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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----  
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India  
Issue # 365 - October 30, 2008. Published Every Thursday  
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We see another of our long cherished dream being fulfilled. Two philatelic organizations have recently instituted Life Time Achievement Awards and befittingly honored those philatelists who have promoted philately.

Philately primarily has an individualistic approach and every philatelist works for his/her collections, exhibits, medals, and honors. However select few chose to work for promoting philately and deploy all their resources to this cause and turn philately into a pleasurable team event. The path to greater enjoyment of your favorite hobby is to share its joy with others.

It is now time for other philatelic bodies to recognize people who have selflessly worked for furthering the interests of philately in India.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Ranjit Singh, Ajit Dash, A V Jeyachandran

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

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

MORE PREMATURE ISSUES

We have uploaded the image of the commemorative postage stamp on Bhakthavatsalam which is yet to be released by India Post.

For images of Indian premature issues, please visit:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/premature.htm>

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Nov 14: Children's Day

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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FESTIVALS MINIATURE SHEET RELEASED

The miniature sheet of the Festivals of India issue of October 7, 2008 was released on sale at most philatelic bureaus on October 27, 2008.

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 listing 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

Oct 13-14: Surat, Philatelic exhibition  
Oct 14: New Delhi, Philatelic exhibition

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 BOOKLET

Surat Division of India Post released a stamp booklet on October 13, 2008 as follows:

2008 Oct 13: SURPEX Surat District Philatelic Exhibition, Rs 50  
Surat Division, Gujarat Circle, India Post  
Quantity: 3000

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

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NEW STAMP PACKS

India Post released a stamp pack for the 3rd Commonwealth Youth Games issue of October 12, 2008 as follows:

3rd Commonwealth Youth Games Pune  
Content: Miniature Sheet, FDC,  
India Post, Rs 100

India Post also released a stamp pack for the Olympic Games issue of August 8, 2008 for sale during 3rd Commonwealth Youth Games at Pune. However it is yet to be supplied to the philatelic bureaus for sale.

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

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BOOK OF POST CARDS

Karnataka Circle of India Post released a book of picture post cards on May 24, 2008. The very well produced book contains 28 different designs and is priced at Rs 180 only.

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LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENTS AWARDS

The Indo French Philatelic and Numismatic Association (IFPNA) decided to honor two eminent persons every year in order to recognize those who dedicate their life for philately by presenting the prestigious Life Time Achievement Award in Philately. This year IFPNA honored two philatelists, Noren Singh Nahar of Pondicherry and Man Mohan Singh of Bangalore.

Noren Singh Nahar was born on December 1, 1920. He graduated from Kolkata. In 1939 he joined Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry. He was associated with Miter Stamp Collection and developed pen friends all over Europe. After that a great development in the collection of Philately Department of the Ashram started and he is the one who

maintained it till date with the help of his sister, Suprabha Nahar. He visited France in 1975 and attended an International Philatelic Exhibition. He was member of Philatelic Advisory Committee from 1990-1992. He wrote many articles about the stamps of the French Settlements in India in India Post, the Journal of India Study Circle for Philately.

Man Mohan Singh was born on September 27, 1946 at Amritsar. His father Sardar Manohar Singh was also an eminent philatelist during his time. He joined stamp trade in 1968. He runs a stamp shop in Bangalore. He has won many awards in various exhibitions in Karnataka. Although he suffers from Parkinson's disease he manages to attend a lot of exhibitions all over India and is very popular with the philatelists.

The Eastern India Philatelists' Association, Bhubaneswar introduced a 'EIPA-Life Time Achievement Award for Promotion of Philately' that will be given to the philatelists having outstanding contribution for the promotion of Philately every four years.

The first 'EIPA-Life Time Achievement Award for Promotion of Philately' was given to Jadunath Kanungo, one of the three nominees. Kanungo received his award with citation from the Governor of Orissa on October 25, 2008.

Please visit the following link for relevant images:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/365plus1.htm>

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BLACK COLOR MISSING OLYMPICS STAMPS

Rajesh Varma from Dehradun has contributed the se-tenant block of 4 of the Games of 29th Olympiad issue of August 8, 2008 with black color omitted on a first day cover.

