

ISSN 0972-3587

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

Issue # 225 - June 16, 2005. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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To UNSUBSCRIBE, send email to "end at stampsofindia.com"

*The email addresses have been stated in this format to avoid their
farming by crawlers and the resulting flood of junk mail.*

The BACK ISSUES are available as Printout, on CD, and on line at
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/Download/archives.htm>

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We have begun uploading the images of the commemoratives stamps since  
1947 and hope to complete this job in a month's time. The stamps for  
first 10 years are already online. We have plans to add images of the  
FDC and folders issued along with the stamp as well as errors, freaks  
and varieties.

Visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/stamps/stamps-com.htm> and do  
let us know what other information you would like to see there.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Akhilesh Arka,  
Atish Kumar Jain,

We invite your inputs, please email to "writeback at 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 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

'DIRECT POST' LAUNCHED

India Post launched a new service called 'Direct Post' on June 2, 2005. This will allow businesses to send their un-addressed mailers, pamphlets, brochures, other advertising material such as CDs, cassettes, samples to prospective customers at very low rates of Rs.1.50 for local delivery and Rs.2 for anywhere in India. The minimum requirement is of 1000 articles and there is a discount of 5% on these rates on 50,000 articles. The advertising agencies will also be allowed 5% commission on mailings of over 50,000 articles.

Prospective customers may contact the Chief Postmaster General of their State or email to [business@indiapost.gov.in](mailto:business@indiapost.gov.in)

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

The commemorative stamp on 400 Years of Guru Granth Saheb is postponed and new date of issue shall be announced later.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2005, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005stamps.htm>

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POSTAL STATIONERY UPDATE

There are no issues scheduled for release in June 2005.

New Arrivals:

Dec 01, 2004: Post Card with advertisement, in Telugu, xxxxx, 1 million, Security Printing Press, Hyderabad, In sheets of 8, Printline '2005'

For an illustrated list of postal stationery in 2005, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005ps.htm>

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NEW MEGHDOOT POSTCARDS

Following Meghdoot post card with advertisement were recently released:

- 0118 Mar 14: Crop 2, Hindi, 0.15
- 0121 Mar 14: Tree 1, Hindi, 0.2
- 0122 Mar 14: Tree 2, Hindi, 0.2

The complete & illustrated list of Meghdoot Post Card is available at: <http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/meghdoot.htm>

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Jun 05: Kadalundi, Introduction of permanent pictorial postmark at the Kadalundi Bird Sanctuary

Jun 05: Jaipur, World Environment Day

For an illustrated list of special postmarks and special covers issued in 2005, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005pmk.htm>

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MORE DANDI MARCH MAXIM CARDS

Mihir Dahnda of MK Philanums mihir_dhandha@yahoo.com created a pack of 24 maxim cards and 4 folders to mark the 75th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's march to Dandi. Gandhi's March to Dandi started on March 12, and ended on April 5, 1930. Gandhi picked up a pinch of salt at Dandi on April 6, 1930 and broke the salt law.

The folders are issued on March 2 and 12, and April 5 and 6, 2005. The maxim cards are issued on all days from March 13 to April 4, 2005. Each Folder and Card gives detail of the day to day events of Dandi March in 1930. All the maxim cards and folders are printed with different slogans of Gandhi or related to Gandhi. The first folder, postmarked on March 2, 2005, is showing an interesting fact about Gandhi's letter to Lord Irvin, the Viceroy of India.

All postmarks are from the philatelic bureau Rajkot that depicts the Alfred High School where Gandhi had studied, except on holidays when the postmarks from Night Post Office Rajkot were used.

View the complete set at

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/maxcards/2005-005a.htm>

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PRINCELY STATES REVENUES EXHIBIT ON INTERNET

"Revenue Stamps of the India States" an exhibit by Cerny Jiri, Czechia is now available in full at EXPONET <http://www.japhila.cz/hof> for viewing.

EXPONET is intended as a public display of high quality exhibits of all philatelic areas and time periods. The aim of the organizers of EXPONET is to provide a permanent presentation of high quality exhibits so as to facilitate on-line study for visitors throughout the world, without any intent to compete with traditional classic exhibits, but rather to enable on-line viewing to everybody, regardless of distance, and thus take part in the support and propagation of philately.

Those who wish to participate in EXPONET must scan each page of the exhibit in 300 dpi with 18.7 million colors and 900 pixels as a minimum width of the image and send the numbered pages in tif or jpg format on CD to Milan Cernik, P O Box 243, CZ-16041 Praha 6, Czech Republic.

