



Stamps of India Collectors Companion

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

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Jhingans Jottings

Hi,

In a written reply in the parliament on May 16, 2012, the Minister of State for Communications & Information Technology virtually gave the New Rules for Issue of Commemorative Postage Stamps. Read it in this issue and send us your comments.

India Post is still to formulate its National Postal Policy and the draft document circulated does not even contain the words stamps or philately. The stake holders of Indian philately should be worried. Let us all join hands to ensure India Post formulates a National Philatelic Policy incorporating good philatelic practices.

The Ministers have been taken for a ride by bureaucrats on several occasions. One can laugh or feel ashamed when the Ministers are reading speeches prepared by the postal officers that have serious errors of facts and figures. The most amazing part is no one is ever held responsible for a philatelic action however incorrect it may have been as if there is an immunity to punishment for philatelic misdemeanors.

Today most of the philatelic activities in India are carried out on personal understanding whether correct or incorrect, or even whims and fancies of postal officers in absence of a clear policy with effective deterrents. Thus there is an urgent need for inclusion of punishment and penalty clauses in the India Post's philatelic rules and regulations.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: R S Gupta

We invite your inputs writeback@stampsofindia.com

Fakes of Indian Rarities

Although we have been hearing about fakes of Mahatma Gandhi 1948 Rs 10 for over a year now, no one was able to show us one. We now have seen one listed for sale on eBay and offered as a Forgery. It looks dangerously good in the image, especially the large one. Have a look at http://www.ebay.com/itm/251063464476?ssPageName=STRK:MEWAX:IT&_trksid=p3984.m1423.l2649

The problem is not in selling a forgery as a forgery but there is always a risk that the new owner may pass it on further as genuine. If we can lay our hands on this forgery, we may be able to document its characteristics.

India 1992 Birds of Prey Error Re 1 instead of Rs 2 was offered on Delcampe in March 2012 in the quantity of, believe it or not, 5 pieces including a pair. One catalog published in India lists that only 4 pieces were found within Annual Collector been told that these were fakes but we have no ways to ascertain the facts for ourselves.

Here are the listings at Delcampe for the Birds of Prey Error:

<http://www.delcampe.net/page/item/id,166564895,var,India-1992-Birds-of-Prey-error-1r-instead-2r-One-Pair,language,E.html>

<http://www.delcampe.net/page/item/id,166464228,var,India-1992-Birds-of-Prey-error-1r-instead-2r,language,E.html>

<http://www.delcampe.net/page/item/id,166460622,var,India-1992-Birds-of-Prey-error-1r-instead-2r,language,E.html>

Forthcoming Stamp Issues

May 17: M B Kadadi

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/2012stamps.htm>

New stamp Released

Karpoor Chandra Kulish

India Post released a stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 to commemorate Karpoor Chandra Kulish, an outstanding journalist, on May 16, 2012. Kulish also was a poet, a scholar of Vedas, a thinker, and philosopher who founded well known Hindi newspaper Rajasthan Patrika.

Kamleshwar Singh designed the stamp, and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed the pictorial First Day of Issue postmark. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs 2 each. Security Printing Press, Hyderabad printed 350,000 stamps by wet offset process.

ILLUSTRATED LISTS <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2012stamps.htm>

New Issues Availability Status

AWAITED

2008: Aldabra Giant Tortoise, Miniature Sheet

2009: Heritage Jain Temples, Miniature Sheet

Recent Special Postmarks

May 05: Batmaloo, Schools Stamps Show 2012

ILLUSTRATED LISTS <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2012pm.htm>

e-Postal order

V Narayanasamy, Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, and Prime Minister's Office, informed the Parliament on May 10, 2012 that Government of India has 'in-principle' agreed to start sale of Indian Postal Orders through internet on payment in foreign currency to facilitate Indians living abroad to use the Right to Information Act (RTI) effectively.

The Right to Information (Regulation of Fee & Cost) Rules, 2005 provides that a request for obtaining information should be accompanied by an application fee of Rs 10 by way of cash against proper receipt or by demand draft or bankers cheque or Indian Postal Order payable to the Accounts Officer

2nd National Stamp Fair

The Philatelic Dealers Association is organizing the Second National Stamp Fair from 16 to 18 June 2012. The first edition held in June 2011 was a tremendous success and we expect the same this time. The venue is the same, Bhai Vir Singh Sadan, Bhai Vir Singh Marg, Gole Market, New Delhi – 110001. It is centrally located, air-conditioned and spacious. We expect larger number of dealers than last time and steps are being initiated to widely publicise the event. The cost of each table is Rs. 6,000 inclusive of lunch and tea for 2 persons on all 3 days. The timings are 11am to 6pm on all 3 days. For booking, contact Ashish Talwar, Secretary General, Philatelic Dealers Association, phone 98101 86108.

Auctions will compliment the event. Aries Auctions will hold its auction at 6pm on 17 June. At 6pm on 16 and 18 June, Spot auction will be held. All participating stand-holders are eligible to consign material for the spot auction.