Please visit the following link for the image:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/365plus2.htm>

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PORTUGAL 2010 WORLD PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

Portugal 2010 world philatelic exhibition is being held from October 1 to 10, 2008 at Lisbon, Portugal as part of celebrations to mark 100 years of the Republic.

The show will have following competitive classes: FIP Championship, Traditional, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Aerophilately, Thematic, Maximaphily, Philatelic Literature, Youth, Revenue, Astrophialtely, Open, and One Frame. The last date for entry forms to reach the organizers through the national commissioner is May 30, 2009. The participation fees are Euro 30 per frame. There is no fee for the Youth class.

The national commissioner for India is Dhirubhai Mehta of Mumbai.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

LIST OF STAMPS

Karnataka Circle of India Post published a List of Stamps of India from 1852 to 2007 on the Philately Day - October 13, 2008. The book has 80 A5 size pages and is priced at Rs 25.

#### STAMP ALBUM

Rajasthan Circle of India Post published a Stamp Album on March 25, 2008. The book has 40 quadrille pages for the mounting stamps and is priced at Rs 100.

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#### RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

RAINBOW STAMP NEWS, Whole #11, November 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/>

For a list currently published Indian philatelic periodicals, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/a602.htm>

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#### RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Aug 8-10: Pondicherry, IFPNAPEX

Indo French Philatelic and Numismatic Association formed in the year 2007 under the leadership of the Founder President Norensingh Nahar of Sri Aurobindo Ashram and Secretary, A V Jeyachandran comprises a team of 25 members. In celebration with the first anniversary of the association, IFPNAPEX was organized between August 8 and 10, 2008. 120 frames of Stamps and 20 frames of Coins and Notes were on display.

Oct 25-26: Bhubaneswar, Eastern India Philatelic Exhibition

The 1st Eastern India Philatelic Exhibition (EIPEX-2008) was organized by the Eastern India Philatelists' Association (EIPA) with active support of the Department of Posts, Orissa Circle at Jayadev Bhawan on October 25 and 26, 2008. Two special covers were released during the exhibition. The theme of the exhibition was Unity in Diversity. The exhibition was inaugurated by His Excellency Muralidhar Chandrakant Bhandare, the Governor of Orissa as the Chief Guest. He also released the special cover on peace depicting Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa and Swamy Vivekanand with cachet cancellation of Pigeon. K V Sundar Rajan, The Chief Postmaster General, Orissa Circle was the Guest of Honor. The meeting was presided over by Bijayshree Routray, the Chairman, EIPEX-08 and President EIPA. Anup Kumar Raut, Organizing Secretary, EIPEX-08 introduced the Guests. Ajit Kumar Dash, Secretary, EIPA presented the Report of EIPA. Vote of thanks was given by Shanti Swarup Rath, Convener, EIPEX-08. The Honorable Governor has appreciated the organizing committee for conducting a beautiful exhibition and also highly impressed upon the design of special cover in his speech. 31 participants from Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Rourkela, Keonjhar, Boudh, Bolangir, Sambalpur, Dhenkanal, Rengali, Berhampur, etc. from Orissa and one exhibit from Ghazizbad (UP) have taken part in the non-competitive exhibition in 100 frames. All the participants were given a commemorative memento.

Philatelic Quiz and painting competitions between the School students were also organized by the organizers and were conducted by Anil Kumar Dhir. 200 students from 20 Schools took part in the said competitions and received prizes from the chief Guest on the concluding day.

A Philatelic counter was also opened by the Department of Posts at the venue. There were four dealers booths were also opened which were

provided by EIPA free of cost to facilitate availability of philatelic materials at reasonable price to the philatelists and stamp lovers. Dealers from Kolkata and Orissa attended the exhibition.

The exhibition was covered widely in all news papers and television. Thousands of visitors visited the exhibition and took advantage of the exhibition.

