



Stamps of India Collectors Companion

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

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Hi,

Although the Stamps of India National Exhibition and India Post's the Delhi State Philatelic Exhibition are yet to be confirmed being held in December 2015, the Autograph Collectors Club of India has announced AUTOGRAPHEX 2015, National Exhibition of Autographs on December 11-13, 2015 in New Delhi. Several philatelists are also autograph collectors and if nothing else it is one reason to rejoice collectors in Delhi.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Gopal Biswas, Ranbir Singh, P G Bhargave, Venkatesh Das Agrawal

We invite your inputs writeback@stampsofindia.com

Released India 1929 Air Mail Stamps: A Study of Constant Varieties

World renowned distinguished philatelist, Dhirubhai Mehta released "India 1929 Air Mail Stamps: A Study of Constant Varieties" by Rohit Prasad on October 17, 2015 at the Philatelic Society of India meeting held at Mumbai GPO.

The book is divided in two parts and has a chapter each on India's First Air Mail Stamps, Understanding Varieties, and the Recorded Varieties. In addition the book has a bonus chapter on 1911 Air Mail flight which introduced air mail to the world. The section II of the book opens with the User Guide and goes on to illustrate the New Constant Varieties in next 233 pages. A total of 106 new Constant Varieties are documented.

To determine that a variety is neither an oddity nor a freak but is constant, a minimum of three examples of each variety have been shown. This might be 3 stamps, 3 covers or a combination thereof. In some cases additional examples of stamps have been shown where the stamp with variety is in one stamp on a strip or block. Wherever available, additional number of covers with variety has been shown. This is with a view to mark and approximate the period of usage of a particular variety. As air mail stamps were definitive in nature and printed in multiple print runs, the dates on used stamps and covers give some idea of the period in which the particular variety was produced.

The author has charted the varieties in a grid format where the varieties start from Top left to right of the stamp, goes down to the Middle left to right of the stamp and finally Bottom left to right of the stamp. This makes it easier for a collector to locate his variety in the book for identification as well as for those eureka moments of discovering hitherto unrecorded ones.

India 1929 Air Mail Stamps: A Study of Constant Varieties is A4 all color on art paper, hardbound having 300 Pages in Limited edition of 500 copies. Published & Distributed worldwide by Stamps of India Private Limited for Rs 5,000 post-paid in India, and USD 100 post-paid worldwide. Contact mj@stampsfindia.com for your copy today.

Report the philatelic activities in your area for publication here. We reimburse the costs and other agreed charges.

Forthcoming Stamp Issues

Oct 29: India - Africa Forum Summit, Set of 6 Stamps Rs 5, 5, 5, 5, 25, 25, Miniature Sheet, Presentation Pack

Oct 30: 1 Gorkha Rifles & 3 Gorkha Rifles

Nov/Dec: Zoological Survey of India

Nov/Dec: Fire Services in India

Nov/Dec: Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)

Nov/Dec: Devaraj Urs

Nov/Dec: Singers (set of stamps)

Nov/Dec: Mahabharata & Ramayana

Nov/Dec: India Singapore Joint Issue

New issues along with the First Day Cover and the information sheet, at Rs 5 each, are put on sale at over 1000 selected Post Offices including all Philatelic Bureaus and Philatelic Counters in India.

The issues are scheduled and rescheduled for release at very short notice of couple of days only at times! Thus it is virtually 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.stampsfindia.com as soon as it becomes available to us.

ILLUSTRATED LISTS <http://stampsfindia.com/lists/2015stamps.html>

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.

New Stamps Released

APJ ABDUL KALAM

Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India released a commemorative postage stamp on Dr A P J Abdul Kalam on October 15, 2015 at DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi. Dr Kalam was a distinguished scientist decorated with highest award Bharat Ratna, and a former President of India.

Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister of Communications and IT, Manohar Parrikar, Minister of Defence, Venkaiah Naidu, Minister of Urban Development and Dr Harsh Vardhan, Minister of Science and Technology were present on this occasion.

The stamp in the denomination of Rs 5, the inland letter rate, depicts the portrait of Dr Kalam with a missile in the background. The First Day Cover depicts the portrait of Dr Kalam.

Kamleshwar Singh designed the stamp, and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed the First Day of Issue postmark. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs 5 each. Security Printing Press, Hyderabad printed by wet offset process a total of 600,000 stamps in the sheets of 36 stamps each.

CHARKHA

India Post released a set of two commemorative postage stamps on the Charkha (spinning wheel), on October 15, 2015. A miniature sheet was also issued on the occasion.

The stamps, both in the denomination of Rs 5, the inland letter rate, depict Bardoli Charkha and Peti Charkha. The Miniature Sheet depicts Mahtma Gandhi with Peti Charkha. The First Day Cover depicts Mahtma Gandhi with Bardoli Charkha.