The following dealers from all over the world have already confirmed their participation:

1. Arun Kumar Agarwal, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
2. Aries Auctions, New Delhi
3. Aries Stamps and Collectibles, Gurgaon, Haryana
4. Eeshan Prakashan, New Delhi
5. Rohit Prasad, New Delhi
6. Stamps R Us, New Delhi
7. Jay Cee Enterprises, Puducherry
8. Umesh Aggarwal, Jaipur, Rajasthan
9. R. S. Gupta, Bengaluru, Karnataka
10. Sunil Joseph, Kerala
11. Stamps of India, New Delhi
12. Sarfaraz Ahmed, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
13. Rajeev Kumar, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
14. Dhiren Singh Chauhan, Sidhi, and Arvind Mullick, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh
15. Sabir Stamps, New Delhi
16. Abdul Ghaffar Gandhi, Jaipur, Rajasthan
17. Arun Bhattacharya and Swapan Chandra, Kolkata, West Bengal
18. Tanmoy Chatterjee and Subrata Chowdhury, Kolkata, West Bengal
19. A. R. C. Shah, New Delhi and R. K. Bhatia, Amritsar, Punjab
20. N. K. Dhuper, New Delhi,
21. Rajesh Mittal, New Delhi

22. Ranjit Singh, New Delhi
23. Jigjid Gantsogt, Mongolia
24. Rajendra Mehta, Surat, Gujarat
25. Kamal Aggarwal, and Shafiq Khan, Uttar Pradesh
26. Philatelic Centre (P. C. Jaiswal), Kolkata
27. Deepak Sadhukhan, Kolkata
28. Biswanath Prasad, Kolkata
29. S. K. Mahato (Amar), Kolkata
30. Dipak Dave, Nadiad, Gujarat

New Philatelic Publication:

Title: The Bombay-Aden Sea Post Office

Authors: Mike Dovey and Peter Bottrill

Publishers: The TPO and Seapost Society, 2012

Other details: large (A4) paperback (softcover), 176 pages

based on the collection of Peter Bottrill; Fine new handbook covering the postal markings of P&O's Bombay-Aden Sea Post Office. Profusely illustrated with color reproductions of covers and illustrations of the many cancellation types.

Price: GBP 32.95 + 11.64 for air mail postage

Contact: mikedovey@btinternet.com

Issue of Commemorative Postage Stamps

Sachin Pilot, Minister of State for Communications & Information Technology, gave the following information in a written reply in the Lok Sabha on May 16, 2012:

The commemorative postage stamps issued by the Department of Posts are determined based on the following rules:

1. Commemorative postage stamps will be issued on subjects that have a national or international stature or have made national/international contribution or impact or reflect national/international areas of concern.
2. The Annual Issue Programme shall reflect regional, cultural and ethnic balance.
3. Stamps on a particular subject shall issue only once, except thematic such as wild life, environment, transport, flora fauna etc. or regular issues like Children's Day, Season Greetings and sets on heritage, nature, culture, art, architecture etc.
4. Stamps shall be issued only on the apex institutions, not on branches of any institution or organization.
5. There shall be not over 50 issues (maximum 100 stamps) of commemorative stamps per annum.
6. Stamps on personalities shall not exceed 10% of the Annual Issue Programme.
7. The Union Minister incharge of the Ministry of Communications & IT may approve 5% of the Annual Issue Programme.
8. The date of issue shall be fixed by the Philately Division keeping in view the significant dates relating to the subject and the availability of slots in the printing schedule.
9. Dates of issue once fixed shall not be changed. A proponent may hold a presentation function on any day on or after the date of issue.

10. Proposals may be sent by any citizen of India.
11. Proposals should be sent at least two years in advance for consideration by the Philatelic Advisory Committee (PAC) and approval by the competent authority.
12. Proposals must be submitted in the format available on indiapost.gov.in.
13. Proposals will be considered and recommended/not recommended by the PAC. They will not be carried forward for the next PAC meeting.
14. Proponents shall follow the protocol for release functions.
15. The Department of Posts will decide the subject matters, prohibited subjects renewal of philatelic products, procedure for proposal consideration and issue/release of a stamp, period of sale of commemorative/special stamps and for definitive stamps and postal stationery. It will also determine issue policy, withdrawal policy and archival policy.
16. The denominations of postage stamps shall be in consonance with domestic and international postal tariffs.
17. The personalities on whom commemorative stamp may be issued should be of national or international importance. The occasion to be commemorated must be the birth centenary or 10th / 25th /50th /100th death anniversary. No stamp will be issued sooner than ten years after an individual's death. A commemorative stamp shall be issued in honour of the head of State on his/her first death anniversary.
18. A stamp on an institution, building, monument etc. may be issued on its centenary/125th anniversary/ 150th anniversary etc. The building, institution to be so honoured must be Heritage site of national/international importance or site recognized by ASI of national/international importance. Building of regional importance may be commemorated with issue of special cover with special cancellation.
19. At least 25% of the stamps issued in a year will be on popular themes like flora, fauna, culture, heritage etc.
20. Proponents for the stamps relating to institutions/events/large organisations are required to make a mandatory purchase of a minimum number of 1 lakh stamps and the requisite philatelic ancillaries.

