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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The First & Only Weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India

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Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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<http://www.stampsfindia.com/newssite/Download/archives.htm>

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We are saddened to learn that A S Mittal of Jaipur lost his daughter on  
November 12, 2004 and Arun K Agarwal of Kanpur lost his mother on  
November 13, 2004.

We share the grief of both our friends and pray for the eternal peace  
for the departed souls.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Press Trust of  
India.

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 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.

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

November 23: Walchand Hirachand, Rs5

November 25: Dula Bhaya Kag, Rs5

November 28: Aga Khan Award for Architecture: Agra Fort 2004, Rs 15 x 2

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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CHILDREN' DAY STAMP RELEASED

India Post released a special stamp on the national Children's Day on November 14, 2004 in the denomination of Rs 5.

November 14 is the birthday of India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and is traditionally celebrated as the national Children's Day. India Post has been issuing stamps on Children's Day since 1957. Since 1973 most stamps issued on Children's Day are designed by children. India Post organizes an all India Stamp Design Competition on a given theme. This year's theme was 'My Village'. The design adjudged best is adopted for the stamp and the second best for the First Day Cover.

S Vindhya designed the stamp, and Sudha Singh designed the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. Brochure containing write-up and technical data was issued on the occasion. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs 2 each. India Security Press printed the stamps by Photo Gravure in the quantity of 3 million.

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OOPS! ROERICH CORRECTION

The last para in the news report on 'New Stamps Released' regarding Dr S Roerich in Issue # 192 of October 28, 2004 was incorrect in respect of the name of the designer and the quantity printed. We regret the error. The correct para is as follows:

Sankha Samanta designed the stamps and the First Day Cover and Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. Brochure containing write-up and technical data was issued on the occasion. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs 2 each. India Security Press printed the stamps by Photo Gravure in the quantity of 0.6 million each.

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NEW MEGHDOOT POSTCARDS

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:
Ad in Hindi - State Bank of India senior Citizen Deposit
Ad in Hindi - AIDS, Jharkhand State

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RUNNER MAIL COVERS

Recently postal runner mail has been enacted at several places in India during philatelic exhibitions. We record here the information available:

Ahmedabad - October 1, 2004

500 Covers, Addressed to:

1. President Dak Bharti, C/o Post Master, Navrangpura H O in red
  2. President Dak Bharti, C/o Chief Post Master, Ahmedabad GPO in blue
- Delivery stamp on back of October 1, 2004 of the concerned post office  
Rs 50 each

Calicut - October 14, 2004

500 covers, individually numbered, individually addressed

Special delivery postmark of October 15, 2004  
Rs 25 each

New Delhi - November 18, 2004  
100 individually numbered covers  
Addressed to the Secretary DECPEX 2004, C/o Postmaster, New Delhi H O  
Delivery stamp on back of November 18, 2004 of New Delhi H O  
Rs 100 each

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

November 7: Dehradun, Forest Research Institute - 75 years
View image at www.geocities.com/doonphil/images/fril.jpg

November 17: New Delhi, Russian Centre of Science & Culture - 40 years

November 18: Amritsar, Government Saragarhi Memorial Secondary School
Available from Amritsar Philatelic Club rishikochar@hotmail.com
The following covers are also available with the Club:

1. 400 Years of Guru Granth Sahib:
 - a. Special Cover, February 21, 2004
 - b. Golden Temple Post Office postmark on postcard, September 1, 2004
 2. Singapore Airlines' Amritsar Singapore First Flight, October 1, 2004
- View images at www.geocities.com/amritsarpclub

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

DECPEX

The Chief Postmaster General of Delhi Circle, Jyotsna Diesh inaugurated the District level philatelic exhibition organized by the Central Division on November 17, 2004 at Russian Centre for Science & Culture, Feroze Shah Road, New Delhi.

This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> district level in Delhi and was planned as combined show with the State level show for Youth Class but was later held as District level only.

The jury consisted of Vandita Kaul (Chairperson), Rajesh Singh (Assistant Post Master General), S L Bansal, and Madhukar Jhingan. The Best Exhibit Award and a Gold medal was won by Dwarka Prasad for Postal Censorship in 2<sup>nd</sup> World War in the senior class, the best Youth Exhibit and a Silver Medal was won by Sahil Thapar, and the Best School Collection award and a Bronze Medal was won by Hamdard Public School.

A special cover depicting New Delhi H O that is popularly known as Gol Dakkhana (Round Post Office) after its circular building was issued and utilized for all the three days of the exhibition. Special cancellations depicting a postman, a letter box, and a mail van were provided on first, second and third day respectively.

LIVING FAITH IN STAMPS

Xavierian Philately is organizing an exhibition of stamps entitled, 'Living Faith in Stamps' from November 11 to 22, 2004 at Pilar, 11 kilometers from Panaji, Goa. The exhibition displays thematically arranged stamps on Christian themes from all over the world from the Pilar Collection.

