

Stamps of India Collectors Companion

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

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Jhingan's Jottings

Hi

We are still in travelling mode and will attend the Coin-Stampex at Coimbatore from June 3 to 5, 2011. However this time we will not be carrying stock of philatelic publications but shall be happy carry any special requests for the titles of your want list. We are looking forward to our visit and to meet fellow collectors and dealers.

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 writeback@stampsofindia.com

Gandhi Khadi Miniature Sheet on Sale

India Post has put on sale the Mahatma Gandhi Khadi miniature sheet at the philatelic bureau at New Delhi and has also dispatched the same to all other philatelic bureaus in country earlier this week.

Forthcoming Stamp Issues

May 25: 2nd Africa-India Forum Summit, 2 Stamps + Miniature sheet + Presentation Pack

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.

Now days, issues are scheduled and rescheduled for release at very short notice say couple of 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.

ILLUSTRATED LISTS <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2011stamps.htm>

Aries Auctions

Aries Auctions has announced its next auction on Saturday, June 18, 2011 at the National Stamp Fair, New Delhi. The Catalog is expected any day now and shall also be available for on line viewing and download at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/AriesAuctions2.htm> . Contact Ashish Talwar talwar2002@hotmail.com 09810186108

New Issues Availability Status

AWAITED

2008: Aldabra Giant Tortoise, Miniature Sheet

2009: Heritage Jain Temples, Miniature Sheet

ILLUSTRATED LISTS

Special Postmarks 2011 <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2011pm.htm>

Army Postal Service Issues <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2011aps.htm>

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 are provided. Visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/shop/shop.htm>

1. Collector's Guide to First Day Covers & Folders of India 1947-1964

Thakkar Numismatic & Art Foundation , the publishers has announced that to celebrate the first anniversary of its first philatelic publication a special discount of 50% will be offered on every copy purchased of Praful Thakkar's Collector's Guide to First Day Covers & Folders of India 1947-1964, till June 21, 2011.

THIS BOOK IS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE HALF PRICE - RS 225!

Please add Rs 25 for packing and postal charges for delivery by registered book post or Rs 100 for packing and postal charges for delivery by Speed post anywhere in India. Rush your orders to orders@stampsofindia.com now. The orders will be fulfilled on first come first served basis.

2. Stanley Gibbons India Catalog

Stanley Gibbons published the third edition of its India and Indian States Catalog on Aug 20, 2009 at £22.50 equivalent approximately to Indian Rupees 1800. However there was a very special price of Rs 750 for India for this all color 240 page catalog. We had distributed it all over India.

THIS CATALOG IS NOW ON SALE AT INCREDIBLE OFFER : BUY 1 GET 1 FREE!!!!!!

Please add Rs 50 for packing and postal charges for delivery by registered book post or Rs 200 for packing and postal charges for delivery by Speed post anywhere in India. Rush your orders to orders@stampsofindia.com now. The orders will be fulfilled on first come first served basis.

For more information please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/SG-IN-CAT-2010.htm>

We also welcome enquiries from bulk buyers.

ILLUSTRATED LISTS [Philatelic Picture Post Cards](#) | [Stamp Booklets](#) | [Year Packs](#)

National Stamp Fair

The National Stamp Fair will be held from June 17 to 19, 2011 at the fully air conditioned, spacious, and centrally located venue - Bhai Vir Singh Sahitya Sadan, Bhai Vir Singh Marg, Gole Market, New Delhi.

All Tables are now sold out.

List of Table holders

01. Abdul Ghaffar Gandhi, Jaipur, Rajasthan

02. A. R. C. Shah, New Delhi

03. Aries Auctions, New Delhi
04. Aries Stamps and Collectibles, Gurgaon, Haryana
05. Ashok Mittal, New Delhi
06. Capital Stamp Company, New Delhi
07. Chandra Prakash, Bareilly, UP
08. Indian Stamp Company, Meerut, UP
09. N. K. Dhuper, New Delhi
10. Rakesh Khemka, Amritsar, Punjab
11. Rohit Prasad, New Delhi
12. Shafiq Khan, Kanpur, UP
13. Stamps R Us, New Delhi
14. Sunil Prabhu, Mumbai, Maharashtra
15. Vijay Malhotra, Kanpur, UP
16. Umesh Agarwal, Jaipur, Rajasthan
17. Stamps of India, New Delhi
18. Filatelie Cal (Arun Bhattacharya), Kolkata, West Bengal
19. R. S. Gupta, Bengaluru, Karnataka
20. Park Stamp Centre, Kolkata, West Bengal
21. Philatelic Centre, Kolkata, West Bengal
22. Victory Stamp Company, Amritsar, Punjab
23. Dhiren Singh Chauhan & Arvind Mullick, Madhya Pradesh
24. Subash Shorewala & Akash Garg, New Delhi
25. V. Ethiraj, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
26. Bhutan Stamps (Mukul Bhowmik), West Bengal and Subrata Choudhury
27. & 28. Jay Cee Enterprises, Puducherry (2 Tables)
29. Khalid Sabir, New Delhi
30. Emeskay Enterprises, Mumbai
31. Ranjit Singh, New Delhi
32. Eeshan Prakshan, New Delhi
33. Binod Kasera, Jaipur, Rajasthan

