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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The First, Free & Only weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India

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Awards Received: Silver Medal with the 'Felicitations of the Jury' at  
'BELGICA 2001' World Philatelic Exhibition, Brussels, June 9-17, 2001

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Issue # 96 - December 19, 2002. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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If you've found this newsletter useful, recommend it to a friend.
Better still forward a copy of this issue.

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

If you were surprised by a new email id for the mailing of issue # 95  
it was due to difficulties with our Internet Service Provider (ISP)  
'Tatanova'. We needed the renewal package but these were not available  
and we had to obtain a new connection package, at slightly higher  
costs. As it could not be used to credit time in our existing account,  
hence the new id - stampsofindial@tatanova.com

Our ISP 'Tatanova' is from the House of Tata that needs no introduction  
to collectors of Indian postal history. It was the need for faster  
communications that fueled and funded the growth of civil aviation in  
India. J R D Tata, as an ace pilot with License # 1, and as Chairman of  
Tata Group had played a stellar role in this growth.

Recently House of Tata was successful in acquiring the government owned  
overseas communications corporation - VSNL. The Internet service in  
India was first introduced by VSNL. There are talks of merger of

'Tatanova' with VSNL as both companies are in the same business of providing Internet connectivity.

Hopefully the service would be streamlined soon and there would be no further difficulties in renewal and availability of the connection and we may be able to renew our original email id.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and sources to this issue: Anil Suri from New Delhi, Shyam P Nhuchhe Pradhan from Nepal, R Ravindranath from Mysore, Rajesh Paharia from Jaipur, India Post - The Journal of the India study Circle for Philately UK, American Philatelist - Journal of the American Philatelic Society USA.

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Mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists
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#### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### INPEX 02 IS CALLED OFF

Late on the evening of December 13, 2002 the organizers of the so-called national exhibition, scheduled for December 25 to 29, 2002 at Bhubaneswar, had to call off the show. The Organizing Secretary B K Sinha and Webmaster Prashant Pandya sent emails to a number of persons on the same day. Next day Telegrams by Sinha were also sent to participants. However the promised 'letter follows' has not arrived till the time of the mailing of this issue.

Their official web site was hurriedly updated on December 13, 2002 with the following:

"IMPORTANT MESSAGE - IT IS CLARIFIED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF POSTS IS NO WAY ASSOCIATED OR CONNECTED WITH INPEX 2002. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS INFORMATION PUBLISHED INITIALLY IN THE PROSPECTUS ALREADY CIRCULATED STANDS AMENDED/CORRECTED. Due to unavoidable circumstances beyond our control the scheduled Inpex 2002 exhibition stands postponed. It is now scheduled sometime during February 2003 - the dates will be announced shortly. All participants / concerned are being notified individually. We sincerely regret the inconvenience caused."

Till December 13, the site was claiming the patronage of the Government of India's Department of Post as well as Government of Orissa's Ministry of Tourism. However the consent was never obtained in the first place when the organizers went public in April 2002. Both these Government bodies explicitly communicated to the Organizing Committee in June and August respectively that they are not associated with INPEX 2002 in any way.

The web site was also showing, till late December 13, 2002 and since removed, the designs of commemorative stamps, Miniature Sheet, FDC, and postmarks that were claimed would be issued by the Department of Post to mark the INPEX 2002.

The site is still claiming that INPEX 2002(?) "will be conducted with the active participation of ALL the other local philatelic societies/clubs".

The truth is that the organizers do not even have the support of the other philatelic association with in their own city - Bhubaneswar!

Many of the participants have already written to the organizers that they are withdrawing from participation if the exhibition takes place in February 2003. The participants will do well to ensure transparency in allotment of frames, the safety and security of their exhibits, and the working of jury as the arrangements may not be in keeping with the standards expected of a National Level Exhibition.

The Organizers have collected and spent, funds from public. They are now asking for more funds for manufacturing their own frames to enable them to be independent of Department of Post.

Abdul Mollah from Mumbai wrote in Yahoo eGroup - Princely States "I regret to report that INPEX 2002 scheduled to be held this month at Bhubaneswar has been postponed till, hopefully, February 2003. Could be that it is eventually cancelled. Many forces are working to decide the fate of Philately in India. I have no comments but will only say that sad days loom large in the horizon."

We would like to conclude with that it is up to all of us to either make the forthcoming days happy or sad for philately in India.

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GURUKUL KANGRI VISHWAVIDYALAYA

India Post has announced the date of release for Gurukul Kangri Vishwavidyalaya at Hardwar. The issue is scheduled for December 24, 2002 in the denomination of Rs. 5. The stamp shall be produced in the quantity of 800,000 only in sheets of 40.

The stamp along with the First Day Cover and the information sheet, at Rs. 2 each, shall be available on sale at nearly 1000 selected Post Offices including all Philatelic Bureaus and Counters.

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TAMRALIPTA JATIYA SARKAR

India Post released a se-tenant pair of commemorative postage stamps on Tamralipta Jatiya Sarkar on December 17, 2002.

