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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

PhilSensex March 2010

Stamp Popularity Poll 2009

JOBURG 2010 International Stamp Show

Stamps of India Online Offers

Stamps of India National Exhibition

Forthcoming Stamp Issues

PayPal Operations in India Update

New issues Availability Status

New Special Postmarks & Covers

It is Magic! Stamp Pack, Maxim Card, Stamp Booklet, & More

INDIPEX 2011 Website Launched

Gandhi Philately

New Philatelic Blog

New Commemorative Coins

Recent Philatelic Periodicals

Recent & Forthcoming Events

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

INDIPEX 54 was the first world philatelic exhibition held in India. It was held few years before we were born but it has always fascinated us as a subject to collect and research and we have done both with great enthusiasm.

Thus it hurts us a lot to see carelessness, ignorance, unwillingness to act on part of postal officers while writing derogatively about India's postal and philatelic history. This is even after repeatedly being alerted to the facts several times by several people.

The introduction to INDIPEX 2011 on its recently launched website begins "The first of such international philatelic exhibitions In India was organized in a small way in 1954 as part of the centenary celebrations of the Indian postages stamp." The fact is that it was a major world event of its time and Postal Administrations of 74 countries participated. Originally the show was scheduled for 15 days from Oct 1 to 15 but was later extended to Oct 30. It was held at Eastern court complex, New Delhi and new buildings were specially constructed for the occasion. The President of India was the Patron of the exhibition and Prime Minister inaugurated the show. Simultaneously with the stamp exhibition an International Postal Services Exhibition was held from Oct 1 to 31, 1954 by India Post. Prominent manufacturers of postal equipment and leading international air transport companies took part in the exhibition.

By no measure can this be called small. Indian postal officials should carry out an exercise in comparative history and find out how many countries in the world had organized international philatelic exhibitions till 1954 and how many shows even much after 1954 were organized in the world at the scale of INDIPEX 54.

On investigating the genesis of the expression 'small' we found out that in a pamphlet published by India Post before the Bulletin 1 of India 89 world philatelic exhibition that INDIPEX 54 was mentioned as small for the first time and since then the error has been faithfully repeated over and over again. It actually is an affront not only to Indian philately but to India Post as well.

We hope that this revelation would act as a wakeup call for the officers in charge of writing and contributing to documents and website on behalf of India Post to verify their facts before documenting things.

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

PHILSENSEX MARCH 2010

By P R Krishnan [prkrish77@gmail.com](mailto:prkrish77@gmail.com)

Please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/valueindex/201002.htm> for viewing the data collected on the price movement of Mint India post independence stamps for the benefit of collectors, dealers and investors.

STAMP WATCH

For the last few month's India Post is issuing certain stamps in the quantity of 0.3 million. In my opinion the issues with 0.3 million quantity will pick up demand in the future. I suggest to look out for these issues. For example - a stamp issued in 2009 to honor Venkatarama Bhagavathar, this is a issue of 0.3 million stamps with 48 stamps per issue sheet with a total of 6250 sheets only. Take note of this issue.

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STAMP POPULARITY POLL 2009

The Stamp Popularity Poll is now officially closed for receiving votes for the best stamp of 2009 and the best sheetlet of 2009. The results shall be announced based on the most number of votes polled in the next issue.

However as India Post has not yet made available for sale anywhere in India the 2 miniature sheet issues of 2009 - Rare Fauna of the North East and Heritage Jain Temples, we have decided to keep the voting open for the best miniature sheet of 2009 till such time these issues are made available.

You can send as many ballots as you wish. Please select the best miniature sheet of 2009 in your opinion from the issues of 2009 as shown at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2009stamps.htm> and vote for the same. Also write your name, City, email id, and philatelic interests on the ballot and email your ballots to: [stamppoll@stampsofindia.com](mailto:stamppoll@stampsofindia.com). Incomplete ballots shall not be considered.