Santosh Kumar Kamila, Postmaster General, Berhampur Region was the chief Guest and released a beautiful souvenir of EIPEX-08 featuring several useful articles of Senior Philatelists on concluding day - October 26, 2008. He also released a special cover on Unity in diversity depicting the religious places of different religion with the background of National flag. The cachet design is also depicting the theme having the portrait of Gandhiji.

The members of Orissa Philatelic Association, Kalinga Philatelic Society, Utkal Philatelic & Numismatic Association, Keonjhar Philatelic Association, Bolangir Philatelic Club and South Orissa Philatelic Association actively took part in the exhibition and made the exhibition a grand success.

For further details the Secretary, EIPA may be contacted in the e-mail [eipaorissa@gmail.com](mailto:eipaorissa@gmail.com) or [eipaorissa@yahoo.co.in](mailto:eipaorissa@yahoo.co.in).

Oct 31-Nov 2: Mysore, NUPHIL 08, Stamps and Coins  
Organizer: Mysore Philatelics & Mysore Numismatics  
Venue: Nanjaraja Bahadur Choultry, opposite Hotel Metropole  
Philatelic issues: 1 Special cover - 'Somanathapur Temple', Special postmark - 25 cash Mysore coin of Mummadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar 1799-1868  
Contact: [mysorephilatelics1@gmail.com](mailto:mysorephilatelics1@gmail.com)

Nov 7-9: Mumbai, Numismatic Exhibition  
Venue: Sunderbai Hall, Near Income Tax Office, Churchgate

Nov 21-23: Thrissur, Philatelic Exhibition, THRISSURPEX-2008  
Participation: Open to Kerala State, 100 Frames  
Organizer: Philatelic Club Thrissur, part of their 30 year celebrations  
Venue: Pandy Samooha Madhom, Thrissur  
Dealers Booth: Rs 3,000 (limited to 15 dealers only)  
Philatelic issues: 1 Special postmark Mahatma Gandhi theme  
Contact: [philatelicclubthrissur@rediffmail.com](mailto:philatelicclubthrissur@rediffmail.com)

Dates to be announced: Coins, Numismatic Exhibition  
Organizer: Delhi Coin Society  
Venue: BEING RESCHEDULED AS THE ELECTIONS ARE BEING HELD ON THIS DATE  
Visit: [www.delhicoinsociety.com](http://www.delhicoinsociety.com)  
Contact: [delhicoinsociety@gmail.com](mailto:delhicoinsociety@gmail.com)

2009

Jan 30-Feb 1: Ahmedabad, Festival of Stamps

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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SOUTH ASIA NEW ISSUES

Sri Lanka  
Oct 09: World Post Day,

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

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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.>

NIKET BUBNA, USA

I am writing after a very long time, last being about the Madhav Institute of technology postage stamp. Since then, I have moved to the USA for higher studies and currently in Evanston near Chicago, taking my masters program in Biotechnology. I have been reading the updates and news about Indian stamp issues via 'Stamps of India' and a few other resources.

It is astonishing to note the exorbitant number of stamp releases planned for the remaining two months of 2008. I personally believe that many of the unprinted stamp issues would be shifted for release in 2009 and most of the non-personality issues will fall under that category. The Department of Posts, though has a rebranding exercise in place, it thoroughly needs a rebranding of their way of working and not the logo. Releasing 30-40 stamps in a month's period cannot be justified as being professional. It does not give ample opportunity for the philatelists to plan their purchases and shape their needs to enhance their collections. This mass release, if done, would result in confusion for the collector and, some may also miss out on a few issues.

In regard to the Gur-ta-Gaddi celebrations, I would like to pitch in for the demand of a postage stamp on the Gur-ta-Gaddi being celebrated at Nanded on October 30, 2008 via Stamps of India. It is an occasion that deems fit for the release of a stamp, as we may recall the Prime Minister of India had approved three postage stamps on Sikh related events (<http://www.tribuneindia.com/2005/20050607/punjab1.htm>) in 2005 and none of the releases have happened so far. The Pakistan postal department is being so genuine in their gesture by releasing a stamp for the Gur-ta-Gaddi and had also commemorated Guru Arjan Dev's martyrdom in 2005, when the mess with Guru Granth Sahib postage stamp in India was created.

