

ISSN 0972-3587

----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
Issue # 391 - April 30, 2009. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan
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I N T H I S I S S U E

Forthcoming Stamp Issues  
Spices Stamps Released  
New Postal Stationery  
Recent Special Postmarks & Covers  
Pigeon Post at Cuttack  
New Maxim Card  
Limca Book of Records 2009  
Auction Action  
Manmohan Singh Moves  
Recent & Forthcoming Events  
Readers Forum: K J  
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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

Jaydev Nansey from Jamnagar wrote "your editorial that included maxim card was of interest. Since I am trying to revive the maximaphily in India, I request you to kindly upload the attached rules for judging maximum cards collection of FIP. This document also serves as a good guideline for the collectors too. In case if anyone has any query related to maximum card they may please forward them to my email: [joydave99@yahoo.com](mailto:joydave99@yahoo.com)."

In response let us focus on the Maxim cards this time. The FIP rules for maximaphily are available on their web site at [http://f-i-p.ch/regulation/pdf/Max-Srev\\_000.pdf](http://f-i-p.ch/regulation/pdf/Max-Srev_000.pdf). These are the latest updated version approved at the Malaga, Spain on October 12, 2006. Although these rules - 'Special Regulations for the Evaluation of Maximaphily Exhibits at F I P Exhibitions (SREV)' and 'Guidelines for Judging Maximaphily Exhibits' are regarding judging exhibits of maxim cards, the Article 3 - Principles of exhibit composition, of both, defines in detail what is acceptable as maxim card and what is not.

We believe that armed with this information, you will be able to judge for yourself that several maxim cards on offer at eBay and Delcampe do not qualify as maxim cards at all, and choose accordingly.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Jigar Desai, Jagannath Mani,

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

Apr 30: R Sankar

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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SPICES STAMPS RELEASED

India Post released a set of 5 special postage stamps on Spices of
India on April 29, 2009. Four stamps are in the denomination of Rs 5
and depict Black Pepper, Cinnamon, Cardamom, and Clove. The fifth stamp
in the denomination of Rs 20 depicts Turmeric, Coriander, and Chilly.
A miniature sheet also accompanied the issue.

Suresh Kumar designed the Stamps 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 each in the sheets of 30, 6 se-tenant strips
of 5 stamps, by photogravure process. 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 POSTAL STATIONERY

MEGHDOOT POST CARDS WITH ADVERTISEMENT:

Consumer Awareness, 7 designs, Manipuri  
Consumer Awareness, 7 designs, Assamese  
Consumer Awareness, 7 designs, Oriya  
Consumer Awareness, 7 designs, Kannada  
Consumer Awareness, 7 designs, Punjabi

The grand total till date is now 819, with 284 added in 2008!

The complete illustrated listing of Meghdoot Post Card is available at:  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/meghdoot.htm>

AEROGRAMME & INLAND LETTER WITH ADVERTISEMENT

Indira Gandhi National Old-age Pension Scheme, Hindi, SSP

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 Postcards in 2009, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2009PC.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

Apr 02: Cuttack, Cuttack Club 144th Anniversary
Apr 24: Mumbai, Indo-American Society golden Jubilee

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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PIGEON POST AT CUTTACK

Apr 02: Cuttack, Cuttack Club 144<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

To view the images please visit the following link,  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/carried/carried.htm>

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NEW MAXIM CARD

Hemant Kumar Jain jainhk60@gmail.com has created a maxim card for Universal declaration of Human Rights stamp issued on December 12, 2008.

To view the images please visit the following link,
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2008mc.htm>

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LIMCA BOOK OF RECORDS 2009

Superstar Amitabh Bachchan released the 20th edition of the Limca Book of Records on April 1, 2009 at New Delhi. The 2009 edition of the record book features over 10,000 remarkable achievements of which 6,000 are new records from all corners of the country.

There are several entries on philately and one of the new entrants is

Pratisad Neurgaonkar of Pune with 1,916 stamps issued on the Millennium theme in 1999-2000.

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AUCTION ACTION

Lugdunum Philatelie's Postal History Auction 69 now online at <http://www.lugdunum-philatelie.com/uk/index.php4>. The closing date is May 25, 2009.

The catalogue of the County Auctions' mail bid sale number 215 with over £300,000 of fine material in 6000 lots is at <http://www.stampauctions.co.uk/5cat.htm>. Last bids noon (UK time) Friday May 22, 2009.