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JOBURG 2010 INTERNATIONAL STAMP SHOW

A gentle reminder that all those desirous of participation in 'JOBURG 2010 International Stamp Show' should expedite duly filled entry forms to us as the closing date is fast approaching.

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. The regulations for JOBURG 2010 and the Exhibit Application form are available online at <http://stampsofindia.com/Joburg2010.htm>.

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 [mj@stampsofindia.com](mailto:mj@stampsofindia.com) or call 09350537037.

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.

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 have created an area on the website for this service and several products are listed in various categories at <http://stampsofindia.com/shop/shop.htm>. We are also in the process of introducing several new products.

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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STAMPS OF INDIA NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Bharatiya Daktkit Sangstha, Kolkata is organizing a national philatelic exhibition 'Stamps of India National Exhibition' from December 10 to 12, 2010 at NSIC Exhibition Ground, New Delhi. Stamps of India National Exhibition is commemorating the Centenary of the Transfer of the Capital of India to Delhi from Kolkata.

Stamps of India National Exhibition is being held at an excellent venue on the main road, with virtually unlimited car parking within the Exhibition Ground, a Metro Station, and all other amenities including a Cafeteria. The Exhibition Hall is closer to the entry point at the main road and one doesn't need to walk a lot to reach it. It is a large hall set in huge open space and everything including the exhibits, Sales Stalls, activity areas, cafeteria, and car parking, is on the ground floor. The venue is located at Okhla Industrial Estate on the Outer Ring Road near world famous landmarks like the Baha'i Lotus Temple, Kalkaji Temple which is believed to be in existence for thousands of years, and Nehru Place - Asia's biggest Information Technology market.

The General Head Quarters of the Stamps of India National Exhibition began operations from March 1, 2010. The regulations and entry forms are now rescheduled to be available in the third week of March 2010. The stamp dealers will also be given sufficient time to plan their booking of the Sales Stalls.

Please expedite your ideas and suggestions regarding the activities before and during the 'Stamps of India National Exhibition' and about your willingness to participate, volunteer and contribute in any manner. The email address to contact is [sine@stampsfindia.com](mailto:sine@stampsfindia.com).

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

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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.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 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.stampsfindia.com/lists/stamps/2009stamps.htm>

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PAYPAL OPERATIONS IN INDIA UPDATE

PayPal announced on February 27, 2010 that the Reserve Bank of India has now allowed to continue withdrawals for settlements for exports of goods and

services in to bank accounts in India. PayPal has made changes to comply with Indian regulations for settlements for exports of goods and services, and as of Wednesday, March 3, 2010 customers can use the bank withdrawal service.

Indian PayPal users (Business, Premier and Personal Account Holders) are no longer able to receive personal payments. Indian Sellers on eBay and elsewhere on the net accepting payments through PayPal now have three options to get paid by their customers by

1. Using the PayPal for Purchases (Goods or Services) tab
2. Completing PayPal checkout at Seller's website
3. Responding to PayPal "Request Money" instructions (invoices)

The Indian users while instructing PayPal to withdraw PayPal balance to their bank account in India, will be required to provide a purpose code for the transaction. The purpose code helps the bank furnish information that may be required by the Reserve Bank of India to identify the nature of the cross border transaction. Please note that this is different from the Importer Exporter Code (IEC) issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Please note that according to Indian law, based on the value of withdrawal and the purpose code in declaration, the bank may require the Seller to provide documentary proofs such as invoices / goods receipt forms as applicable to reconcile with withdrawal.

PayPal is now set to be a more powerful engine for exporters in India with inclusion of purpose codes for export transactions and Foreign Inward Remittance Certificates to get the export related benefits.

