

# STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION

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

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## In This Issue

Stamp Popularity Poll 2015

Forthcoming Stamp Issues

Recent & Forthcoming Special Postmarks

Exhibition of Letters at Chennai

Political Content Allowed in Direct Post & ePost

Eastern India Philatelists' Association AGM

Post Office Holidays in 2016

Train Tickets at Post Offices

Social Security Schemes Re-launched in Tamil Nadu

Stamps of India Online Offers

Recent & Forthcoming Events

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## Jhingan's Jottings

Hi,

We will be attending the MAHAPEX 2016, 12<sup>th</sup> Maharashtra State Level Philatelic Exhibition at Nashik from January 16 to 18, 2016 and look forward to meeting fellow philatelists.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Sudhir Jain, Atish Jain, Rakesh Walia, Mukesh Malhotra

We invite your inputs [writeback@stampsofindia.com](mailto:writeback@stampsofindia.com)

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## 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](mailto: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.

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## Forthcoming Stamp Issues

Jan 24: Income Tax Appellate Tribunal

Jan 25: Vibrant India

Feb 6: 3rd International Fleet Review

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](http://www.stampsofindia.com) as soon as it becomes available to us.

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

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

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### **Recent & Forthcoming Special Postmarks**

Jan 06: Dharwar, Dr Veerendra Heggade

Jan 07: Thrissur, College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences Mannuthy, KERAPEX 2016 1/8

Jan 07: Thrissur, Kerala Institute of Local Administration, KERAPEX 2016 2/8

Jan 07: Thrissur, Thrissur District Cooperative Bank, KERAPEX 2016 3/8

Jan 08: Thrissur, Arattupuzha Pooram, KERAPEX 2016 4/8

Jan 08: Thrissur, Cherman Juma Masjid, KERAPEX 2016 5/8

Jan 08: Thrissur, St. Joseph Pontifical Seminary Carmeleri, KERAPEX 2016 6/8

Jan 09: Thrissur, Save Elephant - Save Culture, KERAPEX 2016 7/8

Jan 09: Thrissur, Laloor Model Solid Waste Management Project, KERAPEX 2016 8/8

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

ILLUSTRATED LISTS **Army Postal Service Issues** <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2015aps.html>

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### **Exhibition of Letters at Chennai**

In the days of cell phones, email, and text messages, letter writing can seem outdated. But it's an art worth bringing back and not only because of some misplaced sense of nostalgia either. The writing and reception of letters will always offer an experience that modern technology cannot touch. When it comes to sharing one's true thoughts, sincere sympathies, ardent love, and deepest gratitude, words travelling along an invisible superhighway will never suffice, because sending a letter is the next best thing to showing up personally at someone's door.

In order to promote the art of writing letters, Chennai City Region of India Post will be organizing an Exhibition of Letters. The Exhibition will commence in mid January 2016 and will be on for a period of about one month. This Exhibition is open to general public and anyone can participate in this. If you are in possession of a beautiful hand-written letter, with an interesting or special message, you can participate in the Exhibition. Letters could be in any context or relationship. It could be that of VIPs or ordinary persons. For e.g., a letter from a soldier from the National border to his parents describing his anxieties during the war (like Kargil War), letter from a famous personality to any ordinary person in a special context, letters from a famous personality written during her / his childhood, fan letters of any public personality, etc. The letter should have a brief description (2 – 3 lines) of the letter and its contents. All you have to do this is to submit your entries (in original, photo-copy or scanned copy) at the Philatelic Bureau, Anna Road HPO, Chennai 600002. Entries will be scrutinized by a panel of eminent jurists before exhibiting. Letters containing any offensive material will be summarily rejected. The Department reserves the right to exhibit/reject any entry. Please forward your letters to the Supervisor, Philatelic Bureau, Anna Road HPO, Anna Salai, Chennai 600002, Tel: 2854 3199, email: [chennaiphil@gmail.com](mailto:chennaiphil@gmail.com). Please participate in large numbers and spread the art of writing letters for generations to come.

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### **Political Content Allowed in Direct Post & ePost**

India Post has amended the clause-213(1) of Post Office Guide, Part I thus opens up avenues for conveying messages of Political parties through Postal services such as Direct Post and ePost to reach out to their potential voters.

Direct Post is one of the cost effective Direct mail service for un-addressed articles. The sender can specify the areas (and number of articles for each area), in which the sender wishes the Direct Post articles to be distributed. Post Office can also undertake pre-mailing activities, if any, including franking, inserting, gumming, pasting, etc. on payment.

ePost transmit the messages electronically and deliver the hard copies to the specific addressees through Postman / delivery staff. Absolutely no other media can match the sheer expanse of India Post in terms of volume and reach.

Political parties can disseminate information which they desire using the above services, provided these messages do not go against the interest of the State/ Foreign relations/ Communal harmony / Security, etc. as enshrined in the IPO Act/ Rules.

