ISSN 0972-3587 ----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION ------The First & Only Weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India Issue # 193 - November 4, 2004. Published Every Thursday Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan IN THIS ISSUE Princely States Report Forthcoming Stamp Issues Recent Special Postmarks & Covers Army Postal Service Issues Recent & Forthcoming Events India China Joint Philatelic Exhibition Recent Periodical Publications Nelson Collamer Fake Stamp Scam Updates The Calendar of Worldwide Philatelic Auctions Readers Forum - Zulaiha Mohamed Perth Adelaide Air Mail Service 1929 Historical Wood in Stamps! To SUBSCRIBE, send email giving your name, postal address, and philatelic interests to subscribe@stampsofindia.com

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi,

It's that time of the year again when festivals and exhibitions compete for your attention and participation. For us both are joyous occasions as one is happy to note the number of forthcoming exhibitions in various regions.

This is a clear indication of the efforts of India Post to take philately to the grassroots levels. We have personally observed the level of exhibits improving tremendously where the second and third rounds of exhibitions are taking place in different districts.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: The Press Trust of India, Press Information Bureau Government of India,

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

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRINCELY STATES REPORT

Stamps of India, the publishers of <u>www.stampsofindia.com</u> and <u>www.stampsonindia.com</u> besides this weekly newsletter, have taken over Princely States Report (PSR) from the Vahana Project of USA.

Well known research scholars, David Heppell and Ron Rice launched PSR in 2000 as a quarterly e-journal published at www.princelystates.com. PSR initially focused only on philately of the princely states of India, popularly known by stamp collectors as the "convention" and "feudatory" states. Later the scope was expanded to cover general history and numismatics as these were also of great importance among Indian States enthusiasts. So far 4 issues have been published, the 4th in 2001 and Stamps of India plans to publish the 5th issue in January 2005.

PSR has won the respect and appreciation of all princely states philatelists the world over for its original research and high quality content. Stamps of India is committed to maintain the high standards set by PSR founders.

PSR also won 'Special Prize' at HAFNIA 01 world philatelic exhibition at Copenhagen, Denmark and was one of seven sites awarded 'Top 5%' in the prestigious 2001 FIP Website Evaluation conducted by International Philatelic Federation (FIP).

FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES November 10: Tenneti Viswanatham, Rs5 November 14: Children's Day, Rs5 November 23: Walchand Hirachand November 25: Dula Bhaya Kag November 28: Aga Khan Award for Architecture: Agra fort 2004

RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS Oct 12: Ahmedabad, Philately Day

ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES November 1: Aircrew Examining Board, Standard Presentation by the President of India November 1: 1 Base Repair Depot (Air force), Color Presentation by the President of India

RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

MTPEX 2004

A 2 day district level exhibition was organized by India Post in Meerut on October 29 and 30, 2004. The jury consisted of Postmaster General Barielly Region of Uttar Pradesh Circle, RRP Singh - Chairman of the Jury, Savita Jhingan from Delhi, and Abhai Mishra from Dehradun.

2 special covers, one for each day of the exhibition were brought out, both featuring freedom fighters from the region, Mangal Pandey on day

one and Pyare Lal Sharma on day two. The unique feature of the exhibition was the auctioning of the two special covers autographed by the chief guest on both the days. The cover on day one was auctioned for Rs 1500 and on day two for Rs 2500.

Manipur Philatelic Festival

India Post organized the first Manipur Philatelic Festival on October 30, 2004 at Impahal. Vice Chancellor of Manipur University Dr Ng Bijoy was the Chief Guest at the inaugural function presided over by the Postmaster General of North East Circle, Lalhluna,

Stamp designing competitions on the theme of Peace and Harmony for students of class I to VIII as well as for students of class IX to XII were organized at the occasion. In the competition for class IX to XII, RK Bhubansana of Manipur Public School, Koirengei secured first prize and Supriya Ngangbam of Maria Montessori contended with the second prize. The third prize was shared between Rosana Nongmaithem of Maria Montessori and Konthoujam Maichael Meitei. In the competition for class I and VIII, the first prize was won by Andy Haokip, the second prize by Ningombam Kubi Leima of Tiny Tots' Unique School and the third prize by John Taothang.

INPEX 150

Minister of State for Communications & Information Technology, Dr Shakeel Ahmad inaugurated INPEX 150 a philatelic exhibition as part of Sesquicentennial Celebrations of India Post on November 3, 2004 at New Delhi. Dr Ahmed also released a Special cover with special postmark on 'E-Post'.

The three-day Exhibition displays a variety of remarkable award winning collections of eminent philatelists and collections of National Philatelic Museum and the Army Postal Service.

