ISSN 0972-3587 ----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION ------The First, Free & Only weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India Awards Received: Silver Medal with the `Felicitations of the Jury' at 'BELGICA 2001' World Philatelic Exhibition, Brussels, June 9-17, 2001 Issue # 76 - August 1, 2002. Published Every Thursday Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan To subscribe or to unsubscribe send email to stampsofindia@bigfoot.com IN THIS ISSUE A Stamp for Dhirubhai Ambani Readers Forum - R P OSWAL, Ludhiana If you've found this newsletter useful, recommend it to a friend. Better still forward this issue.

JHINGANS JOTTINGS

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This time only one of us, Madhukar, will be away to Seoul for coverage of PHILAKOREA 2002 world stamp exhibition, 67th FIP Congress, and other events.

He may be contacted by email madhukar.1@email.com

Issue # 77 of August 8, 2002 would also be short and sweet and we would be back full strength from issue # 78.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and sources to this issue: Lajwanti D'Souza of Chalomumbai.com

Mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

A STAMP FOR DHIRUBHAI AMBANI

It's barely a fortnight since Dhirubhai Ambani passed away, but the Indian Postal Department and Pramod Mahajan, Union minister for communications and information technology, have already decided to accord him a unique tribute - issue a stamp in his honor.

Though they will have to waive a few rules in the process as a stamp can be issued in a person's honor only 10 years after his death. "But he has done so much for Mumbai and Indian industry," said an official at the General Post Office (GPO), Mumbai. W S Janbandhu, chief public relations officer, GPO, said the Philatelic Advisory Committee, based in Delhi, will have to finally rule on whether the stamp should be issued or not. "In the case of Ambani, no proposal has been forwarded from the Mumbai post office. However, we have sent some newspaper clippings to Delhi announcing the decision to issue the stamp."

Mahajan recently declared that the commemorative stamp will be issued. The authorities will have to waive the postal guideline that states, "No postal stamp will be issued sooner than 10 years after the individual's death, and an exception will be made only in the case of deceased heads of state."

There have been other cases in which this rule has been waived, though none were announced quicker than the Ambani decision. Dhirubhai died on July 6.

In the case of Prabodhankar Thackeray, Bal Thackeray's father, a decision to issue the stamp was taken while there were still a few years for a decade to pass after his death. Same was the case with P L Deshpande, the Marathi playwright.

VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, Part 19 This column would resume from issue # 78.

READERS FORUM

R P OSWAL, Ludhiana

As you have mentioned ... that Postal stationery like Post Cards, Inland Letter Cards and Aerogrammes with different advertisement is scheduled to be issued during August 2002 on different dates. I tried with our local G.P.O. at Ludhiana but they do not know about any forthcoming issue of the Postal Stationery.

So I like to know from where I can buy/procure the same. Please give me the details.

<Dear Reader, Your feedback is important to us as it helps evolve the newsletter. We strive hard to bring you comprehensive coverage of the latest on Indian philately and improve with every issue. Please do let us have your thoughts and suggestions. We also would like to learn how our newsletter impacts your collecting and the value you feel it provides to you. Do send in your comments, views, reports, articles and other features for publication>

ASK US

Please send your queries in detail (illustrations welcome) on all matters related to Philately and Postal History of India and Indian States. We will attempt to provide an answer to you online.

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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