com](http://www.stampsofindia.com) as soon as it becomes available.

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 2008, visit <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2008PC.htm>

For an illustrated list of Aerogramme & Inland Letter in 2008, visit <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2008ILC.htm>

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

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For an illustrated list of Special Postmarks & Covers in 2008, visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/2008pm.htm>

For an illustrated list of Army Postal Service Issues in 2008, visit <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/aps/2008aps.htm>

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

VADOPHIL, Whole #112-113, Oct 2007 - Jan 2008, Quarterly
Editor: Prashant H Pandya & Timir R Shah
Publisher: Baroda Philatelic Society, Vadodara
Annual Subscription including membership (Jan-Dec): Rs 100

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PHILATELIC WEB SITE

Rajendra Maru, son of Prem Ratan Maru of Bikaner is trading as Maru Traders from Bangalore. Maru Traders have launched their website [www.maruphilaque.com](http://www.maruphilaque.com) some time ago.

Maru Traders buy and sell Stamp, Coin, Paper Money, Cash Coupons, Coins, Gandhi Collections, Match Box Labels, Medals, Paper Money, Old Photograph, etc.

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SWISS POST ENTERS INDIA

Swiss Post International announced its tie up with Mail Order Solution, Mumbai on May 1, 2008 to enter the Indian market. Under the agreement, Mail Order Solution (MOS) will operate as a Swiss Post International sales agent in the country. MOS provides end-to-end integrated direct marketing solutions in print production and international postal services and distribution.

Swiss Post International offers a range of postal products and services to business customers. With its foothold in India, Swiss Post International now has expanded its international presence into 16 countries and Mumbai is now one of the five locations of the company in Asia. The other locations in Asia are Singapore, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur and Shanghai.

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INDIA UAE EXPRESS MONEY ORDER SERVICE

Minister of Communications and Information and Technology A Raja inaugurated international money order service between the UAE and India on May 4, 2008 at Chennai.

The service launched by Emirates Post and India Post uses the secure international financial system (IFS) network operated by the Universal Postal Union (UPU). The service will initially offer remittances from the UAE to India and will cover 97 head post offices and more than 2,400 sub-post offices in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Kerala and Mahe.

A single money order issued by Emirates Post for payment in India must not exceed \$2,500 (Dh 9,100) or its equivalent. And only 12 money orders addressed to one beneficiary will be allowed in a calendar year. Amounts up to Rs 20,000 (Dh 1,814) will be paid at the address in cash. Sums greater than Rs 20,000 and up to Rs 50,000 will be paid in cash only at a post office and amount more than Rs 50,000 will be payable only by cheque.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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>

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ADVERTISEMENTS

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

ITS COLLECTORS DIRECTORY, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 2008 Edited by Suraj Jaitly, 80 pages listing contact details of stamp collectors, dealers, clubs, magazines, websites, from India & overseas. Plus lots of relevant information. Price Rs.250 or US \$8 or Euro 6 OR £4 [Post paid]  
Contact at [surajjaitly@hotmail.com](mailto:surajjaitly@hotmail.com) or [indianthematicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:indianthematicsociety@gmail.com)

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)

SELLING Miniature Sheets of India Complete Mint 51 Different, Rs 6500  
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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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.>

ANIL DHIR, Bhubaneswar

The oft repeated Vodafone advertisement that is aired during the IPL matches shows the pug licking the stamps and a little girl sticking at random, the high denominational definitives of Rs 20 and Rs 50 on envelopes. The philatelic knowledge of the advertisement copywriter seems to be very poor as is evident from the inappropriate postage stamps being used. Or is it to show the innocent ignorance of the sweet cherub?

I am sure many philatelists must have taken note of this anomaly. The advertisement seems to have been shot in a foreign locale; otherwise it would have been good to have it corrected.

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#### FEATURES & RESOURCES

##### NUMISMATIC AS A FASCINATING AND LUCRATIVE HOBBY

By Santanu Panigrahi, Modipara, Sambalpur, Orissa

Philately and Numismatic are like twins with many similarities. Both are treated as royal hobbies. The nature and fundamentals of both the hobbies are incomparable. Presently Numismatic items are booming like never before. Collecting coins and Bank notes is no more treated as a hobby; rather it is being viewed as a mode of fruitful investment.

Recent perfect example is 26th Toddywala auction held on 13th April 2008 at Mumbai, where one Rs 5000 note was hammered in favor of an anonymous bidder for Rs 0.66 million highest sum ever paid for an Indian Bank note. This was almost double of its estimated price of Rs 0.3-0.35 million. Likewise Six Indo-Portuguese specimen notes were sold for Rs 0.31 million compared to an estimated price of Rs 160,000-180,000. This shows the pace of growth of the hobby, because demand is rising manifold, where as supply is constant. So it is quite natural that prices are bouncing high. As compared to last year prices of numismatic items have risen by 30% and if this trend will continue then the price will rise at a rapid pace.

The biggest demand at present is for pre-independence Indian notes. The most sought for rare note of "Rupees Two Annas Eight" bearing the sign of the Governor M M S Gubbay was issued on 2nd January, 1918 and withdrawn on 1st January, 1926. This is a unique note, because no such odd value note has ever been issued in Indian sub continent except this example.

The demand for rare note comes from numismatics enthusiasts to enrich their collection. But this trend has changed and many people have taken this as a good investment. So forgery is common as demand is more and supply is less. Recently I have got scan of forgery note of Rs.2.8 Annas which is clearly visible due to paper quality and its printing. The another scan where one Original design of 100 Rupees note showing the profile portrait of King George VI bearing the sign of the Governor C D Deshmukh. The design of the note has been tampered by computer, where in "RESERVE BANK OF INDIA" has been printed at the top as "EAST INDIA COMPANY" on both sides, the serial number in both panels have been changed and in the reverse side the tiger head has been tampered and replaced with the seal of eagle. The note is showing clear vision of tampering.

It is pertinent to mention here that no bank note has ever been issued by "EAST INDIA COMPANY" as the governance of India passed to the Crown after the hostilities of 1857-58. The first series of uniface designed note showing the portrait of Queen Victoria and "GOVERNMENT OF INDIA" in bold letter were printed at the top was issued in circulation guaranteed the payment by Government through the Indian Paper Money Act of 1861. The next change in design of Indian Paper Money was after the establishment of the Reserve Bank of India in 1935 as the central note-issuing authority. The first notes of the Reserve Bank of India were issued in 1938 showing the portrait of the new King George VI.

So the tampering of the design of the 100 Rupees note in both sides with the help of computer shows either lack of knowledge or to attract the collector's fancy with innovative idea and design. So, whatever may be the case such endeavor is endangering the future of the hobby.

Similarly Rs 5 note issued on 15th September, 1947 bearing the sign of the Governor C D Deshmukh showing the facing portrait of King George VI has been tampered, where in the value in word at top left and right corners have made strait. In the reverse side the small sitting deer at the remote corner has been eliminated showing only three deers. I could not obtain the scan of this note. But the collectors are to remain alert and not to fall in trap for such type of fake / fancy notes.

Hobbies are for pleasure and to acquire knowledge out of it. But making farce of such ill motive adventure will spoil the fundamental factor of the hobby.

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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>

SOME COLLECTORS FIND VALUE IN ANTIQUE SCRIPS by Samanth Subramanian

<http://www.livemint.com/2008/04/14012938/Some-collectors-find-value-in.html>

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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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