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

Issue # 231 - July 28, 2005. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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*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

India has about 160,000 post offices and a population of over 1 billion people and issues commemorative stamps in the quantity of 600,000 and 800,000 usually. However in absence of marketing even this quantity is not sold out quickly as one would expect but is usually sold in lieu of regular stamps at the post office counters to finish it off.

Philately is now considered as an industry worldwide with postal administrations, philatelists, stamp dealers, and philatelic journalists and publishers as recognized stake holders in it. Therefore we in India must change and stop expecting the post office to do every thing for us. We all have to work together as partners for philately to prosper in India and as partners we all have to contribute something towards philately promotion. Think about it and let us have your views.

Remember the famous words of John F Kennedy: 'Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country'.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Akhilesh Arka, Abhai Mishra, and Rajesh K Agarwala.

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

FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Jul 31: Dheeran Chinnamalai, Rs 5

The issue 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.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2005, please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005stamps.htm>

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POSTAL STATIONARY NEW ISSUES

The following postal stationery with advertisement was scheduled for release in August 2005.

The information in the listing is presented in following format:

Date, Printer, Language, Message, Quantity in million, Remarks

'M' denotes multicolor printing.

Inland Letter Card

Aug 10: English, ISP, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, 1, M

Aug 10: English, ISP, Transport Department Andhra Pradesh, 1, M

Aug 10: Telugu, ISP, xxxxx, 1, M

For an illustrated list of Inland Letter Card in 2005, please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005ILC.htm>

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NEW MEGHDOOT POSTCARDS

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:

May 01: District Rural Development Agency Karur, 0.1

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

Feb 18: Gadag, CDO Jain Education Society English Medium School 100 yrs

Feb 23: Hubli, Rotary International Centenary

Mar 12: Davangere, University B D T College of Engineering 50 yrs

Jul 27: New Delhi, Department of Ocean Development 25 yrs

Forthcoming

Jul 29: New Delhi, National Oral Rehydration Solution Day

Aug 05: Gunji, Kailash Mansarovar Yatra

Gunji is seasonal post office which operates during the pilgrimage season. It is the last post office in India on the way to holy Mount Kailash and the holy Lake Mansarovar in the Tibet region of China. The Pilgrimage is arranged by Government of India in collaboration with Government of China, and is managed by Indo Tibetan Border Police and Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam.

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

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DANDI MARCH BOOKLET AND MAXCARDS

Atish Kumar Jain from Kottayam has brought out a stamp booklet to mark 75 years of Mahatma Gandhi's Dandi March. The booklet containing a block of 4 stamps issued on April 5, 2005 to mark the occasion and 8 pages of text is priced Rs 60.

For images please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005sb.htm>

Jain also brought out a set of 8 maxcards that are duly affixed with stamps issued on April 5, 2005 and serviced with special first day of issue pictorial postmark of the Ernakulam Philatelic Bureau. The set is priced at Rs 250 postpaid.

For images please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005mc.htm>

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Aug: Jabalpur, Army Postal Service

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

August 25-26: Kotdwara PAURIPLEX District level

Sep 2-4: Tirupur, Stamps & Coins

Sep: Dimapur, Army Postal Service

Oct: New Delhi, Army Postal Service

Nov: Jalandhar, Army Postal Service

Dec: Jammu, Army Postal Service

Jan 2006: Kolkata, Army Postal Service

Feb 2006: Hyderabad, Army Postal Service

Mar 2006: Kamptee, Army Postal Service

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>

NEPAL NEW ISSUES

Jul 21: Lord Buddha, set of 4 stamps,
Birth in Lumbini, Enlightenment in Bodhagaya, First sermon in Sarnath,
and Mahaparinirvana in Kushinagar

The stamps were issued on July 21 that is the full moon day of the Ashad month known as Gurupurnima and the day Lord Buddha preached the first sermon known as Dharmachakra.

POST OFFICES TO SELL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES

Minister for Communications and Information Technology, Dayanidhi Maran inaugurated at Chennai on July 18, 2005 the retailing Government of India securities by post office following a tie-up with IDBI Capital Market Services Ltd.

The individuals can now buy Government of India securities through specific India Post branches in Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai and Hyderabad. Any member of the public will just need a demat account with a depository participant of National Securities Depository Ltd or Central Depository Services Ltd and a bank account in the local area of the post office through which the investment is made.

FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

Four policemen facing trial for allegedly helping the Telgi by implicating his business rivals in false cases were granted bail by a court in Delhi on July 27, 2005. Granting bail to Inspector Puran Singh, Head Constable Om Prakash and Constables Ratan Singh and Sanjay Bazard, additional sessions judge J M Malik asked them not to leave the country without the permission of the court and surrender their passports, if any, to the CBI. The court asked the accused to furnish bail bond and surety of Rs 25,000 each.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probing into the fake stamp scam filed charge sheet on July 26, 2005 against 67 people including prime accused Telgi, one State Minister, one Member of the Legislative Assembly and former Mumbai Police Commissioner R S Sharma in the Bund Garden case, which led to the unfolding of the multi-billion rupees scam. The 302-page charge-sheet filed in the MCOCA court in Pune also names Telgi's wife, Former Mumbai Joint Commissioner (Crime) Sridhar Bhagal, former DCP (Detection) PB Sawant and some associates of Telgi. The former minister and former MLA charge-sheeted were CBK Yadav of Andhra Pradesh and Anil Gote of Maharashtra respectively.

