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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 # 116 - May 15, 2003. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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We invite your inputs, please email to [stampsofindia@tatanova.com](mailto:stampsofindia@tatanova.com)

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I N T H I S I S S U E

New Special Postmarks
Recent & Forthcoming Events
Recent Periodical Publications
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PCI Court Cases Update
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Tender for Computerized Labels
India Post to computerize Operations of Maldives Post
SUMMER STAMPEX BANGKOK 2003
Philately in Transition in India, Part 57
Readers Forum - Abhai Mishra from Dehradun,
Research Notes - Designer of Jaipur Stamps
Also in the News - SARS issues from China and Hong Kong

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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

We mail every issue to all subscribers. However due to a variety of
reasons it does not reach a few persons.

Many of our subscribers download the issue from the web site, but as the
site is not updated for over a month this option is not available for
recent issues.

Recently the issue # 112 generated an unusually higher number of non-
receipt reports.

We are working on updating the site soon and ask you to kindly bear with us till then.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Xinhua News Agency.

Please mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists.

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The Advertising Supplement to 'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is now available on-line <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Ads/ads.htm>  
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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW SPECIAL POSTMARKS

India Post provided a special postmark on the occasion of the 111th birth anniversary of former legislator P T Rajan, a champion of Tamil and social activist. Minister of State for Communication and Information Technology, Su Thirunavukkarasar, released the special cover at P T Rajan Mandram in Madurai April 22, 2003. The special cover priced at Rs.10 was sponsored by Justice S Natarajan, former Supreme Court Judge and president of Thamizhavel P T Rajan Commemoration Trust. An extension counter of Madurai Philatelic Bureau functioned at the venue.

The duly serviced special covers are available for sale through mail order at Rs.15 for each cover, from the Senior Postmaster, Philatelic Bureau, Madurai HPO, Madurai 625 001.

RECENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

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Army Postal Service Corps and the Delhi Postal Circle jointly organized another two philatelic exhibitions, on-the-spot painting competitions, and workshops for students at Air Force Godden Jubilee School New Delhi on May 9, 2003 and The Air Force School (TAFS) on May 14, 2003. The first exhibition was held on May 7, 2003 at the Air Force Bal Bharti School.

Yours truly also contributed to this endeavor by sharing their philatelic knowledge and conducting philatelic workshops as well as serving as jury. The three exhibitions generated a lot of enthusiasm in the students and led to forming of stamp clubs at the schools.

A combined awards ceremony was held at TAFS and the Chief Post Master General of Delhi Circle, Jyotsna Diesh presented the awards to winning participants.

##### JAPANESE STAMPS EXHIBITION

Ryuzo Kikuchi, Consul General of Japan at Chennai inaugurated an exhibition of Japanese stamps on April 19, 2003 at DBS Galleria. Around 5,000 Japanese stamps are exhibited as part of Philatelic Week of Japan. The Japanese stamps are known for their design, colour and themes.

Unique and valuable stamps, apart from their aesthetic or financial appeal to collectors, are also in their own right a record of history, geography, politics, art and many other aspects of a sovereign nation.

The expo brings into picture the journey of Japanese stamps from 1871, when the first postal stamp was issued by the country. The four stamps issued at that time are known as Dragon Mon Stamps are the star-attraction together with the Atomic bombs end WW2 issued in 1995 showing the nuclear holocaust at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The stamps show the now famous mushroom cloud as the imprint. Another attraction is the 23 carat gold stamp.

The array of collections also includes the commemorative stamps issued on various occasions - there is a series on the imperial family, International Writing Day, Letter Writing Week, stamps on education, medicine, legal system, engineering achievements and Japanese heritage services, sports, cinema, culture and arts.

A rare stamp issued by Israel in memory of the Japanese Consul of the Netherlands Sugihara, who helped thousands of Jews during the Nazi tirade against the Jews, forms part of the expo.

For a list of exhibition held this year, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Events/a300.htm>

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

PHILA RUNNER, Issue #6, February 2003, Quarterly
Editor: A B Joshi, Post Master General, Pune Region, Maharashtra Circle
Publisher: India Post, Pune Region, Maharashtra Circle
Address: Senior Post Master, Pune Head Post Office, Puen 411001
Annual Subscription: Rs.100

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SATISH MISRA

The telephone number of well known auctioneer Satish Misra, 13 Raja Vihar, Rajendra Nagar, Bareilly 243122 has changed and the new number is (0581)2585825.

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PCI COURT CASES UPDATE

The suit filed by Madhukar Jhingan against PCI came up for hearing on May 9, 2003. The next date for hearing is now fixed for July 21, 2003.

For the first time anyone other than counsel for PCI came to the Courts since filing of the suit nearly 9 months ago. PCI president Sahdev Sahoo and vice-president Yogesh Kumar were present.

