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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 # 132 - September 4, 2003. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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I N T H I S I S S U E

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To subscribe, send email to stampsofindia@tatanova.com with name, postal
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Back issues of this newsletter are available for free download at
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Download/archives.htm>
Now also available in print and on CD - details at the end of this issue

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

The back issues of this newsletter from # 1 till date are now also  
available on CD for Rs.500 (inland) or US\$10 (overseas) postpaid.

Earlier we had made available these in print, of course; all issues  
still remain available for free download at  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Download/archives.htm>

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Satish Misra  
of Bareilly, Vijay Seth of New Delhi, Shyam P Nhuchhe Pradhan from  
Kathmandu (Nepal), and Mid Day of Mumbai.

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We invite your inputs, please email to stampsofindia@tatanova.com

Please mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists.

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

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INDIA POST'S NEXT STAMP ISSUE

India Post will issue a set of 4 special stamps in the denomination of Rs.5 on Temple Architecture on September 15, 2003. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> set in this series and features the temples of Bandrinath, Jagannath Puri, Mallikarjunaswamy Srisailam, and Tripureswari Udaipur (Tripura). The first set in the series was issued on December 2001.

The set will be issued in sheetlets of 16 stamps individually for each stamp and also in a mixed sheetlet.

This issue 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 in the country.

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'OUR WORLD OF SPECIAL CHILDREN' STAMP RELEASED

Ashok Pradhan, Minister of State for Communications & Information Technology released a stamp in the denomination of Rs.5, the inland letter rate, on June 30, 2003 on 'Our World of Special Children' at New Delhi on the occasion of the International Conference on Autism hosted by Tamana Association.

Since 1984, Tamana has been educating and training children with autism, mental and multiple disabilities. Special Children need special teachers and at the conference Tamana brought together some spirited individuals who make a living out of devising innovative aids to train autistic children. Tamana has created a common pool of resources to help these children and their parents as each child is different and requires individual attention.

Kamleshwar Singh designed the stamp, sheetlet, First Day Cover, and the pictorial first day postmark. Information Sheet containing write-up and technical data and priced at Rs.2 was issued on the occasion. The FDC is also priced at Rs. 2.

Calcutta Security Printers Limited of Kanpur printed the stamps by photo Offset in four colors on Matt Chromo paper in the quantity of 0.8 million in the sheetlets of 16 stamps.

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NEW SPECIAL POSTMARKS: PIONEERS OF INDIAN FILM INDUSTRY

India Post provided three different special pictorial postmarks at Chennai on July 21, 2003 on the occasion of the 2nd death anniversary of Sivaji Ganesan. The postmarks feature the pioneers of Indian Film Industry, N S Krishnan 1908-1957, M K Thyagaraja Bhagavathar 1910-1959, and P U Chinnappa 1916-1951. South India Philatelists Association, 41 Perumal Mudali Street, Sowcarpet, Chennai 600079 in association with

Sivaji Prabhu Charities Trust brought out a set of three special covers for these special postmarks.

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OOPS!

The following item of postal stationery was left out by mistake from the list of postal stationery with advertisements new issues scheduled for release in September 2003 from the news published in the issue # 131 of August 28, 2003.

INLAND LETTER CARD - MAHABALIPURAM, 250 Paise, Blue,
01, SPP, English & Telugu, Shriram Chits, 2 m, Multicolor

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

BANASPEX - II

India Post organized a district level philatelic exhibition at Palanpur, Gujrat on August 18 and 19, 2003. A special cover and special postmark was also provided on the first day. The cover depicts a prize winning painting by Sandip Patel of Mashrawanwani School for Hearing Impaired at Palanpur.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The following list of events scheduled till the end of the year is subject to change. We update it in every issue with the information received during the week. The organizers may be contacted for further details.

September

9-11, Cuddalore, District Level  
19-21, Chandrapur (Maharashtra), Stamps & Coins  
27-29, Mumbai, District Level  
? , Darjeeling, District Level  
? , Coochbehar, District Level

October

2-3, Lucknow  
2-4, Ahmedabad, GUJPEX, State Level, Prospectus available  
9-11, Bilaspur, District Level  
10-13, Jaipur, RAJPEX, State Level, Prospectus available  
16-19, Hyderabad, APPEX, State Level, Prospectus available

November

27-30, Thrissur, KERAPEX, State Level

December

? , Mumbai, MAHAPEX, State Level  
26-29, Dharwad, KARNAPEX, State Level

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

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SECURITY PAPER MILL SEEKS SUPPLIERS

Government of India owned Security Paper Mill at Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh invites Expression of Interest/Pre Qualification Tenders for

supply of Security Thread and Security Fibers used in manufacturing Currency/Bank Note and Non-Judicial Stamp Papers.

