

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION

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

Jan 7, 2016 | Published Every Thursday | Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan | #584

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Jhingan's Jottings

Hi,

One week is gone and still there is not even a clue about any new issue in 2016, what to say about a program of issue for the whole year!

India Post makes collectors of stamps of India live on the edge. The excitement of figuring out India Post's next move is akin to solving a great mystery. That rush of adrenaline ...

Maybe if India Post becomes predictable and adopts good philatelic practices, it may be boring? No?

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

Stamp Popularity Poll 2015

Stamps of India present the Stamp Poll 2015 to select the best stamp of 2015, the best miniature sheet of 2015 and the best sheetlet of 2015. Please select from the issues of 2015 and vote for the best stamp, miniature sheet, and sheetlet of 2015 in your opinion. Also write your name, city, email id, and philatelic interests on the ballot and email your ballots to: stamppoll@stampsofindia.com. The last date to receive the ballots at Stamps of India is February 9, 2016.

Please visit <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2015stamps.html> to view stamps, miniature sheets and Sheetlets of 2015. The results shall be announced based on the most number of votes polled. The results will be announced in the Issue of February 11, 2016. Several attractive philatelic prizes will be given away. The winners will be decided by draw of lots in case of a tie. Incomplete ballots shall not be considered.

JOIN STAMPS OF INDIA GROUP ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stampsexchange/> for news updates and discussions

Forthcoming Stamp Issues

?

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.stampsofindia.com as soon as it becomes available to us.

ILLUSTRATED LISTS <http://stampsofindia.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.

India Post Calendar 2016

India Post's 2016 Calendar features Baramasa series of paintings depicting twelve months of the year. Each painting highlights the essence of the season it depicts. India Post has issued a set of 4 stamps in 1996 featuring Ritu Rang (Colours of the Season). This stamp set is reproduced on every page of this twelve sheeter Calendar.

India Post has regularly been releasing "India Post Calendar" since 2010 and prominently featuring the stamps. However this year the focus of the Calendar is on paintings and stamps are reduced to a footnote like appearance.

The India Post 2016 Calendar is available for sale at the price of Rs 250 in the philatelic bureaus across the country as well as online at the <https://www.epostoffice.gov.in>.

[Report the philatelic activities in your area for publication here. We reimburse the costs and other agreed charges.](#)

Balloon Mail at Pollachi

India Post, jointly with Global Media Box Innovations, organized a Balloon Mail event on January 3, 2016. The hot air balloon took off from Sakthi Mills ground at Pollachi about 6.30 am and about an hour and half later it landed at Kovipalayam after travelling about 10 kilometres. C G Bhaskar, a philatelist from Chennai, and a staff of India Post travelled in the balloon along with the pilot and of course, 1,000 balloon mail covers. The Kovilpalayam post office delivered the carried mail.

Manju P. Pillai, Postmaster General of Western Region, Tamilnadu Circle of India Post released the special cover at a function at Pollachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry and it was received by B K Krishnaraj Vanavarayar, Chairman of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Coimbatore Kendra. India Post also organized a philatelic display, sale of stamps and philately products, and a My Stamp counter at the venue.

The Hot Air Balloon Carried Cover is available from January 5, 2016 at Chennai and Coimbatore philatelic bureaus at Rs 250 each.

The 2nd Tamil Nadu International Balloon Festival is being held in Pollachi on January 12 to 16, 2016.

ILLUSTRATED LISTS **Stamp Booklets** <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/sb01.html>

Recent & Forthcoming Special Postmarks

Dec 18: Kolkata, Indian Institute of Architect, West Bengal Chapter

Dec 27: Kolkata, World Thinkers & Writers Peace Meet

ILLUSTRATED LISTS **Special Postmarks & Covers** <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2015pm.html>

Amendments to FIP Statute and GREX

International Philatelic Federation (FIP) Board has circulated the proposed Revised FIP Statute and General Regulations for the Exhibitions (GREX) to all member federations in October 2015. These will be taken up for approval at the 74th FIP Congress at Taipei in October 26, 2016. The last revision was carried out in 2000 and some amendments were made in 2012.

There are significant changes in GREX proposed regarding competitive classes:

Open philately class is doing well and for the Open Philately exhibitors to receive the same status and the same medals as exhibitors in other competitive classes they must enter in one of FIP Commissions. FIP board, not wishing to increase the number of FIP Commissions, proposes this would be the Commission for Thematic Philately. After adopting Open Philately the new commission will be known as Commission for Thematic Philately and Open Philately.

FIP Board proposes Astro philately to merge with Aero philately and the new class will be known as Aero and Astro Philately.

All competitive classes except literature include Modern Philately and One Frame exhibits.

Stamps Missing from Jodhpur Philatelic Bureau

P R Kadela, Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, in a surprise inspection last week found stamps worth Rs 65,000 missing from the philatelic bureau at Jodhpur GPO. Vijay Bhagtani, the treasurer of the GPO has been suspended and investigations are on to verify the accounts of treasury and the philatelic bureau regarding philatelic issues.

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

Architectural Design Competition for Philately Bureau Bangalore

India Post invites entries from the students of Bachelor of Architecture course of recognized colleges of Bangalore City for designing a Philatelic Bureau at Bangalore GPO. Last date to receive the entries is January 31, 2016. The project will entail designing of Philately Bureau, Coffee shop, Post Shoppe, Library cum reading room and landscaping suited to the surroundings on a plot area of 786.70 square meters. Award of Rs 30,000, Rs 20,000, and Rs 10,000 will be given to First, Second and Third prize respectively.

Visit website www.karnatakapost.gov.in or facebook page at www.facebook.com/karnatakapostalcircle/ for further details.

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, printed on art paper hard bound book is being produced in the limited edition of 500 copies only and shall be available on October 17, 2015. The book Distributed worldwide by Stamps of India Private Limited will be 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

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

Feb 5-7, 2016: Madhya Pradesh State Level Philatelic Exhibition

Organizers: India Post

Venue: Pritamlal Dua Sabhagrah, Regal Chauraha, Indore

Feb 26-28, 2016: National Numismatic Exhibition

Venue: The Bell Hotel, Majestic, Next to Bangalore City Railway Station, Bangalore

*Feb 28, 2016: Philatelic Congress of India Regional Meeting

Venue: Rotary Hall, Opposite St Xavier's College, Church Road, off M I Road, Jaipur

Timings: 10am to 1pm

Contact: Rajesh Paharia (M) +919351716969 | shreetotal@gmail.com

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

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

The **Stamps of India Collectors Companion** is published by [Madhukar Jhingan](#) for **Stamps of India Private Limited**, 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. India. Mobile: +91-9811160965, WhatsApp +91-9350537037

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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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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