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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
Issue # 378 - January 29, 2009. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We have received an email from Lesley Brine writing on behalf of Hugh Jefferies, Editor of Stanley Gibbons Catalogue. It says "We are interested in the ongoing debate about recent India miniature sheets and need to decide what line to take regarding their listing in the Stanley Gibbons catalogue.

The key point seems to be the postal value of the sheets concerned. If the stamp is denominated 5r and the sheet has a printed price of 15r, what rate of postage does it pay? If it is only 5r then we will not be able to list it in the catalogue. If it has a postal value of 15r we will list it, as long as it is sold for 15r. If it is sold for 20r, again, we will not list it. Any guidance you can offer in this respect would be gratefully received."

No matter how much we wish to get these listed in Stanley Gibbons, the fact remains that the postal value of these 3 miniature sheets still is Rs 5 while the price printed on the miniature sheet is Rs 15 and 2 of these sheets still sell for Rs 20!

We wish that the officers responsible for philately at India Post and their advisors will wake up and take notice. We sincerely hope that Indian philately will not suffer such national shame again and India Post will be able to avoid undesirable philatelic practices.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Yogesh Kumar, Deepak Modi, Rajesh Paharia, Sureah Bagga, Rakesh Walia, S K Lakshmanan,

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

STAMP POPULARITY POLL

Stamps of India now present the Stamp Poll 2008 to select the best stamp of 2008, best miniature sheet of 2008, and best sheetlet of 2008. The results shall be announced based on the most number of votes polled. You can send as many ballots as you wish.

Please select from the issues of 2008 as shown at <http://www.stampsfindia.com/lists/stamps/2008stamps.htm> and vote for the best stamp, miniature sheet, and sheetlet of 2008 in your opinion. Also write your name, City, email id, and philatelic interests on the ballot and email your ballots to: [stamppoll@stampsfindia.com](mailto:stamppoll@stampsfindia.com)

The last date to receive the ballots at Stamps of India is now extended to January 31, 2009. Incomplete ballots shall not be considered. The results will be announced in the Issue #379 of February 5, 2009.

Several attractive philatelic prizes will be given away. The winners will be decided by draw of lots. We welcome the sponsors for prizes, please contact [admin@stampsfindia.com](mailto:admin@stampsfindia.com) in this regard.

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Jan 31: Bishnu Prasad Rabha, Rs 5
Feb 3: Steel Authority of India SAIL
Feb 4: Girl Child Day, Rs 5
Feb 5: Postal Life Insurance, Rs 5
Feb 8: Santaji Jagnade, Rs 5
Feb 9: Mahakavi Magh, Rs 5
Feb 19: K K Birla, Rs 5

Mar 01: 10th Definitive Series - Builders of Modern India, 9 stamps,
Re 0.50 - K Kamraj
Re 1 - Mahatma Gandhi,
Rs 2 - B R Ambedkar,
Rs 3 - Satyajit Ray,
Rs 4 - Homi Bhabha,
Rs 10 - Periyar E V Ramaswamy Naicker

Rs 15 - J R D Tata
Rs 20 - Mother Teresa
Rs 50 - Rukmini Devi Arundale

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 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/2009stamps.htm>

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Saint Paul's Church Chennai on January 25, 2009.

Suresh Kumar designed the Stamp, the First Day Cover and 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 0.4 million stamp by wet offset.

HERITAGE MONUMENTS PRESERVATION BY INTACH

India Post released a set of 4 special postage stamps and a miniature sheet in the denomination of Rs 5 each on Heritage Monuments Preservation by the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) on January 28, 2009. The stamps depict Jaisalmer Fort Jaisalmer, Manyu Monasteries Ladakh, Saint Anne's Church Goa, and Qila Mubarak Patiala.

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 0.5 million stamps each by photogravure. The miniature sheet is printed in the quantity of 0.2 million.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2009, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2009stamps.htm>

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NEW ISSUES AVAILABILITY STATUS

The following stamps are still awaited:

2009 Jan 28: Heritage Monuments Preservation by INTACH, Set of 4 Stamps
- Expected late February

The following Miniature Sheets are still awaited:

2008 Aug 02: Aldabra Giant Tortoise
20008 Nov 14: Children's Day - Expected mid February

The First Day Covers for these issues are still awaited:
2009 Jan 21: Vaikom Muhammad Basheer
2009 Jan 28: Heritage Monuments Preservation by INTACH

The Brochures for these issues are still awaited:
2009 Jan 21: Vaikom Muhammad Basheer
2009 Jan 28: Heritage Monuments Preservation by INTACH

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NEW POSTAL STATIONERY

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:

Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme, Marathi  
Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme, Urdu  
Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme, Punjabi  
Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme, Oriya  
Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme, Kannada  
Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme, Tamil  
Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme, Malayalam

The grand total till date is now 735, with 200 added in 2008.

