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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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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We have to put on hold the publication of this digital weekly to devote time to finalize various details Stamps of India National Exhibition that were getting delayed. We apologize for the inconvenience caused. We shall resume regular publication from now onwards.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Abhai Mishra,

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, philatelic 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

The Regulations For Exhibitors and Exhibit Application Form are now available at <http://stampsofindia.com/ChaloDelhi/sine.html> Please download and study the Rules and Regulations carefully and print the application forms. the duly filled form should be mailed to SINE GHQ, BG-5/49-D, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. the last date to submit the application form is July 31, 2010.

The Rules and Application forms for Sales Stalls are also available at <http://stampsofindia.com/ChaloDelhi/sine.html> However the bookings of Sales Stall will only commence on June 27, 2010 from 8am. By then the floor plan will also be available online and the applicants can book the Sales Stall of their choice.

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

- Jun 05: Biodiversity Day
- Jun 14: Deshbandhu Gupta
- Jun 23: World Classical Tamil Conference-Kovai 2010
- Jun 25: Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games, 2 Stamps, - Baton & Mascot

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 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/2010stamps.htm>

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

KANWAR RAM SAHIB

Pratibha Patil, President of India, released a postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on April 26, 2010 at New Delhi on Kanwar Ram Sahib.

Alka Sharma designed the Stamp, the First Day Cover, and the pictorial first day postmark. 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.

VELUTHAMPI

A K Antony, Minister for Defence, released a postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on May 6, 2010 at Thiruvananthapuram on Veluthampi.

Suresh Kumar designed the Stamp, and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. 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.

ROBERT CALDWELL

India Post released a postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on May 7, 2010 on Robert Caldwell.

Nenu Gupta designed the Stamp, the First Day Cover, and the pictorial first day postmark. 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.

DR GUDURU VENKATACHALAM

India Post released a postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on May 8, 2010 at Dr Guduru Venkatachalam.

Alka Sharma designed the Stamp, the First Day Cover, and the pictorial first day postmark. 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.

POSTAL HERITAGE BUILDINGS

India Post released a set of 6 postage stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 each on May 13, 2010 featuring postal heritage buildings as the first set of stamps on INDIPEX 2011 world stamp exhibition.

Sankha Samanta designed the Stamp, and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. 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. In addition miniature sheets and sheetlets of 24 stamps (set of 6 stamps in block of 4) in the quantity of 0.4 million were also issued.

C V RAMAN PILLAI

India Post released a postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on May 19, 2010 C V Raman Pillai.

Brham Prakash designed the Stamp, and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs 2 each. India Security Press, Nasik printed 0.3 million stamps each by photogravure process.

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

NEW ISSUES AVAILABILITY STATUS

AWAITED

2008 Aug 02: Aldabra Giant Tortoise, Miniature Sheet

2009 Oct 14: Heritage Temples, Miniature Sheet

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For an illustrated list of all kinds of Envelopes in 2009, visit
<http://stampsfindia.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.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 14: Gaurishankar Camp PO, MahaKumbh Haridwar Makar Sankranti  
Jan 14: Neeldhara Camp PO, MahaKumbh Haridwar Makar Sankranti  
Feb 12: Gaurishankar Camp PO, MahaKumbh Haridwar Maha Shivratri  
Feb 12: Neeldhara Camp PO, MahaKumbh Haridwar Maha Shivratri  
Mar 15: Gaurishankar Camp PO, MahaKumbh Haridwar Somvati Amavasya  
Mar 15: Neeldhara Camp PO, MahaKumbh Haridwar Somvati Amavasya  
Mar 22: Chennai, Nelson A M Sambanda Mudaliar  
Mar 26: Dharamsala, Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar H P Krishi Vishvidyalaya Palanpur  
Mar 27: Hyderabad, M G Pittie  
Mar 27: Tiruchirappalli, Rotary Club of Tiruchirappalli Silver Jubilee  
Apr 10: Tiruchirappalli, Holistic Mediscan Silver Jubilee  
Apr 10: Dehradun, World Girl Guides Centenary  
Apr 13: Chennai, Philatelic Exhibitions on Rail  
Apr 14: Gaurishankar Camp PO, MahaKumbh Haridwar Baisakhi (Mesh Sankranti)  
Apr 14: Neeldhara Camp PO, MahaKumbh Haridwar Baisakhi (Mesh Sankranti)  
Apr 18: Mumbai, Rotary Club of Bhiwandi Golden Jubilee  
Apr 27: New Delhi, National Defence College Golden Jubilee  
Apr 30: Memnagar, Gujarat Golden Jubilee Year  
Apr 30: Mangalore, Manglore Taluk Kannada Literary Convention  
May 01: Gorakhpur, Bandhu Singh  
May 03: Jabalpur, Muni Tarun Sagar

