

Stamps of India Collectors Companion

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

June 9, 2011 | Published Every Thursday | Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan | 474

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Hi

This month Punjab Mail enters its 100th year of service. It is the first train to achieve this distinction on Indian Railways' broad gauge network.

The inaugural run of the Punjab Mail is thought to have taken place on June 1, 1912. Then known as The Punjab Limited, the train initially ran from Ballard Pier to Peshawar, taking British officers, civil servants, and their families directly from their ships to Delhi and the North-West frontier of British India. In 1914, the originating station was moved to Victoria Terminus, and after the partition of India in 1947, the train's terminus was brought back to Firozpur on the India-Pakistan border.

In its early days India Post used to charter trains to carry mail and several of these trains had Mail and Express in their names.

It is a fit subject and a suitable occasion for issue of commemorative stamp.

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

Philatelic Market Review

Indian philatelic market is steadily on the upward course for about 5 years now. The first trend focused on miniature sheets, followed by sheetlets, and later se-tenants. The upsurge in First Day covers and Folders shows no sign of cooling down anytime soon either.

The last recession hit the market in 1982. And then on till about 1996 is known as the dark period of Indian philately. During this period philatelic activities hit a all time low. Although India Post kept on issuing stamps and other products the investors, dealers and collectors were not stocking up. Consequently anything issued during 1983 to 1996 be it stamps, FDC, stationery or postmarks are getting harder to get day by day.

The most highly undervalued area of Indian philately at present is the postal stationery. It is time to buy the stationery while prices are low.

Gandhi Service at Auction

3½ Anna Mahatma Gandhi Service in block of 4 used sold for Euros 33,000, about Rs 2.56 million inclusive of buyer's premium on June 6, 2011 at Christoph Gaertner auction held in Germany. 3½ Anna and 1½ Mahatma Gandhi Service used on piece sold for Rs 260,000 inclusive of buyer's premium at the same auction. Both lots were sold with Pascal Scheller certificate not the usual RPS or BPA certification.

B S Chauhan Passes Away

B S Chauhan, senior philatelist from Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, passed away on May 31, 2011. He was a collector specializing in India and who also was an active exhibitor winning laurels at several exhibitions.

Medal in NAPEX Washington

Collector's Guide to First Day Covers & Folders of India 1947-1964 Official & Private by Praful Thakkar has been awarded Silver Bronze medal in NAPEX 2011 held at Washington, USA from June 3 to 5, 2011. This has earlier been awarded at Portugal 2010, Joburg 2010 South Africa, and SINE 2010 New Delhi.

SINE 2010 Certificates

The Certificates of Participation for the Stamps of India National Exhibition held on 11 to 13, 2010 at New Delhi have finally been mailed out this week by Speed Post. Please email sine@stampsofindia.com for information.

Forthcoming Stamp Issues

Jul 02: The United Theological College

Jul 06: D S Kothari

Jul 21: V S Page

Jul 25: Rashtrapati Bhavan, 4 Stamps

Jul 28: Kasu Brahmananda Reddy

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>

Mobile Money Order Service

India Post launched its Mobile Money Order Service on June 1, 2011 at ten post offices each in Bihar and Punjab. The service will later be extended in phases to other parts of the country as well. The reason behind giving priority to Bihar and Punjab for the launch of MMOS is that Punjab sends the highest number of money orders while Bihar receives the highest number of money orders in the country every year.

In Bihar the Mobile Money Order Service will be available at Patna GPO, Bankipore, Patna City, Gulzarbagh, Kadamkuan, Patna secretariat, Danapur, Lohia Nagar, Mahendru and Rajendra Nagar post offices.

Upon visit to nearest participating post office and after depositing the money to remit, the sender as well as the receiver gets an SMS code. The recipient can submit the code at the nearest participating post office to get the money. There is a limit of Rs 5000 for transfer and there is a fee of Rs 5%.

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>

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 May 31, 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.

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. Sabir Stamps, New Delhi
30. Emeskay Enterprises, Mumbai
31. Ranjit Singh, New Delhi
32. Eeshan Prakshan, New Delhi
33. Binod Kasera, Jaipur, Rajasthan
34. S. S. Somani
35. Parvesh Sahn
36. Kailash Nath, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
37. Rishi Chandiok, New Delhi

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

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

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 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 8-10: Nagercoil, Coins & Stamps

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 10-12: Palakkad,

Venue: Town Hall Annexe

Organizers: Palakkad Philatelic & Numismatic Club

Contact:

Stall: Rs 3,000

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

Organizers: Philatelic Club Thrissur

Venue: Pandi Samooha 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

Pakistan Withdraws Stamps

Pakistan issued a set of 2 se-tenant stamps of Rs 8 each on May 21, 2011 to commemorate 60-year diplomatic ties with China in the quantity of 250,000. One stamp showed President Asif Ali Zardari shaking hands with the President of China and the other had Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani shaking hands with his Chinese counterpart.

These stamps were withdrawn within couple of days of their release and are being reprinted for release later. The reason for withdrawal put forward is inverted watermark.

Well known philatelist from Karachi Mohammad Ali Jahangir says that commemorative issues are not usually printed on watermarked paper. Even then if the whole printing was on inverted watermark it doesn't remain a problem. Perhaps there is some other reason for the withdrawal of the stamps that we don't know.

[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

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Features & Resources

[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

Subject to Delhi Jurisdiction

The **Stamps of India Collectors Companion** 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

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>
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