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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----  
The First & 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 # 141 - November 6, 2003. Published Every Thursday  
Edited by Madhu Jhingan and Savita Jhingan

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(see the end of this issue for details)

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

The November 2003 issue of 'India Post' journal of India Study Circle for Philately (ISC) published the congratulatory message to this newsletter by their Executive Committee that we have carried in issue #129 of August 14, 2003. In addition 'India Post' also carried our response to the Executive Committee as well as devoted the entire editorial on the development of philately in the Indian sub-continent.

This indeed encourages us to go on in our mission and we are grateful to the ISC for their support. Together we will work for the development of philately in India.

This bonhomie naturally did not go too well with those who were criticized in the correspondence as above. Immediately after the 'India Post' issue was received in India, the P Company's snipers got busy making virus attacks that are still continuing. These brave persons are being investigated by the police for similar criminal activities

against us. And although their learning curve in cyber crime is clearly moving upwards, they still leave lots of dirty 'finger prints' on their misdeeds.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Satish Misra from Bareilly, Mid Day Mumbai, The Times of India, United News of India, Government of India's Press Information Bureau

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

Report the philatelic activities in your area for publication here. We shall reimburse the costs incurred on photos, philatelic items issued, publications, courier and other agreed charges.

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

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

- November 7 - Bengal Sappers Bicentenary, Rs.5
- November 9 - Kalka Simla Railway
- November 12 - Snakes, Set of 4 stamps Rs.5 each & miniature sheet Rs.20
- November 14 - Children's Day, Sheetlet
- November 22 - 225 years of 2Guards(1Grenadiers), Rs.5(Sheetlet of 16)
- November 27 - Harvansh Rai Bachchan
- November 29 - India France Joint Issue, Set of 2 & miniature sheet

These issues 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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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

GREETINGS

India Post released a set of 4 special stamps on Greetings on October 30, 2003. The stamps, 2 in the denomination of Rs. 4 the inland printed matter rate used for greeting cards, and 2 in the denomination of Rs. 5 the inland letter rate.

This is the 4th issue of special stamps for greetings. Earlier set of 2 stamps have been issued in 1990, 1991 and 2001.

Kamleshwar Singh designed the stamp, and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed 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 mixed sheets of 40 stamps.

#### 150 YEARS OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN INDIA

The Minister of Communications, IT and Disinvestment, Arun Shourie released a stamp in the denomination of Rs.5 to commemorate the 150 years of Telecommunications in India on November 1, 2003 at a function in New Delhi.

Starting as an experiment with an electric telegraph line between Calcutta and nearby Diamond Harbor in 1850, Telecom services were formally launched in November, 1853 connecting Calcutta and Peshawar (now in Pakistan), Bombay and Madras and Ootacamund and Bangalore. The pioneer of the project was Dr. William O' Shaughnessy who went on to become the first Superintendent of Electric Telegraphs in India and later the first Director General.

The London based Oriental Telephone and Electric Company Limited was licensed in 1881 to set up telephone exchanges at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. Further expansion came with Radio Telegraph (1927), Radio Telephone (1933) and the use of trunk lines for broadcasting programs (1937). A decade later the Subscriber Trunk Dialing System was introduced between Kanpur and Lucknow. Cellular Services started in 1995. Today, the little wire has stretched to about sixty million connections.

Sankha Samanta designed the stamp and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed 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.

Eagle Press Private Limited of Chennai printed the stamps by Photo Offset in four colors on imported unwatermarked stamp paper in the quantity of 0.8 million in the sheets of 50 stamps.

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**NEW SPECIAL POSTMARKS**

India Post provided a special postmark on October 16, 2003 at New Delhi to mark the Golden Jubilee Year of Indian Institute of Public Administration. A special cover was also issued on this occasion.

The special postmark on 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of YMCA at New Delhi on November 10, 2003 is now rescheduled for November 20, 2003.

For availability and charges, please contact the Philatelic Bureau, Sansad Marg Head Post Office, New Delhi 100 001.

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**PRADIP JAIN BAGS GATCHELL AWARD**

The literature awards for 2002 were announced at the 2003 Fall Meeting of the American Air Mail Society (AAMS) held during AIRPEX on September 12-14, 2003, in Dayton, Ohio.

