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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 # 126 - July 24, 2003. Published Every Thursday  
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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address, and philatelic interests and "subscribe" in the subject line.  
To unsubscribe send email with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

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Back issues of this newsletter are available for free download at  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Download/archives.htm>

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

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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

It is interesting to report news but at times it is more interesting to  
be in the news. Recently the 'Stamps of India' hit the headlines in  
Delhi's leading daily 'Hindustan Times' due to the cyber attacks.

The link for this report provided in the 'NewsScan' segment later in the  
newsletter.

We hope that those readers who have received junk mails generated by the  
fraudulent use of our email ids would now be aware that these attempts  
were made by our detractors who do not have the guts to come out in the  
open and misappropriated our email ids to spam and send junk mail.

We had received several mails/calls from our concerned readers in India and abroad when these mails were received, usually in multiples.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our readers and well wishers for calling on us after the news report in Hindustan Times and offering their good wishes and help to fight the menace of Cyber Crime against us.

We are sure with all your good wishes and support the culprits would be brought to book.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: The Hindu, News Today, and The Tribune.

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

##### CYBER ATTACKS ON 'STAMPS OF INDIA'

When 'Stamp of India Collectors Companion' started the crusade to make the functioning of PCI transparent it was apparent that baseless character assassination attempts at different society meetings, during exhibitions in India and abroad, and in the offices of senior postal officers would be made.

It also became obvious that PCI under the control of Pittie led group of Singhee, Shah, and Sahoo with assorted hangers-on and favor-seekers never had the guts to come face to face with the truth or join issues taking ownership for their statements and actions.

They made false and anonymous complaint to Customs while one of our editors, Madhukar Jhingan was traveling to Korea for FIP Congress last year. When this naturally failed to stop him, they withdrew his nomination as observer delegate to the Congress. They also attacked him in an online forum when one of their men was caught red handed at Chennai airport with smuggled antiquities. They also misused PCI's quarterly publication, Signet, calling Stamps of India "a hate site on internet"!

When their attempts to damage Stamps of India's reputation, credibility and image in the stamp-collecting world by circulating lies, half-truths, and rumor-mongering failed, they moved the fight on the Cyber turf and on several occasions theft and misuse of e-mail identities, impersonation, hacking and attempting to retrieve passwords of email accounts, denial of service attacks by filling e-mail boxes, spamming, causing damage and loss of data through introduction of a malicious

program, and allied offences under the Information Technology Act 2000 were made. Not only is this harassment but also takes a heavy toll on finances, time and energy.

A complaint was lodged in this regard on January 20, 2003 with the Superintendent of Police, Cyber Crime Investigation Cell, Central Bureau of Investigation, New Delhi.

A further complaint has been filed with the Delhi police on May 23, 2003 regarding these and scores of other offences under Information Technology Act 2000.

The Delhi Police is investigating and are expected to file their report shortly and in due course would catch the persons behind these cyber crimes.

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POSTAL STATIONERY WITH ADVERTISEMENTS - NEW ISSUES

The postal stationery with following advertisements is scheduled for release in August 2003. All issues in this month also are in multicolor!

The information in the listing is presented in following format:

Date, Printer, Language, Message, Quantity, Remarks.

'M' denotes multicolor printing.

MEGHDOOT POSTCARD - MAHABALIPURAM, 25 Paise, Red, Multicolor  
July 30, SPP, Telugu & English, Godavari Pushkarams 2003, 100000, M  
August 1, SPP, English, Central Ground Water Authority, 160000, M  
August 1, SPP, Hindi, Central Ground Water Authority, 340000, M  
August 11, English, Coconut Development Board, 100000, M

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NEW SPECIAL POSTMARKS

PLATINUM JUBILEE OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS

India Post provided a special postmark to commemorate the 75th Charter Day celebrations of the Rotary Club of Madras on July 20, 2003 at Chennai.

Dr. U Srinivasa Raghavan, Chief Post Master General, Tamilnadu circle also released a special cover on this occasion.

For availability, price, and other charges please contact the Philatelic Bureau, Chennai.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

SCHOOLPEX

The 8<sup>th</sup> Inter School Stamp Exhibition at Jaipur is being organized from August 9 to 11, 2003 jointly by the Philatelic Society of Rajasthan and St. Xavier's School.