The stamp is in the denomination of Rs. 5, the inland letter rate. Sankha Samanta designed the stamp and the First Day Cover, priced at Rs. 2. Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. Information Sheet containing write-up and technical data and priced at Rs. 2 were issued on the occasion.

India Security Press of Nashik printed the stamps by photogravure in multicolor on Imported un-watermarked adhesive gravure coated stamp paper in the quantity of 0.8 million in sheets of 14 se-tenant pairs. Stamps.

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FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

The district level exhibition at Thrissur, scheduled for December 9 and 10, 2000 as reported earlier, has been rescheduled and will now be held December 30 and 31, 2002.

India Post is organizing VISNUPEX from January 31 to February 2, 2003 at Visakhapatnam.

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PCI CASES UPDATE

Ajay Goel, Civil Judge, Delhi on December 9, 2002, dismissed Rajesh Varma's application for making him a party in suit filed by Madhukar Jhingan against the Philatelic Congress of India (PCI). "He can file the separate suit", Hon'ble Judge said.

Hon'ble Judge on December 10, 2002 disposed the application of the PCI for declaration of the result in suit filed by Madhukar Jhingan against PCI, with framing of an issue - whether the free and fair election as per rules and regulations have been held.

"Let the parties, prove their case from their own record", the Hon'ble Judge said on December 10, 2002 in his order disposing the application of Madhukar Jhingan for production of some documents by PCI.

The next date of hearing is fixed for December 20, 2002.

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NEW ARRIVALS:

THEMATIC STAMP COLLECTING

December 2002 - 2nd revised and enlarged edition by R Ravindranath of the work by Colonel L G Shenoi published in 1979. Published by Mysore Philatelics, 12, I Main road, Saraswathipuram, Mysore 570 009, India. 72 A-5 sized pages. Rs. 50, forwarding charges extra.

GUIDELINES FOR PHILATELIC EXHIBITING

The book contains the General Regulations of the International Philatelic Federation (FIP) for the Evaluation of Competitive Exhibits at FIP Exhibitions (GREV) and Special Regulations (SREV) and Guidelines for all FIP Classes except the Thematic Philately that is covered separately in the book reported above. 2002, Published by Mysore Philatelics, 12, I Main road, Saraswathipuram, Mysore 570 009, India. 74 A-5 sized pages. Rs. 50, forwarding charges extra.

INDIAN POSTAL AGENCIES IN THE PERSIAN GULF AREA

By Alan Parsons, 2001, published by Sahara Publications Limited, 38 Greyhound Road, London W6 8NX, UK. www.saharapublications.com. 64 pages. Price £25

A POSTAL HISTORY OF THE PRISONERS OF WAR AND CIVILIAN INTERNEES IN EAST ASIA DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR, VOLUME 1, THE CHANGI CONNECTION

By David Tett, February 2002, published by Stuart Rossiter Trust Fund, 65 Manor Park, Bristol, BS6 7HW, UK. 400 A-4 sized pages. Price £30, postage and packing £6 extra.

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PERIODICALS RECEIVED

PHILANEWS, #5, September-October 2002, Bi-monthly

Editor: Rajesh Paharia, [pahariarajesh@msn.com](mailto:pahariarajesh@msn.com)

Publisher: Philatelic Society of Rajasthan

Address: A S Mittal, President, Dhamani Market, Chaura Rasta, Jaipur -3

Annual Subscription: Rs. 60 in India

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NEW ISSUES OF NEPAL

Nepal's Minister of Information and Communication, Ramesh Nath Pandey formally released the last issue of the year, three new postal stamps

under Personality Series and SAARC Charter Day, by affixing the postmarks on them on December 08, 2002.

The series includes stamps on renowned social worker late Daya Bir Singh Kansakar, late Ikai Kawaguchi, (the first Japanese monk to visit Nepal), and a stamp related to SAARC Charter Day in the denomination of Rs. 2, Rs. 25, and Rs. 15 respectively.

Artist K K Karmacharya designed the stamps printed at the Austrian Government Printing Press in Vienna, Austria.

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NEPAL'S PROGRAM FOR 2003

April -

Industry And Commerce Day- Rs.5.00

Golden Jubilee of Nepal Chamber Of Commerce- Rs.5.00

May -

Agriculture Industry - Tea- Rs.5.00

Mount Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration- Rs.5.00

July -

Birthday Of His Majesty King Gyanendra Rs.5.00

September -

Personality Series: Babu Chhiri Sherpa - Summiteer Rs.5.00, and Dilli Raman Regmi - Politician.

October -

International Event Rs.12.00

Visit Nepal Series - Gautam Buddha, Gorakh Nath Gorkha, and Kali Gandaki - a hydroelectric project.

November -

Shankha Dhar Sakhwa - National Luminary

Flower Series - 2 stamps.