Sankha Samanta designed the stamps, miniature sheet, and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed the First Day of Issue postmark. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs 5 each. Security Printing Press, Hyderabad printed by wet offset process a total of 500,000 stamps each in the sheets of 45 stamps each. The miniature sheet was printed in the quantity of 200,000.

BORDER SECURITY FORCE

Vasumitra, Chief Postmaster General, Delhi Circle released a commemorative postage stamp on Border Security Force on October 21, 2015 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on its 50th year. Rajnath Singh, Minister for Home Affairs, was present on this occasion.

The stamp in the denomination of Rs 5, the inland letter rate, depicts the BSF's camel patrol in the hot deserts of Thar in Rajasthan guarding the international border between India and Pakistan. The First Day Cover depicts the BSF's camel patrol in the Republic Day parade.

Alka Sharma designed the stamp, the First Day Cover, and the First Day of Issue postmark. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs 5 each. Security Printing Press, Hyderabad printed by wet offset process a total of 800,000 stamps in the sheets of 45 stamps each.

ILLUSTRATED LISTS <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2015stamps.html>

Recent & Forthcoming Special Postmarks

Oct 15: Bangalore, Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation Centenary

ILLUSTRATED LISTS [Special Postmarks & Covers http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2015pm.html](http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2015pm.html)

ILLUSTRATED LISTS [Army Postal Service Issues http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2015aps.html](http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2015aps.html)

PHILATAIPEI 2015 Forms Now Available

The exhibit application forms for PHILATAIPEI 2016 World Stamp Championship Exhibition are now available for download at <http://stampsofindia.com/PHILATAIPEI2016.htm> . [PHILATAIPEI 2016](http://www.stampsofindia.com/PHILATAIPEI2016.htm), fourth World Stamp Championship Exhibition which will be the highest level of competition in philately, is being held at Taipei, Taiwan from October 21 to 26, 2016. The last date for submitting the forms to Anil Suri, the National Commissioner for India, is March 15, 2016.

ILLUSTRATED LISTS [Stamp Booklets http://stampsofindia.com/lists/sb10.html](http://stampsofindia.com/lists/sb10.html)

JOIN STAMPS OF INDIA GROUP ON FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stampsxchange/>

Emails sent to stampsxchange@groups.facebook.com will appear as posts in the group.

Stamps of India Online Offers

Rush your orders to orders@stampsofindia.com now. The orders will be fulfilled on first come first served basis. We also welcome enquiries from bulk buyers.

NEW India 1929 Air Mail Stamps: A Study of Constant Varieties by Rohit Prasad

The 300 Pages, A4 all color, art paper hardbound book is produced in the limited edition of 500 copies only. The book Distributed worldwide by Stamps of India Private Limited is available at Rs 5,000 post-paid in India and USD 100 post-paid worldwide. Send your orders today to mj@stampsofindia.com

Indian Antarctic Expedition Philatelist's Guide by Abhai Mishra

A complete priced catalogue of mails of Indian Antarctic Expeditions
Special Price Rs 1,500 post-paid in India | € 50 post-paid worldwide

Catalogue of Errors on Stamps of Modern India by Mrinal Kanti Roy

Rs 600 in India post-paid in India | USD 25 post-paid worldwide

Postal Stationery of British India 1856-1947 by Pratisad Neurgaonkar

Rs 650 post-paid in India | USD 25 post-paid worldwide

Gandhi Handbook

Nearly 500 all color pages with 2000 illustrations of stamps, covers, coins, currency, and all other collectibles on Gandhi theme. Hardbound with slip case. Original publisher's price Rs 1,500 or US\$ 60!

NOW AVAILABLE FROM STAMPS OF INDIA AT 33% OFF @ RS 1,000 POSTPAID in India US\$ 40 post-paid worldwide

Stanley Gibbons India Catalogue

Stanley Gibbons published the third edition of its India and Indian States Catalogue on Aug 20, 2009 at £22.50 equivalent approximately to Indian Rupees 2,300+. However there was a very special price of Rs 750 for India for this all color 240 page catalogue. We distributed it all over India.

NOW ON SALE AT INCREDIBLE OFFER: BUY 1 @ 750 & GET 1 FREE!!!! AND POST PAID in India

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

Text ADS Stamps of India Collectors Companion

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

Display Ads www.stampsofindia.com

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

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.