November 18-19, Thodupuzha, IDUKKIPEX

Venue:

Contact: Superintendent of Post Offices Idukki Division, Thodupuzha,  
Phone: 04896 222282/222281

November 22-23, New Delhi, Mini Exhibition [CORRECTED DATES]  
Venue: Army School, Delhi Cantonment [NEW VENUE]  
Contact: Major Sundaram, Phone 011 2614 0661

November 25-27, Bhopal, District Level [NEW DATES]  
Venue: Kamla Nehru Girls H S School, T T Nagar  
Contact: C D Mandsorwale (Secretary) Tel 0755-2772989, 2531206, 2770239.  
For Hotel Bookings - Saleem M Khan (Philatelist) Mobile 0 9826426280  
Dealer Stalls are available for Rs1500

November 29-30, Patiala, District Level  
Venue:  
Contact:

December 4-5, Sholapur, District Level  
Venue:  
Contact:

December 18-21, Patna, State Level  
Venue: Sri Krishna Science Centre, West Gandhi Maidan  
Contact: Sanjeev Ranjan, Chief Post Master, Patna GPO

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

Abdul Karim Telgi, the main accused in the fake stamp scam, has confessed to have acquired properties worth over Rs 1.2 billion, which he generated out of the crime according to the status report submitted to the Supreme Court by CBI on November 16, 2004. The report says that 76 front companies of the criminal network of Telgi have been identified across the country so far, conducting their business through 155 outlets. So far, 119 bank accounts with established credit inflow of Rs 6.2 billion have been disclosed to be maintained in respect of these companies. The report goes on to say that dubious roles and conduct of a large number of public servants and other persons in public life are being established through the investigations conducted by the CBI. It is being firmly indicated in a number of instances that the accused public servants had actively aided and abetted the organized crime syndicate of Telgi by way of obtaining pecuniary benefits.

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FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

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

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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>

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SOME INTERESTING FACTS OF THE PHILATELIC WORLD...

Compiled by Jeevan Jyoti

THE WORLD'S FIRST POST BOX

Here is an interesting story about the World's First Post Box. It dates back to the year 1500 when a great Portuguese explorer Bartolemeu Dias who discovered the Cape of Good Hope drowned when his ship went down in a storm off the coast of South Africa. All went away with the storm except one of his ships. When the weather cleared and the storm calmed down this ship's captain decided to sail back home leaving the unfortunate expedition to an end. When they were leaving the bay one of the officers of the ship wrote about the disaster and the death of Dias in a long letter and put it in a shoe which he left hanging from a tree close to shore. The officer just expected that someday a European would find the letter and get detailed account of the tragic fate of the expedition. It was long way back to Portugal. If the surviving vessel had not left the details there would have been no record of the tragedy which had overtaken the explorers. But after a year a Portuguese navigator Jaao Da Nova who was in command of four ships on his way to India reached Mossel Bay where the tragedy took place. He found the letter in good condition deep inside the shoe, protected there from the ravages of both climate and insects. He came to know the details of the great disaster. Da Nova built a little church there. And settlement of Europeans gradually grew up around it. The shoe and the tree served as a post box for the growing colony and for the passing ships until it wore out. The great ancient tree still stands there but it has become a memorable place as South African Government has built a monument under its branches in honor of its use as the World' first post box. It is a concrete box with a plaque in the form of a big Portuguese Shoe. It is still used to deposit the mail.

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

HONG KONG COINS AND CURRENCY

Hongkong Post has issued a unique Souvenir Pack on September 2, 2004. The Pack features five new stamps depicting historic Hong Kong coins and currency from the past 140 years. It also includes a newly designed \$20 banknote issued by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC).

The four-stamps in souvenir sheet commemorate historic Hong Kong coinage and currency including: the first Hong Kong bronze coin issued in 1863 on \$1.40 value; the first silver coin issued in 1866 on \$2.40 value; the first paper note issued by the Hong Kong Government in 1935 on \$3 value; and a \$5 gold coin commemorating the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) in 1997 on \$5 value. Also issued is a stamp sheetlet showcasing an HK \$5 stamp with an illustration of a commemorative HK \$10 coin issued in 1997 with images of six other HK coins, with values ranging from HK 10 cents to HK \$5, appear in the sheetlet's surround. The Pack includes a \$20 banknote featuring a majestic lion statue and traditional Chinese patterns.

Remarkably, the souvenir sheet and sheetlet have been printed with the same serial number that appears on the banknote, a most unusual feature, and one that is sure to be of particular interest to collectors.

The Pack is priced at HK \$60 and is available from Hong Kong Post.

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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>

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/siteguide/w04.htm>

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