The CBI formally arrested Abdul Karim Telgi, on July 23, 2005 in connection with a case registered at a Delhi police station in 2001. The CBI pleaded before the Special MCOCA court at Pune to allow it to arrest Telgi, Laxman Maruti Tirvir, Pramod Mahadev Janvekar and Mohammed Issak Singoti, and take them to Delhi for production before a metropolitan court for police remand in connection with the case pertaining to sale of counterfeit stamp papers worth Rs 61,81,190 registered by one Vikas Gupta at Daryaganj police station. Special Judge B N Deshpande while

rejecting CBI's plea which had also produced production warrants from the Delhi court, had directed the jail superintendent to allow the investigating agency to place the accused under formal arrest in the case and interrogate them in the Yerawada central jail itself.

CBI filed supplementary charge sheet in a fake stamp case before the Delhi Court on July 22, 2005 leveling fresh allegations of counterfeiting Government stamp against its kingpin Abdul Karim Telgi and 18 others. The agency also slapped two additional charges of possessing instrument for counterfeiting stamp and criminal conspiracy against them. The designated court of Metropolitan Magistrate S S Rathi fixed August 5 for consideration and argument on framing of charges. This is the third supplementary charge sheet against Telgi.

Telgi has been slapped with Rs 1.21 billion as tax liability and penalty by the Income Tax department which has also been roped in by the Central Bureau of Investigation, for assessing the wealth of Telgi. Telgi had filed his income tax return declaring his assets and income at a meager Rs 28.8 million as against Rs 1.69 billion assessed by the Tax department during the last five years. The Income Tax department has also started mortgaging his property to recover the dues and recently one of his properties in Bangalore was auctioned by the department for Rs 14.3 million. In a bid to find the financial implication of the fake stamp paper case, the CBI had constituted a seven-member team to analyze the bank transactions of people involved in the scam including Telgi.

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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.  
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WANTED used commemorative Indian stamps 1981 onwards, & Stamps on India theme on exchange basis. OFFERS world, India mint & FDC including rare special place cancellations on exchange or for a fair price.

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ITS POSTAL AUCTION #29 - Circulated Covers with Embroidery Stamp/Wooden Stamp, MaxCard on Wooden Stamp [Switzerland], MaxCard on Film History/Nude [Sweden], Indian mint & many more thematic sets in latest Auction.

<http://www.indianthematicsociety.com/auctions.htm>  
SURAJ JAITLEY 098728 51244 [indianthematicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:indianthematicsociety@gmail.com)  
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VIEWS & OPINIONS

READERS FORUM

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

MEENA SINGH, Noida

Mr Maran may plan modernisation and changes in the postal department eg collection of mail from offices etc but can he change the moral turpitude of its employees?

I am an avid collector from Noida and receive stamps from friends all over the world. More often than not, my letters are very neatly prised opened at the joint edges of the envelopes and the contents stolen. Has the moral fabric of our society fallen so low that postal workers have to stoop so low as to steal the few stamps enclosed? If they can do this how do I believe that they will actually frank/stamp all the letters they take for posting or just throw them in the nearest garbage dump? Wonderingly

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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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RESEARCH NOTES

TILAK STAMP 1956

By Rajesh Varma & Abhai Mishra

Scholar, patriot and fearless journalist, Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak (1856-1920) was a pioneer of India's freedom struggle. He organized the 'Home Rule Movement' and gave the slogan 'Swaraj (political Independence) is my birth right and I shall have it'.

In honor of this great man, a stamp was issued on his birth centenary featuring his portrait on July 23, 1956 in the denomination of Annas two. This was the last stamp in the pre-decimal currency and the first issue where special first day of issue postmark was also provided at the birthplace in addition to philatelic bureaus.

This was also perhaps the first issue that was released prematurely that is before the official date of issue and caused a parliamentary question. In this regard we quote from 'The Tribune', August 11, 1956: "New Delhi, Aug 10 - The stamps commemorating Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak's birth centenary had been issued before their official issue, admitted the Minister for Communications, Mr Jagjivan Ram in reply to a question asked by Mr H V Kamath. Replying to another question of Mr Kamath, who described it as a 'case of leakage', the Minister said, 'from the reports so far received, it appears that it was purely accidental that the stamps happened to be issued before the prescribed date through some post offices in the interior. Suitable action will however, be taken to avoid recurrence of this nature. Stamps came before the date of issue from some post offices in Punjab', Orissa and Madhya Pradesh, he added. - U.P.I."

For images, please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/readroom/tilak.htm>

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

FIFTEEN COUNTRIES TO ISSUE STAMPS ON POPE JOHN PAUL II

The Crown Agents Stamp Bureau that serves as a new-issue agency for approximately 55 postal administrations around the world has arranged a multination issue to pay tribute to Pope John Paul II, who died April 5, 2005.

Fifteen postal administrations, Ascension Island, Bahamas, Belize, the British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Fiji, Jamaica, Kiribati, Nauru, Seychelles, St. Helena, St. Lucia, Swaziland, Tokelau and Tristan da Cunha, will issue the memorial stamps during August 2005.

Each country will issue a pane of eight different stamps designed by Andrew Robinson from photographs portraying the pope. The eight photographs are the same for each country.

The exact release dates for the stamps from St. Helena, St. Lucia and Tokelau have not been announced while other stamps will be issued August 18, 2005.

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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

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

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ADMINISTRIVIA

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