Recent & Forthcoming Events

* Revised / Updated information

Oct 25, 2015: 2nd Philatelic Exchange Meet, 9.30 am to 3.30 pm

Organizers: SIPA

Venue: Agarwal Samaj Hall, Varadarajulu Street, Egmore, Chennai

* Oct 30-31 & Nov 1-2, 2015: UTTARPEX-15 Zonal Philately Exhibition

Organizers: India Post

Venue: Lucknow, Lalit Kala Academy, Aliganj, Lucknow

Open for participation to exhibitors of Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand

Nov 20-22, 2015: Panjab Numismatic Exhibition

Organizers: Panjab Numismatic & Heritage Trust

Venue: Lions Bhavan, Udham Singh Nagar, Ludhiana

Exhibits, Seminars & Auctions by Oswal Antiques & Todywalla will be held during the exhibition.

Dec 4-6, 2015: Stamps of India National Exhibition **Tentative Dates, to be confirmed by next week**

Organizers: Stamps of India

Venue: NDMC Convention Centre, Parliament Street, New Delhi 110001

Dec 10-12, 2015: COINEX PUNE 2015

Organizers: ICSRI Pune

Venue: Sonal Hall Karve Road, Pune 411004

Dec 11-13, 2015: AUTOGRAPHEX 2015, National Exhibition of Autographs

Organizers: Autograph Collectors Club of India

Venue: Gallery D, All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society (AIFACS), 1 Rafi Marg, New Delhi

Contact: autographsindia@yahoo.com

Dec 25-27, 2015: Mudra Utsav
Organizers: Numismatic Society of Kolkata
Venue: Haldiram Banquets Hall, Ballyguange, Kolkata

Dec 26-28, 2015: Naturepex-2015, Philatelic Exhibition on Nature and Environment
Organizers: Eastern India Philatelists' Association
Venue: Bhubaneswar
Open to the exhibitors of Odisha, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh

2016

Jan 7-9, 2016: 13th Kerapex, Kerala State Level Philatelic Exhibition
Organizers: India Post
Venue: Sri Shankara Hall, M G Road, Thrissur
Open for participation to exhibitors of Kerala & Lakshadweep

Jan 8-10, 2016: Rare Fair 2016
Venue: Indraprastha Hall, Old Gangapur Naka, Gangapur Road, Nashik

*Jan 16-18, 2016: Mahapex-2016, Maharashtra State Level Philatelic Exhibition
Organizers: India Post
Venue: Regional Stamp Depot, Upnagar, Nashik

Jan 22-25, 2016: Tanapex-2016, Tamil Nadu State Level Philatelic Exhibition
Organizers: India Post
Venue: Mother Teresa Exhibition Hall, near Valluvar Kottam, Nungambakkam, Chennai 600034
Open for participation to exhibitors of Tamil Nadu & Puducherry

Jan ? 2016: Madhya Pradesh State Level Philatelic Exhibition
Organizers: India Post
Venue: Indore

Feb 26-28, 2016: National Numismatic Exhibition
Venue: The Bell Hotel, Majestic, Next to Bangalore City Railway Station, Bangalore

See Forthcoming Events online at <http://stampsofindia.com/events.htm>

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

VIEWS & OPINIONS

Readers Forum

Atish Jain, Kottayam

First of all I congratulate you for reviving this esteemed newsletter which we waited with much patience every Thursday, for getting news from the world of philately.

I am writing this letter to bring to your and other philatelists friends' notice, the poor arrangements by West Bengal postal circle for conducting state level exhibition after a gap of 10 years.

As you also might have witnessed the poor arrangements of dealers stall that measured 1.5 x 2 metre with a small table. In a small room 16 dingy stalls were housed and no arrangements were made for water, food and refreshments.etc. Moreover, there was no air conditioning in the hall and no fans were provided to the stall holders on the day one.

As a philatelist, I urge you to discuss these problems which may again come up in other exhibitions. We should work towards the upliftment of philately.....postal department it seems is not at all concerned....this was very clearly visible by the attitude of postal staff in Kolkata.

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

100 Years of Indian Cinema: Design Errors

By Gopal Biswas, Kolkata

Two serious errors of design have crept in the 100 Years of Indian Cinema issue of 2013. This exposes lack of proper research as well as verification of visuals while developing and approving designs of nation's stamps.

Dhirendranath Ganguli stamp

The portrait of Singer actor Rabin Banerjee is shown in place of actor director Ganguli.

Tapan Sinha stamp

The design has a still from the movie Kabuliwala beside Sinha's portrait on the stamp. However the still shown on the stamp is from the movie Kabuliwala that was not directed by Sinha but directed by Hemen Gupta under the banner of Bimal Roy with Balraj Sahni in the lead role. The movie Kabuliwala directed by Sinha was with Chhabi Biswas in the lead role.

On another note is the omission of actor and director P C Barua who has for some strange reason (lack of research again?) neither found a place in the list of 50 film personalities commemorated in the 100 Years of Indian Cinema issue nor in the 20+ stamps issued earlier on Indian cinema.

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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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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