

Stamps of India Collectors Companion

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

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Jhingan's Jottings

Hi

Further to our jotting in the previous issue, 3 more listing of stamp exhibitions in November 2011 landed on our table moment after we hit the button for mailing. We take it as a very positive sign of the growth of philately in India.

The 2nd Stamps of India National Exhibition has successfully concluded notwithstanding the sabotage attempts by the gang of philatelic criminals in cahoots with a few ignorant, misguided, gullible, pliable and corrupt postal officers. The fact of the matter is that the majority of all stake holders be it philatelists, philatelic dealers, philatelic media, and postal administrators support what is in the best interests of philately in India.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Vanav Kumar, Rakesh Walia, Vipin Kumar Thakur,

We invite your inputs writeback@stampsofindia.com

Stamps of India National Exhibition

The efforts of the entire SINE Team bore fruit when the Stamps of India National Exhibition was inaugurated by Ajay Maken – India's Minister of State (Independent Charge) Youth Affairs and Sports. Speaking on the occasion he said that "the exhibition brought back memories of my childhood days when I gained a lot of knowledge thru stamps." He also said that "being a competitive hobby it should be included as a sport so more and more young people will be encouraged to join this educative hobby". Maken also released a set of Picture Post Cards on several national anniversaries brought out on this occasion.

The occasion had special display on 100 years of Delhi; World's First Stamp – Penny Black; Scinde Dawk – Red and White - A popular name for the first stamp issued in Asia in 1852; India's first stamp issued in 1854; 1st Aerial Post Cover between Allahabad and Naini; 1st stamp of Independent India and a variety of stamps honouring India and Indian from countries across the world. The exhibition was attended by eminent persons both philatelists and stamp lovers with some of the best international award winning exhibits from India being present.

On the evening of the Day 1 Aries Auction held their auction sale that saw brisk bidding. Later the guests moved to Spirit Restaurant and Bar in Connaught Place for the Official Reception that went on till the wee hours.

The highlight of Day 2 was the unique concept of on the Spot Auction in collaboration with the Philatelic Dealers Association (PDA) where stand holders contributed lots to be auctioned on the spot. Rohit Prasad – Vice President PDA conducted the auction successfully.

On Day 3 with the successful holding of Spot Auction a day before and on popular demand, the Spot Auction was held once again with full success.

The jury team was led by Dr Sita Bhateja as President with Sahadeva Sahoo, and AK Bayanwala as Vice Presidents, Anil Suri as Secretary, Savita Jhingan, and Arun Agarwal as Jurors. Rajesh Varma and Prashant Pandya were the Apprentice Jury while P R Maru was the Senior Consultant. The jury team worked long hours to complete its work by the end of the 2nd day. The Jury awarded 12 Gold, 32 Silver, and 17 Bronze medals.

The Award List has already been uploaded for your viewing. on the website at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/ChaloDelhi/2011/awarawardslist.htm>

A few highlights of the awards include **Kishor Chandak**, Indian Postal Instructional Labels & Markings 1874 – 1907, **Gold with National Champion Grand Prize**; **Abhai Mishra**, Icy Continent & Indian Expeditions, **Gold with National Grand Prize**; Anirudh Sethi, Fiscals of Gondal State, Gold with **Best In Class 'Revenues'**; George Sebastian, The Sun Myths And Manifestations, Gold with **Best in Class 'Thematic'**; Abhiti Mishra ABC Through Stamps, Silver with **Best in Class 'Youth'**; Carmel High School, Flora & Fauna, Silver with **Best in Class Trophy - 'School Collection'**

Stamps of India National Exhibition concluded on Sunday November 6, 2011; the last function being the award distribution ceremony. The ceremony was hosted by philatelist and renowned anchor Pallab Bose and on the dais were Shiv Nandan Sharma an eminent philatelist who has been in the field of philately for more than 55 years and who has been mentoring many a collectors to build and improve their collections, Anil Suri, Secretary of the Jury Team who read the Jury Report; and Savita Jhingan, Chief Operating Officer of Stamps of India National Exhibition, who gave the vote of thanks. It was an honor for all philatelists to receive their awards and blessings from Sharma

Visitors to the show enjoyed the display of wonderful collections; they were especially attracted to Beyond Boundaries a collection in the Invitee Class that features stamps honoring India from a host of countries across the world. The Invitee Class collection on Automobiles that had receipts (even for Rolls Royce!) and similar memorabilia on automobiles for more than 50 years was a huge draw.

The exhibition also had the privilege of having several international visitors and we must mention a couple of them. John de Heer from Holland enjoyed interacting with both the collectors and the dealers. For John it was his second visit and he hopes to join SINE next year also. Another notable presence was that of Nick Leavinge from England who has been the Founder President of Silver

Jubilee Study Circle and who gave valuable assistance in mounting, changing midway, and dismounting the exhibits late in nights.

We would like to conclude this report with a big thank you to all those who contributed to the success of the 2nd Stamps of India National Exhibition.