As for the recent confusion about the pricing of miniature sheets of 'Dakghar' and 'Commonwealth Games 2010' postage stamp, I think a clarification letter to the bureaus from the higher authorities in Delhi would clear doubts about the rate the department plans to charge. If they confirm to charge Rs 20 for a miniature sheet, they would have to explain their rationale for the decision. Also, when the packing labels of the miniature sheet says Rs 20 as the cost, the total income anticipated from the printing would have been calculated with that amount, and if a change is affected, to reduce the price to Rs 15, it is going to be a sheer confusion for all the stakeholders. Wish lots of luck to the Department for this venture.

Adding to the mayhem, I would like to bring to notice a mistake in the Commonwealth Games 2010 postage stamp on Shera, the mascot for the games. The postage stamp shows Shera, the mascot for the 2010 games and its cartoon shown on the postage stamp and the miniature sheet have India's national flag on his vest and is barefoot on the miniature sheet. After the release of the 2010 Games logo in January 2008, changes were affected in the mascot too. Shera, in his new avatar has the Games logo on his vest replacing the national flag and also wears blue colored shoes, instead of being barefooted. The new logo is very much put on the official games website ([www.cwgdelhi2010.org](http://www.cwgdelhi2010.org)). The stamp designers should have taken in account the new design and not gone ahead with the old Shera. As a philatelist, I definitely look into details and that is where I take pleasure. This error is visible and will get clearer once the mascot dons the streets of Delhi, when the Games begin.

Please visit the following link for relevant images:  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/365plus.htm>

R PURUSHOTHAMAN, Rourkela

It is with reference to your latest issue wherein you mentioned about the premium charged by the postal authorities. Earlier also in case of Mahatma Gandhi South Africa Joint issue (1995) the premium charged was more than 150%. The price printed for the Miniature was Rs.8 whereas the price of both the stamps together was Rs.3. The Miniature was sold at Rs.8. From the price confusion it is very clear that there is no philatelist to consult for the Department of Posts or they don't want to consult philatelists on price issue.

One more concern is the quality of design, printing and paper. Definitely it needs a lot of improvement. As some of your readers expressed it should be taken seriously. Only a handful of people are

engaged in designing the stamps. Why not the designing be open to other agencies also? Even foreign agencies can also be invited to participate. On competitive basis the designers should be selected. Besides, the designs can be published well in advance to get the opinion from the public. It will prevent the mishap which happened to the Guru Granth Saheb stamp.

The paper used for commemorative stamps, in most cases, is too fragile to handle. The paper used particularly in United States is strong and will withstand vagaries of time. We may also follow the same.

One more, grave problem which has developed of late is the indiscriminate issue of Miniature sheets. It is like killing the golden goose. The latest premium pricing will only worsen the situation.

Another important issue is related to the information provided in the so called the Technical data in the Brochures. Instead of improvement it has deteriorated. Perforation details and the exact number of stamps, sheets /sheetlets with the number of stamps per sheets/sheetlets can be restored in the Brochure.

Probably India is the only country wherein there is no proper planning on the issue of commemorative or definitive stamps. Programme for the year 2008 and 2009 was uploaded in the site of Department of Posts only recently. Now it is October and a number of stamps for 2008 are yet to be decided as per the plan. Schedule and reschedule and cancellation have become a standard rule of the Department of Posts. Even released stamps are not sent to the Bureaus in time or in sufficient quantity. Of course we cannot blame the Department of Posts for this, as they may be busy otherwise to take care of the traders of premature issues. In case of Coast Guard the matter was taken up by the India Today and the date was hurriedly fixed for release. If this is the state of affair, nobody can save Indian philately. India may soon be black listed by the world philatelists.

I wonder whether the authorities concerned read and understand the voice of the philatelists raised through respectable journals like this one.

GOVIND SHARMA, UK

Regarding selling miniature sheet for Rs.20 and short supply to post offices etc. these things will happen in Indian philately department you cannot change. You can find items outside freely available at higher prices. That is the way we have to live with India post. Time will come when things will change but no one knows when. All the best to India Post

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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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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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