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

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### **Eastern India Philatelists' Association AGM**

The Annual General Body Meeting of the Eastern India Philatelists' Association (EIPA) was held on December 27, 2015 at Bhubaneswar. Following office bearers were elected to the Governing Body for a period of three years:

President: Bijoyshree Routray

Vice President: Debasis Mitra

Secretary: Ajit Kumar Dash

Joint Secretary & Treasurer: Anup Kumar Rout

Co-ordinator: Kasinath Sahoo

Advisor: Bijoy Kumar Sinha

Members: Kamal Chakravorty, Gangadhar Tripathy, Dr Prana Chand Panda, Pramod Saraf, Santanu Panigrahi, Shanti Swarup Rath, Dr Bibhudatta Mishra, Akhaya Kumar Nayak, Bijoy Kumar Biswal, Anil Dhir, Shakil Ahmed, Ajaya Kumar Barik, Dr C S Basak, Manoj Kumar Mohapatra, Hari Bandhu Ojha, Dr Pradeep Kumar Padhy, Biswanath Mishra and Dr Santoshini Panigrahi

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

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### **Post Office Holidays in 2016**

India Post offices shall observe following holidays nationwide in 2016:

Jan 26: Republic Day

Mar 25: Good Friday

Apr 20: Mahaveer Jayanti

May 21: Buddha Purnima

Jul 06: Idu'l Fi'tr

Aug 15: Independence Day

Sep 12: Idu'l Zuha

Oct 02: Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday

Oct 11: Dussehra

Oct 12: Muharram

Oct 30: Diwali

Nov 14: Guru Nanak's Birthday

Dec 13: Prophet Mohammed's Birthday

Dec 25: Christmas

In addition to the above 14 holidays, 3 holidays shall be decided from the list indicated below by the Central Government Employees Welfare Coordination Committee in the State Capitals:

Holi

Ram Navmi

Janmashtami

Makar Sakranti

MahaShivratri

Ganesh Chaturthi

Rath Yatra

Onam  
Pongal  
Basant Panchmi  
Dussehra Additional Day  
Vishu, Baisakhi, Visakhadi, Bihu, Ugadi, Chitra Sukladi, Cheti Chand, Gudi padva, Navratra, Nauraj, Chhath Pooja, Karva Chauth

The following 3 holidays from the list above will be observed in National Capital Territory of Delhi:

Mar 24: Holi

Apr 15: Ramnavmi

Aug 25: Janmashtami

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### Forgeries & Frauds Alerts

If you detect forgeries and frauds of Indian philatelic items, report to [suspect@stampsofindia.com](mailto:suspect@stampsofindia.com).

The names of volunteers and contributors will not be published, if so desired.

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### Train Tickets at Post Offices

Railway tickets in classes as well as Tatkal tickets can be booked at identified Post Offices through Passenger Reservation System under the provisions of the agreement signed between India Post and Ministry of Railways.

This service was introduced during the year 2008 in a single Post Office and gradually now available at 8 Post Offices in Chennai City Region viz. Shastri Bhavan PO, IIT PO, Sriperumbudur PO, Kalpakkam PO, Gingee PO, Villiyannur PO, Tiruvettipuram PO and Chengam PO.

In Odisha Circle it is now available in following 11 post offices: Sundergarh, Banki, Aska, Bhanjanagar, Utkal University, Gunupur, Umerkote, Malkangiri, Salipur, and Patnagarh.

In Uttarakhand Circle it is now available in following 8 post offices:

Almora, Bageshwar, Berinag, Kausani, Ranikhet, Pithoragarh, Champawat, and Dharchula.

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### Social Security Schemes Re-launched in Tamil Nadu

Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal Pension Yojana (APY) are the three social security schemes pertaining to the insurance and pension sector launched on May 9, 2015 by the Prime Minister of India. These are convenient social security protection linked to auto debit facility from the bank account of the subscriber.

To popularize these schemes, particularly in rural areas, Tamil names are coined as 'PRADHAMAR SUDAROLI KAAPEEDU', 'PRADHAMAR NATCHATHIRA PAADHUKAPPU' and 'ATAL PENSION THITTAM'. These schemes are re-launched on January 1, 2016 at Avadi Head Post office by Mervin Alexander, Postmaster General, Chennai City Region.

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### Stamps of India Online Offers

Rush your orders to [orders@stampsofindia.com](mailto: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](mailto: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>

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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)

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

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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.

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### **Recent & Forthcoming Events**

\* Revised / Updated information

\*Jan 16-18, 2016: MAHAPEX 2016, 12<sup>th</sup> Maharashtra State Level Philatelic Exhibition

Organizers: India Post

Venue: Postal Stores Depot, Upnagar, Nashik

Feb 5-7, 2016: MAPPEX 2016, 12<sup>th</sup> Madhya Pradesh State Level Philatelic Exhibition

Organizers: India Post

Venue: Pritamlal Dua Sabhagrah, Regal Chauraha, Indore

\*Feb 6-9, 2016: PUNPEX 2016, 3<sup>rd</sup> Punjab State Level Philatelic Exhibition

Organizers: India Post

Venue: Main Auditorium, DAV College, Sector 10, Chandigarh

\*Feb 15-17, 2016: Delhi State Level Philatelic Exhibition

Organizers: India Post

Venue: National Science Centre, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

Feb 26-28, 2016: National Numismatic Exhibition

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

\*Feb 28, 2015: 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>

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Meetings of the Philatelic Organizations in India [www.stampsofindia.com/info base/clubmeet.htm](http://www.stampsofindia.com/info base/clubmeet.htm)

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## VIEWS & OPINIONS

### Readers Forum

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### 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>

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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>

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### 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

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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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