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.

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Largest Collection of Stamps featuring Birds

Daniel Monteiro, an Office Assistant at the St Mary's Syrian (SMS) College at Brahmavar in Udupi district, member of Dakshin Kannada Philatelic and Numismatic Association, Mangalore, has 4,911 stamps on birds from 263 countries - setting the new world record for the Largest collection of stamps featuring birds, according to the World Records Academy

Monteiro attempted for the new world record by organising a philatelic exhibition titled "Birdpex-2011" in Brahmavar in December 2011.

The Guinness world record is held by Paul-Erwin Oswald of Germany, who had a collection of 2,166 stamps on birds from 126 countries as of March 14, 2011.

Monteiro started collecting stamps at the age of 11 when his teacher encouraged him to develop a hobby. He began by collecting stamps of all types and went on to specialise in water birds. Later, he took to ornithological studies, bird watching and environment protection. He won numerous awards, including 10 international-level awards from Belgium, Austria, South Africa, Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Korea, Indonesia and China, 21 national-level and 13 State-level and from 31 prestigious institutions in Karnataka.

Monteiro's another achievement was his entry into the Limca Book of Records, a due recognition for his rare collection of stamps on ducks, and also three records for largest collection of stamps on ducks, largest collection of stamps on birds, and one-man largest exhibition "Birdpex-2011".

Monteiro, on his own initiative, organised 163 exhibitions on philately and 31 workshops on environment and philately, and has also actively involved himself in creating awareness about wildlife and environment protection.

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.

Stamp of the Past: Indian Heritage in Philately

The Archaeological Survey of India has completed 150 years of its existence as the Nation's premier organization for archaeological research and protection of the cultural heritage. As a significant component of the year-long celebrations, an exhibition titled "Stamp of the past: Indian Heritage in Philately" in collaboration with Department of Posts besides contribution from some philatelists will be mounted and inaugurated on the occasion of International Museum Day on 18th May, 2012 at Red Fort. The International Council of Museums (ICOM) observes International Museum Day to spread public awareness of the role of museums in the development of society. The original stamps, first day cover, mini sheets and other philatelic objects provided by the Department of Posts and material provided philatelists will be displayed in the exhibition.

The Postage stamp is a mode of commemorating, celebrating and promoting National Heritage and Events. It plays a great role as an ambassador, a brand image of postal administration, a statement of sovereignty of a nation and also acts as significant carrier of the public message reaching the entire national as well as its international diaspora. Postal stamps mirror the rich and many-splendoured aspects of this land and were used to highlight the country's wealth of cultural and natural heritage. Many beautiful stamps were issued in thematic sets on arts, architecture, crafts and maritime heritage. Besides above, great leaders of nation and personalities who have made immense contributions in areas like painting, literature, science, music, etc. have also been honored.

The Department of Posts has frequently released stamps of various denominations on different occasions illustrating monuments or heritage making them popular among the masses, creating consciousness about national legacy and stirring interest for their protection and preservation in the minds of people. Thus it serves the purpose of arousing awareness about cultural properties which is one of the prime objectives of Archaeological Survey of India.

The exhibition aims to accomplish the task of creating a sense of pride in our cultural legacy and imbuing the citizens of India with a heightened sense of responsibility about their contribution to the protection of our heritage.

The exhibition will be on show from May 18 to July 17, 2012 (except Monday) from 9 AM to 5 PM at Red Fort. Bilingual brochures in Hindi and English on the exhibits have also been published.

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.

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 18-20: Hyderabad, 3rd National Numismatic Exhibition

Organizers: Marudhar Arts, Bangalore

Time: 10am to 7 pm

Venue: Maruti Gardens Convention Center, No. 11-4-669/1, Beside Om International Hotel, Lakdi Ka Pool, Hyderabad

Contact:

June 16-18: New Delhi, 2nd National Stamp Fair

Venue: Bhai Veer Singh Sahitya Sadan, Gole Market, New Delhi

Timing: 11am to 6pm on all 3 days,

Organizers: Philatelic Dealers Association

Tables: Rs. 6,000 inclusive of lunch and tea for 2 persons on each day.

Steel almira is available on additional charge and required to be booked in advance

Auctions: Aries Auction at 6pm on Sunday, Jun 17

Contact: Ashish Talwar talwar2002@hotmail.com , 0 98101 86108

Oct 5-7: Nagpur, 3rd National Numismatic Exhibition

Organizers: Marudhar Arts, Bangalore in association Indian Coin Society, Nagpur

Venue: Mor Hindi Bhavan, Jhansi Rani Chowk, Nagpur

Contact:

Meetings of the Philatelic Organizations in India www.stampsofindia.com/info base/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

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

Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud <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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Stamps of India Publications

Stamps of India www.stampsofindia.com

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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