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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 25: Big Kanchipuram, Shri Koorathazhwan Millennium Birth Anniversary
- Feb 19: Mumbai, Cancer Survivors Day
- Feb 20: Dehradun, Spring Festival

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://stampsfindia.com/lists/pmk/aps/2009aps.htm>

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IT IS MAGIC! STAMP PACK, MAXIM CARD, STAMP BOOKLET, & MORE  
The West Bengal Circle of India Post issued a stamp pack, a Maxim Card, a Stamp Booklet, and a Pop Up Card during the release function of the stamp commemorating P C Sorcar at Kolkata. All these products are designed by Dipok Dey and Sankhajit Jana.

NEW STAMP PACK  
Feb 23, 2010  
P C Sorcar  
Quantity: 700  
Content: Block of 4, FDC, Brochure, and Maxim Card  
Price: Rs 100

For viewing the images please visit,  
<http://stampsfindia.com/lists/stamps/packs/2010packs-sets.htm>

NEW STAMP BOOKLET  
2010 Feb 23: P C Sorcar  
West Bengal Circle, India Post  
4 commemorative stamps of P C Sorcar issue  
Quantity: 700  
Price: Rs 75  
Note: This is the first booklet with 'Scratch and Win' patch

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

NEW MAXIM CARD  
2010 Feb 23: P C Sorcar  
Quantity: 2500  
Price: Rs 20 (with stamp)

For viewing the images please visit  
<http://stampsfindia.com/lists/maxcards/2010mc.html>

POP UP CARD  
2010 Feb 23: P C Sorcar  
Quantity: 300  
Price: Rs 150  
Note: A new and innovative product from India Post. This is like a greeting card and when opened P C Sorcar pops up appropriately from a letter box!

For viewing the images please visit  
<http://stampsfindia.com/popupcards.htm>

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

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INDIPEX 2011 WEBSITE LAUNCHED  
INDIPEX 2011 world philatelic exhibition's website was launched last week and is now available at <http://www.indipex2011.com/index.php>.

India Post for the first time launched a website for a philatelic exhibition in 2000 for the Asian international INDEPEX ASIANA 2000 held at Kolkata. When the domain expired it was not renewed and was taken over by organizations that run undesirable sites. Is India Post repeating the same mistake after a decade? Well this seems to be their track record. Why was the site not launched as a sub domain of the main India Post Site? The 2008 national exhibition site was launched as a sub domain of the Tamil Nadu circle site. Well when the next international show will come along the key postal officials involved with the earlier projects either have already superannuated or will be holding a different charge far away.

The site also boldly proclaims that INDIPEX 2011 is commemorating "150th" (sic) Anniversary of the first Official Airmail of the world. This displays to the world at large the sheer ignorance on the part of the organizers and their advisors and is a fair indication for the things to come.

According to India Post's Annual Report for the year 1911 the first Official Airmail of the world was flown between Allahabad and Naini on February 20, 1911 and not on the 18th as is being celebrated.

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STAMPS ON INDIA: GANDHI PHILATELY

The blog on Gandhi Philately <http://gandhiphilately.blogspot.com/> continues with interesting studies of all aspects of Gandhi Philately. It has added the following new information this week:

1) Expensive Cameroun commercially used cover :-Why Cameroun Gandhi covers are expensive,

2) Gandhi Error Stamps:- What is & types of error stamps, how to spot fake error stamps and types of Gandhi error stamps

3) US Embassy Gandhi Used cover :- US Embassy cover with Gandhi stamp on it which has postmark cancel of US Navy even though it is not a Naval cover and also it explain how US military handles it's mail.

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NEW PHILATELIC BLOGS

Commander U N Acharya, Secretary of the Naval Philatelic Society, Bengaluru has recently launched a blog for the society at <http://navalphilatelicsocietyindia.blogspot.com/>

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NEW COMMEMORATIVE COINS

Vice President of India, Hamid Ansari released commemorative coins in of Rs 5 and Rs 100 to mark the 125th birth anniversary of the first President of India, Dr Rajendra Prasad on February 28, 2010 at Patna.

Rajendra Prasad was born in 1884 at Zeradei in Bihar's Siwan district. After serving for 12 years as India's first president from 1950 to 1962 he retired and was subsequently awarded the Bharat Ratna, the nation's highest civilian honor. He spent the last days of his life at the Sadaqat Ashram in Patna and died in 1963.