There will be no fee charged for exhibits placed in EXPONET through the end of the year 2005, and no exhibit fee will be billed to the end of 2006. Later on the fees will be of the order of those charged at conventional international shows.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

May 8: Pelling, philatelic exhibition, 2 covers

Aug 11-15: Coimbatore, South Zone

Contact: The Philatelists Coimbatore, 5 Eleventh Street, Tatabad, Coimbatore 641 012

Aug 13-15: Salem, BARAMAHAL COINSTAMPEX {REVISED DATES & VENUE}

Venue: Ponnusamy Gounder Thirumana Mandapam, Opposite New Bus Stand, SKS Hospital Road, Alagapuram

Dealers Fee: Rs.2000 for 3 days

Contact: N Vaithiyanathan, Treasurer, Baramahal Philatelic and Numismatic Association, 16 Gandhi Road, (Opposite Ganesan Hospital), Salem 636 007

For a list of exhibitions in 2005, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events.htm>

MEETINGS

The schedule of meetings of the philatelic organizations in India is available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/clubmeet.htm>

RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

PHILANEWS, Whole # 20 - Mar Apr 2005, Bi-monthly
Editor: Rajesh Paharia philanews@hotmail.com
Publisher: Philatelic Society of Rajasthan
Address: C/o A S Mittal, Dhamani Market, Chaura Rasta, Jaipur
Annual Subscription: Rs.50

For a list of Indian periodicals, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/a602.htm>

INDIA POST'S ANNUAL REPORT

India Post released its Annual Report for the financial year 2003-2004 during the budget session of the Parliament. The bilingual publication also includes the Report on Activities for April-December 2004. The report covers Overview, Organization, Operations, Philately, Business Development Activities, International Relations, Technology, Financial Services, Financial Management, Human Resource Development, Vigilance Activities, Gender Issues, Other Activities, and Developmental Activities in North East.

India Post has the largest network of post offices in the world, 155669 as on March 31, 2004 that handled 8635.2 million articles in 2003-2004 that is 5% less than the previous year. India Post earned Rs 42569.29 million revenue against the expenditure of Rs. 56321.52 million. There is a deficit of Rs. 13752.23 million.

According to the Report the number of registered stamp collectors having accounts at the philatelic bureaus that was 23905 in 1999-2000 has increased to 82593 in 2003-2004. The total number of stamp collectors in the country is estimated at 4 million according an independent study recently commissioned by India Post.

ERRORS FREAKS & ODDITIES

A Correction

Dandi March MS featured in the previous issue was contributed by ARC Shah. The credit was inadvertently left out from getting mentioned here; however it was very much there on the web site.

Mihir Dhandha from Rajkot contributes two interesting errors of color in Acharya Bhikshu issue

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/efos/200416.htm>

Pradeep Kumar Agrawal from Patna sends, as usual, two superb errors in UN Peacekeeping Forces Miniature Sheet, one IMPERF and another with vertical perforations missing!

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/efos/200430.htm>

Atish Kumar Jain from Kottayam sends another very interesting error,
Yellow color missing in Flora & Fauna Miniature Sheet.
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/efos/200506ms.htm>

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FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

The advertising is FREE for the subscribers of the Stamps of India Collectors Companion. Send in your ad, today.  
Terms: 1. Only one ad at a time from a subscriber will be accepted.  
2. Maximum 5 Lines, up to 64 characters per line.  
3. All ads shall be published at the sole discretion of the editors who reserve the right to refuse any advertisement.  
4. No correspondence regarding advertising will be entertained.  
5. Stamps of India does not endorse any advertiser and can not be held liable for transactions of any advertiser.

BUYING MINIATURE SHEETS FOR SPOT CASH

Flora & Fauna for Rs.35, Dandi March for Rs.65, Only in press sealed intact packets of 200 sheets. Also offer us other MS issues for our best and prompt offer. A R C SHAH, A-20 Gujarat Apartments, Pitampura, Delhi 110034, Tel 0 9810179095

RECENT AND CURRENT INDIA USED STAMPS ON PAPER available on approval  
RANJIT SINGH [singh\\_ranjit70@rediff.com](mailto:singh_ranjit70@rediff.com) [www.indiatelecards.net](http://www.indiatelecards.net)  
AN/18-C, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi 110088, Tel: 011-27472189

41 diff. Marshal Islands complete mint sets face value US\$ 110,  
30 diff. Disney Mint sheetlets in complete sets  
300 diff. Disney mint stamps including 13 sheetlets  
Prices on request, SANJAY DHAWAN [sastamps@glide.net.in](mailto:sastamps@glide.net.in)  
7-L Green View, Patiala 147 001 Tel: 91-175-2219509

DANDI MARCH CINDERELLA

10 Different Colorful self-adhesive labels, Rs75 plus postage, A R C SHAH, A-20 Gujarat Apartments, Pitampura, Delhi 110034, Tel 0 9810179095

4 Different Colorful self-adhesive labels in sheets of 20, Rs20 per sheet plus postage, Rajesh Paharia [shreeshell@hotmail.com](mailto:shreeshell@hotmail.com)