The Gatchell Award for the Best 'Airpost Journal' Article was won by Pradip Jain from India for his article "Indian Air Mails".

Other awards announced at the meeting were Earl & Fred Wellman Award for the Best 'Jack Knight Air Log' Articles to Cheryl Ganz for "The Zeppelin Collector" and George D Kingdon Award for the Best Aerophilatelic Publication to Nils Ramm-Ericson for "Airmails of Siam".

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

PHILATELY ON RAILWAYS

The National Rail Museum at New Delhi has organized a philately exhibition from October 31 to November 15, 2003 on the theme of Railways.

The exhibition displays collection of two noted philatelists, S P S Jain and Mohd. Mujibullah. Jain is General Manager of Central Railway and Mujibullah works for Eastern Railway.

About 5000 different stamps and first day covers showing locomotives, bridges, tunnels and railway personalities from all over the world are on display along with their description and historical background.

KANCHIPURAM

India Post organized a district level philatelic exhibition on October 27-29, 2003 at Kanchipuram.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The following list of events scheduled for next few months 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.

November

- 8-10, Coochbehar, District Level
- 14, Satara, District Level
- 14-15, Ludhiana, The club finally decided in favor of holding the show
- 14-16, Gwalior, Coins Show
- 15-16, Bharuch, District Level
- 27-30, Thrissur, KERAPEX, State Level

December

- 26-29, Dharwad, KARNAPEX, State Level

January 2004

- 9-11, Tirupur, Coin-Stampex
- 9-12, Nagpur, MAHAPEX, State Level

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

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INDIAN STAMPS AGENCY AVAILABLE

India Post is inviting 'Expression of Interest' from established philatelic dealers all over the world for agency to sell India Postage Stamps and other Philatelic products. The expression may contain profile of the dealers, countries already represented by them, and annual turnover. The last date for submission is November 30, 2003.

Your expression of interest may be addressed to: Devika Kumar, Deputy Director General (Philately), Department of Posts, Dak Bhawan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi-110001, Telefax: 0091 11 3096095, E-mail:

[de\\_vi\\_ka@hotmail.com](mailto:de_vi_ka@hotmail.com)

The appointed agents would be allowed to deduct their commission on the following rates from the sale proceeds while remitting the amount to India Post:

- 30% on sales up to Rs.200,000
- 33% on sales between Rs.200,000 to 500,000
- 35% on sales between Rs.0.5 million to 1 million
- 40% on sales over Rs.1 million

The agents to be appointed would enter into contract with the Department of Posts, India besides furnishing bank guarantee. A copy of the contract is available for viewing at <http://www.indiapost.org/PhilatelicDealers.pdf>

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AUCTION ACTION

ANDHARE POSTAL AUCTION # 4

Rohini Andhare [crandhare@hotmail.com](mailto:crandhare@hotmail.com) informs the corrections in the estimates of the lots #2021 - Rs.17000, #2027 - Rs.400, #2028 - Rs.625, and #2029 - Rs.700. The auction closes on November 19, 2003.

ITS POSTAL AUCTION

Indian Thematic Society [indianthematicsociety@rediffmail.com](mailto:indianthematicsociety@rediffmail.com) is holding its postal auction #22. The 80-lot auction closes on November 25, 2003.

PRESTIGE PHILATELY PUBLIC AUCTION

India, Indian States, India Used Abroad is being offered at a public auction in Melbourne Australia on December 6, 2003 by Prestige Philately Pty. Limited [info@prestigephilately.com](mailto:info@prestigephilately.com) .

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NEW PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS

Railways' Journey Through Postal Stamps

Author: S P S Jain

Publisher: Chief Public Relations Officer, Central Railway

Address: Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, Mumbai 400001

Price: Rs.195 (250 full color pages, Softbound)

Depicts history and development of railways all over the world

Stamps on Indian Railways

Author: Mohd. Mujibullah

Publisher: National Rail Museum [www.railmuseum.org](http://www.railmuseum.org)

Address: Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021

Price: Rs.200 (70 full color pages, Softbound)

Contains all the stamps issued on Indian Railways so far

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OOPS!

