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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----

The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India

Issue # 419 - Dec 17, 2009. Published Every Thursday

Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We apologize for the outage for 5 long weeks. During this period we were not able to mail this digital weekly and updated the web site only a few times. We also thank numerous readers who were concerned with our physical well being. There was no one major thing preventing the regular publication rather several minor things combined to make this outage happen. Now that we are back again online, we will try our best to deliver on a regular basis.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Ashish Talwar, Shrikant Parikh,

We invite your inputs, please email to [writeback@stampsfindia.com](mailto:writeback@stampsfindia.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

PREMATURE SALE OF STAMPS

The commemorative stamps of Venkataramana Bhagavtar and Maharaja Surajmal scheduled for release on December 27 and 29, 2009 respectively have been on sale prematurely at [www.ebay.in](http://www.ebay.in) from the first week of November 2009. eBay id Philaprakash from Guntur is selling these items clearly stating that these are as yet unissued and premature! See it for yourself eBay items # 290370842172 and 290370841082.

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STAMPS OF INDIA ONLINE OFFERS

Stamps of India now bring you useful and unique philatelic items fulfilling a long standing demand of subscribers and friends. These philatelic items can be viewed online and several easy options to make the payment and receive the items right in the comfort of your own home are provided. Enjoy these new additions to your collection and keep writing in to let us know what other products you would like to see on Stamps of India Online Offers.

Offer #1

POSTAL STATIONERY OF BRITISH INDIA 1856 - 1947 by Pratisad Neurgaonkar 2nd revised edition of an easy to use priced catalog, now also covers India Postal Notes, and Indian Postal Orders, in addition to the complete range of postal stationery plus Airgraph and Telegraph Forms. The knife types of envelopes and registered envelopes are now illustrated and the illustrated listings of the dies, imprints, Coat of Arms, and watermarks as well as varieties and the specimens are much expanded. The listings are fully revised with original research with reference to official documentation and score of authentic dates of issue have been recorded for the first time. The listings also serve as a concordance with Higgins & Gage, Manik Jain, and Derek Lang numbers. The hardbound book of 108 full color on art paper A4 Size pages and weighing over 750 grams is available at Rs 650 postpaid in India.

Offer #2

JAYDEAVA & GEETAGOVINDA - 10 INCARNATIONS OF THE GOD, MAXIM CARDS
Vasundhara Publications of Kolkata has created 6 sets of 11 maxim cards each on this issue of July 27, 2009. The illustrations of the sets are based on Engravings of 1726, Lithographs by S M Tagore 1860, Sculptures, Paintings, Folk Art (Traditional Playing Cards), and Calendar Art respectively. The cards are beautifully produced on imported art cards in limited quantity of 50 complete sets of 11 for each of the 6 series. Each card is individually signed as well as carries a hologram for authenticity. The Price for the entire set of 66 maxim cards is Rs 6699 post paid in India and US\$ 167 postpaid overseas. Send your orders to onlineoffers@stampsofindia.com. For viewing visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/maxcards09.htm>.

Offer #3

MAHATMA GANDHI RS 25 SPECIAL DEFINITIVE STAMP HOLOGRAM FDC
Stamps of India and Eeshan Prakashan have created two First Day Covers for the Mahatma Gandhi special definitive stamp issued on October 2, 2009 in the denomination of Rs 25. One of these covers is with a hologram while the other is a regular cover. Both the covers feature exactly the same design that is of Hriday Kunj, the residence and Ashram of Mahatma Gandhi at Sabarmati,

Ahmedabad. Covers printed in the quantity of 1,000 are individually numbered. The duly serviced covers are available at Rs 95 (US\$2) for the hologram cover and Rs 59 (US\$1.25) for the other cover. Both covers together are available for a very special price of Rs 140 (US\$2.95). Please add Rs 50 (US\$1) per order for postage packing charges. Kindly contact orders@stampsfindia.com for your requirements. For more details and images of the First Day covers visit <http://www.stampsfindia.com/Gandhi-Hologram.htm>.

ORDERING DETAILS

All prepaid orders are fulfilled on First Come First Served basis within 2 working days.

MAILING DETAILS

All orders are shipped by Express Mail Service - Speed Post in India. Overseas orders will be shipped by registered airmail; however the buyers overseas also have the option to choose Express Mail Service - Speed Post at additional charge of US\$10 to Africa, North America, & Asia including Australia & Middle East, US\$12 to South America, and US\$15 to Europe.

PAYMENT DETAILS

We accept payment by transfer and cheque (not cash) deposit into our bank account (ask for details). In case you wish to deposit cash in our bank account please add Rs 113 to the total amount on account of bank charges. Kindly advise us after the payment, along with the Cheque number or the Credit Reference number of the transfer. Please provide complete postal address to affect prompt delivery. Alternatively you may mail to us the bank draft or 'payable at par' cheque drawn in favor of 'Stamps of India' and payable at New Delhi.

