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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
Issue # 342 - May 22, 2008. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

The best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry. This truism prevailed and our laptop was without a functional display from May 17, 2008 while we were in Tel Aviv. This issue was prepared with hooking up a desktop monitor that does not support the feed from our laptop and insists on working with resolutions of bygone era. We hope to have it fixed by the next issue.

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

- M&SJ

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

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 00: ???

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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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

India Post released a set of 2 se-tenant stamps, in the denominations of Rs 5 and Rs 15, to mark the 30th Anniversary of Aga Khan Foundation on May 17, 2008.

A miniature sheet was to accompany the issue but even after a week of the issue date, it has not been on sale in any post office in the country although a pack for it also has been issued by India Post.

The Aga Khan Foundation is a non-denominational, international development agency established in 1967 by His Highness the Aga Khan. Its mission is to develop and promote creative solutions to problems that impede social development, primarily in Asia and East Africa. Created as a private, non-profit foundation under Swiss law, it has branches and independent affiliates in 15 countries namely Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Canada, India, Kenya, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mozambique, Pakistan, Portugal, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Uganda, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

The Foundation focuses on a small number of specific development problems by forming intellectual and financial partnerships with organizations sharing its objectives. Most Foundation grants are made to grassroots organizations testing innovative approaches in the field.

The Foundation looks for innovative approaches to generic problems. Projects are designed to be learning experiences that contribute to the understanding of complex issues and identify solutions that can be adapted to conditions in many different regions. Replicability is essential to the creation of useful models. Wherever appropriate, approaches are tested in urban as well as rural settings, and in different cultures and geographic environments.

In every undertaking, the goals are essentially the same:
To make it possible for poor people to act in ways that will lead to long-term improvements in their income and health, in the environment and in the education of their children.

To provide communities with a greater range of choices and the understanding necessary to take informed action.
To enable beneficiaries to gain the confidence and competence to participate in the design, implementation and continuing operation of activities that affect the quality of their lives.
To put institutional, management and financial structures in place to ensure that program activities are sustainable without Foundation assistance within a reasonable time-frame.

The Foundation shares what it learns with the public, raising awareness of important issues facing disadvantaged sectors of the international community.

Through endowments and capital investments, the Foundation helps to ensure the permanence of institutions that contribute to the well-being of the people they serve.

The Foundation owns a large number of properties for social and cultural activities, including several hospitals and hundreds of schools and health centers in the developing world.

The Aga Khan Foundation is the principal grant-making agency for social development within the Shia Ismaili Imamate. His Highness the Aga Khan is its founder and chairman. He provides the Foundation with regular funding for administration and new program initiatives as well as contributions to its endowment. The Ismaili community contributes invaluable volunteer time, professional services and substantial financial resources. Other funding sources include income from investments and grants from government, institutional and private sector partners - as well as donations from individuals around the world.

The golden jubilee of the 'Imamate of Prince Karim Aga Khan' is also being celebrated this year.

Brahm Prakash 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 quantities of 8 million each and 0.2 million miniature sheets.

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

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NEW POSTAL STATIONERY

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:

12 cards on Cataract & Eye Care, in various languages  
3 Cards on AIDS, in Telugu

The grand total till date is now 557, with 25 added this year.

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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**NEW STAMP PACKS**

India Post issued a pack containing a miniature sheet and a first day cover for the Jasmine issue of Apr 26, 2008. The pack was priced at Rs 75.

India Post issued a pack containing a miniature sheet for the Aga Khan Foundation issue of May 17, 2008. The pack is priced at Rs 50.

