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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----  
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India  
Issue # 383 - March 5, 2009. Published Every Thursday  
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We need your prayers for speedy recovery and good health of MJ's dad  
who suffered from acute Electrolyte Imbalance and is now convalescing  
in a hospital in Dehradun.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue:

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

PHILSENSEX  
By P R Krishnan [prkrish77@gmail.com](mailto:prkrish77@gmail.com)

Please note the prices for the stamps reflected in the philsensex data are for the White Gum A1 condition stamps. There are reports that certain Anna value issues are sold much below the philsensex prices and these stamps are Yellow gum and heavily tropicalised and hence the same has not been taken into account while compiling the data.

#### STAMP WATCH

One could see the momentum on the earlier issues, up to 2004, of Miniature sheets.

Look for the Standard Chartered Bank Sheetlet and later issues of 2008 especially the Personalities issues.

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#### FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Mar 13: K K Birla

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/2009stamps.htm>

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#### NEW STAMPS RELEASED

India Post has released following stamps recently:

##### Commemoratives

- Feb 28: Harakh Chand Nahata, Rs 5
- Mar 1: Medical Council of India, Rs 5
- Mar 6: Plerospermum Acerifolium, Rs 5

##### Definitives

- Mar 01: 10th Definitive Series - Builders of Modern India, 6 stamps,
  - Re 1 - Mahatma Gandhi,
  - Rs 2 - B R Ambedkar,
  - Rs 3 - Satyajit Ray,
  - Rs 4 - Homi Bhabha,
  - Rs 15 - J R D Tata
  - Rs 20 - Mother Teresa

Detailed coverage shall follow in the next issue.

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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 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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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Feb 2-7: Ahmedabad, Mini National Bharat Scout & Guide Centenary Jamboree, Special Cover only

Feb 28: Dehradun, State Flower Show

Feb 28-Mar 1: Dehradun, District Philatelic Exhibition, 2 covers

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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NEW PHILATELIC BLOG

Maulik Thakkar has just launched a philatelic blog on Mahatma Gandhi at <http://gandhiphilately.blogspot.com>.

He has blogged about the recent of auction of India Gandhi Centenary Stamps 1969 Color Trials on February 21, 2009. The intent is to get some opinion about this from dealers & collectors and for anyone who wishes to comment on it.

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NEW PHILATELIC ORGANIZATION

A group of 20 collectors of stamps and coins have formed a society in the name of "Virasat Sahejak Parishad, Hansi". Local collectors will join together to work for this. Every first Sunday of the month has been decided for the meeting. Dr Bhup Singh Rajput, was unanimously elected as patron of this parishad. Its address is Basant Dhawan, General Secretary, D A V Public School, Lal Sarak , Hansi 125033

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mar 20-22: Chennai, COINEX  
Organizer: Madras Coin Society  
Venue: Maharashtra Building Trust, New #64 E V K Sampath Road, Vepery  
Contact: [madrascosins@gmail.com](mailto:madrascosins@gmail.com)

Dec 18-20: Vadodara, StampMania 2009 One Frame Philatelic Exhibition  
Organizer: Baroda Philatelic Society [www.vadophil.org](http://www.vadophil.org)  
Venue: Shree Saurashtra Leuva Patel Seva Samaj, Alembic Road  
Contact: Prashant H Pandya [info@vadophil.org](mailto:info@vadophil.org)  
Website: [www.stampmania2009.com](http://www.stampmania2009.com)

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>

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SOUTH ASIA NEW ISSUES

[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.>

PURNANAND SANKET

"What is recession" by P R Krishnan is taken from a book by Shiv Khera - You can Win. I think as courtesy, this should be mentioned.

JEEVAN JYOTI, Kullu

It is nice to see the developments made by India Post. The recently introduced colorful quarterly journal Phila Post and gold plated silver replicas of 25 best stamps of India are praiseworthy. The DDG philately gives assurance in his editorial of recent issue of Phila Post that India Post is working on a major project to establish a world class Philatelic Museum at Delhi. It is good to know but what about the basic website of India Post which has not been maintained and updated regularly. There should be a separate website for philately with updates and complete information on recent and old philatelic items issued by India Post along with complete information about each issue provided on the brochure. The website of a postal administration plays a key role in popularising its stamps around the globe. It is highly disappointing that information about new issue is uploaded quite late on the website of India Post. The website is very poorly maintained by the staff of the philately section. It does not stand anywhere amongst the websites of other postal administrations of the world. A change can be brought by maintaining the basic requirements of the philatelists like availability of philatelic items on regular basis with proper distribution of philatelic items in all philatelic bureaus of the country and providing latest information about new issues on its website. Every philatelist is aware of the fact that stamps/FDCs/cachets do not reach timely at philatelic bureau. Once a stamp is

released in New Delhi it reaches with the snail speed at various philatelic bureaus of the country and sometimes takes months to reach the hands of the collectors.

ZULAIHA MOHAMED, Kerala

I notice there is no mention of the surprise stamp on Medical Council of India released on 2nd March. What is happening to the definitives of Builders of Modern India? I suppose they are going to spread out over the year, as in the past!

Is the prematurely released 'Spices of India' stamps going to be released any time? I noticed that you have removed the premature release section from Stamps of India.

As for the heroines of Indian screen which was on the anvil from 2007? I wonder what is happening.

In last week's Stamps of India Collector's Companion, Mr Tej Singh suggested change in paper used for brochures and covers. What about the paper used for printing the STAMPS themselves. Some of them are atrocious.

SWAPAN KUMAR CHAKRAVORTY, Ranchi

My sincerest thanks and gratitude expressed towards your endeavor to keep us absolutely updated in the entire gamut of Philately.

I have a few suggestions to make to the authority, which I feel can be reached through your this forum.

a) Many stamps are issued both definitive and commemorative. However, very few of those carry their introduction. A very brief introductory note in smaller fonts may be included on the stamp to make people aware of the objective of the issue.

British five Pound currency note carries an inscription (both text and graphics) of a cricket match of the team "all muggleton" described in Charles Dickens' "Pickwick Papers". Our Ten Rupee note could carry the graphic detail of Nishad(hunter)killing "Krauncha"(the bird)with Maharshi Balmiki chanting the 1st Sanskrit shloka "Ma Nishada Pratisthan etc".

b) Is there any way to train the postal people on how to cancel a stamp without defacing it? The worn-out seals used for cancellation are also to be replaced with thin lined characters on the seal. A corner on the stamp may be decorated and designated for such cancellation.

c) Of late, pre-affixed stamps on envelopes are being cancelled by several childish zig-zag scribing in red using ball pen, especially, in case of Speed Post.

There are many such thoughts that disturb me often. Those are reserved for future installments. Could you please make someone hear me?

Today, nobody writes letter. To sell the stamps, the authority must prepare itself to endure this mild pain.

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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](mailto: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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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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