For an illustrated list of Special Postmarks & Covers in 2010, visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/2009pm.htm>

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KUMBH MELA POST OFFICES

Kumbh Mela is a mass Hindu pilgrimage held every twelve years at Haridwar (Uttarakhand), Prayag - Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh), Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh), and Nashik (Maharashtra). It is the largest religious gathering in the world with tens of millions of people participating. This year Kumbh Mela was held at Haridwar. For more information on this event visit the official web site
<http://www.kumbh2010haridwar.gov.in/>

Uttarakhand Circle of India Post established two camp post offices at Kumbh Mela at Haridwar to provide postal services to the pilgrims. The camp post offices were housed in tents, provided by the Mela Administration. These were made operational from Jan 14, 2010 and were closed on the evening of April 28, 2010. Initially they were planned to operate till April 30, 2010 but due to heavy dust storm, the tents were uprooted and were closed earlier than scheduled.

These post offices were located at Gaurishankar (Sector-10) and Neeldhara (Sector-12) and used postmark inscribed as Camp Post Office UA - 3001 and Camp Post Office UA - 3003 respectively. The post-markers appears to be in use from earlier Kumbh Mela. Earlier Kumbh Melas used to have many more post offices but having only 2 post offices in 2010 Kumbh Mela at Haridwar perhaps reflects the reality where mobile phones, short Message Service (SMS), and emails are preferred modes of communication.

The camp post offices operated as receiving post offices with computerized booking facility for registered and speed post. Krisnagopal and Vohra was in charge of Gaurishankar and Neeldhara Post Offices respectively.

These post offices were deep inside the Mela area and to reach there one has to walk through huge crowds of persons for 8/10 kilometers from Rail or Road head as no vehicular traffic was allowed within the Mela area.

Uttarakhand Circle of India Post also issued special postmarks at each camp Post Office for the following four days of major snan's (ritual bathing).

January 14, 2010 Makar Sankranti

February 12, 2010 Maha Shivratri

March 15, 2010 Somvati Amavasya

April 14, 2010 Baisakhi (Mesh Sankranti)

For images please visit

<http://stampsfindia.com/lists/2010pm.htm>

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

The Army Postal Service issued 9 special covers and postmarks in March 2010 as follows:

Mar 03: Vajra Corps Diamond Jubilee

Mar 05: 75 (Independent) Infantry Brigade Group Silver Jubilee

Mar 09: 107 Helicopter Unit Air Force, President's Standard Presentation

Mar 09: 49 Squadron Air Force, President's Standard Presentation

Mar 23: 5th Battalion Mahar Regiment Diamond Jubilee

Mar 25: 19 Armored Regiment Silver Jubilee

Mar 27: 322 Air Defence Regiment Silver Jubilee

Mar 27: 323 Air Defence Regiment Silver Jubilee

Mar 27: 436 Air Defence Missile Regiment (Self Propelled) Silver 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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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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NEW STAMP BOOKLETS

TRADITIONAL TEXTILES

A stamp booklet on Traditional Textiles was issued recently. In addition to stamps issued on Dec 10, 2009 the booklet contains actual pieces of all four types textiles featured on stamps. Issued in the limited quantity of 100.

For images please visit

<http://stampsfindia.com/lists/sb99.htm>

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF GUJARAT

Gujarat Philatelists Association, Ahmedabad with approval of Gujarat Circle of India Post issued 8 different stamp booklets, in two sets of 4 each, to commemorate the golden jubilee of Gujarat, on May 1, 2010. The Booklets are available for Rs 600 for all 8 booklets at the Philatelic Bureau Ahmedabad.

Collectors may also get in touch with Mainak Kathiara, President of Gujarat Philatelists Association, at his mobile 09825007756 for their requirements.

For images please visit

<http://stampsfindia.com/lists/sb.htm>

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PRIVATE FIRST DAY COVER

Jigar Desai of Mumbai brought out a first day cover for the Silent Valley miniature sheet issued on November 25, 2009. The cover, produced in the limited quantity of 50 covers, is available from Stamps of India onlineoffers@stampsfindia.com for Rs 150 per cover postpaid.

