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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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The BACK ISSUES are available in Print, on CD, and Online at  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Download/archives.htm>

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We are planning a major revamp of the site and invite your suggestions  
for the same.

Our focus is on making it more user-friendly and intuitive as well as  
adding lots of illustrations.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Mid Day Mumbai

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

NEW MINISTERS TAKE CHARGE

Dayanidhi Maran assumed charge as Minister of Communications and Information Technology on May 26, 2004. Earlier Dr. Shakeel Ahmad assumed office as the Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology on May 24, 2004.

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SUGGEST ISSUES FOR 2005

'Stamp your presence', India Post invites proposals from the public to select subjects for issue of postage stamps during the year 2005. Individuals and organizations can submit proposals on subjects relating to heritage and culture of the country, flora and fauna, important events, art, music, paintings, sculptures etc.

Each proposal should carry suggestions on one subject with a brief on it not exceeding 150 words. The proposal should be written / typed / printed legibly on white paper and submitted to the Chief Postmaster General of the respective circle.

The last date for submission is June 30, 2004.

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

May 27 - Professor Dr Indra Chandra Shastri, Rs5  
June 2, - Woodstock School, Mussoorie, Rs5

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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POSTAL STATIONERY UPDATE

There are no issues of the postal stationery with advertisements scheduled for release during the month of June 2004. This excludes Meghdoot post cards that are reported separately.

New Arrivals

January 10, Post Card with advertisement, "Anti Tobacco Campaign", in Hindi, 6 million, Multicolor, Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

Visit the following link for illustrations:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/170a.htm>

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PCI COURT CASES UPDATE

The suit filed by Rajesh Varma against Philatelic Congress of India in 2004 came up for hearing on May 22, 2004 and the next date of hearing was fixed for July 21, 2004.

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RECENT & 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.

June 18-20, Nainital

For a list of events held this year, please visit

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

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DAVID HEPPELL IS NO MORE

We regret to report that David Heppell, co-founder of the eJournal "Princely States Report" died on April 24, 2004 of complications associated with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia. The world has lost a very dedicated Indian States philatelist in his death.  
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GET WELL SOON, RON

Ron Rice, editor and co-founder of Princely States Report informs that he has developed a major medical problem and have not had the time or energy to devote to his personal interests. The unfortunate fact is that he is even away from work due to illness. In case you have emailed him and have not received a response from him, he requests to email him again at [editor@princelystates.com](mailto:editor@princelystates.com).

Ron's illness is causing a tremendous financial drain on his family, and he is forced to sell off some of his philatelic (and other) items to pay the medical bills. He currently has about ten lots on Ebay, and I plan to post about 100-200 lots over the next several months. If you're interested in seeing the material, just go to Ebay and search by the seller "mr.rice". Click the "Search" button, then click the "By Seller" tab then enter seller ID "mr.rice" in the "Single Seller" search field.

On behalf of ourselves and our readers we wish him a speedy recovery.  
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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

A Pune court had remanded Telgi to the custody of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for 10 days which took him to Delhi on May 20, 2004. A special team of officials are for interrogating Abdul Karim Telgi at New Delhi since May 21, 2004 and made a breakthrough following custodial interrogation. CBI sleuths carried out simultaneous raids at three places in Bangalore and two places in Bellary on May 26, 2004 and seized fake stamp papers in the denomination of Rs 5,000, Rs 2,000 and Rs 100 with a face value of Rs 15 million. The interrogation of Telgi revealed that some printing presses were still active in printing fake stamp papers for supplying and circulating them in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. Telgi's disclosures were supported by "other pieces" of information which indicated that Janta Offset Printers, Bangalore was allegedly printing fake stamp papers and it was also suspected of supplying fake stamps to Citizen Enterprises, managed by late Rahim Telgi, brother of the prime accused in the scam. Apart from Raghavendra Prasad, owner of Janta Offset Printers, his other associates -- Ramachandra, Munna Reddy, owners of Srinivas Printing Press, Bellary, and Mehboob Khan, owner of Dadaji Enterprises, Bellary, were being interrogated to "ascertain further details". Searches at a few other locations were in progress, to locate the photographic films and plates used for printing the fakes. The fake water marking was being done at the printing presses at Bellary, from where the material and equipment used for marking of plain papers have been seized.

G V Kannan, an accused in the fake stamp racket, was arrested on May 21, 2004 near Gudiyatham in Tamil Nadu after being on the run for the past two years. Kannan was produced before a court in Bangalore and remanded in judicial custody for 14 days. Kannan was linked to one of 10 cases in the fake stamp paper scam in Karnataka that had been taken over by CBI on the orders of the Supreme Court in March 2004. In this case, two accused, Kannan and G Jayaraj, were formally charged on May 26, 2001, but both jumped bail and their trial was held up. The court had issued non-bailable warrants against the duo but they evaded arrest. The CBI

learnt about Kannan's whereabouts after it arrested another accused in the case, S Krishnamurthy, at Coimbatore on April 18, 2004.

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SAULIUS VOVERIS, VILNIAUS 45-15, SIRVINTOS, LITHUANIA  
Collect Postage stamps: Lithuania, Europa (CEPT), NATO, Europe Union and Squirrel. Offer over 10000 stamps (sport, fauna, flora, cars, mushrooms etc.) I always welcome WW used postage stamps exchange in basis 1:1.

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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.>

RONALD VAN MELLE

It is nice to be in Valencia (Spain) were I met mar. Niraj Kumar, the Director of the Philately Division of the Ministry of Communications. I bought a Exhibition catalogue so tomorrow i will try to see all the Indian exhibits. That won't be easy because the hall is about 250 meters long and about 50 meters wide. And also a big room upstairs. Tremendous! It is a very big exhibition. But I still remember the exhibitions last year October in Jaipur and Hyderabad that I attended. For me that was more alive. And I saw some very interesting exhibits, also from the youth.

But Valencia is overwhelming. The outside scenery exists of futuristic buildings with a large pond like a big but deep swimming pool in front. The dealers fair has the most beautiful view I have ever seen. It is located on a kind of parking place under a concrete arch, so it is half outside.

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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

HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN

Australia Post will release a sheetlet of 10 stamps on June 10, 2004 to celebrate the theatrical release of the third Harry Potter movie 'Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban'.

Featured in the stamp tabs are (from left to right, top to bottom): Harry Potter™, Professor Remus Lupin, Hermione Granger™, Draco Malfoy™, Ron Weasley™, Rubeus Hagrid™, Professor Albus Dumbledore™, Professor Severus Snape™, Professor Minerva McGonagall™ and Sirius Black™. Harry and his friends Ron and Hermione return as teenagers to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry for their third year of study, where they delve into the mystery surrounding an escaped prisoner who seems to pose a dangerous threat to Harry.

The sheet is priced at Australian\$15.95

Visit the following link for illustrations:

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/News/2004/170b.htm>

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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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