We can also accept all major credit cards directly as well as through PayPal. The charges incurred will be added to your total to pay amount. Please let us know how you would like to pay and ask for the online invoice.

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#### FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

- Dec 17 Lal Pratap Singh
- Dec 19 Preserve the Polar Regions and Glaciers
- Dec 27 Indian Mathematical Society
- Dec 27 Venkataramana Bhagavathar
- Dec 29 Maharaja Surajmal

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.stampsfindia.com](http://www.stampsfindia.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.stampsfindia.com/lists/stamps/2009stamps.htm>

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NEW STAMP RELEASED

DANMAL MATHUR

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Danmal Mathur, an outstanding educationist and pioneer of scouting movement in Rajasthan, on November 7, 2009.

Brahm Prakash designed the Stamp, and the First Day Cover. Nenu Gupta 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.

VIRCHAND RAGHAVJI GANDHI

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Virchand Raghavji Gandhi, a great exponent of the Indian culture and a great Jain scholar, on November 8, 2009.

Sankha Samanta 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 0.4 million stamps by wet offset process.

HORSES OF INDIA

Radhika Doraiswamy, Director General of India Post and Chairperson of Postal Services Board released a set of 4 special stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 each on Horses of India on November 9, 2009 at Ahmedabad. A miniature sheet was also issued on the occasion. The stamps feature indigenous breeds - Marwari, Kathiawari, Zanskari, and Manipuri.

Kamleshwar Singh 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. Security Printing Press, Hyderabad printed 3 million stamps by wet offset process. The miniature sheet is printed in the quantity of 0.4 million.

RAJABHAU KHOBRADE

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Rajabhau Khobragade, a revolutionary leader devoted to the upliftment of downtrodden, on November 11, 2009.

Brahm Prakash 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 0.4 million stamps by wet offset process.

GAURISHANKAR DALMIA

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Gaurishankar Dalmia, a leader who devoted his life to the development of tribals, on November 12, 2009.

Nenu Gupta 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. India Security Press, Nasik printed 0.4 million stamps by wet offset process.

60 YEARS OF THE COMMONWEALTH

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on the 60 Years of the Commonwealth on November 13, 2009.

Brahm Prakash 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 0.8 million stamps by wet offset process.

CHILDREN'S DAY

India Post released a set of 2 special postage stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 each on the national Children's Day on November 14, 2009.

Sankha Samanta designed the Stamps, the First Day Cover and the Brochure. 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 by wet offset process.

SILENT VALLEY

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on the Silent Valley National Park, on November 15, 2009. A miniature sheet was also issued on the occasion.

Suresh Kumar 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 0.4 million stamps by wet offset process. The miniature sheet was printed in the quantity of 0.4 million.

INDIA-PHILIPPINES: JOINT ISSUE

India Post released a set of 2 special postage stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 and Rs 20 in a joint issue with Philippines on November 16, 2009. A miniature sheet was also issued on the occasion.

Kamleshwar Singh 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 1.5 million stamps each by wet offset process. The miniature sheet was printed in the quantity of 0.4 million.

GANPATRAO GOVINDRAO JADHAV

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Ganpatrao Govindrao Jadhav on November 18, 2009.

Alka Sharma designed the Stamps, 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. India Security Press, Nasik printed 0.3 million stamps by wet offset process.

JEANNE JUGAN AND THE ORDER OF THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

India Post released a set of 2 commemorative postage stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 and Rs 20 on Jeanne Jugan and the Order of the Little Sisters of the Poor on November 29, 2009.

Alka Sharma designed the Stamps, 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 by wet offset process.

TAMIL NADU POLICE

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on the 150 years of Tamil Nadu Police on November 30, 2009.

Brahm Prakash 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 0.4 million stamps by wet offset process.

GREETINGS

India Post released a set of 4 special postage stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 each on Greetings on December 1, 2009. A miniature sheet and a sheetlet of 9 se-tenant blocks of 4 were also issue on the occasion.

Sankha Samanta 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 0.8 million stamps each by wet offset process. The miniature sheet was printed in the quantity of 0.4 million.

CONVENT OF JESUS & MARY AMBALA

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on the Convent of Jesus & Mary Ambala Cantonment on December 2, 2009.

Kamleshwar Singh 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 0.3 million stamps each by wet offset process.

2ND LANCERS (GARDNERS HORSE) REGIMENT

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on 2nd Lancers (Gardners Horse) Regiment on December 2, 2009.

Brahm Prakash designed the Stamp, and the First Day Cover. Nenu Gupta 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 0.3 million stamps by wet offset process.

