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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----  
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India  
Issue # 371 - December 11, 2008. Published Every Thursday  
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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I N T H I S I S S U E

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

4 out of 5 stamps scheduled for release this week were available at least at the philatelic bureau, New Delhi. The stamp scheduled for release on Dec 4 on Indian Navy - Reaching Out to Maritime Neighbors did reach New Delhi however for some reason has not been put on sale. This is so far the best performance in past few weeks. Except the refusal to sell the stamp of Dec 4 for apparently no reason leaves us wondering perhaps there is more to it than meets the eye.

Who is responsible for the present mess? We are now coming round to the view held by the people-in-know that most of the postal officers are pursuing their personal agendas. Neither complaints to seniors nor applications under Right to Information Act are deterrent anymore as these officers have successfully mastered the art of getting a clean chit from departmental investigations. Meanwhile there is enough evidence available on the nexus and violations that continue unabated.

The bureaucrats responsible may not be bothered about the present mess, but it is high time that the philatelic community in India should collectively take action.

We believe that together we can and invite your suggestions.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: S C Sukhani,

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

- Dec 14: Indian Institute of Science, Set of 2 stamps, Rs 5 & 20 + MS
- Dec 15: Swami Ranganathananda, Rs 5
- Dec 16: Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw
- Dec 21: T V Ramasubba Iyer
- Dec 22: BrahMos Missile, Set of 2 stamps, Rs 5 & 20 + 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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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

INDIAN NAVY - REACHING OUT TO MARITIME NEIGHBORS

India Post issued a stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Indian Navy -  
Reaching Out to Maritime Neighbors on the Navy Day the December 4,  
2008. The release function at New Delhi was cancelled due to terror  
attack on Mumbai on November 26, 2008.

In India, December 4 is celebrated as Navy Day. On this day Indian Navy  
played a significant role in the bombing of Karachi harbor in the 1971  
war in Operation Trident which was launched on December 4. Owing to its  
success, the day of the attack has been celebrated as Navy Day since  
then.

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. Security Printing Press, Hyderabad printed the stamp by wet offset in the quantities of 0.8 million in sheets of 40 stamps.

#### DR L M SINGHVI

M Hamid Ansari, the Vice President of India released a commemorative stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on eminent jurist and renowned constitutional expert Dr Laxmi Mall Singhvi on December 8, 2008 at New Delhi.

Singhvi was born on November 9, 1931 at Jodhpur. Singhvi was a member of the Third Lok Sabha from 1962-67 and Advocate General of State of Rajasthan from 1972-77. He was High Commissioner for India in the United Kingdom from 1991-97 and conferred Padma Bhushan in 1998. He was elected to Rajya Sabha in 1999 and was Chairman of High Level Committee on Indian Diaspora. He wrote many books such as A Tale of three cities, Bharat or Hamara Samay, Jain Temple and a few in Hindi as well.

Singhvi was also a well acknowledged scholar of Jain history and culture. He spearheaded the Indian delegation to the United Nations conference on Human Rights in Vienna in 1993. He died on October 13, 2007.

Bharti Mirchandani 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 stamp by wet offset in the quantities of 0.4 million in sheets of 40 stamps.

#### MERRY CHRISTMAS

India Post issued a pair of stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 and Rs 20 on Christmas on December 8, 2008.

These are the first Christmas stamps issued by India.

Bharti Mirchandani 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 quantities of 1.5 million each in sheets of 28 se-tenant pairs.

#### UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Somnath Chatterjea, Speaker of the Lok Sabha, one of the two houses of the Indian Parliament, released a stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights on December 10, 2008 at New Delhi.

The stamp features Abraham Lincoln, Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King Junior, and Mother Teresa the acknowledged champions of human rights.

On December 10, 1948 the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Following this historic act the Assembly called upon all Member countries to publicize the text of the Declaration and "to cause it to be disseminated, displayed, read and expounded principally in schools and other educational institutions, without distinction based on the political status of countries or territories."

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 stamp by photogravure in the quantities of 1 million in sheets of 30 stamps.

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

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SAINT ALPHONSA STAMP AVAILABLE

The stamp issued on Saint Alphonsa on November 16, 2008 is now available on sale at the philatelic bureau at New Delhi.