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NEW WEB SITE FROM INDIA

Sharad Kumar from New Delhi has just launched world philately site with one module (shows) <http://www.stampexchange.net/> More sections are under development. Kumar hopes to make a technically smart automated philately portal from India, with a focus on professional services and would appreciate your feedback.

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TENDERS FOR BARCODE LABELS

Agra

The Post Master General of Agra Region of the Uttar Pradesh Circle invites tenders for supply of laminated Self-adhesive preprinted duplicate Barcode stickers for Speed Post articles and Express Parcel Post articles. The last date to submit the tender is May 30, 2003. For more information contact the Office of the Post Master General Agra Region, Agra 282001.

West Bengal

April 11, 2003 was the last date for submitting the tenders that were invited by the Chief Post Master General of the West Bengal Circle for self-Adhesive Barcode Stickers in Duplicate and Triplicate.

Interestingly the tender documents in Agra costs Rs.500 while in West Bengal the price is a more reasonable Rs.20.

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TENDER FOR COMPUTERIZED LABELS

April 10, 2003 was the last date for submitting the tenders that was called for by the superintendent of Postal Stores Depot, Punjab circle, Ludhiana for the supply of Computerized Stickers for use in Multipurpose Counter Machines at post offices. The total requirement was for about 1.2 million half-gummed sheets of stickers each sheet contained six stickers.

The specifications provided were

- a) Size 6 x 2 inches
- b) 80 GSM Maplitho Paper
- c) Base 72 GSM
- d) Horizontal perforation at every 2 inches
- e) Vertical kiss cut at 6 cms from right side of the sheet for stamps

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INDIA POST TO COMPUTERIZE OPERATIONS OF MALDIVES POST

India Post and Telecommunications India Consultants Limited (TCIL) team will undertake a pilot project for computerization of Postal Operations at three Post Offices and Mail Centers, located at Malé. Software for this project will be developed by Centre for Postal Technology and Excellence at Postal Training Centre, Mysore.

The project involves computerization of Point of Sale operations, electronic tracking, development of an integrated financial system and establishment of Data Centre. The work on this project will start during the last week of May 2003.

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SUMMER STAMPEX BANGKOK 2003

This show is being held on June 3-8, 2003 at Silom Galleria Fine Art Center, The Grand Atrium, Silom 19 Road, Bangkok 10500 Thailand

On display will be Stamps, Coins & Banknotes of very high qualities and free Valuation by experts. Dealer participation will be there from UK, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Taiwan, Philippines, Japan and the best of Thai dealers.

On Saturday June 7, 2003 the biggest auction ever in Bangkok featuring over 560 lots of rare Stamps, Coins, Medals, and Banknotes will be held.

The catalog is available on request from Eur-Seree Collecting Co. Ltd.,  
[auction@eurseree.com](mailto:auction@eurseree.com) 1256/8 NakornchaiSri Road, Dusit, Bangkok 10300,  
Thailand. Tel +66 2 243-1789, fax +66 2 243-4764 Or +66 2 669-2043.  
[www.eurseree.com](http://www.eurseree.com)

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<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Ads/ads.htm>

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, Part 57

In part 55 we had commented in detail on Sahoo's editorial in Signet dated October 2002 - March 2003. Here we highlight another matter raised by Sahoo in the same issue.

On page 14 Sahoo inserts, in the otherwise verbatim reproduction of FIP Flash report regarding 'ESPANA 2002 World Philatelic Exhibition for Youth', "India did not participate because of non-cooperative attitude of the DDG (Philately) in the department of Posts, New Delhi."

We are surprised by Sahoo's attack on DDG (Philately) who heads the Philately division of the India Post at its national HQ in New Delhi. However he does not have his facts right as always. The facts are that one of yours truly was appointed national commissioner of this show on April 28, 2002 by the PCI governing council. PCI Secretary General, Dilip Shah mailed a letter of appointment to the organizing committee in Granada on May 10, 2002 with a copy to us and Sahoo. Immediately on receipt of this letter we wrote to Shah on May 14, 2002:

"This acknowledges the copy of your letter of May 10, 2002 regarding the Appointment of Commissioner for ESPANA 2002. I do have my doubts that when this letter will reach its destination, if ever, as you have not written the name of the country in the address. I suggest you send another copy of this letter with proper address to ESPANA 2002. Also please send the necessary intimation to the Philately Division, Department of Posts, New Delhi."

Copies of this letter were also sent to Sahoo, M G Pittie, and A R Singhee with a personal request to help Shah in expediting necessary action on his part.

Shah on May 24, 2002 sent another letter of appointment to the organizing committee with copy to us, Sahoo, and also to DDG (Philately) but again without adding the name of the country in the address and once again the incorrect telephone number. So the points raised in our letter were simply ignored except that a copy was also sent to India Post.

Meanwhile we had contacted the ESPANA 2002 organizing committee over email and published their response in the issue #66 of May 23, 2002 of

this newsletter. The organizers wrote "We are sorry to inform you that the deadline for entry forms, as well as the inscription of National Commissioners, established by FIP, was surpassed on January 31<sup>st</sup>" (2002).