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RECENT PHILATELIC PERIODICALS

RAINBOW STAMP NEWS, Whole #27, Mar 2010, 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/>

PHILANEWS, Whole #50, Nov Dec 2009, Bimonthly  
Editor: Rajesh Paharia  
Publisher: Philatelic Society of Rajasthan, Jaipur  
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

Feb 27-28: New Delhi, WORLD OF COLLECTIONS

Lieutenant General Naresh Kumar, AVSM, VSM, Commandant R & R Army Hospital inaugurated "World Of Collections" an exhibition of different collections held at Shaurya School, R & R Army Hospital, Delhi Cantonment on February 27, 2010. The function was attended by many senior army Officers, Doctors & Specialists of the Army Hospital. The show was visited by hundreds of visitors including students on both the days and was appreciated by all.

The exhibition was an amazing One Man Show by Rajnish L Karnik and consisted of different collections acquired through ages and displayed in around 4000 sheets in 12 rooms & corridors of the School. The different collections included, Indian Pre & Post Independence stamps, First day Covers, Special Covers, Slogan Cancellations of GB & Post Independence India, APO Covers, Early Indian Cancellations, Postal Stationery of the Armed Forces, Official Postal Stationery, Pin Code, Anatomy of Postage Stamp, Maxim Cards, Miniature Sheets and Thematic Collections including, Architecture, Ships, Water Birds, Railways, Wildlife, Performing Arts, Olympics, Flowers etc.

The non-philatelic collections included, Currency notes of Post Independence India, Architecture & Defects, Coins including ancient, Mughal coins, Princely States & Pre Independence, Picture Post Cards, Marriage Invitations Cards, Key Chains, Erasers, Playing Cards, Match Box Labels, Shaving Blade Wrappers, Chocolate Wrappers, Toffee Wrappers, Biscuit Wrappers, and early Architectural Litho prints.

Rajnish L Karnik is Assistant Garrison Engineer with Military Engineer Services, R & R Army Hospital, Delhi. He collects over 100 different items and his other interests include Music, Astronomy, Photography, Hypnotism, Palmistry & Numerology. He is also a Wildlife enthusiast & activist where his main interest is snakes. He has won many awards and is holder of multiple records in the Limca Book of Records. He is founder of International Collectors' Society of Rare Items and is at present busy writing his 4th book. visit his website [www.rajnishkarnik.com](http://www.rajnishkarnik.com) for more information.

Mar 12-13: Kolkata, PHILEX KOLKATA 2010, International Philatelic Fair  
Venue: Rotary Sadan, between Birla Planetarium & Nandan Auditorium  
Dealers Stalls: Rs 2500, 11 out of 20 already booked, Last date Mar 3, 2010 but you may Contact to check availability: Arun Bhattacharya, [filatalie\\_cal@hotmail.com](mailto:filatalie_cal@hotmail.com) 9830412286 Tapan Dhang (033) 26270129, 22295634, Tanmoy Chatterjee 98311-10028

Mar 13-14: First State level philatelic exhibition  
Organizer: Himachal Pradesh Circle of India Post  
Venue: Gaeity Theatre, Shimla



Mar 22-23: Kullu, District philatelic exhibition  
Organizer: Kullu Division of India Post  
Venue: Deb Bhavan, Kullu

Mar 27-28: Tirupati, Ancient Coins Exhibition  
Organizer: South India Numismatic Society  
Venue: S V University Campus, Tirupati

Mar: Pune, State level philatelic exhibition  
Organizer: Maharashtra & Goa Circle of India Post  
The philatelists and postal officials in Maharashtra are still uncertain about the dates, venue, and whether it will happen at all!

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), [sksondhil@gmail.com](mailto:sksondhil@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>

#### SOUTH ASIA NEW ISSUES

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

#### 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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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

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