For an illustrated list of Stamp Packs in 2008, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/packs/2008packs-sets.htm>

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NEW STAMP BOOKLET

A new stamp booklet has recently been issued privately:

Jasmine

Contents 2 Stamps each of Rs 5 and Rs 15

Quantity 200, individually numbered

For an illustrated list of Stamp Booklets issued by philatelic organizations and individuals, visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/sb99.htm>

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**ISRAEL 2008 AWARDS**

The exhibits from India won the following awards at the recently concluded World Stamp Championship at Tel Aviv, Israel:

Large Vermeil Medal:

Dhananjay Desai's Soruth

A K Mittal's Indore

Vermeil Medal:

Pradip Jain's My Life is My Message - Mahatma Gandhi

Rajan Jayakar's Calcutta Court of Small Causes 1869-1875

Suketu Jhaveri's Indian Telegraphs 1851-1914

Pragya Kothari's Grey Goose Wings

Pragya Kothari's Man Measures His Environment

Dinesh Chandra Sharma's Summer Olympic Games

Silver Medal:

Ravi Bhansali's Modifications

Dinesh Chandra Sharma's The History of Olympic Games through Philately

Silver Bronze Medal:

Surendra Kotadia's India Inland Post Cards with Ads & Slogans

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STAMP THEFT ALERT

The car of Dr Ritvik Amarchand, PhD Scholar at the Center for Community Medicine, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi was stolen on the morning of May 19, 2008 from the AIIMS premises. In addition to things related his PhD, Dr Ritvik lost a bag full of stamps as he is an active and enthusiastic philatelist.

The stamps in the bag included 3 1948 Gandhi stamps one hinged two unhinged, hinged stamps from 1946-1954 plus some, and a big stock of 1949 definitives. Also a good stock of stamps from 1996-2000. Additionally there were stamps worth 200 GBP face from current issues of GB.

It is expected that the thieves might try to sell the same to a local philatelist. Some stamps can be identified with Dr Ritvik's ebay listing 180243217395.

Any clues from philately community also may lead to recovery of his papers and car.

Dr Ritvik can be reached on his mobile # 9891202312 and on his email driritvik@gmail.com

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30TH AGM OF THE PHILATELIC CLUB, THRISSUR

The 30th Annual General meeting of Philatelic Club was held on May 4, 2008 at Hotel Elite International, Thrissur. The AGM was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Advocate Mani Vithayathil (President of Religious Stamp Exchange Club, Ernakulam and the Chairman of Kerala State Financial Corporation). The Chief Guest distributed the Prizes of honoring club members who had won medals at INPEX 2008 (Baby KD-Bronze, Tiny Francis-Silver Bronze, E P James-Large Silver, Sathy V Menon-Large Silver, Dr KS Mohan-Vermeil, OK Prakash Vermeil and Large Vermeil) and KERAPEX-2007(MA Joy-Diploma, Dr.Jayaprakash-Bronze, PM Vinod-Bronze and Silver,Sathi V Menon-Silver, Joy N Lazer-Silver, EP James-Gold, OK Prakash-Gold)

The AGM decided to conduct a philatelic exhibition in September/October 2008 to celebrate the 30th year of Philatelic Club Thrissur in a big way. After adopting reports/Accounts there was election of office bearers for the next 2 years. The following office Bearers were elected unanimously by the AGM:

President- O K Prakash

Secretary- Olvex M Noronha

Numismatic Secretary- E C Simon

Treasurer- C P Seby

Vice President- C J Vincent

Executive Members: Dr M K Aelias, E P James, Jose Tharayil, P V Kumaran, M A Joy, P L Jose, R G Dinesh, C A Babu, and K D Baby

There were 72 members present for the AGM. The meeting ended at 5.30 pm. There was a very good spot auction of philatelic and numismatic materials and a group photo was taken.

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NEW PRICE LIST

Philatelic Trade & Publications Private Limited, Bangalore offers More than 1000 stamps in Singles, Pairs, Blocks, Multiples from stocks at the prices mentioned against each, vide their Price list.

The list includes stamps from 1957 to 2007. All stamps offered, except few fine used, are defect-free, good to very fine mint condition kept in Crystal clear mounts.

Stamps offered are essentially meant for Collectors to fill up their gaps and any one or two or a few can be supplied subject to availability of stocks. For wholesale requirement, interested people may contact us with their want list, which can be offered at special prices, provided stocks are available in quantities.

For any stamps of Post Independence, even other than those offered, one can send a want list. Many latest issues are not listed herein. On request or on receipt of want list, they can offer whatever is available.

The Price list is valid for orders received by up to June 30, 2008.

