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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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I N T H I S I S S U E

JOBURG 2010 International Stamp Show  
Forthcoming Stamp Issues  
New Stamps Released  
New Issues Availability Status  
New Postal Stationery  
Recent Special Postmarks & Covers  
International Flat Rate Boxes  
New Commemorative Coins  
Recent & Forthcoming Events  
Readers Forum: Hemant V Kulkarni, Sekhar Chakrabarti

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

From mid June to mid September is very humid period in most parts of India due to Monsoons. Not much philatelic activity takes place and collectors usually do not take out their mint stamps and postal stationery collections.

In case you are sending postal mails to or within India, please make sure to use waterproof packaging.

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

JOBURG 2010 INTERNATIONAL STAMP SHOW

The 26<sup>th</sup> Asian International Stamp Exhibition, 'JOBURG 2010 International Stamp Show' will be held on October 27 to 31, 2009 at Johannesburg, South Africa. Madhukar Jhingan [mj@stampsofindia.com](mailto:mj@stampsofindia.com) is the National Commissioner for India. The regulations for JOBURG 2010 and the Exhibit Application form are available online at <http://www.joburg2010stampshow.co.za/irex.pdf> and <http://www.joburg2010stampshow.co.za/joburg2010exhibitapplicationform.pdf> respectively.

JOBURG 2010 will have all exhibit classes - Traditional, Postal History, Postal Stationery, Aerophilately, Astrophilately, Maximaphily, Revenue, and Thematic Philately subdivided as: A) Nature, B) Culture, C) Technology, and Youth Philately class subdivided by age as of January 01, 2010:

- 1) Collectors aged 13 to 15 years,
- 2) Collectors aged 16 - 18 years,
- 3) Collectors aged 19 - 21 years, and

Literature class subdivided into:

- 1) Philatelic books, pamphlets and studies (issued after January 01, 2005),
- 2) Philatelic journals, periodicals (issued after January 01, 2008),
- 3) Stamp catalogues (issued after January 01, 2008), and

One-Frame Exhibit Class subdivided into: A) Traditional, B) Postal History, C) Postal Stationery, D) Aerophilately, E) Astrophilately, F) Thematic, G) Maximaphily, H) Revenue.

JOBURG 2010 will also have 'Open Class' as an Experimental Class. Exhibits in this Class can include material from any other competition class plus non-philatelic material. The exhibit must contain at least 50% philatelic material. The non-philatelic material should not overwhelm the philatelic material. Awards will be made as per One-Frame Exhibits.

There is no participation fee for Youth Philately Class. The participation fee for other Competitive Classes (except Literature, and One-Frame Exhibit Classes) will be US\$35 per frame. The fee for participation in Literature is US\$35 per exhibit. The fee for participation in One-Frame Exhibit is US\$70 per exhibit.

Those desirous of participating in JOBURG 2010, please go through the Regulations for JOBURG 2010 and send the duly filled Exhibit Application Form along with a copy of the introductory page describing the exhibit to the National Commissioner for India, Madhukar Jhingan, 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063 by November 14, 2009. For any assistance in this regard please email or call 0 9350537037.

The stamp dealers may contact [dealers@joburg2010stampshow.co.za](mailto:dealers@joburg2010stampshow.co.za) for reserving a Trade Stand at JOBURG 2010.

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Jul 25: Ram Charan Agarwal

Jul 27: Jayadeva, 12th Century author of epic Gita Govinda, Set of 11 Stamps + Miniature Sheet

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

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI NATIONAL ACADEMY OF ADMINISTRATION MUSSOORIE  
Pratibha Patil, the President of India released a special postage stamp to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration on July 4, 2009 at Mussoorie.

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. India Security Press, Nasik 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>

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NEW ISSUES AVAILABILITY STATUS

AWAITED
Rampur Raza Library miniature sheet

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NEW POSTAL STATIONERY

MEGHDOOT POST CARD with Advertisement  
Total Cleanliness Campaign, Hindi,  
Total Cleanliness Campaign, Assamese,  
Total Cleanliness Campaign, Gujarati,  
Total Cleanliness Campaign, Urdu,  
Total Cleanliness Campaign, Tamil,  
Total Cleanliness Campaign, Kashmiri,  
Total Cleanliness Campaign, Manipuri,

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

Jul 2: Nagercoil, KumariPex 2009 stamp exhibition

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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INTERNATIONAL FLAT RATE BOXES

India Post will soon be launching Flat Rate Boxes for delivery anywhere in the world. The boxes will be available at Rs 1,000, Rs 1,500 and Rs 2,500 for 1 KG, 2.5 KG, and 5 KG weight respectively.

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NEW COMMEMORATIVE COINS

India government Mint, Alipore, Kolkata is booking orders till October 30, 2009 for coins commemorating the birth centenary of Shaheed Bhagat Singh and birth bicentenary of Louis Braille. The Uncirculated and Proof sets are priced at Rs 1,133 or US\$ 35 and Rs 1,431 and US\$ 45 each respectively.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Aug 14-16: Ahmedabad, Coin & Currency Fair  
Organizer: Twin Stamps & Coins  
Venue: Hotel comfort Inn President  
Sales Booth: Rs 8,000  
Contact: Shatrughan Jain [sjain1@rediffmail.com](mailto:sjain1@rediffmail.com)

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)

Updates: 1. The last date for submission of Entry Forms extended to Aug 15;  
2. List of titles of participating exhibits now listed at website  
3. StampMania-2009 will be inaugurated on December 17, 2009  
4. 'Heritage Walk through Stamps' in Vadodara on December 17, 2009  
5. Printed Prospectus and Entry form are now available  
6. One Participant can submit maximum three entries but all of them should be in different classes. This is also applicable to Youth Class  
7. Make use of exhibits available online for guidance at "Link to One Frame Exhibits"

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)

#### 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, USA

I read with interest a letter by Jeevan Jyoti (JJ) that detailed an improper handling of her 'Registered Letter' that could not get delivered to the addressee under varying explanations of unsuccessful attempts by the Indian Postal Service -apparently unbelievable for the two parties involved, in the process it going back and forth, with JJ ultimately receiving the original letter after more than a month. "Case closed!" -how convenient for the Postal Service to 'stamp out' the matter.

