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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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Edited by Madhu Jhingan and Savita Jhingan

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To get BACK ISSUES, please see the end of this issue for details.

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We have been sharing with you our forthcoming travel plans for exhibitions but last week we had to undertake a journey which was unplanned and taken in case of an emergency. We received a call informing about the accident of our father and hospitalization in Dehradun. Hence the delay in sending the newsletter, he is back home now and on his way to recovery.

We may still be required to make some more trips to Dehradun to check on his progress and request you to bear with us in case of any further delays in the forthcoming issues.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: The Hindustan Times

We invite your inputs, please email to [feedback@stampsfindia.com](mailto:feedback@stampsfindia.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. Also, please mention this  
newsletter when contacting other philatelists.

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

HOAX ALERT

There has been a lot of virus activity of late. Virus infected PC sends mail to all addresses found on that machine. At times the Virus uses these addresses in the 'from' field pretending to be from that particular email address instead of the infected machine.

The email ids given at our sites have been at the receiving end of the spam. We view this as an occupational hazard.

However spreading virus in our name is something we view very seriously. There is little one can do in the mass virus activity unleashed by sobig, mydoom, or netsky recently. Precaution is the best cure. We have never sent any attachment with our mail to you. Thus you can safely delete any mail with an attachment pretending to be from us.

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE NEW ISSUES

The Army Postal Service issued the following Special Covers with Special Postmarks in February 2004:

- 13, Punjab Regiment, 9<sup>th</sup> Reunion & Color Presentation
- 20, Sikh Regiment, 11<sup>th</sup> Post-War Reunion (Sub Surinder Singh, Ashok Chakra)
- 27, 13<sup>th</sup> Batalion, Garhwal Rifles, Silver Jubilee

Visit the following link for illustrations:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/160a.htm>

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

February

- 28-29, Ajamgarh, District Level
- 29, Devas, District Level

March

- 3-4, Coimbatore, District Level

CALENDAR OF 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 through local Head Post Office may be contacted for further details.

March

- 20-21, Chandigarh, District Level, NEW DATES
- 20-21, Guwahati, Philatelic Festival
- 27-29, Port Blair, Regional
- 29-30, Indore, MAHAPRAGYAPEX (Jainism is the only theme)
- 31- Apr 02, Gangtok, Sikkim

For a list of events held this year, please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Events/a300.htm>

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AUCTION ACTION

MITTAL POSTAL AUCTION

Mittal Stamp Company has mailed out the catalog of their postal auction number 18 closing on April 7, 2004. The sale features 2200 lots of India, Indian States, Cinderella, Fiscals, and foreign illustrated in 67 plates. For a free copy of the catalog please contact Mittal Stamp Company, G P O Box 253, Jaipur 302003  
[miitalstamps@yahoo.com](mailto:miitalstamps@yahoo.com)

SHREVES PHILATELIC GALLERIES

Dallas, USA, 3rd April October 2004 Neal M. Allen British Empire Postage Stamps "Private Collection Sale" Public Auction, the following lots may be of interest:

Nos. 213-277 (INDIAN STATES and INDIA: incl many better with SG S3 "Scinde Dawk" and, SG O17-O18 unused; Chamba SG O8a, Charkhari SG 1-4, Duttia SG 4 & 7, Jammu and Kashmir SG 47 and, Kishangarh SG 014) SHREVE will include an additional 10% Buyer's Premium added to all purchased lots. If you do not receive the SHREVE catalog, the listings can be accessed on their Web Site: <http://www.shreves.com>

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PCI COURT CASES UPDATE

The suit filed by Madhukar Jhingan against Philatelic Congress of India came up for hearing final arguments on March 12, 2004 and the next date of hearing was fixed for April 17, 2004.

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STAMP CHASE WEB SITE AT NEW ADDRESS

Sunil Suri's web site Stamp Chase is now available at its new address <http://www.stampchase.com.br>

The site offers British Commonwealth mainly, with excellent high values. Also almost complete Indian States. All Pre 1950, World Covers including Early First Flight Covers, World Notes and Coins.

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

The Delhi Police Crime Branch claims to have recovered fake stamp papers worth Rs 65 lakh and arrested two persons – Rahul alias Vinod and Parvinder Singh – in this connection on March 16, 2004. The stamp papers had been allegedly supplied to them by one Deepak who was earlier arrested by Delhi Police in a fake stamp case and was alleged to be working for kingpin Abdul Karim Telgi. After Deepak's arrest, Rahul and Parvinder had kept the consignment for about a year-and-a-half. The duty magistrate at Patiala House courts sent the two to jail for 14 days on March 17.

The Supreme Court of India on March 15, 2004 directed 12 states to make available to the Central Bureau of Investigation the entire records of 48 cases short listed by it for investigation into the Telgi fake stamp paper cases. The court directed the 12 states to provide necessary infrastructural and resource facilities to the Central agency for effective investigation into the 48 cases, including 23 from Maharashtra and ten from Karnataka. The remaining cases, which the CBI will probe, into are three each from Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh, two each from Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh and one each from Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Kerala and West Bengal. The direction came on five public interest petitions, including one by Advocate Ajay Agarwal, seeking a unified CBI

probe into multi billion fake stamp cases spread over whole of India within a time bound frame.

Special Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) teams will soon be reaching states and Union Territories to take possession of all records and case properties of 48 cases relating to fake stamps that have been transferred to it by a Supreme Court order.

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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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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.>

PULAK GUPTA, New Delhi

This refers to your item on Stamp Popularity Poll in the recent issue of Stamp of India Collectors Companion. Please note that the Philatelic Club of India, Delhi in the first quarter of 1987 organized a Stamp Poll for Indian stamps issued in 1986. This was the only poll organized for the stamps issued in 1986. This is for your information and records.

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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

US POST OFFICE DECIDES AGAINST PERSONALIZED STAMPS

United States Postal Service announced on March 10, 2004 that it has decided against personalized stamps.

The special stamps, which could include a picture of the buyer's children or dog or company logo, had been recommended by a presidential commission on the postal service's future.

However, a citizen's advisory committee opposed the idea. The committee's 15 members are appointed by the postmaster general to help sift through the thousands of proposals for postage stamps that the post office receives every year.

"The postmaster general has decided to accept their recommendation," the post office informed. Officials declined to elaborate on the announcement.

Virginia Noelke, chairman of the stamp advisory committee, told Postmaster General John Potter in a letter that the risks of such stamps seem to be much higher than any possible rewards. In her letter, first reported by Linn's Stamp News, Noelke, a history professor at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas, listed several reasons for opposing personalized stamps. Among them were:

The agency could face legal action over freedom of speech issues if it tried to limit the types of messages that could appear on personalized stamps.

It would be impossible to prevent people from using someone else's likeness or copyrighted material without permission.

The upper right corner of an envelope is a legally regulated space and should not be opened to personal messages.

There is no personalized currency and having personalized postage would blur the distinction between securities and other paper documents. Legally, stamps are receipts for the prepayment of postage.

It would be increasingly difficult to catch stamp counterfeiters.

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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://www.stampsonindia.com>

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

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ADMINISTRIVIA

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<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Guide/w04.htm>

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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)  
Vol.5 2003, Part 2, Issue #123-148, (July-December) Coming soon

STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION, Back Issues on CD  
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