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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----  
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India  
Issue # 348 - Jul 3, 2008. Published Every Thursday  
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We hope that the officers of the philatelic division of India Post soon find a way to de-stress themselves. It is affecting the quality of output as well as causing errors and delays.

The stamps with 2 different sizes have become common. The stamp on Madhubala is available in 5 different sizes, 30mm, 31mm, 33mm, 34mm, and 35mm altogether in one sheetlet!

The stamp on Madhav Institute of Technology and Science issued on June 30, 2008 has yet to reach most of the philatelic bureaus in the country. India Post should get a grip on the logistics of nationwide distribution of new issues by investigating and rooting out the causes of delays which unfortunately are quite frequent nowadays.

Postage stamps are known as the nation's representative to the world as such India Post should do well to adopt a zero tolerance policy for design errors such as reported in the news story 'Spell Check' in this issue. The stamps and other philatelic products with such errors should be recalled immediately after being reported and replaced with the rectified version.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Vinod Sabharwal, Pradip Mohanty, A V Jayachandran, O K Prakash, Mainak Kathiara, Vikas Singh, Shamsuddin, and Niket Bubna

We invite your inputs, please email to [writeback@stampsfindia.com](mailto:writeback@stampsfindia.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

Jul 11: India China Joint Issue, Set of 2 stamps + 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.stampsfindia.com](http://www.stampsfindia.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.stampsfindia.com/lists/stamps/2008stamps.htm>

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NEW STAMP RELEASED

Pratibha Patil, the President of India released a commemorative postage stamp to mark the golden jubilee of Madhav Institute of Technology and Science on June 30, 2008 at Gwalior.

His Highness Sir Jiwaji Rao Scindia, Maharaja, erstwhile princely state of Gwalior established the Madhav Institute of Technology and Science in 1957 with the prime objective of providing Technical Education at undergraduate and post graduate levels along with conducting research activities. Dr Rajendra Prasad, the then President of India laid the foundation stone of the Institute on October 20, 1956 and Dr S Radhakrishnan, the then President of India inaugurated the building on December 11, 1964. The current president of the governing body is Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia, who is also a Member of Parliament and the Minister of State for Communications & Information Technology.

Brahma Prakash 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. Security Printing Press, Hyderabad printed the stamps by wet offset in the quantities of 0.8 million.

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:

16 different cards on Jalayagnam (Irrigation initiative) in Telugu

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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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Jun 26: New Delhi, International Day Against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking

July 01: New Delhi, The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India Diamond Jubilee

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

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

Army Postal Service issued following 6 Special Covers in May 2008:

May 05: Indian Navy Ski Expedition to North Pole 2008

May 08: 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion - Mahar Regiment Diamond Jubilee

May 09: 19 Infantry Division - Signal Regiment Diamond Jubilee

May 15: 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion -Sikh Regiment Diamond Jubilee

May 17: 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion -Jammu & Kashmir Light Infantry Diamond Jubilee

May 22: 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion - 5<sup>th</sup> Gorkha Rifles 150 Years

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 MAXCARDS

Tata Steel: 5 cards

A collector created 5 different cards for this issue focusing primarily the use of Tata Steel in manufacturing rail lines, railway engines, and Howrah Bridge.

Jasmine: 2 cards

Orissa Philatelists & Numismatists Association [upna2006@gmail.com](mailto:upna2006@gmail.com) released 2 max cards one for each value of the Jasmine set. The cards priced at Rs 30 each are produced in the quantity of 200.

Sai Baba: 2 cards

A collector created a maxcard for Sai Baba issue. Orissa Philatelists & Numismatists Association [upna2006@gmail.com](mailto:upna2006@gmail.com) also released a max card for this issue, priced Rs 30 in the quantity of 200.

For an illustrated list of max cards in 2008, please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2008mc.htm>

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NEW STAMP BOOKLET

Orissa Philatelists & Numismatists Association [upna2006@gmail.com](mailto:upna2006@gmail.com) released a stamp booklet for Sai Baba issue. The booklet is priced at Rs 50 and produced in the quantity of 200.

For an illustrated list of Stamp Booklet issued by Philatelic Organizations & Philatelists, please visit

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

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SPELL CHECK

India Post is in dire need of a spell checker.

Recently in the Henning Holck-Larsen stamp issue of June 12, 2008 there are two spellings of the name were used, ie, Holk and Holck. The Brochure used the spelling 'Holk' throughout including on the image of the stamp. However the stamp issued carries the spelling 'Holck'; while the First Day Covers are available for both the spellings.

View the images at the following link

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/348plus.htm>

In the Madhav Institute of Science & Technology, Gwalior, issued on June 30, 2008 the Hindi spelling of the 'Technology' is incorrect. The Hindi word for 'Technology' is 'Praudhyogiki' and uses a letter, 'dhya' in its spelling. The stamp incorrectly mentions it as 'Praudhogiki'. It has letter 'dha' in place of 'dhya'. It is an irony that India Post cannot spell this word correctly as the Ministry under which it functions is Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, having 'Technology' in its name itself! Interestingly the image on the brochure shows the name spelt out correctly.