For more information please contact the Convener of SCHOOLPEX 2003, Rajesh Paharia [pahariarajesh@msn.com](mailto:pahariarajesh@msn.com) .

DOONTOPEX

Uttaranchal Circle of India Post organized the first district level philatelic exhibition in the state at St. Joseph's Academy, Dehradun from July 18 to 20, 2003. There were over 45 single-frame exhibits in competitive classes besides 20 frames in non-competitive classes.

The Principal Secretary (Education) in the Uttaranchal Government, M Ramachandran inaugurated the show and released the special cover for the first day depicting an Elephant. The Member of Uttaranchal Legislative Assembly, Dinesh Agarwal was also present on the occasion.

The Secretary (Urban Development) in the Uttaranchal Government, Mohanty released the special cover for the second day depicting Sir George Everest.

The Secretary to the Governor of Uttaranchal, N Ravishankar released the special cover for the final day depicting World Peace Stupa from Mandroling Monastery, Clement Town, Dehradun.

The Jury consisted of Madhu Narayanan (Chairperson), Dr. S P Gupta, Rajesh Varma, and Jitendra Gupta (Apprentice). Narayanan and Dr. Gupta are accredited national jurors.

Dr. Abhai Mishra won the Best Exhibit of the Show Trophy and a Gold medal for his 'Journey to Antarctica' exhibit. Amanjeet Singh won President UPA Trophy and gold medal for his exhibit 'Sikhism'. Dr. Reena Verma won Vice President UPA Trophy and Gold medal for her exhibit 'Postal Stationery of India'. Anupam Sudan and Robin Agarwal won a Silver medal each for their exhibits '50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of India's Independence Postal Stationery' and 'World Gandhi' respectively.

Best Youth Exhibit Trophy with Silver medal was won by 10 year old Naina Verma for her exhibit 'Stamps That Fascinate Me'. Arjun Shankar and Mrinalini Anand won a Vice President UPA Trophy with Silver medal each for their exhibits 'Railways of the World' and 'Nature' respectively.

Noted author, Nayantara Sahgal gave away the awards. Sahgal is the daughter of longtime Dehradun resident, Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit who was the first lady to preside over United Nations General Assembly. Pandit was sister of India's first Prime Minister, Jawahar Lal Nehru.

Mishra who also is the Vice President of Uttaranchal Philatelic Association, virtually single-handedly developed a training program for preparing exhibits and was instrumental in conducting workshops in nearly 50 schools in Dehradun, Mussoorie, and Rishikesh. This activity funded by India Post resulted in at least 35 newly prepared exhibits at the show and is a considerable achievement.

Yours truly was the Chief Organizing Commissioner of the first district level exhibition, DOONTOPEX in 1978 in Dehradun when it was in Uttar Pradesh. DOONTOPEX 2003 was so named to mark the 25th anniversary of the DOONTOPEX 78. Yours truly was associated as the Consultant to DOONTOPEX 2003 and would like to felicitate the Chief Post Master General of Uttaranchal Circle, Madhu Narayanan and her team for organizing an excellent show with in a short duration.

We would also like to make a few suggestions for future exhibitions. The list of exhibitors must be displayed and also available to participants and visitors at the opening of the show. The awards at a district level show must be announced and put up before opening on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day. The Jury is not permitted to combine 2 exhibits from one exhibitor for the purpose of judging and each exhibit accepted by exhibition management must be separately judged. The family members of Jury must not be allowed to participate in the competition class in any circumstances.

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

PHILANEWS, #9, May-June 2003, 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. 50 in India

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PCI COURT CASES UPDATE

The suit filed by Madhukar Jhingan against PCI came up for hearing on July 21, 2003. The next date for hearing is now fixed for August 26, 2003. The cross examination of PCI President Sahdev Sahoo continuing from the previous date May 9, 2003 was concluded on this date.

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PHILATELIC WORKSHOP AT SPRINGDALE SCHOOL

Senior philatelist Pulak Gupta conducted the philatelic workshop organized by the Delhi Circle of India Post for 31 participants at Springdale School, Pusa Road, New Delhi on July 19, 2003.

