

ISSN 0972-3587

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

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

Issue # 425 - Feb 25, 2010. Published Every Thursday

Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

World's first post office authorized carriage of mail by air took place at Allahabad, India on February 18, 1911. This year's February 18 marked the beginning of the centenary year of this historic event of worldwide significance but self-styled leading aero-philatelists in India as well as India Post took no action whatsoever in this regard.

It seems that they are also not aware about the history of civil aviation in India, that the first aircraft flew in India on March 10, 1910 preceding the celebrated airmail flight by almost a year. What is most remarkable and something for all Indians to be proud of is that out of several flights in 1910 in over half a dozen different cities in all parts of India, the first one on March 10 was also the only one by an aircraft built in India!

Although it is planned to mark the centenary of first airmail by spending public funds of over US\$ 3.5 million next year out of which about US\$ 2.25 goes towards hospitality for the usual freeloaders. It is worth noting that the beginning of this historic event has gone without any noteworthy activity.

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

##### STAMPS OF INDIA NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Bharatiya Daktkit Sangstha, Kolkata is organizing a national philatelic exhibition 'Stamps of India National Exhibition' (SINE) from December 10 to 12, 2010 at NSIC Exhibition Ground, New Delhi.

Right now the SINE Team is busy with preparing budget, plan of activities not only for the activities during the exhibition but for the whole year, and finalizing the nominations of stamp enthusiasts from all over India to various teams and their tasks. This is a good time to write in to us at [sine@stampsfindia.com](mailto:sine@stampsfindia.com) with your ideas and suggestions regarding the activities and about your willingness to contribute.

More information will gradually be made available every week in this space as well as online at <http://www.stampsfindia.com/ChaloDelhi/sine.html>

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##### STAMP POPULARITY POLL 2009

Stamps of India now present the Stamp Poll 2009 to select the best stamp of 2009, best miniature sheet of 2009, and best sheetlet of 2009. The results shall be announced based on the most number of votes polled.

You can send as many ballots as you wish. Please select from the issues of 2009 as shown at <http://www.stampsfindia.com/lists/stamps/2009stamps.htm> and vote for the best stamp, miniature sheet, and sheetlet of 2009 in your opinion. Also write your name, City, email id, and philatelic interests on the ballot and email your ballots to: [stamppoll@stampsfindia.com](mailto:stamppoll@stampsfindia.com)

The last date to receive the ballots at Stamps of India is February 28, 2010. Incomplete ballots shall not be considered.

Several attractive philatelic prizes will be given away. The winners will be decided by draw of lots. We welcome the sponsors for prizes, please contact [admin@stampsfindia.com](mailto:admin@stampsfindia.com) in this regard.

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##### CHIEF POSTMASTER GENERAL OF MAHARASHTRA ARRESTED

The Chief Post Master General (CPMG) of Maharashtra and Goa, Manjit Singh Bali, a 1978 batch officer of the Indian Postal Services and one of the senior-most officers in the Department of Posts of India, has been arrested by the sleuths of the Anti Corruption Wing of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in Mumbai. He reportedly took Rs 2 crore (about half million USD) as bribe. Two others Arun Dalmiya and Harsh Dalmiya were also arrested in this case. All the accused were remanded to CBI custody till March 3 by a special court.

The official had demanded the bribe for giving a no objection certificate (NOC) for the development of the 2000 square meter plot, located in the jurisdiction of the Mira-Bhayander Municipal Corporation, Thane. The land was reserved for the postal department and the Municipal Corporation had requested for an NOC to develop it as a private property with 25% of the property to be kept for the Post Office.

The CBI laid a trap on receipt of the complaint and caught the official red-handed while allegedly accepting Rs 1.25 crore in a restaurant located in Budhawar Park, Mumbai, along with the middleman and another person, all of whom were arrested. The rest of the amount, Rs 75 lakh, was to be taken by the middleman.

The searches were conducted at the office as well as the residence of the official and the middleman. During the search Rs 3.4 million, USD 10,722, GBP 3050 and Euro 3470 were seized along with documents relating to immovable assets at Faridabad, Panchkula, New Delhi, Bhopal and Gurgaon. The official was found to be having 22 bank accounts, public provident funds having a balance of more than Rs 2.6 million, two expensive cars, a bank locker in Gwalior and a huge cache of liquor, seven high-end laptop computers, among other things.

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JOBURG 2010 INTERNATIONAL STAMP SHOW

The 26th Asian International Stamp Exhibition, 'JOBURG 2010 International Stamp Show' will be held on October 27 to 31, 2010 at Johannesburg, South Africa. The exhibition is also open to select countries of Europe and USA that have historic relations with South Africa in additions to countries in Asia. 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://stampsofindia.com/Joburg2010.htm>

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 March 14, 2010. For any assistance in this regard please email or call 09350537037.

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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#### STAMPS OF INDIA ONLINE OFFERS

We welcome philatelic organizations in India to take advantage of the global reach of Stamps of India for marketing their products worldwide.

We will be gradually introducing several new products. We have created an area at the website for this at <http://stampsofindia.com/shop/shop.htm>

These philatelic items can be viewed online with relevant details. 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.

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#### FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

- Mar 19: 16 Punjab (2nd Patiala) Regiment
- Mar 30: Muthuramalinga Sethupathi
- Mar 30: Special Protection Group
- Mar 31: Vallal Pachaiyappa

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 at nearly 1000 selected Post Offices including all Philatelic Bureaus and Philatelic Counters in India.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2010, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2009stamps.htm>

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#### NEW STAMPS ISSUED

##### BIBLE SOCIETY OF INDIA

M K Narayanan, Governor of West Bengal released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on the bicentennial of the Bible Society of India on February 22, 2010 at Kolkata.