It seems we got a wee bit carried away and instead of thousand (K) wrote million (M) in the title "\$ 48 Million for an Australian Stamp" in 'Also in the News' column in the issue # 140 of October 30, 2003 of this newsletter. The stamp as the story correctly described, sold for 48,000 Australian Dollars and established a new price record for an Australian stamp.

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

A former Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP), who has allegedly played a key role in aiding and abetting the fake stamp racket of Abdul Karim Telgi, is believed to have fled to the USA.

This ACP could be a crucial witness for the Special Investigating Team (SIT) which is probing, among other things, the role of Mumbai police commissioner R S Sharma in the scam. SIT was unable to trace the ACP at his residence in Pune. The team later learnt that he had gone to the US some days ago.

2

Karnataka State Police's investigation team, STAMPIT, inquiring into the multi-billion fake stamp racket, has taken into custody six associates of the main accused in the case, Telgi.

The associates, who were brought to Bangalore from the Tihar jail in Delhi and the Yerawada prison in Pune on October 31, 2003 were remanded in eight-day police custody on November 1, 2003 by the first Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate following a request from STAMPIT. Those taken into custody were Mansoor (24), Mohisin alias Sulaiman (23), Deepak alias Manoj Desai (23), all residents of Khanapur in Belgaum district, Khader Shah alias Sargu (24), a resident of Hubli, Sirajuddin Nasipudi alias Rafiq (45), a resident of Savadhathi in Belgaum and Jacob Chacko (38), a Mumbai resident.

STAMPIT sources told UNI that Telgi was directing the business of fake stamps by contacting his associates, including those taken into custody, over mobile phones from the Central Prison at Bangalore. The associates were circulating the fakes at Delhi and other places on his instructions and also operated accounts in high profile banks.

3

Pune Police commissioner A N Roy suspended six police officials, including an inspector on October 30, 2003 on charges of giving undue privileges to the four accused arrested in fake stamp racket. The suspended police officials included inspector D T Kharche and five constables. An inquiry is being ordered in this case.

The four accused who were allegedly given special treatment in the court on October 30, 2003 include Member of Legislative Assembly Anil Gote, suspended Assistant Police Inspector of Crime Branch Mumbai Dilip Kamath, the lawyer of the prime accused Rashid Kulkarni and brother of the prime accused Abdul Aziz Telgi.

4

A Kolkata-based businessman, Sayed Yasmeeen Mohammad Sayed, was arrested by special investigating team (SIT) on October 30, 2003 for his alleged complicity in the multi-billion countrywide fake stamp scam.

Sayed, the 58th accused in the stamp paper scam, was brought to Pune from Mumbai on transfer warrant and was produced before judicial magistrate first class (JMFC), M N Bondre, who remanded him to police custody till November 13, 2003. Seeking his custody, special public prosecutor Raja Thakre said the accused, who was already arrested in another case, had links with the prime accused Abdul Karim Telgi.

Thakre said Sayed's custodial interrogation was needed to investigate inter-state operation of Telgi's syndicate and also to find out what properties he had acquired in Kolkata. Besides, SIT had to verify details of a laptop computer which was recovered from his possession, Thakre said.

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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>

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

READERS FORUM

<Dear Reader, Your feedback is important to us as it helps evolve the newsletter. Please do let us have your thoughts and suggestions.>

SANJAY KANSAL

I was shocked to see complete silence of your newsletter on the Philatelic Exhibition being organized at the National Rail Museum from 31st Oct to 14th Nov right under your nose in Delhi. I came to know about this event through newspapers. This has reduced the reliability of your newsletter as 'single window source' for all the info relating to philately. I hope such glaring omissions will be taken care of in future.

Being an old admirer of your newsletter, I take the liberty of offering some suggestions:

- 1) The newsletter is slowly turning into a monotonous sarkari type (governmental) publication. I request you to keep it short and crisp.
- 2) You are regularly devoting 3-4 pages on fake stamps scam. Please don't bore us till death with each and every irrelevant detail of misdemeanors of M/s Telgi & party.
- 3) To make it more interesting, please include scanned images of new stamps or events with newsletter.