The Security Thread required is of various types, Polyester Vacuum Metallised with demetallised letters in English and Devnagari scripts having fluorescent color under Ultra-violet light and suitable for windowed and embedded application.

The Security Fibers having color fluorescence under Ultra-violet light and compatible with Security Paper are required.

The last date for submitting the documents is October 10, 2003.

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

Two police officers from Pune have been suspended for their alleged role in the multi-billion fake stamp paper scam. The officers were recently implicated for their role in the scam by an investigating team.

Inspector P R Deshmukh has been accused of improper marshalling of evidence. He is believed to have included and later dropped the names of certain accused at will without justification. Assistant Commissioner M C Mulani has been accused of not substantiating claims that he had received instructions from his superiors.

S M Mushrif, former additional commissioner (crime), Pune, has alleged that Deshmukh initially named prime accused Abdul Karim Telgi's wife and daughter in the scam, but later retracted their names, saying it was a mistake.

Mushrif also alleged that during the interrogation on October 13, 2002, Telgi said that Mulani and Deshmukh had threatened to arrest his wife, daughter and brother if he failed to pay them off.

Advocate General Gulam Vahanvati told the Bombay High Court on August 28, 2003 that Deshmukh and Mulani have been suspended. Director General of Police Subodh Kumar Jaiswal, who is heading the investigating team, recommended that the government suspend Deshmukh and Mulani and punish them for misconduct and criminal negligence.

D Y Dhal, senior inspector of the Dharavi crime branch unit, and inspector Dilip Kamat of the Mumbai Crime Branch are the two officers arrested for allegedly conspiring with Telgi.

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NEW ISSUES OF NEPAL

Nepal issued a new stamp in the denomination of Rs. 5 on August 31, 2003 on Dr. Dilli Raman Regmi.

Designed by Mohan N Rana, the two color horizontal stamp is printed in the quantity of 1 million by Austria Government Printing Office, Vienna in sheets of 50 stamps.

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THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

The Calendar for September 2003 with detailed information and announcements was updated and is available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Auctions/a702.htm>

This information is provided by special arrangement with Charles E. Cwiakala and updates to this information are available at their comprehensive Website [www.cwiakala.com](http://www.cwiakala.com).

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FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL ISSUES

"The Eritrean postal administration has discovered that there are a considerable number of illegal postage stamps circulating on the philatelic market in the name of Eritrea. We are completely opposed to such an activity and find that this activity has ruined our reputation and good name, in particular given that some of the illegal stamps are quite obscene in nature."

"We are aware, through the Pan African Postal Union, of the actions already taken to combat these activities and we are fully supportive of all actions taken by the PAPU and by the Universal Postal Union to deal with this serious problem. We feel that still more needs to be done and we are calling upon the UPU to do still more, to clean up this market.

"We would therefore ask you to kindly inform all Union member countries and all our philatelic partners within the World Association for the Development of Philately that we strongly protest against the existence and continued proliferation of illegal postage stamps produced in the name of Eritrea. This is a phenomenon of which our postal administration has recently become a victim and which is of great concern to all Posts. We therefore wish to protest in the strongest terms against these illegal postage stamps.

"It is of great concern that the fraudulent postage stamps, inscribed "ERITREA" on its own or accompanied by the Eritrean and Arabic versions, should appear on various websites and in philatelic promotional publications. We have recorded no fewer than 600 illegal stamps!" The deceitful advertising goes so far as to state that 'the origin of these stamps may be questionable and may be listed as illegals. We therefore suggest that you buy them only because you like them. We offer them because they are on the market.' As well as having face values in Nfa and a rather high selling price, some of these stamps are sold in perforated and imperforate formats. Worse still, the imperforate versions sell for double the price of perforate ones.

"The negative publicity these illegal postage stamps generate for our country amounts to a serious attack on the moral, religious and economic integrity of Eritrea and its postal service. It is a serious and flagrant violation of article 6 of the Universal Postal Convention and the associated provisions of the Letter Post Regulations. It is, in particular, a violation of the national legislation of Eritrea, and in particular its law on the Post and its provisions on counterfeit postage stamps. Under the terms of this law, the Eritrean Postal Service alone is authorized to issue and disseminate postage stamps in the name of Eritrea."

This situation is further aggravated by the fact that the logos of various organizations are reproduced on most of the illegal postage stamps.