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 2009, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2009PC.htm>

For an illustrated list of Aerogramme & Inland Letter in 2009, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2009ILC.htm>

For an illustrated list of all kinds of Envelopes in 2009, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2009EN.htm>

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PERMANENT PICTORIAL POSTMARKS

The permanent pictorial postmarks of India have now been listed at
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/ppp.htm>. Illustrations will soon be added.

For an illustrated list of Special Postmarks & Covers in 2009, visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/2009pm.htm>

For an illustrated list of Army Postal Service Issues in 2009, visit
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/aps/2009aps.htm>

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SIPA WEB SITE

The web site of the South India Philatelist's Association is now available at [www.sipa.org.in](http://www.sipa.org.in)

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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 30-31: Chandigarh, Salute to Martyrs & Freedom Fighters
Organizer: Chandigarh Philatelic Club
Venue: G P O, SECTOR 17, From 10am To 5pm
Contact: Rakesh Walia Exhibition Secretary rakeshwaliastamps@gmail.com
12 club members including President P C Awasthy, Colonel Suresh Bagga, Mohinder Sing, Abnash Singh Luthra, Mehar Singh, Rakesh Khurana and Rakesh Walia, are displaying stamps on martyrs and freedom fighters

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 27-28: New Delhi, Coins, Numismatic Exhibition
Organizer: Delhi Coin Society
Venue: Bapu Samaj Seva Kendra, Panchkunj Road,
Contact: Goga Jain 0 93123 18401

For a list of exhibitions in 2008, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events2009.htm>

MEETINGS

The schedule of meetings of the philatelic organizations in India is available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/clubmeet.htm>

POSTAL HISTORY EXHIBITS

The new regulations (SREV) and guidelines for Postal History class came in to force from January 1, 2009 and are available at <http://fippostalhistory.com>.

The FIP Postal History Commission has introduced a new experimental sub class "Historic, Special and Special studies" in addition to the existing sub classes "Rates and Routes" and the "Marcophily" (Postmarks), to have a home for collecting areas like the historical exhibits which usually cannot show nice postmarks nor special rates, such as soldiers' letters which either had a uniform rate or were completely free of postage. With the new sub-class these interesting exhibits can be shown in a more attractive way so that they will be easier to understand and hopefully shall get better awards.

Furthermore, a new division of Postal History exhibits has been introduced. Instead of a geographical division it will be one by periods: 1. before 1875; 2. 1875-1945; 3. after 1945. Each exhibit belongs to the period where it starts or where its main contents lies.

ADVERTISEMENTS

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

WANTED Hundis of Indian Princely States, preferably printed, Also interested in exchanging information on the same
Shall be attending the Festival of Stamps at Ahmedabad on Jan 30-Feb 1
ANIL SURI, anilksuri@email.com, Mobile-09811176908

ITS COLLECTORS DIRECTORY, 3rd 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 or 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

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

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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.>

JEEVAN JYOTI, Kullu (H.P.)

There are several special covers / post marks and Booklets released by different Postal circles of India Post on different occasions. These are available for counter sale at the Philatelic Bureau of that particular area only. So philatelists living in other parts of the country face lot of difficulty in obtaining these covers. To get these covers there is only option for outside philatelists to get either through some friend or at high price through a philatelic dealer. There should be provision in every philatelic Bureau for sale of these covers to philatelists of other states too on payment through M.O. It is also not possible for a person to send covers to all philatelists requesting for covers as one cannot collect small amount of cover and postage from the philatelists. This must be taken over by the concerned Philatelic Bureau. I am myself facing such problem for Kalka - Shimla Railway special cover. I sent covers to many and I am still receiving request for these covers from many philatelists though the covers are out of stock.

This is a very big problem for philatelists living in remote areas. There must be sufficient number of covers reserved for philatelists of other states. A big festival of stamps is going to be held in Ahmedabad where a large number of philatelists and dealers will meet and discuss problems, suggestions and new way outs for promotion of philately. I want to draw the attention of all philatelists towards this difficulty faced by philatelists in every state and request them to bring out solution to this problem.

KAPRE

It is good to observe that someone has questioned the Dept of Post under RTI regarding their utter tardiness in the printing and issue of Stamps and other philatelic material. I wish this issue be brought up in the Parliament and the courts.

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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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