4 Different Colorful self-adhesive labels, Rs20 plus postage  
ATISH KUMAR JAIN [atishjain001@sify.com](mailto:atishjain001@sify.com) Tel 0 9447756118

4 Different Colorful self-adhesive labels, Price on request  
Mihir Dhandha [mihir\\_dhandha@yahoo.com](mailto:mihir_dhandha@yahoo.com) Tel 0 9825437673

View all the Dandi March labels at  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/Cinderella.htm>

Wanted stamps, cancellations and stationery related to Indian Flag  
Please write to me at [rishikochar@hotmail.com](mailto:rishikochar@hotmail.com) with "Flag" in subject line or write to Rishi Kochhar, P O Box 17, Amritsar 143001

INDIAN POSTAL GUIDE 1869

The first issue of the official postal guide, reprinted by Stamps of India 2004, 236 pages, hardbound, enlarged from original octavo to A4 size, limited edition, Special price - Rs 2750 post paid anywhere in the world. It is now possible to pay by credit card  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/99999.htm>

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READERS FORUM

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

JAMES, Mumbai

Let me introduce myself, I am James Jose from Mumbai and want to compliment you for your website. It does provide with information about Issues etc. There is no other website with information about Indian stamps, other than this, and that is the sad part. The rest are either dealers trying to sell Indian stamps or half informed sites.

In my 25 years of life, the majority of it, I was a stamp collector. I mean I was a stamp Collector from my school days. Previously I used to exchange them with friends from my locality. Then after the popularity and easy access of the net, I made friends abroad through the internet, and would exchange with friends outside. This made me aware of many things which I would like to share with you.

That Indian stamps are not beautiful

We make stamps, commemorating dead leaders than wildlife, art and culture or of the living people, though I admit, we have improved a lot with regards to designs on stamps during the last five years. But they can't be blamed either, because lack of information makes them say this. (My suggestion to you is kindly include more photos, better scanned photos than the current ones and provide a simple brief story about new issues etc.)

Some other suggestions to you are:-

Target the younger generation, for they are the ones who uses the net extensively. Make your site more lively so that people would feel like visiting the site regularly.

Make freely available at low cost, philatelic accessories like stamp albums, tweeters, lenses etc, through your website so that new collectors can avail of it too or you could advertise it in your newsweekly.

There needs to be some updating in your site with regards to issues. Example information about Definitives, Miniature Sheets etc.

With regards to your email newsletter, it would be easier to you, as well as the general reader if you would just add the heading and a short summery of the article, and give the link to your web page which contains the whole story. This way you could have people coming back to your web page often.

Yours is the first page in the list, when i type "stamps india" in Google. So I really care when people hunt for information about Indian Stamps. I took pains to write this feedback, Hope you will look into my suggestions. I would also like to have a feedback to know how you feel about my 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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ALSO IN THE NEWS

NEW RECORDS FOR RARITIES

One of the most famous stamp, Inverted Jenny, a 24-cent US airmail stamp from 1918 with the biplane pictured in its center printed upside-down in error, sold on June 3, 2005 at Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, New York for a record US\$ 577,500 including the 10 percent buyer's premium, more than three times its presale estimate of \$170,000. This price for the Inverted Jenny set records, both for an unused American stamp and for a 20th-century United States stamp. It was the second-highest price ever paid for a United States stamp. The only United States stamp to sell for more was the 1868 1-cent blue with a "Z grill," a used stamp that sold for \$935,000 in October 1998.

A rare cover bearing Austria's 3-kreuzer red Emperor Franz Josef error-of-color stamp was sold on May 21, 2005 at Corinphila auction in Switzerland n 590,000 Swiss francs (approximately US\$ 481,910), including the 18 percent buyer's premium, nearly six times its presale estimate of SF 85,000. The stamp is the rarest of all Austrian Empire issues and now the most valuable Austrian stamp item.

NEWSSCAN

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

Rediff.com: Business, June 13, 2005
NOW, POST OFFICES MAY SELL MEDICINES
<http://in.rediff.com/money/2005/jun/13drug.htm>

WEB SITE UPDATES

STAMPS OF INDIA <http://www.stampsofindia.com>
The Hub Site of Indian Philately

PRINCELY STATES REPORT <http://www.princelystates.com>
Journal of Indian States History, Philately & Numismatics

STAMPS ON INDIA <http://www.stampsonindia.com>
The site devoted to the stamps from all over the world on Indian topics

ADMINISTRIVIA

Published by Madhukar Jhingan (mjhingan at yahoo.com) for 'Stamps of India', Apartment 49-D, Block BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. India
Phone: +91-11-25281578, Mobile: +91-9350537037(NEW)
Subject to Delhi Jurisdiction

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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