Status International Stamp & Cover Auction Sale 254 is now available to be viewed online at www.statusint.com. The auction will be held on Thursday May 14, 2009 at 12:00 noon.

Christoph Gartner's 10th auction from May 27 to 30, 2009 is online at [http://www.auktionshausgaertner.de/WWW/PHILNET/GAERTNER/GPHOME.NSF/\(HTM L\)/Start-E?OpenDocument](http://www.auktionshausgaertner.de/WWW/PHILNET/GAERTNER/GPHOME.NSF/(HTM L)/Start-E?OpenDocument)

Now you can visit <http://www.soleryllach.com> where prices realized and available unsold lots of their Stamps auction of recently April 21, 2009 are listed.

Religious Stamp Exchange Club Ernakulam is holding its Postal Auction #41 closing on April 30, 2009. The auction comprised of 285 lots. The contact details of the club are: Joseph Ottaplackal, Secretary, Religious Stamp Exchange Club, 35/1310 St Martin Road, Palarivattom P O, Kochi 682 025

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

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MANMOHAN SINGH MOVES

Manmohan Singh [philaindia@gmail.com](mailto:philaindia@gmail.com), the well-known professional philatelist, has recently moved his stamp shop from Vannarpet to HSR Layout in Bangalore. His new contact details are as under:

Postal: No.955, 25th Cross, 22nd'A"Main,Opp 2nd Sector Park, HSR Layout, Bangalore 560115

Phone: +91 80 32919964

Mobile: +91 93412 13173

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Apr 2-4: Cuttack, Philatelic Exhibition

Major General B P Das AVSM (retired) inaugurated a philatelic exhibition at Cuttack on April 2, 2009. The exhibition was organized by Pradip Mohanty, Dr Tanmay Mohanty and Lagnajit Roy from April 2 to 4, 2009 on the 144th anniversary of Cuttack Club that was established in 1865. Dr Pradip Padhi and Mohammed Shakil, the members of Orissa Philatelic Association were also invited to display their exhibits. Bimal Kishore Mohaptra, L I Parija and other senior members of the Club were also present at the function.

One special cover a special postmark was released. A Pigeongram was sent to the Commissioner of Police inviting him as the Guest of Honor at the concluding function which was held on April 4, 2009.

For special cover and the pigeongram please contact, Pradip Mohanty, oripphil@gmail.com & mohantypradip@hotmail.com Hon Secretary, Orissa Philatelic Association, Keonjhar Colony, Kanikachhak, Cuttack 753008 Telephone 09861032965

May 29-31: Ooty, Super Mega All India Coin Stampex
Organizer: Coimbatore District Numismatic & Philatelic Association
Venue: Devangar Mandapam, Ooty
Sales Booths: Rs 2750
Contact: C Palaneswamy Secretary CDNPA, Mobile - 0 94869 23558

Oct 30-31 & Nov 1: Pune, Stamp Exhibition
Contact: Pratisad Neurgaonkar, mobile 0 97663 10553

Dec 18-20: Vadodara, StampMania-2009 One Frame National Exhibition
Organizer: Baroda Philatelic Society www.vadophil.org
Venue: Shree Saurashtra Leuva Patel Seva Samaj, Alembic Road
Contact: Prashant H Pandya info@vadophil.org
Website: 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>

SOUTH ASIA NEW ISSUES

http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south_asia_new_issues.htm

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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

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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

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.>

K J, Mumbai

I was concerned about continuous theft by Indian postal employees. I recently got a cover from Nicaragua whose stamps had been torn off by the postal authorities.

Then I went to register complain at my nearest post office (Cumbala Hill, Mumbai) the person in charge was so rude and so unhelpful. He even refused to give me a paper to write complain. Then I tried talking this out with other philatelic friends of mine and they too worried as they were going through the same ordeals. Cello taped parcels being ripped apart to steal items from inside and what not. Someone even told me that one out of every 5 parcels he receives contents get stolen and one out of every 10 goes missing.

Indian post office is not talking this problem seriously and is not trying to do anything about it. Most of the non Indian philatelic collectors refuse to trade with Indian collectors because of such incidents. I don't know about others but my collection is being hampered because of these incidents.

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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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Subject to Delhi Jurisdiction

Awards Received: Silver Medal with the 'Felicitations of the Jury' at 'BELGICA 2001' World Philatelic Exhibition, Brussels, June 9-17, 2001

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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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