A drawing and painting competition was also organized in which over 80 students from 5th to 11th class participated. Two prizes each in three groups were awarded by a panel of jury comprising Pulak Gupta, B D L Srivastava - Senior Superintendent of Post Offices Central Division, and Kumar - Arts Teacher at Springdale School.

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JOINT ISSUE WITH IRAN

India and Iran are planning a joint stamp issue in 2004. A delegation from the Post Company of Iran was in New Delhi and met with the official of the Philatelic Division of India Post in this regard on July 17, 2003.

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90 PERCENT STAMP PAPERS ARE FAKE!

Are the judicial papers purchased by the people at the time of buying either immovable or movable property and now lying inside their lockers genuine or fake? Well, according to the experts and the police officials investigating a nationwide racket, 90 per cent of such papers sold to people are fake and an equivalent number are still in circulation in various states.

This information was communicated to the law and order machinery in the country by the Union Home Ministry recently. The ministry is closely

monitoring the investigations. In fact, experts have advised the government to set up separate cells in every state and ask the public to get the veracity of their judicial papers checked.

If the papers are found to be fake, then the government should provide them with the original papers free of cost. Additional Director-General of Police R Srikumar, heading a stamp investigating team set up by the Karnataka Government, told The Tribune that the seizure of fake stamps in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Chandigarh and Gujarat indicated the dimension of the racket.

As of now, the maximum seizure has been made in Maharashtra and the total seizure of fake stamps and stamp papers by the police all over the country is estimated at a whopping Rs 350 billion, he added. "Although the fraud had been reported over the past few years, investigations gained momentum only after setting up of the team in January, 2002, Mr Srikumar said.

Nine charge sheets have been filed against 44 persons. The Karnataka Government has also set up a special court to ensure speedy trial of the case.

Some cases are being investigated by the CBI. Srikumar said Abdul Kareem Laad Saab Telgi of Karnataka, and now a resident of Mumbai, is the kingpin and mainly responsible for a large-scale counterfeiting of non-judicial and judicial stamp papers as well as other stamps. Even embossed and franked stamps were being counterfeited. Telgi had told the police that he had employed several hundreds of persons across the country for this purpose.

Since other gangs were also involved in the circulation of fake stamps, the police said the estimated number of persons involved in it could be huge. The police also came to know about the involvement of certain officials of the government's security printing press at Nashik and other agencies.

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PRIVATIZATION OF POSTAL SERVICES OPPOSED

The Parliament's Standing Committee on Indian Post Office (Amendment) Bill 2003, has opposed handing over of postal services to private agencies saying such a move would be "prejudicial to national interest."

Announcing this, Committee Chairman Somnath Chatterjee in its 50th report said the committee members were of the view that any decision of the Government to grant registration to any person or body to carry letters would not be in the public interest. They felt that by this the entirety of the postal services could be privatized which could at times be prejudicial to national interest.

He said the Committee urged that the Government should have the exclusive privilege of conveying letters, except as provided under the Clause 7 of the Bill.

The members were, however, of the opinion that the Government may grant registration on such terms and conditions, as it thinks fit, to any

person or body of person for carriage and delivery of postal articles other than letters.

He said the committee was also of the view that the Secretary, Department of Posts, should not act as the Appellate Authority as the Department of Post itself was a competitor of the private courier industry.

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NEPAL, TIBET & BHUTAN

I will be offering Nepal, Tibet and Bhutan stamps and postal history shortly and request any interested collectors to request a free printed catalogue. Postal history of India used in Nepal will also be offered. Requests can be made to: [himalayan@worldnet.att.net](mailto:himalayan@worldnet.att.net) or Leo Martyn, P O Box 49263, Los Angeles, CA 90049-0263, U.S.A.

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FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is the most effective way to reach the highest targeted readerships for Indian Philately worldwide. The advertising is FREE for the subscribers. The ads are published online in an Advertising Supplement. Send in your ad, today. Click here to view the ads and for the Terms for submitting your ad <http://www.stampsfindia.com/Content/Ads/ads.htm>

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

PHILATELY IN TRANSITION IN INDIA, Part 62

Vijay Seth from New Delhi sent the following message on July 15, 2003 "Your information in issue No. 124 - 'Bangladesh Celebrates Silver Jubilee Of National Association' should be an eye opener to Indian philatelists that a country which has just completed 32 years of its existence, has to its credit a National philatelic organization which is celebrating its silver Jubilee in 2003."