Indians have been lucky (?) that their Registrations fees have been relatively reasonable. With post offices closing down at a frantic pace in the USA to save the service from going into a bankruptcy, USPS has recently jacked up its Registration Fee to \$ 10.00 (Rs. 485.00) as minimum and this amount increases as the size and weight of the envelope goes up, not to mention the effect of the distance it must travel that adds up at the bottom line of the total postage required. In general, our USPS has been quite efficient and rarely would one need to listen to the experience of JJ. In fact, a letter gets delivered expeditiously if not Registered or even insured. Registration service requires the meddling of a 'human being' (the mailman) to rely upon and there lies the danger of unreliability, excuses and ultimately the grief. It also takes a much longer delivery time as I wonder why would a person ever Register a letter in India? It would be interesting to know how a regular mail gets delivered in India -must be extremely unreliable and here in the USA I haven't lost a single letter in my nearly 38 years of living, unregistered!

By the way, before coming to USA in 1971 and while living in Mumbai I had sent a letter to Sir Don Bradman in Australia -requesting him to send me his autograph. Not knowing his address, I just wrote his name on the envelope and added 'Punishing a Cricket Ball somewhere in Australia' -for his address. Guess what, I received his reply in his own handwriting with couple of extra

autographs to boot. Three decades later I tried a similar experiment from USA with Sachin Tendulkar in India. As a matter of fact I had played cricket under the captainship of his 'Guru' (Dronacharya) Ramakant Achrekar when Sachin wasn't even born. Guess what the result has been? Last I heard was that Sachin is about to retire and I'm still hoping to receive his autograph. Now I know the 'reee...st' of the story, thanks to JJ.

SEKHAR CHAKRABARTI, Kolkata

Recently, while going through my news paper clipping collections, I chanced upon once again the article titled 'How old is an antique' by Shobita Panja, published in Telegraph in December 2003. It may be a good idea to share the extracts from the article with the readers of Stamps of India, since the theme of the article is very much relevant to the philatelists in general.

I quote, .....As a follow-up to the UNESCO convention of 1970 on the means of Prohibiting and Preventing Illegal Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, the Indian Parliament passed the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act of 1972. Section 1(1)(a) of this act provides an elaborate definition of antiquity; i) any coin, sculpture, painting, epigraphy or other work of art or craft; ii) any article, object or thing detached from a building or cave; iii) any article, object, or thing illustrative of science, art, crafts, literature, religion, customs, morals, or politics in bygone days; iv) any article, object or thing of historical importance; v) any article, object or thing declared by the Central government, by notification in the Official Gazette, to be an antiquity for the purpose of this act, which has been in existence for not less than one hundred years; and vi) any manuscript, record or other document which is of scientific, historical, literary or aesthetic value which has been in existence not less than 75 years - is deemed to be an antiquity.

The ambiguity of the Indian Antiquities and Art Treasure Act of 1972 definition of an antiquity lies in the sentence no less than 100 years. And in section 23 of this act, only the director general of the Archaeological Survey of India holds the final decision to declaring an object an antiquity. This definition suggests that every year, millions of objects get added to this list of antiquities. A telescope made in 1903 was not an antique two weeks ago but in 2004 in a matter of a day it will be an antique and you are obliged by the act to register it the ASI headquarters in Delhi. In Kenya, for example, an antiquity is defined as an object of paleontological interest which comes into existence in or after the year of 1800. Pakistan's Antiquities Act VII of 1976 defined an antiquity as any ancient object and ancient means belonging or relating to any period prior to May 1857, it includes any ancient product of human activity, movable or immovable, etc. What I love is the exact dating of an antique. Our Indian act came force on April 5, 1975 and while amendments will someday be made by someone who actually reads the law and clarifies its ambiguities, we need to follow the law that specifies the compulsory registration of notified categories of antiquities. So if you can figure out if your legacy from your grandparents is of historic value and not less than 100 years old, please register it as soon as possible we don't want anyone to break the law, even if we can't understand it. Unquote.

In tune with the above article, I may state that all postage stamps are in fact, replicated/printed artifacts, produced in quantities. I shall appreciate if any 'Original Artwork', artist's sketch, colour trials etc. for the production of a postage stamp, is classified as heritage item but

definitely not the reproductions of the same art work in the form of a postage stamp (officially and legally sold). Albeit, the postal authorities are at liberty to set aside any number of stamps for archival purpose, who prevents them? In the same vein, for example, an original Ravi Varma is a work of art of great value but can anybody claim a photographic or otherwise replicated Ravi Varma is also a heritage item, no matter even if the same is more than 100 years old?

Same logic should also be applicable for postage stamps, I invite valued opinion of other discerning philatelists.

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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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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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