More information and regular updates are available at www.stampsofindia.com/StampFair.htm

ILLUSTRATED LISTS [Aerogramme & Inland Letter Card](#) | [Envelopes](#) | [Postcards](#) | [Meghdoot PostCard](#)

Tagore Stamps from Bangladesh

Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh released a set of 4 stamps and a miniature sheet to commemorate 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore on May 6, 2011 at Dhaka. The stamps are issued in a sheetlet of stamps containing two sets. The miniature sheet depicts flags and national songs of Bangladesh and India.

If you've found this digital newsweekly useful, recommend it to a friend. Better still, forward a copy of this issue. Also, please mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists.

Forgeries & Frauds Alerts

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

Advertisements Tariff

Text ADS Stamps of India Collectors Companion

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/siteguide/TextAdsTariff.htm>

Display Ads www.stampsofindia.com

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/siteguide/DisplayAdTariff.htm>

Recent & Forthcoming Events

May 9 - Jun 9: Kolkata, Philatelic Exhibition on Rabindranath Tagore's 150th birth anniversary

Organizers: Indian Council of Cultural Relations

Venue: Rabindranath Tagore Center, Ho Chi Minh Sarani, Kolkata

Jun 3-5: Coimbatore, Coin-Stampex

Timings: 10am to 6 pm

Organizers: Coimbatore Coin society

Venue: Gujarati Samaj, Mettupalayam Road, Coimbatore 641 002.

Contact: Ravichandran 09443325960

Stalls: Rs.4,000

Auction Schedule: Oswal Auction Jun 4

Jun 17-19: New Delhi, **National Stamp Fair**

Timings: 11 am to 6 pm

Organizers: Philatelic Dealers Association

Venue: Bhai Vir Singh Sahitya Sadan, Bhai Vir Singh Marg, Gole Market, (Fully Air-conditioned)

This is in the heart of Delhi adjacent to Gole Market and very near to Paharganj and Connaught Place

Contact: Ashish Talwar talwar2002@hotmail.com 0 9810186108

Tables: Rs 5,000 includes Lunch and Tea for 2 persons daily

Steel almirahs have to be booked in advance and will be available for hire at an additional charge

Terms: Bookings are considered final only on receipt of full payment. Allotment of tables is solely at the discretion of the organizers. Tables are transferable subject to the approval of the organizers obtained at least 15 days before the Fair. The table will be booked only to one individual or business and If there is any sharing of tables, the same has to be communicated to the organizers at the time of booking.

Auction Schedule: Aries Auction Jun 18 - 6 pm

Website: www.stampsofindia.com/StampFair.htm

Jul 22-24: Tiruchengode, Coin Stampex

Timings: 10 am to 9 pm

Organizers: Tiruchengode Numismatic & Philatelic Association

Venue: Sengunthar Thirumana Mandapam, Periyapavadi

Tables: Rs 3,000 - 2 Tables, 2 Chairs, Lunch, Tea & Snacks for 2

Contact: Jc K Golden Saravanan (Secretary) 0 94432 74059, 0 99766 26296

Jul 29-31: Hyderabad, Hyderabad Coins & Notes Fair 2011

Venue: Federation House, Pragati Art Printers Lane, Red Hills, Hyderabad 500 004

Timings: 10 am to 5 pm

Organizers: The Hyderabad Philatelic & Hobbies Society

Contact: M Kesava Rao, Convenor, Telephone 040 23202153, Mobile 09848128991

Stalls: Rs. 7,000 includes Morning tea /Lunch /Evening tea for two persons everyday

Auction Schedule: Todywalla Auction Jul 30 - 6 pm

Aug 5-7: Coimbatore, Coin Stampex

Venue: Kamalam Duraisamy Hall, Ram Nagar, Near Gandhipuram Central Bus Stand

Timings: 9.30 am to 9.30 pm

Organizers: Coimbatore District Numismatic & Philatelic Association

Contact: C Palaneswamy 09486923558

Auction Schedule: The Ancient Times Auctions Aug 6

Aug 13-15: Ahmedabad, Coins & Currency Fair

Timings: 10am to 7 pm

Organizers: Classical Numismatic Gallery

Venue: Hotel Comfort Inn President, Opp Municipal Market, C G Road, Navrangpura,

Contact: 079-26464850 info@classicalnumismaticgallery.com

Nov 3-6: New Delhi, **Stamps of India National Exhibition**

Venue: NSIC Exhibition Complex, Okhla Industrial Estate, Govindpuri Metro Station