"We a country of over 1 billion people cannot even match a country of the size of West Bengal. If there is a will there is a way. It is a shame that our national body PCI is in no way interested in doing anything to promote philately since its birth in 1976."

"We all are loud mouths but when it comes to doing something practical, we are a very narrow minded lot of good for nothing fellows with no long term vision or ideas."

"It is high time all the like minded collectors of stamps in India who take it purely as a hobby (and not as a means of deceiving somebody) should get together to save this hobby."

"Otherwise it will only be confined to stamps collectors' individual albums and cupboards. Not sharing information or ideas will make it slowly die a natural death. It will be extinct like the Indian Cheetah in the coming years."

"The time to act for stamp collectors in India is now."

We wholly agree with Seth and have been advocating for the same for a long time now.

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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>

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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

STAMP MASTERPIECES SUITABLE FOR FRAMING

Custom-framed reproductions of original stamp art from noted artists including Norman Rockwell, Peter Max and others are now available at [www.postalartgallery.com](http://www.postalartgallery.com) . In a first for the Postal Service, art lovers will soon be able to choose from 300 exclusive stamp images, select framing and matting, and have the finished product mailed directly to their door.

This access to the Postal Service's stamp art collection is made possible through a licensing agreement between the Postal Service and ArtSelect, Inc., the largest supplier of framed and unframed art for the online consumer and business to business markets through wholesale and online network partners.

"People love stamp art," said Azeezaly S. Jaffer, vice-president, Public Affairs and Communications, U.S. Postal Service. "This agreement represents a new vision for our licensing program, one that is looking at how we can position one of our most valuable core products, our stamps, in a new and different way."

"This agreement combines the magnificent stamp art treasures of the Postal Service with the cutting-edge solutions that ArtSelect has pioneered to bring fine framed art into homes and offices through the Internet," said Robert Steinberg, President and Chief Executive Officer ArtSelect, Inc. "Shopping on this site will be easy, fun and rewarding."

"For years, people have asked us to turn stamp images into décor art and now we can meet these requests," said Pamela York, Postal Service Manager of Licensing.



"Without the typography and the perforations that border a stamp image, the design possibilities are endless. Through other licensing agreements, we look forward to taking this imagery into more unexpected but natural extensions such as fashion apparel and accessories and home furnishings."

Currently, stamp art licensed products reproduce the actual stamp image onto collectible merchandise and are available through specialized distribution channels. Some of the most popular stamp images in the Postal Service's collection include the Greetings from America (state stamps) series, Carnivorous Plants, and 20th Century Trains, the Heroes of 2001 stamp, Birds, Flowers, Lighthouse, Love stamps, and more.

Licensing of Postal Service products and merchandise extends its well-known brand, represented by its heritage of colorful and popular stamp images, into the hands of consumers nationwide. Each year, with the issuance of new stamps, the collection of stamp art grows along with the licensing opportunities.

A sampling of the Postal Service's licensed merchandise is available online at The Postal Store, <http://shop.usps.com>. For information on how to license with the U.S. Postal Service, contact Equity Management Inc. at (248) 680-9150.

Since 1775, the U.S. Postal Service has connected friends, families, neighbors and businesses by mail. It is an independent federal agency that visits 140 million homes and businesses every day and is the only service provider to deliver to every address in the nation. The Postal Service receives no taxpayer dollars for routine operations, but derives its operating revenues solely from the sale of postage, products and services. With annual revenues of more than \$67 billion, it is the world's leading provider of mail and delivery services, offering some of the most affordable postage rates in the world. The Postal Service delivers more than 43 percent of the world's mail volume—some 203 billion letters, advertisements, periodicals and packages a year—and serves 7 million customers each day at its 38,000 retail locations nationwide.

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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

The Hindustan Times, July 23, 2003  
STAMP OF MISCHIEF ON PHILATELIST'S SITE  
<http://www.hindustantimes.com/2003/Jul/23/printedition/230703/detCIT13.shtml>

<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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