India had missed out in participating at this the 15<sup>th</sup> World Philatelic Exhibition for Youth by failing to appoint a commissioner in a timely manner. The commissioners for all exhibitions in 2001 were appointed on March 5, 1999. The commissioners for the forthcoming exhibitions should be appointed soon after the announcement of the exhibition to avoid these kinds of unnecessary delays and missing the opportunity of participation. Even if there are any changes in dates or cancellation of an exhibition the commissioner can take care of all eventualities.

We had written to Shah in July 11, 2002 about ESPANA 2002 fiasco. We quote from Shah's reply of August 12, 2002, "Regarding ESPANA 2002, we did not receive any letter or request for the appointment of National commissioner or details of the exhibition. I had also made it clear during the Bhubaneswar meeting and had sent the letter of your nomination, based on your request. In the absence of any request or letter and information, how could I act or inform?"

His answer only exposes the fact that PCI is not tracking exhibitions that are as it is listed in the FIP magazine. This just reaffirms their behavior that rules are different for different people. The non-interest on part of PCI may have stemmed from the fact that no member of the jury was appointed from India for this exhibition otherwise these very same people just have to smell an exhibition and they are ready to distribute the goodies as favors to who ever they want to reward.

We fail to understand how can Sahoo blame DDG Philately for India's non-participation? Sahoo must remember that he has been responsible for India's non-participation in HAFNIA 2001 at Copenhagen, Denmark. He is also responsible for the consequence of the exhibits carried without the mandatory permit from the Archaeological Survey of India to PHILAKOREA 2002. He was informed of this fact in writing by express mail on July 11, 2002. So instead of blaming others he should seek answers within himself.

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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>

ABHAI MISHRA FROM DEHRADUN

I have a query, see if you can help. If a society wants to release a special cover with cancellation, the department of posts offers two ways. One is off the venue, for which they charge Rs.1500 and the other is on the venue, for which they charge Rs.3000. In case of holidays some extra charge is there.

My question is that is it mandatory for the society or organization to invite the department of post in their function and make them a part of it. I mean to say that whether one has to invite their officers and make them a part of your ceremony. Whether such type of rules exist or not?

In the case of off the venue release, one has to take all the covers to the post office and get them cancelled there. This has to be done the same day, on which you are proposing to release the cover. Can the Department of posts force you to provide the cancellation on your covers after the day of release of your special cover?

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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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RESEARCH NOTES

DESIGNER OF JAIPUR STAMPS

Robert Peggs from USA wrote - I don't know if you can help me with a question I have been wanting the answer for many years.

One of my uncles, Mr. A. C. Mullen, who was born in the 1890s, lived in India on several occasions - I believe this was in the 1920s & 1930s, and probably the 1940s. His son, Dr. J.E.C. Mullen, had no interest in my uncle's hobby, Philately. Dr. Mullen sold his father's collection without knowing that I was also a Philatelist, through a London dealer about 25 years ago.

This preamble is all leading up to the fact that Dr. Mullen once told me that his father had designed some stamps for the Indian Feudatory State of Jaipur. The only designer listed in the Gibbons catalogue for Jaipur stamps is T. I. Archer for the 1931 issue and the 1932-1946 issue.

My suspicion is that he was involved in the Silver Jubilee issue. Can you help me?

Editors' Notes

We know A C Mullen as the author of the publication 'Jaipur 1904 and 1911 Issues' that was the 2nd publication on Jaipur after J R M Albrecht's 'The Postage Stamps of Jaipur' published by Stanley Gibbons in 1924.

T I Archer was on the staff of the India Security Press at Nasik as an artist and had designed several issues for India.

We are working on getting more details on the issue that Peggs has mentioned and hope that our readers would also come forward with any

details that they may have.

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

SARS ISSUES FROM CHINA AND HONG KONG

Hong Kong Post issued a souvenir cover free of charge on May 12, 2003 for the public to send their appreciation and blessing to local front-line staff fighting Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

The "One Heart One Mind Bless Hong Kong" souvenir cover features the frontline staff, including medical and nursing staff, policemen, lab-testing researchers, cleansing workers, voluntary workers and postmen who have all demonstrated their high spirit and tireless efforts to help the community overcome SARS.

The souvenir covers, whose production is funded by the donations from Hong Kong Post staff, were distributed free of charge to the public on a first-come-first-served basis at 39 philatelic offices. The back of the souvenir cover is designed to allow personalized messages and words of thanks to be written on it.

China will issue a commemorative stamp on May 19, 2003 to honor the nation's medical workers for their efforts in fighting SARS. The stamp, with a face value of 80 fen (10 US cents), will have a circulation of 12.5 million.

All income from the stamp sale, including 5 million yuan in cash and 5 million yuan in stamp or postal products, will be donated to the health ministry to help the anti-SARS fight, bureau officials said.

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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.

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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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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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About STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -- ADMINISTRIVIA

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