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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 20: Bangalore, Rotary Club of Bangalore Platinum Jubilee  
Nov 08: Malleshwaram, Cluny convent & High School Diamond Jubilee  
Nov 10: Malleshwaram, M E S College of Arts, Commerce & Science  
Nov 22: Chennai, Indian Institute of Nutritional Sciences  
Nov 29: Cardiological Society of India

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

A stamp booklet is recently issued:

2008, Olympics  
Quantity 100, Individually numbered  
Available from Sunil Joseph [sunilstamp@gmail.com](mailto:sunilstamp@gmail.com)

To view images of Stamp Booklets issued by Philatelic Organizations & Philatelists, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/sb99.htm>

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NEW MAXCARDS

Hemant K Jain [hemantkumar.jn@gmail.com](mailto:hemantkumar.jn@gmail.com) of Mandala, Madhya Pradesh has created the following max cards:

Apr 21, 2008: Civil Service, 1 Card  
May 20, 2008: Sai Baba, 2 Cards  
Aug 2, 2008: Aldabra Giant Tortoise, 10 Cards  
Aug 8, 2008: Games of XXIX Olympiad, 1 Card  
Aug 12, 2008: Coast Guard, 2 Cards  
Aug 21, 2008: Bismillah Khan, 2 Cards

To view images of maxcards of 2008 issues, please visit <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2008mc.htm>

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AUCTION ACTION

Indian Thematic Society [indianthematicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:indianthematicsociety@gmail.com) is holding Auction Sale #43 closing on January 17, 2009. There are 150 lots in this sale. The scans of some lots are available at [http://www.flickr.com/photos/its\\_offers](http://www.flickr.com/photos/its_offers)

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

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

PHILANEWS, Whole #41, Sep Oct 2008, Bimonthly  
Editor: Rajesh Paharia [shreeshell@hotmail.com](mailto:shreeshell@hotmail.com)  
Publisher: Philatelic Society of Rajasthan, Jaipur  
Annual Subscription: Rs 200

VADOPHIL, Whole #116, Oct 2008, Quarterly  
Editors: Prashant H Pandya [vadophil@indianphilately.net](mailto:vadophil@indianphilately.net) and  
Timir R Shah [trs\\_shah@rediffmail.net](mailto:trs_shah@rediffmail.net)  
Publisher: Baroda Philatelic Society, Vadodara  
Annual Subscription (including membership): Rs 100

RAINBOW STAMP NEWS, Whole #12, December 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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WORLDNET EXPRESS LAUNCHED

Radhika Doraiswamy, Secretary (Posts) launched WorldNet Express at Mumbai on November 27, 2008 in the presence of Thomas Wheelwright, Senior Vice President-Public Policy, Deutsche Post World Net (DPWN).

India Post, with world's largest network of Post Offices and DPWN - world's largest logistics group joined hands to provide a unique international express delivery service, WorldNet Express (WNX), to

locations spread over 220 countries. WNX is the first joint mail product of India Post. The service brings with it the strengths of two global giants in the postal sector viz. the trust, reliability and reaches earned by India Post over 150 years and the technology-backed delivery excellence of DPWN.

As India transforms itself to be globally competitive, it needs world class and reliable logistics services. This partnership will enable Indian businesses to access world class speed, reliability and technology and reach out to global markets effectively. India Post currently offers an economical and reliable international express mail service (EMS) to 97 countries. WorldNet Express will take a step further by expanding the India Post reach to 220 countries. This service enables the customers to send documents and parcels on courier mode (Delivery Duty Unpaid Shipments) from a Post Office in 21 State Capitals to any of the 220 countries with a maximum transit time of 4 days.

This service will be available in 237 Post Offices of 21 State Capitals and will be rolled out to more locations in the near future. WNX is a faster and more economical way of sending time critical shipments of weight up to 250 Kg (per piece weight limit of 32 Kg as per express industry standards). Gifts and samples of value up to Rs 25,000 and Rs 50,000 respectively are also permitted under courier mode. The maximum dimensions of 118cm (length), 88cm (width) and 120 cm (height) have been fixed as per existing express industry standards.

WorldNet Express (WNX) offers customers world-class packaging material and an advanced multi-modal track and trace system to track shipments. Customers can make use of WNX boxes of six different volumes (1Kg, 3Kg, 5Kg, 7Kg, 9Kg and 20 Kg) for sending parcels (non-documents) and WNX Flyers of two sizes, normal and jumbo, to send documents and small packages. Secure packaging material will be provided by the Post Office free of charge. The shipment can be tracked on the 24/7 customer helpline- 1800 2332 969, or on the websites [www.worldnetexpress.com](http://www.worldnetexpress.com) and [www.indiapost.gov.in](http://www.indiapost.gov.in) or by sms track - wnx track {airway bill number} to 53456.