Forthcoming Stamp Issues

Nov 14: Children's Day, 2 Stamps, Save Tiger (Children's Paintings)

Nov 21: Heritage Wall Paintings, 2 Stamps, Shekhawati Paintings, Warli Paintings

Nov 25: Grand Lodge of India

Nov 00: R Venkataraman

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>

New Stamp Released

INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

India Post released a postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Indian Council of Medical Research on November 8, 2011 on the occasion of its centenary.

Kamleshwar Singh 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. Security Printing Press, Hyderabad printed 0.3 million stamps by Wet Offset process.

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>

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

Gaurier Joins Postal Services Board

Santosh Gaurier joined the Postal Service Board as Member in charge of Operations. He is Indian Postal Service Officer of 1978 batch.

Rajmal Jain is No More

Noted dealer in stamps and coins, Rajmal Jain, formerly of Delhi before he migrated to Jaipur, breathed his last on November 8, 2011. He will always be remembered for forming perhaps the best collection of Hundies of Indian and Indian States. He specialized in Fiscals of Indian States and in Cinderellas.

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>

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

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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.

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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

Nov 10-12: Palakkad, Kerala

Venue: Town Hall Annexe

Organizers: Palakkad Philatelic & Numismatic Club

Stall: Rs 3,000

Nov 12-14: Indore, YI Numismatics & Philatelic Fair

Venue: Basket Ball complex, Race course road, Indore

Organizers: Indore coin society, Young Indians and Numismatic promotion board

Contact: Girish Sharma, President Ph: 09977050987 & 09425052158 noblecoinsindia@gmail.com

Nov 16-17: New Delhi, Philately Exhibition

Venue: St Xavier's School, Civil Lines

Organizers: North Delhi Division of India Post

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

Venue: Pandya Samooha Madom Hall

Organizers: Philatelic Club Thrissur

Contact: C J Vincent, 0 98470 21886

Nov 18-20: Rajkot, One Frame Philatelic Exhibition

Venue: Shri Shyamaprasad Art Gallery, Racecourse, Rajkot
Contact: Secretary, RAJPEX-2011, C/o Philatelic Bureau, G P O, Rajkot 360001, Tel 0281 -2223883

Nov 24-25: Chandigarh Philatelic Exhibition
Venue: Training Hall, @nd Floor, GPO, Sector 17, Chandigarh
Organizers: Chandigarh Division of India Post

Nov 24-25: New Delhi, Philately Exhibition
Venue: National Rail Museum, Chanakyapuri
Organizers: South West Delhi Division of India Post

Nov 24-26: Coimbatore, Kovaipex
Organizers: Coimbatore Division of India Post
Contact: Coimbatore Philatelic Bureau 0422 2382930

November 25-26: Tiruchirappalli, ROCPEX-2011 District Philatelic Exhibition
Venue: Bishop Heber Higher Secondary School, Teppakulam,
Organizers: Trichirapalli Division of India Post with Trichy Philatelist's Association

Nov 25-28: Jammu Stamps Show
Venue: Kala Kendra, Bikram Chowk, Jammu
Organizers: Jammu & Kashmir Circle of India Post

November 28-29: Madurai, VAIGAIPEX-2011 District Philatelic Exhibition
Venue: MADITISA Hall
Organizers: Madurai division of India Post

Dec 9-11: Pune, COINEX-PUNE 2011 National Numismatic Exhibition
Venue: Sankalp Hall, Lalbahadur Shastri Road, Navi Peth, Opp. Petrol Pump, Pune
Organizers: International Collector's Society of Rare Items Pune

Dec 16-18: Lucknow, UPHILEX 10th Uttar Pradesh State Exhibition
Venue: Lalit Kala Academy, Lucknow
Organizers: Uttar Pradesh Circle of India Post

Dec 23-25: GUJPEX , Gujarat State philatelic exhibition
Venue: Akota Atithi Gruh, Akota, Vadodara
Organizers: Gujarat Circle of India Post

Dec 23-25: Kolkata, Mudra Utsav 2011
Time: 10am to 7pm
Venue: Haldirams Banquet Hall, 24 Ballygunge park, Kolkata 700019
Organizers: Numismatic Society of Calcutta
Contact: email: secretarynsckolkata@yahoo.com
Website: www.nsckolkata.com

2012

Jan?, Calicut?, KERAPEX, Kerala State philatelic exhibition
Venue:?
Organizers: Kerala Circle of India Post

Jan 13-16: Pune, MAHAPEX, 11th Maharashtra State philatelic exhibition
Venue: Ganesh Kala Krida Rangmanch
Organizers: Maharashtra Circle of India Post

Jan 22-24: New Delhi, Delhi State philatelic exhibition
Venue: National Science Centre, Bhairon Marg, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi,
Organizers: Delhi Circle of India Post