View the images at the following link

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/348plus1.htm>

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AUCTION ACTION

Delhi Philatelists will hold an auction during its monthly meeting on July 12, 2008 at the Philatelic bureau, Sansad Marg HPO, New Delhi at 2.30 pm. Auction will comprise of amongst other items, complete 1947-2007 MNH India Collection, scarce large MNH George VI Empire

Collection, complete MNH military stamps Collection, complete MS MNH Collection, complete SG301 to SG374 fine used Collection and other nice items. Viewing of lots prior to auction from 1.30 pm onwards, Email queries to [pradeepwahi@hotmail.com](mailto:pradeepwahi@hotmail.com)

Philatelic club Thrissur [olvex@rediffmail.com](mailto:olvex@rediffmail.com) is holding Postal Auction # 101 on July 6, 2008. There are about 200 lots auction with some outstanding items of Cochin, Travancore, and Travancore-Cochin.

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

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

RAINBOW STAMP NEWS, Whole #7, July 2008, Monthly  
Editor: Jeevan Jyoti [j.jyoti9@gmail.com](mailto:j.jyoti9@gmail.com)  
Publisher: Jeevan Jyoti, Shimla  
Annual Subscription: Free  
Also available online at <http://rainbowstampnews.blogspot.com/>

GPA NEWS, May 2008, Monthly  
Editor: Ilyas Patel [iap\\_ip@yahoo.co.in](mailto:iap_ip@yahoo.co.in)  
Publisher: Gujarat Philatelist Association, Ahmedabad  
Annual Subscription: Rs 300

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NEW STAMP BLOG  
Mansoor Bolar of Mangalore has recently launched a blog at  
<http://www.mbstamps.blogspot.com/>.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Jul 11-13: Nagercoil, Kumaripex, district philatelic exhibition  
Aug 1-3: Coimbatore, Coin & Stamps Show  
Aug 8-10: Puduchery, Coin & Stamps Show  
Aug 15-17: Bangalore, Coin & Stamps Show  
Sep 12-14: Mysore, Coin & Stamps Show

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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INDIA POST TIES UP WITH NGO TO FIGHT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

An NGO (Non-Governmental Organization), Impulse, has entered into an understanding with the India Post to reach out to remotest villages in the Northeast for disseminating information on human trafficking.

Objective of this project is to create a sustainable harmonizing environment for the communities to combat trafficking along with NGOs and law-enforcement agencies by utilizing the reach of the Indian Postal Services. The postmen, with their job taking them to the

remotest parts and with easy access to and trust of people are well suited to report on human trafficking cases.

About 44,000 children go missing in India annually and only 22 percent of them are traced, most of them victims of human trafficking. Rescue operations conducted by NGOs show that majority of the victims belong to remote villages like those in some parts of Northeast where the illiterate masses do not have any access to information.

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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)

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.>

HEMANT KULKARNI, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

Having been living in the USA and not knowing exactly how the Indian postal service issues new commemorative stamps, I'm puzzled by the statement by Mr. S. D. Chaugule who writes (# 347 Newsletter): 'Officially non issued stamps availability in the market at exorbitant rates can be avoided only by issuing such stamps officially at the earliest'. Also, I frequently come across an outrage from the contributing writers who complain about some issues being released prematurely -probably meaning ahead of its official release date. Are these the same side of a coin? I wonder if there exist different bodies in a single postal department (or ministry) that's responsible for releasing sheets, sheetlets and first day covers at the whims of India's official philatelic outlets in favor of their members and distributors -meaning vendors? If this may be the situation, an ethical minded consumer living outside of India considers this as a fraud and your hobby of collecting such memorabilia is actually worthless, no matter how pretty and rare it may look! Would someone clarify my confusion and ignorance?

NIKET BUBNA, Indore

Kudos for Stamps of India. The entire gamut of issues taken up by Stampsofindia is amazing and I enjoy the newsletters thoroughly. From

2002 on, I haven't missed even one issue, and await for the Thursday update anxiously. It ain't only informative but acts as an online catalog for post-independence Indian issues. I feel StampsofIndia also keeps a check on the wrongdoings in philately in India by providing constructive criticism. Hope this carries on forever.

In regards to the Shridi Sai Baba postage stamp issue, it is great to see so much anxiety being generated for an issue. I can only think of the Rajkumar Shukla (2000) postage stamp which had a similar demand. Contrary to views by various philatelists, I feel the lower print quantity is beneficial, giving Sai Baba his divine due.

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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>

PHILATELY SCAM 'BREWING' IN INDIA POST

<http://www.deccanherald.com/Content/Jun272008/national2008062775619.asp>

FLOUTING NORMS ON ISSUING STAMPS FOR POLITICAL GAIN?

[http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/Flouting\\_norms\\_on\\_issuing\\_stamps\\_for\\_political\\_gain/articleshow/3124905.cms](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/Flouting_norms_on_issuing_stamps_for_political_gain/articleshow/3124905.cms)

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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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