The exhibits invited for display have won high awards at world level philatelic exhibitions. These include Dr Sita Bhateja's thrice nominee for Grand Prize of Honor & Large Gold medals winning 'First Issues of India', Manohar Lal's Gold medals winning 'India Postal Stationery', G B Pai's Gold medals winning 'Cochin Cancellations', Anil Suri's 11 Gold medals winning 'Fiscals of Cochin', M G Pitties's Gold medals winning 'Convention States', Professor Dr V K Gupta's Vermeil medals winning 'Gwalior', Rajesh Paharia's Large Silver medals winning 'Refugee Relief Tax', Pulak Gupta's Silver medals winning 'Indian Maxim Cards', Dr Satyendra Kumar Agrawal's Vermeil medals winning 'Roses', Dinesh Chandra Sharma's Vermeil medals winning 'Summer Olympic Games', and Savita Jhingan's twice the Best in Class (Modern Philately) and highest rank (Excellent) winning 'Speed Post'.

Workshops on philately are being organized for School Children on all days of the Exhibition. Special Covers on 'Gangetic Dolphin' on November 4 and on 'Philately' on November 5, 2004 will be released.

The Exhibition will conclude with the valedictory address by Vijay Bhushan, Director General of India Post, Chairman of Postal Services Board, Secretary to Government of India Ministry of Communications & Information Technology, and Chairman of the World Association for the Development of Philately.

November 3-5, New Delhi, National Level (Noncompetitive), INPEX 150 Venue: Godrej Auditorium, World Wide Fund for Nature, Lodhi Estate Contact: Ravi Pahwa, Mobile 0 98684 43685

November 17-19, New Delhi, District Level & State Level Youth Venue: Russian Centre for Science & Culture, Feroze Shah Road Contact: Ravi Pahwa, Mobile 0 98684 43685 Bulletin 1 is now available. Dealers Booth Fee is Rs 2500. November 18-19, Thodupuzha, IDUKKIPEX Venue: Contact: Superintendent of Post Offices Idukki Division, Thodupuzha, Phone: 04896 2222282/222281 November 19-21, Gwalior, Stamps and Coins Venue: Contact: November 24-25, New Delhi, Mini Exhibition Venue: Army School, Delhi Cantonment [NEW] Contact: Major Sundaram, Phone 011 2614 0661 November 26-28, Bhopal, District Level Venue: Contact: December 4-5, Sholapur, District Level Venue: Contact: INDIA CHINA JOINT PHILATELIC EXHIBITION India and China launched the first-ever joint philately exhibition at Beijing on October 28, 2004 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Panchsheel principles. The exhibition of over 150 Indian stamps is on display at the China Postage Stamp Museum. RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS JPS BULLETIN, Vol.2 #1-3, Whole #153, Quarterly Editor: Ashok Kumar Tiwary Publisher: Jamshedpur Philatelic Society Address: P O Box 86, Jamshedpur 831001 Annual Subscription (India): Rs100 NELSON COLLAMER Nelson Collamer who perpetrated many fraudulent stamp acquisitions in the 1990s and early 2000s died earlier this year. Collamer's family has handed over to the United States Postal Inspection Service the stamps that were found in his possession in the hope that they may be returned to their rightful owners. US Postal Inspector Terry Donnelly has written to everyone of whom he has record of having made a complaint. Anyone caught by Collamer who has not yet received this letter should write to Donnelly at Terry Donnelly, US Postal Inspector, P O Box 20666, Phoenix, AZ 85036-0666, USA with the following information: 1. An exact description of the postage stamps including quantity sold; 2. Approximate date of transaction and any correspondence regarding the transaction; 3. Banking records showing Collamer's cheque being deposited into your account, including copies of the cheque if one is in your possession.

Donnelly has copies of every cheque Collamer wrote and will release stamps only after a thorough review of submitted documents, which might take several months.

FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

The prime accused Abdul Karim Telgi gave a signed statement to his lawyer Harshad Nimbalkar in Special MCOCA court premises in Pune on October 30, 2004, stating that the kingpin in the case was not him but a businessman from Kolkata, Mohammed Sayeed Mohammed Yasin. Telgi has also claimed that he has received threat to his life from one of the coaccused in Yerawada Jail in Pune. Besides, he has also said that cash and stamp papers have been stolen from the premises belonging to him and he has informed about this to the CBI. Telgi was brought to Special MCOCA court earlier in the day in connection with his plea for fresh narco-analysis test and brain mapping alleging that earlier one was "false and fabricated." The court, however, rejected his plea.

THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS The Calendar for November 2004 has been updated and is now 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.

FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

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

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.>

ZULAIHA MOHAMED

I just wondered if anyone has been lucky enough to get the newly released Rajiv Gandhi renewable energy day with 2 lamps instead of the one as in the normal? I am told this is valued as a rare variety and is offered for Rs 2000 by speculators. The sheets with this peculiarity were available only in very few post offices and it included Changanacherry, where the sheet was dispatched from Cochin GPO. FEATURES & RESOURCES

Indian Laws Relevant to Philately
http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/laws.htm

Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud related to Indian Philately http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/cybercrime.htm

RESEARCH NOTES By Madhukar Jhingan

PERTH ADELAIDE AIR MAIL SERVICE 1929

Perth, the capital of Western Australia has an important place in the history of civil aviation in Australia. Western Australia had the earliest and largest civil aviation network in Australia and had become accustomed to internal air travel since the early days of flying because of its size.

West Australian Airways inaugurated the first interstate service in Australia between Perth and Adelaide (South Australia) in June 1929. West Australian Airways was absorbed by Australian National Airways (ANA) in 1936 that in turn was taken over by Ansett in 1957 and continues to operate till date.

Mail by this weekly service was accepted from the very beginning. Australia issued its first airmail stamp, depicting De Havilland Hercules (DH 66) aircraft, on May 20, 1929 so that it would be available for Adelaide Perth first flight.

Adelaide Perth service saved two days on the time taken by mails carried by train so that people in the Eastern States could save up to five days in responding to letters from United Kingdom. The travel time between Western Australia and Melbourne was reduced from four to two days and the combined Perth-Adelaide and north-west services carried passengers, mails or freight from Derby to Melbourne or Sydney in less than a week where it used to take up to five weeks previously.

The Perth Adelaide service was timed to pick up the British mail that arrived at Fremantle, about 25 kilometers south of Perth, by the alternate Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company (P & O) service every Tuesday and deliver it to Adelaide on Wednesday in time to catch the mail train to Melbourne.

The aircraft could fly the length of the Perth Adelaide route in one day if it departed early in the morning, but it was to leave only after the mail boat arrived so consequently the flight stopped overnight at Forrest and part of the route was specially lit so that the aircrafts could still fly after sundown if the mail boats were late.

The first flight, a DH 66 aircraft, from Adelaide left for Perth on June 2, 1929, but had to turn back due to bad weather. The mail eventually left Adelaide on June 4, 1929 and after an overnight stop at Forrest, arrived in Kalgoorlie on June 5, 1929. The mail from Perth was flown to Kalgoorlie on June 5 in a DH 50 instead of on June 4 in a DH 66 as originally scheduled. The mail was exchanged at Kalgoorlie and the DH 50 flew back to Perth arriving later on June 5, 1929 while the DH 66 returned to Adelaide arriving on June 6, only one day late.

Indian Post Office utilized the Perth Adelaide air service for dispatch of postcards, letters, and packets both ordinary and registered, starting with the mails leaving Colombo (Ceylon now Sri Lanka) on May 25, 1929. The mails for Australia (except Western Australia), and other places served through Australia that is New Zealand, Fiji, Bismarck Archipelago (now part of Papua New Guinea), British New Guinea (now Papua New Guinea), Cook (or Harvey) Islands, French Establishments in Oceania (now French Polynesia), Friendly (Tonga) Islands, Gilbert & Ellice Islands, Hawaii, Marshal Islands (Nauru), New Caledonia, New Hebrides (including Banks & Torres Islands), Samoa, Santa Cruz Island (now part of Solomon Islands), and Solomon Island was accepted.

An air fee of Annas 3 per half ounce or part thereof was charged in addition to the usual postage.

Each article was required to bear a superscription 'By Air, Via Perth Adelaide', and a blue airmail label.

The mail for places in Australia, other than Western Australia, by Perth Adelaide airmail service was delivered 3 to 4 days earlier than ordinary mail at important destinations such as Adelaide, Sydney, Hobart, and Melbourne. In case of Brisbane the gain was only 24 hours.

HISTORICAL WOOD IN STAMPS! A special set of stamps will be issued by Gibraltar, in January 2005 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar.

Minute silvers of wood, cut from the original oak timbers of HMS Victory during her recent restoration and refit at Portsmouth, have been stuck to the stamps by means of an innovative printing process developed by French specialist printers, Cartor Security Printing.

One of the stamps to be issued by Gibraltar, in the denomination of £1.60 will reproduce Francis Smitheman's painting of Nelson's flagship, HMS Victory charging into battle under full sail. The minute wafers of wood adhere to the ship's hull and spars.

Cartor had earlier found a way to stick powdered rock to stamps showing views of the Rock of Gibraltar.

NEWSSCAN

<We invite you to contribute clippings on philatelic and postal matters, from other print and electronic publications, for inclusion here> WEB SITE UPDATES

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