Feb 3-5: Calicut, MUDRA 2012 - A Festival of Coins, Stamps & Currencies
Organizers: The Calicut Philatelic Club, & The Calicut Numismatic Society
Venue: Corporation Jubilee Hall, Near Tali Temple, Calicut
Contact: Rajesh Nair 09847755125, Or Sooraj 09447124066

Feb 10-12: New Delhi, BHARTIYE MUDRAYE – 2012
Venue: Bhai Veer Singh Sahitya Sadan, Gole Market, New Delhi
Organizers: Delhi Coin Society

Meetings of the Philatelic Organizations in India 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

Stamps of India National Exhibition – A Foreign Perspective

By Nick Levinge

The exhibition was due to open at 12 noon on 3 November. It happened as scheduled. A ceremony was held in the presence of a Government Minister and eminent Philatelists. Speeches were mercifully short and to the point and the whole thing gave dignity to the Exhibition without unduly detracting in time or emotion from the pleasures of stamps which is ultimately what everyone came for.

At 2.30 a.m. on the same day it was hard to believe anything would be ready with exhibits to put on display boards and huge heavy pieces of glass to somehow be put over them. Members of the highly professional team of erectors worked through the night along with a famous couple who carried out most of the organisation of the event, and all was ready by nine a.m., let alone noon. To my way of thinking this typifies some truths I have discovered about Indian people. Firstly, they are capable of absolutely anything if they want it badly enough. Secondly, they have a massive capacity for hard work; and thirdly, they like to keep you guessing as to whether anything will work or not.

The Exhibition is only in its second year, and such seems to me to reflect much that is happening both in Indian society at large and in a way which is possibly connected, with the development of the philatelic scene. There is nothing new about philately in India. I have personally met people who have been passionate about philately at a very high level for more years than they care to remember, and achievements in terms of research and collecting are impressive. Similarly there is nothing new about the Indian Middle Class, by which I refer to educated Indians working in a commercial, professional or bureaucratic capacity who have more money than is necessary to satisfy their immediate needs and can therefore consider things such as “The World’s Greatest Hobby”, as

philately is referred to by the U.K. Philatelic Bureau. What is new is the huge growth in both this Middle Class and, perhaps as a result, philately.

We therefore have a situation of massive growth, increasing numbers and a rapidly emerging scene on the back of what has gone before. I found this reflected in the exhibits, 355 frames, no less. My own collection is a slightly unusual one, in that it does not fit conveniently into any category for competitive display, but I instinctively prefer traditional and postal history exhibits. I was therefore disappointed with the number of exhibits in these classes, but the numbers were compensated for by the quality, both of the material and the research behind it. I do not think it was an accident that these exhibits won a disproportionate number of gold medals. They demonstrate the enormous potential that there is out there. By stressing my own prejudices I do not wish in any way to belittle the thematic entries that made up the bulk of the displays. Huge pleasure is gained in the making of these exhibits and great interest for those who are inspired to examine them. I simply look forward to ever increasing quality and sophistication and such an increase in numbers that there will be no possibility of displaying any but the very best of those who wish to compete nationally.

I was intrigued to see what the dealers had to offer. Dealers can only offer what is available and what they judge the buyers wish to have. Inevitably, therefore, a lot of stock is made up of modern Indian stamp issues. A lot of the older Indian material is currently overseas, though Indians are bringing it home as quickly as they possibly can. Thus there is not currently a lot for dealers to offer. Modern GB, both mint and used and on FDC is almost completely worthless and unsaleable. Not so for modern India which is obviously well collected. Complete sheets seem to be particularly popular. I think that as the market becomes more mature and sophisticated, Indian collectors will become far fussier about condition of material than they are now. Maybe they will even stray away from Indian issues occasionally. I noticed little in the displays, other than in thematic exhibits, and almost nothing from the dealers other than Indian material. Whilst Indians are justifiably fiercely proud of and devoted to their country, I am sure that ultimately interest will spread to foreign parts even if only driven by spiralling cost and relative scarcity of the Indian material.

I liked the hall where the opening and closing ceremonies and the auctions were held. I thought it unfortunate that the exhibition room somewhat resembled the building site visible from the windows, but at the end of the day, people come to look at and buy stamps and to meet with fellow philatelists, and not to look at the ceiling. I liked the idea of combining a National Exhibition with auctions, and feel certain that this is an area which will be expanded in the future and will no doubt give the organisers a lot to discuss.

My final words have to be about the people. As a foreigner in your midst, at a National Exhibition, I was made most welcome and had a large number of interesting and rewarding conversations with delightful people. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and hope that all others who attended got as much out of it as I did. I thank the organisers for the incredible amount of effort that went into it and give you my best wishes for future events, which I feel sure, will go from strength to strength.

(The author is an Englishman currently staying in Delhi, and who is trying, between other things, to do a little philatelic research here).

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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>

ADMINISTRIVIA

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[Princely States Report](http://www.princelystates.com/) <http://www.princelystates.com/>

Journal of Indian States History, Philately & Numismatics

[Stamps on India](http://www.stampsonindia.com/) <http://www.stampsonindia.com/>

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

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