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POSTAL STRIKE FROM DEC 17

In response to a call by All India Dak Karamchari Sangh, the postal employees across the country will go on an indefinite strike from December 17, 2008 in protest against non-acceptance of their "just and legitimate" demands by the Central government.

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OOPS!

Rajesh Kumar Sinha's Fascinating World of Maps has won Silver Medal and NOT Silver Bronze Medal as erroneously reported in issue # 370 of December 4, 2008 under 'Indian Participation in Jakarta 2008'.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Dec 24-26: Kolkata, Coin Exhibition  
Venue: City Centre  
Organizers: Numismatic Society of Calcutta  
Contact: Sandip Jain 0 98300 09533

Jan 10-12: Pune, National level Numismatic Competitive Exhibition  
Organizers: International Collector's Society of Rare Items, Pune  
Venue: Sonal Hall, Karve Road, next to MES Garware College, Pune  
Entry Forms: Available from Nov 20, 2008, Last date of acceptance of  
duly filled entry forms is Dec 15, 2008.  
Dealers Booth: Rs 5000, 2 tables & 2 chairs + Breakfast & Lunch for 2  
Last date for Booth confirmation is Jan 5, 2009  
Contact: President - S R Bhat 020-25655960, 09326897201, Chairman -  
Basti Solanki 09823088865, Secretary - Rajendra Shah 020-24477660,  
09890117252

Jan 24-26: Nagpur, Coins exhibition  
Organizers: Numismatic Research Institute  
Dealers Booth: Rs 5000 2 tables 3 chairs + tea & lunch for 2  
Contact: Avinash T Ramteke 0 98230 22662, Piyush Agrawal 0 93255 68570

Jan 30-Feb 1: Ahmedabad, Festival of Stamps  
Organizer: Gujarat Philatelists' Association  
Venue: Srimati Sushilaben Ratilal Hall, opposite Choice Restaurant, C G  
Road, near Swastik Crossroads, Ahmedabad 380009  
Dealers Booth: Ground Floor Rs 7000, First Floor Rs 4000, inclusive of  
lunch and tea for 2 persons for 3 days  
Contact: Anil Choksi, Treasurer GPA, 0 99257 03513 or 079 2656 4923

Feb - dates to be announced: New Delhi, Coins, Numismatic Exhibition  
Organizer: Delhi Coin Society

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>

#### SOUTH ASIA NEW ISSUES

##### BANGLADESH

Nov 30: Cox's Bazar - World's Longest Unbroken Sea Beach, Tk 10  
Nov 28: 400 Years of Dhaka, Tk 6  
Nov 15: First National Agriculture Day, Tk 4  
Oct 31: Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry Golden Jubilee, Tk 10  
Sep 23: Japan International Cooperation Agency, Miniature Sheet, Tk 30  
Jul 29: Stamps Day, Miniature Sheet, Tk 50

##### NEPAL

Nov 13: New National Anthem, Re 1  
Aug 21: New Coat of Arms, Re 1

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

#### 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)

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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.>

SUBHASH CHANDRA AGRAWAL, Delhi

(Guinness Record Holder for most letters in newspapers)

Department of Posts has started issuing stamps under theme 'Builders of Modern India' for a new definitive series of stamps with first three stamps of 25 paise (one stamp) and rupees five (two stamps) released on 01.12.2008 on Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi respectively. More stamps in denominations of 50 paise, rupees 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 15, 20 and 50 are yet to be released later. Only one personality should have been figured on stamps of 5-rupees denomination rather than placing both Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi on stamps of same denomination. One of these personalities could be figured on stamps of say 10-rupees denomination, second most used denomination after rupees 5.

Stamps of all denominations of a new definitive series should be released simultaneously together with a complete set of postal stationary on the same theme on first day of new financial year (1st April) every year which should also be date for introduction of any new postal tariff announced earlier in Union Budget presented on last day of February. System will provide newness to the system increasing income by way of philately.

With even coins of 25 paise no more minted, it is senseless to have postal-tariff below 50 paise. There should be minimum number of denominations for postal stamps say of 50 paise, rupees 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50. Present system of issuing commemorative stamps in denomination of rupees 15 should be changed to that of rupees 10 because an RTI reply reveals that most commonly used denominations are rupees 5 and 10.

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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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