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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

# IN THIS ISSUE

Forthcoming Stamp Issues
New Stamp Released
Indian Participation in Philakorea 2009
ITS Postal Auction
Recent Periodical Publications
Recent & Forthcoming Events
Readers Forum: Hemant V Kulkarni, Kishore Yalamanchili

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

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The philately officially became an activity of the government for the first time ever in the year 2002 only. Earlier it was an ad-hoc and non-planned activity. With the beginning of the 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan of India in 2002 it became a planned activity and funds were made available for it. Since 2003 it has been the policy of India Post to focus on grassroots for the promotion of philately and funds were mainly utilized for organizing district level philatelic exhibitions. The results are there for everyone to see.

Unfortunately with 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan of India in 2008 some postal officers with personal agenda and gains in connivance with known pseudo-philatelists hijacked the program of grassroots development. Consequently we have very little activity regarding philatelic exhibitions organized by India Post since. We can assure the philatelists who take trouble to find out how public funds were spent in 2008 under the Right to Information Act that they will be shocked and disappointed. This unholy nexus of corrupt postal officers and criminals masquerading as philatelists forgot that time has moved on and 2009 is not 2001 and that the genie is out of the bottle and can't be put back again.

However it gladdens our heart that one after another philatelists in the country didn't let the momentum die and taken up mounting their own shows and promoting philately in true earnest. Thus we have Stampmania in December at Vadodara, Stampex in October at Pune, and Dak Ticket Milan in August at Bilaspur, all being organized in a grand and befitting manner. We wish them all a grand success and salute to their very significant and timely contribution to philately in India. We are also sure that this will also inspire score of other philatelists in organizing many more such shows at regularly.

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

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue:

We invite your inputs, please email to <a href="writeback@stampsofindia.com">writeback@stampsofindia.com</a>

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.

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

# FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Jun 19: Sacred Heart Church Pudducherry

Jun 19: Raza Library Rampur, 4 Stamps + Miniature Sheet

Aug 03: St Joseph College Bangalore

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

# NEW STAMP RELEASED

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 to mark  $125^{\rm th}$  birth anniversary of Reverend J J M Nichols Roy, a tribal leader from Assam, on June 12, 2009.

Nenu Gupta 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, Nashik printed 0.4 million stamps by photogravure process.

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

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 <a href="http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2009EN.htm">http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2009EN.htm</a>

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

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

INDIAN PARTICIPATION IN PHILAKOREA 2009

The 24th Asian International Stamp Exhibition, PHILAKOREA 2009, is being held from July 30 to August 4, 2009 at Seoul, Korea. Damyanti Pittie is the national commissioner as well as a jury from India.

Following exhibits are participating in the show:
Kishor Chandak's Handstruck Postage Stamps of India upto 1852
Sathi V Menon's Postmarks of Travancore State
O K Prakash's Cochin State Postal History
B M Modi's Gems & Jewelry
Rajesh Kumar Sinha's Fascinating World of Maps
Mrinal Mathur's Cars on Stamps (Youth Class)

Colonel Jayanta Dutta's Rare Stamps of the World (Literature Class)

ITS POSTAL AUCTION

Indian Thematic Society <a href="indianthematicsociety@gmail.com">indianthematicsociety@gmail.com</a> is holding Auction Sale #45 closing on July 25, 2009. There are 150 lots in this sale. The scans of some lots are available at <a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/its\_offers">http://www.flickr.com/photos/its\_offers</a>

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

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

ITS STAMP NEWS, Whole #46, Vol.12 #2, Apr Jun 2009, Quarterly Editor: Suraj Jaitly <a href="mailto:surajjaitly@gmail.com">surajjaitly@gmail.com</a>
Publisher: Indian Thematic Society, Ludhiana
Annual Subscription: Rs 150, US8, Euro 6

For a list currently published Indian philatelic periodicals, please visit http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/a602.htm

RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Jun 26-28: Kakinada, Coins & Stamps Show

