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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
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Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

Dad has just come home from the hospital. We hope that he will regain good health soon with the power of continued prayers besides medical treatment as well as physiotherapy.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Rajesh Varma, Abhai Mishra, and Jigar Desai,

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

Mar 26: Spices of India,

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 2009, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2009stamps.htm>

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

BABURAO PULESHWAR SHEDMAKE

M E Haq, Post Master General, Vidarbha Region, Maharashtra Circle, India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Baburao Puleshwar Shedmake, a revolutionary from Gond tribal community who revolted against the British rule in 1857, on March 12, 2009 on the occasion of his 176th birth anniversary at Chandrapur.

Alka Sahrma 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 0.5 million stamps in the sheets of 30 by wet offset.

K K BIRLA

Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson of the ruling coalition in India, the United Progressive Alliance, released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on noted industrialist K K Birla on March 13, 2009 at New Delhi. The function was presided over by External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee while Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology Jyotiraditya Scindia was the guest of honor. Also present at the function were Ministers P Chidambaram, Vayalar Ravi, H R Bhardwaj, Anand Sharma, former minister Oscar Fernandes, chief ministers Sheila Dikshit and Bhupinder Singh Hooda, senior Congress leaders M L Fotedar, J P Aggarwal, Jayanthi Natarajan, Jagdish Tytler, Sajjan Kumar and Sachin Pilot.

Bharati 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 0.4 million stamps in the sheets of 40 by wet offset process.

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

The K K Birla commemorative issued on March 13, 2009 is the first commemorative printed by the India Security Press Nasik by Wet Offset process. The stamp also has an added security feature that it has "I.S.P. 09" printed vertically on the right side of each stamp. However this is visible only when the stamp is viewed at a particularly angle. This is not ultra violet or fluorescent

To view the image, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/kkbirla.htm>

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HOMI BHABHA DEFINITIVE IMPERF

Completely imperforated sheet of 70 Homi Bhabha stamps in the denomination of Rs 4 issued in the new definitive series on March 1, 2009 has been reported. This is the first major error reported in the second part of the new definitive series. Earlier Imperfs have been reported in the first part of the new definitive series issued on December 1, 2008.

To view the image, please visit <http://stampsofindia.com/errors.htm>

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Mar 15: Mumbai, Keneseth Eliyahoo Synagogue 125th Anniversary

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

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

Army Postal Service issued following Special Covers in Jan & Feb 2009:

- Jan 04: 14<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Assam Rifles Golden Jubilee
- Jan 07: Army Postal Service 6<sup>th</sup> Reunion
- Jan 08: Naval Academy Ezhimala
- Jan 09: Controllorate of Quality Assurance Golden Jubilee
- Feb 11: 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Madras Regiment Silver Jubilee
- Feb 14: 7<sup>th</sup> Light Cavalry 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Feb 20: The Dogra Regiment 14<sup>th</sup> Postwar Reunion

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 PRESENTATION PACKS

India Post released on sale the packs for the following issue:

- Feb 3, 2009: Steel Authority of India Limited
- Content: Block of 4 Stamps, FDC,
- India Post, Rs 100

Mar 13, 2009: K K Birla
Content: Block of 4 Stamps, FDC,
India Post, Rs 100

For an illustrated list of Stamps Packs issued in 2009, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/packs/2009packs-sets.htm>

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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: [madrascoins@gmail.com](mailto:madrascoins@gmail.com)

Oct: Pune, Stamp Exhibition

Dec 18-20: Vadodara, StampMania 2009 One Frame National 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

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ADVERTISEMENTS

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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)

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.>

AJAY & SUDHA AGRAWAL, Akola

As we all are well aware that in any philatelic exhibition, an exhibit containing errors - perforation, color difference & omissions, cuts, misprints, etc. are given more marks than a exhibit containing healthy material. By no way we mean a healthy variety of a philatelic item.

This approach is making our hobby unreachable for new comers as well as majority of the existing collectors. This type of material is not only too costly but is very difficult to get. But giving more marks to such material by the judges has made them a must in every exhibit. Many errors like color proofs, color trials, artist drawings with signature etc., have been announced as illegal by many a countries, but their absenteeism in an exhibit makes it a poor one. No doubt these materials are good for study & research purpose, but for exhibition purpose.....?.

A philatelist with complete & through knowledge of his subject coupled with healthy material & healthy varieties & philatelic knowledge, & with a beautiful presentation with good plan, gets less marks due to the fact that he has not put some errors in his exhibit. And a poor exhibit gets better marks just due to the fact that it contained some errors, which are not even allowed legally by the Postal Department.

According to us this practice should be stopped. There can be a separate section for error exhibits in an exhibition, if so needed, but in no way it can be compared with a Healthy exhibit.

Much can be written on this issue, but we think we have made the point clear.

If majority can agree, rules for evaluation can be changed.

Your views most welcome.

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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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