EDITORS' RESPONSE:

We thank you for lauding us as 'single window source for all the info relating to philately of India' and also for your concern about our reliability that you incorrectly perceive is being reduced.

Every periodical has a cutoff time and in our case we close the issue with the information till Wednesday. On the day of publication that is Thursday we process, format, publish, and mail the issue. We have also learned about the Rail Museum exhibition through newspaper ads on Thursday the October 30, 2003. We visited the exhibition when it was opened on October 31, 2003 and have carried a brief report in this issue.

Our priority in publishing this newspaper is delivering the news in a timely manner therefore style and such luxuries get sacrificed at times.

We have good reason to include reports on fake stamp scam that is being covered by every newspaper and TV channel in the country. Fakes have been part of philately almost since the beginning. Many readers of this newsletter are not interested in this aspect and simply skip it.

We would love to include links to images at web site at relevant points in news coverage ASAP.

We once again thank you for your inputs.

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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

MEGHDOOT POST CARDS

Further to our notes in issue # 140 of October 30, 2003 we now have better descriptions for Card # 23 and # 26 as follows:

23. October 4, 2003, Toilets for every house

26. October 29, 2003, Total Sanitation Program

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

NELSON EUSTIS - MAY HE REST IN PEACE

By Ken Sanford

It is with deep sadness that I have to report the death of Nelson Eustis of Adelaide, Australia on November 5, 2003. He had gone into the hospital for an operation, which didn't go well and he didn't make it.

Nelson was born in Australia on the 21st of October 1915, which made him one of the oldest living aerophilatelists in the world.

He edited and published the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the Australian Air Mail Catalogue in 1937 and was still editor of the 7<sup>th</sup> edition in 2002. The Catalogue has always been the "Bible" for Australian Air Mails. He was one of the founders of the Australian Air Mail Society in 1968.

Nelson was the organizer of two Aerophilatelic Exhibitions in Adelaide, which were held in 1988 & 1994. I attended both of them and they were the most enjoyable Aerophilatelic Exhibitions I ever attended. I understand he was also involved in one of the earliest aerophilatelic exhibitions, which was held in Melbourne, Australia around 1936. At the time of his death he was working hard on the organization of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Aeropex Exhibition, which will be held in Adelaide on the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2003. It is a pity he will not be there to enjoy it.

For many years, Nelson was the representative for various security printers and mints in selling stamps and coins to many countries, especially those in the Pacific Ocean region.



Nelson was a long time member of the Board of Directors of International Federation of aerophilatelic Societies (FISA) and served as Vice President at the time of his death. Nelson was also a FIP Aerophilatelic judge for many years and he received Emeritus status (a kind of retirement) in 2000.

He collected all aspects of Australian air mail covers. He was very knowledgeable and was always willing to help other collectors.

Nelson was one of the nicest and kindest persons I ever met. After learning of his death, I had the following email from Brian Asquith: "I am so sorry to learn of Nelson's death. Only last week I had a note from him. I first met him in 1973 and he was always what I consider to be a gentleman. He was always helpful no matter who he was dealing with. Approachable and helpful in that quiet, modest way of his and he never became the great "I am" that some people in a similar position would have done. His name will live on as one of the "greats" of aerophilately." I couldn't have said it better myself.

Nelson is survived by two daughters – Diane and Lyn.

The condolences to his family may be sent through the President of the Australian Air Mail Society, John Love at: [drowley7@chariot.net.au](mailto:drowley7@chariot.net.au)

May he rest in peace.

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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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WEB SITE UPDATES

STAMPS OF INDIA <http://www.stampsofindia.com>  
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.

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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ADMINISTRIVIA

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Vol.2 2001, Issue #20-52, Rs.950  
Vol.3 2002, Issue #53-97, Rs.1250  
Vol.4 2003, Part 1, Issue #98-122, (January-June) Rs.650  
Complete Set, as above, postpaid: Rs.3500 (inland) or US\$95 (overseas)

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION, Back Issues on CD  
Issue # 1 - latest issue, Rs.500 or US\$ 10 postpaid

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION, Back Issues on the Web Site  
Issue # 1 - latest issue, No Charge

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Download/archives.htm>

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