TRADITIONAL TEXTILES

India Post released a set of 4 special postage stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 each on Traditional Indian Textiles on December 10, 2009. A miniature sheet and a sheetlet of 4 se-tenant blocks of 4 were also issue on the occasion.

Sankha Samanta 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 0.8 million stamps each by wet offset process. The miniature sheet was printed in the quantity of 0.4 million. The sheetlet was printed in the quantity of 0.4 million.

HENRY LOUIS VIVIAN DEROZIO

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Henry Louis Vivian Derozio on December 15, 2009.

Brahm Prakash 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 wet offset process.

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

NEW ISSUES AVAILABILITY STATUS

ARRIVED

Oct 06: Bishop Cotton School, Stamp
Oct 21 Maharaja Gulab Singh, Stamp

AWAITED

Aug 16: Heritage Railway Stations of India, Miniature Sheet
Oct 01: Rare Fauna of the North East, Miniature Sheet
Oct 14: Heritage Temples, Miniature Sheet
Oct 29: Jeanne Jugan & Little Sisters of the Poor, 2 stamps
Nov 09: Horses, 4 stamps & Miniature Sheet
Nov 15: Silent Valley, Miniature Sheet
Nov 30: Tamil Nadu Police Stamp, FDC, Brochure
Dec 2: 2nd Lancers (Gardner's Horse), Brochure
Dec 15 Henry Louis Vivian Derozio, FDC, Brochure

For an illustrated list of all kinds of Envelopes in 2009, visit
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2009EN.htm>

For an illustrated list of Aerogramme & Inland Letter in 2009, visit

<http://stampsfindia.com/lists/2009ILC.htm>

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

For an illustrated list of all kinds of Postcards in 2009, visit
<http://stampsfindia.com/lists/2009PC.htm>

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NEW SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Nov 7: Bangalore, Bangalore Amateur Radio Club Golden Jubilee  
Dec 4: Jaipur, Chandrayan  
Dec 7: Jaipur, Mahatma Gandhi Coins, Schoolpex 2/2  
Dec 11: New Delhi, International Commission on Irrigation & Drainage

SPECIAL COVERS WITH REGULAR POSTMARKS

Sep 9: Ahmedabad, 9.9.9 date stamp from Gandhi Ashram  
Sep 15: Nadiad, Television in India Golden Jubilee  
Oct 31: Nadiad, Sardar Patel Birth Anniversary Mailed Post Card to Karamsad

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

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

Aug 21: 105 Infantry Battalion (Territorial Army) Rajputana Rifles Diamond
Aug 21: 104 Air Defence Regiment Diamond Jubilee
Aug 22: 140 Air Defence Regiment Diamond Jubilee
Aug 22: 105 Air Defence Regiment Diamond Jubilee
Sep 1: 25 Air Defence Regiment Golden Jubilee

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

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NEW STAMP PACKS

Oct 21, 2009  
Maharaja Gulab Singh  
Content: Block of 4 Stamps, FDC, Brochure  
Price: Rs 100  
India Post

For viewing the images please visit,  
<http://www.stampsfindia.com/lists/stamps/packs/2009packs-sets.htm>

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NEW STAMP BOOKLETS

Chhattisgarh Philatelic Association, Bilaspur has brought out 5 new stamp booklets on October 2, 2009. Dipok Dey of Kolkata designed all booklets.

B R Ambedkar
Content: 10 stamps of Rs 2 - new definitive B R Ambedkar

Homi Bhabha
Content: 6 stamps of Rs 4 - new definitive Homi Bhabha

Periyar E V Ramasamy
Content: 9 stamps of Re 0.50 - new definitive Periyar E V Ramasamy

C V Raman

Content: 6 stamps of Rs 10 - new definitive C V Raman

Mahatma Gandhi

Content: 4 stamps of Rs 25 - new special definitive Mahatma Gandhi

For viewing the images please visit,
<http://stampsfindia.com/lists/sb99.htm>

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NEW MAXIM CARDS

Vasundhara Publications of Kolkata has brought out a set of 3 maxim cards for Rare Fauna of North East issue of October 1, 2009. The cards are issued in limited quantity of 100 complete sets.

For images of Maxim Cards please issued in 2009 visit  
<http://www.stampsfindia.com/lists/2009mc.htm>

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PRIVATE FIRST DAY COVERS

Eeshan Prakashan of New Delhi has continued to publish the First Day Covers for Miniature Sheets and following covers are now available for sale:

- Jan 28: Heritage Monuments Preservation by INTACH
- Apr 29: Spices of India
- Jun 19: Raza Library Rampur
- Jul 27: Jayadeva & Geetagevinda
- Nov 16: India Philippines Joint
- Dec 01: Greetings
- Dec 10: Traditional Textiles

For viewing the images please visit,
<http://stampsfindia.com/lists/stamps/fdc/fday2009.htm>

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SE-TENANT STAMPS: NEW COMBINATIONS

Shrikant Parikh of Ahmedabad pioneered the Se-tenant collecting in India which has become very popular. So far there were 2 ways for collecting, one was simplified aiming at collecting only one se-tenant of each type and while the other aims at more comprehensive collecting of all possible combinations of stamps. Parikh has now added another dimension to collecting se-tenants by inventing new formats and combinations making it more attractive and challenging.