For images please visit

<http://stampsfindia.com/lists/stamps/fdc/fday2009.htm>

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PHILANIPPON 2011

Japan is hosting its 5th World Stamp Exhibition at Yokohama from July 28 to August 2, 2011. It is a general world exhibition with all exhibition classes. The entry fees are Yen 5,000, about Rs 2,650 per frame for all classes except One Frame class. The entry fee for One Frame class is Yen 10,000, about Rs 5,300. There is no fees for Youth class. The last date for entry forms to reach the Organizing Committee is November 30, 2010. Indian exhibitors should contact the National Commissioner for India, Anil Suri [anilksuri@email.com](mailto:anilksuri@email.com). The website of the show is <http://www.philanippon.jp/english/>

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REVISED FOREIGN POSTAGE RATES

India Post has revised the rates of some supplementary charges applicable on foreign rates with effect from May 1, 2010.

Registration Charges per item for letter, postcard, aerogramme, small packets and printed papers have been increased to Rs 50 from existing Rs.15, while charges for bulk bags have been raised to Rs 200 from Rs 75. However the literature for blinds will remain free as earlier.

The Fee for Advice of Delivery (Acknowledgement) for both Surface Mail and Air Mail articles (other than literature for Blind) has been increased to Rs 5 from the existing Re 1 for Nepal and Bhutan. However there is no change in Fee for other foreign countries and it remains at the existing Rs 10.

Warehousing charges have been increased to Rs 5 per day from the existing Rs 2 per day for inward foreign packets (or bags) of printed papers and foreign small packets weighing more than 500 grams and inward value payable packets (or bags) of printed papers weighing more than 500 grams. No warehousing charges are levied on letters and post cards.

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GOLD COINS WITH INDIA POST LOGO

India Post introduced gold coins with India Post logo for sale to the customers across India on april 30, 2010. The gold coins will be of the denomination 0.5, 1, 5 and 8 grams of 24 carat with 99.99% purity.

The gold coins are manufactured by Valcambi, Switzerland and have the benefits of internationally recognized certification, quality packaging, and product standardization and assayer certificate. This facility is available in 466 Post offices across India and this will be extended soon to 700 Post offices.

India Post is organizing a special campaign for one month until May 31, 2010 and during this period; the gold coins are sold with a special offer of 6% discount. Akshay Tritiya festival falls on Sunday the May 16, 2010 and it is considered auspicious to buy gold on this day.

India Post in association with World Gold Council and Reliance Money Infrastructure Limited commenced the sale of Gold Coins manufactured by Valcambi (Switzerland) initially at 200 Post Offices across the country in October 2008.

In Delhi, 18 Post Offices were identified initially for sale of Gold Coins and now the Gold Coins are available for sale at the following 26 Post Offices in Delhi.

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LOGISTICS POST FOR CENSUS 2011

India Post is successfully implementing the work of distribution of nearly 10,000 tonnes of Census material from 15 printing presses to nearly 12,000 taluk/ municipal level locations across the length and breadth of the country through its Logistics Post in connection with Census 2011 as its official carrier. India Post will also be undertaking the reverse logistics for collection of filled in census forms from these locations and delivery to the respective Directorates of Census Operations and scanning centers in the States. The Project started in February 2010 and will be completed in June 2011.

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UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION AUTHORITY OF INDIA

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has been created as an attached office under the Planning Commission. Its role is to develop and implement the necessary institutional, technical and legal infrastructure to issue unique identity numbers to Indian residents. The Authority envisions to issue a unique identification number (UID) that can be verified and authenticated in an online, cost-effective manner, and that is robust enough to eliminate duplicate and fake identities. The first UID number would be issued between August 2010 to February 2011. Over five years, the Authority plans to issue 600 million UIDs.

India Post is the official carrier of Unique Identity Numbers and will deliver the UID communication to the citizens of India. India Post has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) on April 30, 2010 to this effect. The MoU has been entered into for a period of two years. India Post would use its flagship product, the Speed Post for this purpose. India Post got advantage for this project due to its vast network of 155,015 post offices of which nearly 90% numbering 139,144 are in the rural area.

India Post is also providing the comprehensive business solution of printing & pre mailing activities and last mile delivery of UID letters to the recipients of UID number. Whenever/ wherever required by UIDAI, India Post will also do biometric authentication of each UID letter delivered.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Dec 10-12: New Delhi, STAMPS OF INDIA NATIONAL EXHIBITION
Organizer: Bharatiya Daktkit Sangstha, Kolkata
Venue: NSIC Exhibition Ground, New Delhi
Contacts: Ashish Talwar 09810186108, Madhukar Jhingan 09350537037
Email: 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%20asia%20new%20issues.htm)

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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>

NEWSSCAN

<We invite you to contribute clippings on philatelic and postal matters, from other print and electronic publications, for inclusion here>

ADMINISTRIVIA

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The site devoted to the stamps from all over the world on Indian topics

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