"We call upon all parties to redouble their efforts to combat the scourge of illegal postage stamps and to exercise increased vigilance with regard to the production and distribution of such stamps in their respective countries. We are counting on the cooperation of all to help identify and track down the criminals responsible.

The Eritrean postal administration thanks the Universal Postal Union and all Posts and philatelic partners for their support and calls upon all parties to send it any questionable material that they may find."

Please send your queries to: maria.libera@upu.int
Maria S Libera, Programme Manager, Markets Development, Responsible for Philately, Directorate of Markets, International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union, Case postale, 3000 BERNE 15, Switzerland

For more details on the 'Fight Against Illegal Issues', please visit:
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Orgs/WADP-05.htm>

The summary of UPU Circulars about illegal issues is available at:
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Orgs/UPU.htm>

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VELGEAN FERNANDO [velgean@eth.net](mailto:velgean@eth.net)

Leading seller in Baazee.com with the maximum all positive Rating, 93/39 Saravana Perumal Street, Madras - 600 084, Tel. 044-26400952  
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FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

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

'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.stampsofindia.com/Content/Ads/ads.htm>
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#### VIEWS & OPINIONS

#### 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>

DR. AVINASH B JAGTAP FROM SWITZERLAND

On 9th September Switzerland will be issuing a series of five stamps depicting five different sites, which have been recorded by UNESCO as the World Heritage.

This time The Swiss Post thought of attracting local public to popularize philately among the people.

These stamps will also be offered in five sheetlets, each of which contains six stamps with the same motif. Switzerland being a small sized country, with an area not bigger than that of Kutch (Gujarat), these World Heritage sites are relatively less in number than those in nearby Italy or France.

These sites include: The magnificent glacier in the Jungfrau-Aletsch-Bietschhorn region, with an area of about 540 square kilometers. The region with a unique flora and fauna, with oldest pine trees dating from 800 years or more. This region has witnessed about 500 million years of earth's history, with traces of major geological and glaciological processes.

The second stamp shows the fortress of Castel Grande of Bellinzona built on a ridge of rock as early as 4th century A.D. There are two other castles dating from 13th to 15th century and all these together represent the mediaeval fortifications in Switzerland.

The Third stamp is devoted to the Old City of Berne, which was founded in 1191. Situated on the bend of River Aare it became a self-governing biggest city state north of the Alps. It is a charming city with a lot of renaissance fountains. In 1848, Berne was chosen by the first National Parliament as the Federal Capital of Switzerland.

The fourth stamp depicts the Abbey Precinct of St. Gall in baroque style. Inside it houses the picturesque library with more than 2000 manuscripts, over 200 of them more than 1000 years old. Apart from these there are 150'000 volumes.

The fifth and the final stamp of this series show the Convent of Muesstrair. This was founded as a Benedictine Monastery by Charlemagne in the 8th century which was converted into a convent in the 12th century. It was around 1490 that it was modified in Late Gothic style. In 1950 a unique cycle of murals on the life of Jesus Christ were uncovered.

The sheetlets, each comprised of six stamps, carry a special coupon on the left. This coupon entitles the owner to visit these World Heritage sites at a reduced rate and this concession is valid till 30th June 2004.

A special pack offered also contains 5 different picture post cards with views at these sites. Appropriate stamps could be affixed to these picture post cards and thus the visitor to these sites has an opportunity to make his or her own maximum-card. Swiss Post does not sell these as "ready made" maximum-cards ( i.e. picture post cards with stamp affixed to it and postmarked - every thing "spoon fed"! ) , but

encourages the tourists to visit these places personally, taking trouble to prepare their own maximum-cards.

To me it is a very good idea which India should copy, even by issuing a visitor's philatelic passport to World Heritage sites in India. We have more than 25 World Heritage Sites in India listed by UNESCO, thus encouraging both, the tourism as well as philately in India.

What is your opinion?

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FEATURES & RESOURCES

Indian Laws Relevant to Philately

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

Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud related to Indian Philately

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

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ALSO IN THE NEWS: PAKISTAN POSTAL HOSPITAL

Pakistan's Communication Minister Ahmed Ali inaugurated Pakistan Postal Hospital at Rawalpindi on September 3, 2003.

Named after former Director General of Pakistan Post Office, Syed Athar Mehmud, the hospital comprises of four rooms and eight beds, and has emergency as well as a diagnostic center facility.

The Minister said that providing medical facilities is really a constructive idea which will not only enhance an employees' working but will also be a step in creating corporate culture. He said Pakistan Post Office is taking all possible measures for providing education, health and housing facilities to its retired employees. He further said that the positive steps taken today will be fruitful for tomorrow and will be remembered by the coming generations.

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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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