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STAMPS OF IRAQ

Luay Allose lallose@uruklink.net from Iraq offers Iraq stamps for exchange or sale, also first day covers issued by the IFCS (Iraqi Philatelic and Coins Societies) and also new Iraqi 4 types of phone cards. Visit his web page for information about new Iraqi issues www.lallose.bravepages.com

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, Part 37

Jal Cooper was the most well known full time professional Indian Philatelist and auctioneer. He was also the author of several definitive and authentic books as well as publisher of standard catalogs of Indian stamps. He was also a futurologist and used to contribute a regular weekly column in a Gujarati newspaper from Mumbai, Jam-e-Jamshed.

Inspired by him, once in a while, we also look in our crystal ball and we recently found that Friday the 13th is lucky for some and unlucky for others.

Well number 13 on its own appears to be not so lucky for the Philatelic Congress of India:

Its Rules and Regulations have 13 sections.

Dilip Shah is its 13<sup>th</sup> President-Elect and has been in the news for the wrong reasons.

It was the 13<sup>th</sup> biennial elections at Mumbai in August that was challenged and the declaration of its results were stayed by the court's order.

Dilip Shah, if he succeeds, shall also be the PCI's 13<sup>th</sup> President.

The INPEX 2002 Exhibition was cancelled on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2002.

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READERS FORUM

<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>

R. DAVID JAEKLEY

I initially wrote this letter to Mr. Thadani. I am also sending a copy to you in hopes that you might be able to point me in the right direction.

As you are the only India stamp expert I know, I am writing to ask if you can provide the name and email address of anyone who has knowledge of early Gwalior stamps.

The reason I ask is that I have what is definitely a #80 India stamp from 1911-23, which is overprinted with the GWALIOR and Hindi overprint used from 1933-49. The Hindi overprint is 15 mm long.

The overprint that should be on the stamps, according to the Scott catalog, looks nothing like what is on my stamp. The overprint on my stamp looks exactly like the one the Scott catalog shows should be on stamps of 1933-49. It is the same in every detail and is exactly the same size as that shown in the catalog. If you measure the Hindi in the catalog, it is 15 mm long. Yet, they state under the picture that the Hindi overprint is 13½ mm long on those stamps.

I wondered whether they simply placed the wrong pictures in the wrong places in the 2001 catalog I have, but I also have an old 1941 Scott catalog I use for research, which is the same.

I am confused. If there is anything you can do to help, I would be very appreciative. I know the stamp is only worth a few cents at most, but this is a mystery I would very much like to solve.

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FEATURES & RESOURCES

Indian Laws Relevant to Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Guide/Misc/laws.htm>

Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud related to Indian Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Guide/Misc/cybercrime.htm>

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

STAMPIT

Deutsche Post was the first European postal company to introduce the postage stamp from the Internet just over a year ago. Since then, the new Internet service has firmly established itself on the market with several thousand customers already using the PC franking software STAMPIT. To mark the first anniversary of the product, a new release was issued and a product campaign held jointly with printer manufacturer Hewlett-Packard (HP) and software company Sage KHK.

The new STAMPIT release 1.3, available since mid September 2002, takes into account many experiences that customers have had in day-to-day use, helping to enhance the software even further. The update contains an extended address book and offers the "Frankieren Plus" function - users can frank items easily and quickly via one on-screen mask. In addition, multiple labels and envelopes can be printed directly via STAMPIT. The software's major advantage is the simple Office-based franking function. Users working with Microsoft Word or Excel and using window envelopes can print the "postage stamp" directly onto the documents.

The market success of the PC franking application is based also on cooperation. STAMPIT has already been integrated into several industry-specific solutions including PC-Kaufmann, GS Auftrag and HERMA Label Designer plus. It will shortly be adapted to become compatible with Datev and Lexware software as well as the address book software cobra Address PLUS.

In future Deutsche Post intends to integrate STAMPIT also into smaller industry solutions, thus fulfilling the demand for compatibility with solutions developed by smaller software companies. Details are available on the STAMPIT web pages.

PC franking is a practical solution for home offices as well as small and medium sized enterprises. They can frank their mail conveniently via the Internet 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition to the STAMPIT software users require only an off-the-shelf PC with Internet access and an inkjet or laser printer. The postage credit is purchased beforehand from the Postage Point, the virtual counter on the Internet. Once consumed, new credit can be purchased online at any time and is simply debited from an account.

Further details on STAMPIT, the downloadable current version and a free demo version are available at www.stampit-international.de

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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CONTRIBUTORS INVITED

We require regular correspondents everywhere in India to cover the philatelic activities in their area. We shall reimburse the costs of photos, covers, publications, courier and other charges. All contributions shall be acknowledged.

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WEB SITE UPDATES

STAMPSOFINDIA

The Hub Site of Indian Philately presents info in following segments - NEWS, ISSUES, EVENTS, AUCTIONS, PUBLICATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS, DEALERS, and ARTICLES. In addition we provide question answers in ASK US. Also all Indian philatelic web sites as well as several useful philatelic sites are listed under LINKS.

Updated Segments This Week: News, Articles,

STAMPS ON INDIA <http://stampsonindia.netfirms.com>

The site devoted to the stamps from all over the world on Indian topics

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