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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
Issue # 399 - Jun 25, 2009. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

There are two pieces of good news that we would like to share with you.

Firstly all 3 of us were away on family holidays for the first time in our life. Naturally we planned to take off between the issues so that publishing program of this digital weekly does not get inconvenienced. However best laid plans of men and mice . . .

Secondly although our hard drive crashed, there has not been any loss of the data. However to organize the recovered data is a job in itself and is a story for another time and place.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: P R Krishnan

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

Jun 30: Indian Oil, 50 Years

Jul 4: Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration Mussoorie

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

SACRED HEART CHURCH PUDDUCHERRY

S K Chakraborty, Chief Post Master General, Tamil Nadu Circle of India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Sacred Heart Church Pudducherry, to mark its centenary on June 19, 2009 at Pudducherry.

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.

RAZA LIBRARY RAMPUR

T V Rajeswar, Governor of Uttar Pradesh & ex-officio Chairman of the Rampur Raza Library Board released a set of 4 commemorative postage stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 on Rampur Raza Library, a treasure house of Indo-Islamic learning and art, on June 19, 2009 at a special function at Lucknow. A miniature sheet is also being issued on the occasion.

Kamleshwar Singh 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. Security Printing Press, Hyderabad printed 1 million stamps by wet offset process. The miniature sheet was printed in the quantity of 0.5 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

AWAITED

Rampur Raza Library miniature sheet

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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

Jun 20: Mumbai, Sathaye Collage Vile Parle (East) 50 years

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 MAXCARDS

Hemant Kumar Jain jainhk60@gmail.com has created a set of 5 maxim cards for Spices of India stamps issued on April 29, 2008.

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

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NEW HEAD OF INDIA POST'S PHILATELY DIVISION

Devika Kumar joined as the Deputy Director General, Philately Division, at the national headquarters of India Post at New Delhi on June 15, 2009. Kumar has earlier served in the Philately Division as Assistant Director General in 1980s, as Director in 1990s, and as Deputy Director General in 2000s. She is well versed with philately and philatelic scene in India and abroad.

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

GPA NEWS, Vol.12-#2 & 3, Whole #136 & 137, Nov Dec 2008, Monthly
Editor: Ilyas Patel iap_ip@yahoo.co.in
Publisher: Gujarat Philatelist Association, Ahmedabad
Annual Subscription: Rs 200

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

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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](mailto:jainaatul.65@gmail.com) mobile 09300311007

Oct 30-31 & Nov 1: Pune, Stampex - National Stamps Fair  
Organizer: International Collectors Society of Rare Items  
Venue: Sonal Hall, Karve Road,  
Sales Booth: Rs 6,000  
Contact: Pratisad Neurgaonkar [pratisad@hotmail.com](mailto:pratisad@hotmail.com) mobile 09766310553

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>

#### SOUTH ASIA NEW ISSUES

[http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south\\_asia\\_new\\_issues.htm](http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south_asia_new_issues.htm)

#### ADVERTISEMENTS

Please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/siteguide/xl6.htm> for tariff and terms

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](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)

#### 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.>

DR SEBASTIAN JOSE, Kasargod

This is in response to the letter of Dr Satyendra Kumar Agrawal in the issue #395 of May 28, 2009. At the outset I would wish that whosoever writes for an open global public platform should be very careful with the facts and not be motivated only by personal friendships, loyalties, and obligations.

First of all Dr Agrawal surprises us with his statement about "4 components of booklets" as if it is gospel truth for which he sites no authority. Then he says these, 3 of the 4, are not present in privately produced booklets inter alia implying if these so called must-have divine attributes are present in officially produced booklets in India.

The truth is that there are 74 stamp booklets listed at [www.stampsofindia.com](http://www.stampsofindia.com) that are produced by India Post officially since 1980 which do not have tabs, sheet margins, and fly-leaves, besides 33 listed which are produced by philatelic organizations & philatelists. The truth as preached by Dr Agrawal implies that these officially produced stamp booklets also have "no philatelic value. Hence inclusion of such booklets in any collection is not advisable. These are in real sense only Postage Stamps housed in a folded cover, rightly titled by Dr Jagtap "Bogus Booklets".

In case Dr Agrawal and Dr Jagtap cared to look around the stamp booklets being issued by the postal administrations around the world, they would have found that most of the stamp booklets from UK, USA, Australia, Sweden, France and Japan, to name a few, is "in real sense only Postage Stamps housed in a folded cover" for last several decades.

I would like to ask Dr Agrawal 3 questions for his 3 must have attributes for stamp booklets in India whether officially or privately issued:

1. In India so far only one issue of stamps in 2007 that was issued with tabs, therefore will Dr Agrawal please clarify about his requirement of tabs in a stamp booklet?

2. Would Dr Agrawal please elaborate to help us understand about his requirement of sheet margins in a stamp booklet?

3. When was the last time a stamp booklet was issued in India with fly-leaves, if ever?

If this was not enough Dr Agrawal shocks us further by condoning the forgeries and manufacturing "such (Bogus) booklets" by stamp dealers as OK but same thing by Philatelic Association or Philatelist of Repute as a Philatelic Crime!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> point regarding Dr Jagtap being "absolutely right" about his statement on judgment being affected by minus marking on account of forgeries and bogus issues is also not understood by me. There are forgeries that are more desirable, more coveted and more expensive than the originals, and appreciated by knowledgeable jurors in recognized stamps shows as such and suitably described by knowledgeable exhibitors as such in detail.

The minus marking, if it ever existed, is a phenomenon that is at least not with us since 1980. The "Philatelic and related Knowledge Personal Study and Research" does have a maximum of 35 out of 100 marks. However Dr Agrawal or Dr Jagtap is not very clear how many marks the jury will deduct. If jury does minus marking on account of poor knowledge as alleged by Dr Agrawal for inclusion of forgeries and bogus material, (an unlikely event) the exhibitor still can have a worth celebrating medal at a FIP world Show under the present marking system.

To conclude I would request Dr Agrawal to refrain from making a laughing stock of Indian philatelists, please.

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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

MORE THAN A HOBBY by Madhumitha Gopalakrishnan  
The Hindu (Young World) Coimbatore, Jun 23, 2009  
<http://www.hindu.com/yw/2009/06/23/stories/2009062350230400.htm>

<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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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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