Timings: 11am to 7 pm

Organizers: Stamps of India

Contact: sj@stampsofindia.com

Sales Stalls: Rs 20,000 covers 44 Square feet (2 x 2 meters) and includes a table, two chairs, name board, an electrical point, floor carpet, and lunch & snacks for two persons

Website: www.stampsofindia.com/sine.html

Nov 18-20: Thrissur, THRISSURPEX 2011 Philatelic & Numismatic Exhibition

Organizers: Philatelic Club Thrissur

Venue: Pandy Samootha Madom Hall

Contact: C J Vincent, 0 98470 21886

[Meetings of the Philatelic Organizations in India](http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/clubmeet.htm) www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/clubmeet.htm

[South Asia New Issues](#)

[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.](#)

VIEWS & OPINIONS

Readers Forum

Dear Reader, Your feedback is important to us as it helps evolve this digital newsweekly. Please let us have your thoughts and suggestions.

Features & Resources

Refugee Relief Tax Prepaid in Cash on Postal Stationery

by Madhukar & Savita Jhingan

From November 15, 1971 until March 31, 1973 the Government of India levied tax on Railway Passenger Fares, Inland Air Travel, Postal articles; and imposed additional Stamp Duty on judicial & non-judicial documents, and additional Excise Duty on certain items, for the relief of millions of refugees that came in from the former East Pakistan, now Bangladesh.

The tax of 5 Paise was levied on all postal articles, both public and official, except postcards, newspapers, blind literature, and items posted by the members of the forces on active duty. This Tax came in to force all over India on November 15, 1971 except in the State of Jammu & Kashmir where it came in to force from July 1, 1972.

Initially, the then current definitive and official stamps were overprinted at Nasik and were issued on November 15, 1971. However as this provisional issue could not be made available at all post offices in India in time and in the quantities required, the local postmasters were authorised to make their own overprints and majority of these were applied by rubber stamps of which there are hundreds of varieties. The regular Refugee Relief Tax stamps were issued on December 1, 1971.

In most places the postal stationery - Inland Letter Cards, Prepaid Envelopes, and aerogramme were sold with Refugee Relief Tax Stamp affixed on it to the public. Later Inland Letter Cards, and aerogramme were issued with Refugee Relief Tax Stamp imprinted on December 1, 1971 and November 5, 1972 respectively.

'Refugee Relief Tax Prepaid in Cash' oval handstamps in steel were used on bulk mails from several places all over India. In addition several post and sorting offices handling bulk mail used provisional rubber stamps to denote prepayment of Refugee Relief Tax Prepaid in Cash. In few cases Refugee Relief Tax Prepaid in Cash is imprinted in the bulk mail articles. Meter Franking machines were also used with distinct stamp design for Refugee Relief Tax.

Refugee Relief Tax Prepaid in Cash oval handstamp was used as an overprint on the Inland Letter Cards, Prepaid Envelopes, and aerogramme in the State of Kerala. This is evident from date of oval handstamp and the date of usage determined by the postmark. The larger post offices stamped Refugee Relief Tax Prepaid in Cash and supplied these to other smaller post offices which is evident by date stamp of the office of posting. These handstamp overprints are recorded from a total of 22 post offices in Kerala. Only 2 of these handstamps, from Alleppey and Trivandrum GPO, do not carry the date. Following is the list of post offices that used Refugee Relief Tax Prepaid in Cash oval hand-stamped overprint:

1. Alathur MBR (Malabar)
2. Alleppey
3. Alwaye
4. Badagara
5. Cannanore
6. Calicut
7. Changanacherry
8. Cochin
9. Ernakulam
10. Irinjalakuda
11. Kasargod
12. Kottayam
13. Muvattupuzha
14. Palghat
15. Punalur
16. Quilon
17. Telleicherry
18. Thycaud
19. Tirur
20. Trivandrum GPO
21. Vadakancherry
22. Vaikom

The postal stationery overprinted with Refugee Relief prepaid in cash is an important chapter of the postal stationery as well as of the postal history of India.

The Offer of the Week

For the availability and price for the complete collection of 22 prepaid envelopes overprinted as above, please contact onlineoffers@stampsofindia.com latest by May 26,2011.

[Indian Laws Relevant to Philately](http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/laws.htm) <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/laws.htm>

[Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud](http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/cybercrime.htm) <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

The **Stamps of India Collectors Companion** is published by [Madhukar Jhingan](#) for **Stamps of India**, 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. India. Mobile: +91-9350537037

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Stamps of India

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 & Out of Print Official Publications of Indian Post Office & Indian Princely States](#)
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/shop/2Reprints.htm>
Postal Manuals, Postal Guides, Annual and other Reports, Postal Notices & Circulars

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