Please visit Shrikant Parikh's blog: <http://www.setenantsofindia.blogspot.com>

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FORGERIES & FRAUDS ALERTS

If you detect forgeries and frauds of Indian philatelic items, please inform to suspect@stampsfindia.com. The names of volunteers and contributors will not be published, if so desired.

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RECENT PHILATELIC PERIODICALS

ITS STAMP NEWS, Whole #48, Vol 12 #4, Oct Dec 2009, Quarterly  
Editor: Suraj Jaitly  
Publisher: Indian Thematic Society  
Annual Subscription: Rs 150, US\$ 8

PHILANEWS, Whole #48, May Jun 2009, Bimonthly  
PHILANEWS, Whole #49, Jul Aug 2009, Bimonthly  
PHILANEWS, Whole #50, Sep Oct 2009, Bimonthly  
Editor: Rajesh Paharia

Publisher: Philatelic Society of Rajasthan, Jaipur  
Annual Subscription: Rs 200

RAINBOW STAMP NEWS, Whole #24, Dec 2009, Monthly  
Editor: Jeevan Jyoti [j.jyoti9@gmail.com](mailto:j.jyoti9@gmail.com)  
Publisher: Jeevan Jyoti, Shimla  
Annual Subscription: Free  
Also available online at <http://rainbowstampnews.blogspot.com/>

KARPHILA NEWS, Vol.1 #3, Dec 2009, Bi-monthly  
Editor: Akshay Borad [karphil@live.in](mailto:karphil@live.in)  
Publisher: Karnataka Philatelic Society, Bangalore  
Annual Subscription: Not Indicated  
available for free download at  
<http://cid-b00fe4ab1f903415.skydrive.live.com/self.aspx/.Public/Karphil\%20news-3.pdf>

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

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Dec 17-20: 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

Dec 26-27: Tiruchirapalli, Coin Exhibition
Organizer: Tiruchirapalli Numismatic Society
Contact: Manoharan 0 94434 95415

2010

Feb 19-21: Calicut, COIN FEST-2010
Organizer: Calicut Numismatic Society numisclt@gmail.com
Venue: Jubilee Hall, Near Tali Temple, Kandankulam, Calicut
Sales Booth: Rs 2,500 including Tea, Sancks, & Lunch for 2
Contact: Soorej 09447124066 soorejsks@yahoo.co.in

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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THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

The Calendar for December 2009 has been updated and is now available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/2auctions.htm>.

This information is provided by special arrangement with Charles E Cwiakala and updates to this information are available at their comprehensive Website [www.cwiakala.com](http://www.cwiakala.com).

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SOUTH ASIA NEW ISSUES

[http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south asia new issues.htm](http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south%20asia%20new%20issues.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](mailto:surajjaitly@hotmail.com) or [indianthematicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:indianthematicsociety@gmail.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.>

S VENKATACHALAM

I read about the matter published in your newsletter regarding the postal pilferage of stamps and other collectors' items from the Indian Postal Service.

I am a collector of stamps and other philatelic materials and I find that the pilferage has reached alarming proportions. All my exchange friends all over the world have stopped writing to me as they feel that the Indian Postal System is a bunch of crooks.

No wonder the hobby of philately is dying a slow but sure death at the hands of our postal babus. It is a really sorry state of affairs. It is good that the younger generation is not taking up this hobby, but oldies like us still have an emotional string attached to this hobby.

I have taken up this issue many times with the impregnable wall of reluctant baubudom, which has lead to more frustration.

All friends send me e mail when they post a letter which never arrives through the treacherous arms of the Indian Post. Now I estimate the loss of collectors' items by unregistered mail will be around 60%.

In a couple of months I will totally give up this hobby and try something else which does not have anything connecting Government.

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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

'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is published by Madhukar Jhingan mjhingan@yahoo.com for 'Stamps of India', 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. Phone: +91-11-25281578, Mobile: +91-9350537037
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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<http://www.stampsofindia.com/siteguide/w04.htm>

STAMPS OF INDIA also publishes:

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

REPRINTS OF RARE AND OUT OF PRINT OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS OF INDIAN POST OFFICE such as Postal Manuals, Postal Guides, Annual Reports, Postal Notices and Circulars; also of Indian Princely States.

Visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/shop/bookshop.htm> for details

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