For price List, please write to: ptppl@vsnl.net

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

THE NORTH POST, Vol 36, Apr 2008,  
Chief Editor: T R Bhatia  
Publisher: Ludhiana Philatelic Club, Ludhiana  
Annual Subscription:

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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.>

DR ZULAIHA MOHAMED

I wonder whether any of the other collectors are as furious as I am about the continuing stream of premature issues. Once is an accident, but if it gets repeated again & again, either it is intentional or there is a scam going on. Within the past 3 months, I am shocked to note (from stamps of India website) that three stamps have been released prematurely. Why has this become a continuing process? I am sure someone is making a lot of money by this scam. I am sure there is a stamp mafia like the land mafia, with involvement of the concerned post office, some dealers and big business people. I cannot think there is any political involvement in this matter

Doesn't the post office or the Post Master General have any control of this? Is it not punishable as those involving money? Sometime back I had written a personal letter on the official Indian posta site but had no response to it. Can't you with your influence do something more about this? Can all the philatelists join together and send a sort of petition?

From my experience as a member of Cochin & Trivandrum philatelic bureaus, I cannot understand how such a thing can happen in the post offices which keep prematurely releasing stamps! In our bureaus, stamps arrive 'prematurely' but sometimes even on the day of release, they do not issue the stamps if the relevant 'papers' are not received, which is going to the other extreme.

I hope someone will come out with a solution.

JEEVAN JYOTI, Shimla

I am very much delighted to receive the recent issue from Tel Aviv as it was expected that the issue will be delayed due to exhibition at Israel. It was really a pleasure when the newsletter suddenly appeared in the mailbox. Through this esteemed column I also want to draw attention towards Indian premature issues as well as special covers issued by private organizations and philatelic clubs during the philatelic exhibitions and special events. The premature issues have caused hazard to Indian Philately. It has hit like a strong virus as every month we are coming across to new premature issues. Philatelic material is highly confidential item before it is officially issued by the Department of Posts. How this material comes out in the hands of general public. There is no doubt that it comes through the staff of postal department itself. It must be noticed that such things happen at philatelically active places only. One may not hear of leaking out such material at remote places. This shows that there is some mismanagement at philatelic bureaus and malpractice involved between postal staff and philatelic dealers. Now the postal staff is also well aware of the high cost of premature issue items. It is a big question mark on the working

of India post. The high officials of the department must have to be vigilant and strict to check such malpractices in future.

Another important matter these days is the issue of special covers by private organizations and philatelic clubs of different sizes during philatelic exhibitions and special events. Sometimes the postmark is not actually given by the postal department but it is created by other means like printing which is against the rules. Recently a thought provoking article on "Rules for special Covers" by Ajit Kumar Dash was published in different Philatelic periodicals and newsletters which has specified the special rules and regulations for the issue of special covers. But recently I came across different special covers issued during the exhibitions which do not follow the rules. India Post must approve the size and design of the cover and Postmark on its own terms and conditions before these are finally printed by the organizations to check this prevailing practice in issue of these special covers. India Post must reject the covers which are not prepared according to its standards. It seems that the design of the cover and cancellation is not approved under proper supervision of the philatelic officer. If it was done it would have not happened frequently.

NARESH KUMAR AGARWAL

I am amazed by the keen observation and deep interest shown by the philatelists like Mr. Anil Dhir and Sri Premnath Kudva in pointing out the location and other postal features shown in Vodaphone Advertisement recently being shown on TV. It would be of interest to know about other advertisements shown in the past where postal operations had been shown in one way or the other..... perhaps in the ad of "Paragaon Chapples".. Further, I recall so many filmy songs highlighting postal functions...such as "Likhe jo khat tujhe, wo teri yaad main....", "Chithi aayee hai, aayee hai chithi aayee hai", and so many. A collection of such songs will certainly be of interest. There are several filmy songs highlighting "Love letters".....of course those were transmitted through postal agencies in the visuals.....So what I mean to saythere is no end of philatelists imagination and search of course, if not research.

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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

'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is published by Madhukar Jhingan mjhingan@yahoo.com for 'Stamps of India', 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. Phone: +91-11-25281578, Mobile: +91-9350537037
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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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