Aug 21-23: Bilaspur, Dak Ticket Milan 2009 (Stamp Fair)

Organizer: Chhattisgarh Philatelic Association

Venue: Hotel Centre Point

Sales Booth: Rs 4,000 for a Table and 3 chairs, Includes 3 day's accommodation in Hotel Anand on the same premises with twin sharing basis, with Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Plus a set of the special covers, maxim cards & stamp booklets expected to be issued during the show Contact: Atul Jain jainaatul.65@gmail.com mobile 09300311007

Oct 30-31 & Nov 1: Pune, Stampex - National Stamps Fair

Organizer: Sonal Hall, Karve Road,

Venue: Sales Booth: Rs 6,000

Contact: Pratisad Neurgaonkar pratisad@hotmail.com, mobile 09766310553

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  $\frac{\text{http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/clubmeet.htm}}{\text{http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/clubmeet.htm}}$ 

#### SOUTH ASIA NEW ISSUES

http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south\_asia\_new\_issues.htm

#### ADVERTISEMENTS

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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 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 <a href="mailto:anildhir2k5@hotmail.com">anildhir2k5@hotmail.com</a>

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.>

HEMANT V KULKARNI, Milwaukee WI, USA

Your campaign # 397 has couple of thought provoking and informative contributions:

- 1. The reproduced guest editorial by Rajesh Paharia is interesting in the sense it pinpoints how the practice of looting various Indian artifacts has become some sort of a legal eBay platform to profit and at the same time when it applies to an innocent Indian philatelist there is a discriminatory indirect limitation and price to pay.
- 2. While living away from India for nearly 38 years I was always wondering about the commemorative stamps of India in the category of 'Personalities Series' with guilt that how come I can't figure out most that get portrayed on them. Joke as it may seem, often I have been exploring the internet (Google, Wiki.. etc) to obtain basic information on many of these honorees (?) and been successful on few occasions, alas often with a feeling of disappointment from their actual background and achievements for the country. Thanks to Karpe, I now know that I'm not the only one who's been fishing in a shallow pond of water, his candidness revealed that elite philatelists from India have been riding the same boat I've been stuck with in the muck of Delhi's 'Circular Building' of high (meaning low) level politicians -who perhaps should be given a surprise 'quiz' to describe such 'Prsona' on these stamps you philatelist must spend money on to decorate your albums just to keep up-to-date. Politicians who flunk in my proposed test should get fired immediately. I loved the way Karpe has described this misery ('ouch' can be witty too). Is anybody listening in India's parliament?

#### KISHORE YALAMANCHILI

I read the letter on "personalities series" in the last issue of Stamps of India. I concur with some of the points such as poor design and the process of selection behind the issuance of stamps. However, I don't agree with the argument that the persons featured do not merit the recognition.

One of the important aspects of stamp collecting is learning about the subject of the stamp. As an exercise, I have researched the stamps issued for personalities from Andhra Pradesh and found that they all deserve the recognition. In fact, the numbers of stamps issued to honor people from this state are quite small. There are many others from AP that could be honored on stamps. So, I suspect the vast majority of personaliites have some claim to greatness that deserves recognition.

Similar to the "personalities series", the US has issued stamps in the long running "Great Americans" and the current "Distinguished Americans" series. Many of the subjects are not household names, but they have some claim to recognition.

So, let's ask for a better designed "personalities" series, rather than scrap it.

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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 <a href="http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/cybercrime.htm">http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/cybercrime.htm</a>

#### 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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The Hub Site of Indian Philately

PRINCELY STATES REPORT <a href="http://www.princelystates.com">http://www.princelystates.com</a>
Journal of Indian States History, Philately & Numismatics

STAMPS ON INDIA <a href="http://www.stampsonindia.com">http://www.stampsonindia.com</a>
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 <a href="http://www.stampsofindia.com/shop/bookshop.htm">http://www.stampsofindia.com/shop/bookshop.htm</a>
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