Nenu Gupta designed the Stamp, and 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 0.6 million stamps by photogravure process.

P C SORCAR

Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, the Chief Minister of West Bengal released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on the P C Sorcar, the famous magician, on February 23, 2010 at Kolkata on his 98th birthday.

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

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2010, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2009stamps.htm>

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NEW ISSUES AVAILABILITY STATUS

AWAITED

- 2008 Aug 02: Aldabra Giant Tortoise, Miniature Sheet
- 2009 Oct 01: Rare Fauna of the North East, Miniature Sheet
- 2009 Oct 14: Heritage Temples, Miniature Sheet
- 2009 Nov 09: Horses, Miniature Sheet

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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://stampsofindia.com/lists/2009ILC.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>

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NEW SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

- Jan 27: Tiruchirappalli, All India Postal Kabbadi Tournament
- Jan 30: Tiruchirappalli, Electrification Trichy Vilupuram Railway Chordline
- Feb 03: Calicut, National Seminar on Kamala Das Surayya
- Feb 05: Chitradurga, Shree Vasavi Education Society Silver Jubilee
- Feb 11: Tiruchirappalli, Church of South India Centenary
- Feb 12: Tiruchirappalli, Indian Association of Palliative Care

For an illustrated list of Special Postmarks & Covers in 2010, 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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FORGERIES & FRAUDS ALERTS

If you detect forgeries and frauds of Indian philatelic items, please inform to [suspect@stampsofindia.com](mailto:suspect@stampsofindia.com). The names of volunteers and contributors will not be published, if so desired.

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NEW PHILATELIC BLOGS

Suraj Jaitly is regularly updating the blog for STAMP FIESTA 2010 - Stamp Festival of Punjab being held from May 7 to 9 at Ludhiana. The blog is online at <http://stampfiesta2010.wordpress.com/>

Orissa Philatelic Association, Cuttack has recently launched its blog edited by Pradip Mohanty at <http://oripphil.blogspot.com/>

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RECENT PHILATELIC PERIODICALS

AJAIMERU PHILA VISION, Whole # 17, Jan-Feb 2009, Monthly  
AJAIMERU PHILA VISION, Whole # 18, Mar 2009, Monthly  
AJAIMERU PHILA VISION, Whole # 19, Apr-May 2009, Monthly  
AJAIMERU PHILA VISION, Whole # 20, Jun-Jul 2009, Monthly  
AJAIMERU PHILA VISION, Whole # 21, Aug-Sep 2009, Monthly  
AJAIMERU PHILA VISION, Whole # 22, Oct-Nov 2009, Monthly  
AJAIMERU PHILA VISION, Whole # 23, Dec 2009, Monthly  
AJAIMERU PHILA VISION, Whole # 24, Jan 2010, Monthly

Editor: Anil Kumar Jain

Publisher: Ajaimeru Philatelic Society, Ajmer

Annual Subscription: Free for members

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

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Feb 18-21: Cannanore, Stamp & Coin Exhibition

Organizer: Cannanore Philatelic Club

Venue: Kannur Government Engineering College

Feb 27-28: New Delhi. WORLD OF COLLECTIONS by Rajnish L Karnik

Venue: Shaurya School, R & R Army Hospital, Delhi Cantonment

Timing: Day 1 Inauguration 12 Noon, Closing 7 PM, Day 2 9.30 AM - 7 PM

Contact: Rajnish L Karnik 9871898204

Mar 12-13: Kolkata, PHILEX KOLKATA 2010, International Philatelic Fair

Venue: Rotary Sadan, between Birla Planetarium & Nandan Auditorium

Dealers Stalls: Rd 2500, 11 out of 20 already booked, Last date Mar 3, 2010

Contact: Arun Bhattacharya, [filatalie\\_cal@hotmail.com](mailto:filatalie_cal@hotmail.com), 9830412286

Tapan Dhang (033) 26270129, 22295634, Tanmoy Chatterjee 98311-10028

Mar 22-23: Kullu, District philatelic exhibition

Organizer:

Venue: Deb Bhavan, Kullu

Contact:

Mar: First State level philatelic exhibition

Organizer: Himachal Pradesh Circle of India Post

Venue: Gaeity Theatre, Shimla

Mar: Pune, State level philatelic exhibition

Organizer: Maharashtra & Goa Circle of India Post

Apr 16-19: Patna, State level philatelic exhibition

Organizer: Bihar Circle of India Post

Venue: Patna GPO

May 7-9: Ludhiana, Stamp-Fiesta 2010 Stamp Festival of Punjab

Organizer: Ludhiana Philatelic Club

Online: <http://stampfiesta2010.wordpress.com/>

Contacts:

Chairman Dr S K Sondhi 9815657647, [info.sf2010@gmail.com](mailto:info.sf2010@gmail.com), [sksondhi@gmail.com](mailto:sksondhi@gmail.com)

Secretary Mukesh Malhotra 9023084608, 9417349808, [secretary.sf2010@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.sf2010@gmail.com)  
[mukeshlibra@yahoo.co.in](mailto:mukeshlibra@yahoo.co.in)

Dec 10-12: New Delhi, STAMPS OF INDIA NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Organizer: Bharatiya Daktikit Sangstha, Kolkata

Venue: NSIC Exhibition Ground, New Delhi

Contacts: Ashish Talwar 09810186108, Madhukar Jhingan 09350537037

Email: [sine@stampsofindia.com](mailto:sine@stampsofindia.com)

Website: <http://www.stampsofindia.com/ChaloDelhi/sine.html>

For a list of exhibitions in 2010, 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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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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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.>

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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](mailto: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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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.

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