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

Issue # 252 - December 22, 2005. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi,

If you were not in Kolkata during December 15-19, 2005 for the twin  
philatelic events, you surely missed on a good philatelic experience. It  
was after a long time that we saw genuine crowd at a stamp show in  
India.

We take this opportunity to congratulate P K Chatterji, the Chief  
Postmaster General of West Bengal Circle, and his team for an excellent  
show.

We believe that India Post's focus for grass root development of  
philately for past few years is beginning to show results now.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Ajit Kumar  
Dash, P R Krishnan, Manohar Lal,

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

Dec 27: 16 Squadron Air Force, Rs 5

Dec 30: De Facto Transfer of Pondicherry, Rs 5

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.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2005, please visit

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

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

M S SUBBULAKSHMI

Dayanidhi Maran, Minister of Communications & Information Technology released a postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 in honor of world renowned Carnatic Vocalist, M S Subbulakshmi on December 18, 2005 at Chennai. The Minister presented the first stamp to D K Pattamal, a contemporary of Subbulakshmi. The function to mark the first death anniversary was presided over by M Karunanidhi, the President of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam and the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

'Bharat Ratna', the highest civilian award of Government of India winner, Subbulakshmi was born on September 16, 1916 at Madurai, she made her maiden public appearance with her mother, who was also her Guru, at the tender age of 13. In the later years she had the good fortune to learn from several great musicians.

Her participation in the All India Dance conference in Mumbai in 1944 and her performance in the lead role in the film 'Meera' produced by her husband T Sadasivam, where she sang and acted brought her into national prominence.

India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru crowned her as 'Queen of Song' and Sarojini Naidu praised her for the beauty of her voice and the magic of her personality. Some of Subbulakshmi's famous renditions include Bhajagovindam, Vishnu Sahasranamam and Venkateswara Suprabhatham. Mahatma Gandhi's favorite was 'Hari Tuma Haro'.

She represented India in many international forums including the Edinburgh Festival in 1966, Festival of India in London in 1982 and Soviet Union in 1987. Winner of many awards, she mesmerized packed audiences the world over with her consummate mastery of carnatic music for almost six decade.

Sankha Samanta designed the Stamp and the First Day Cover. Nenu Gupta 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 in sheets of 35 stamps.

INTEGRAL COACH FACTORY

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on December 19, 2005 to mark 50 years of the state-of-the-art, Integral Coach Factory, Chennai, which is the largest railway passenger coach manufacturing unit in Asia and India's premier coach building factory.

The Factory combines the three major factors of modern passenger transport, viz. speed, comfort and safety. Initially it was meant to produce only Broad Gauge Shells but later a separate Furnishing Division was set up to take advantage of mass production techniques. The entire production is carried out indigenously. The Factory is now capable of producing 200 different types of coaches and produces 1000 coaches per year. Many safety features have been introduced by the Factory to ensure a comfortable and safe journey for the passengers.

The Integral Coach Factory has got ISO 9001 for quality system and ISO 14001 for environment system. It also exports variety of coaches to about 13 Afro Asian Countries.

Sankha Samanta designed the Stamp and the First Day Cover. Nenu Gupta 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 0.8 million in sheets of 16 stamps.

JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY

P K Chatterji, Chief Postmaster General of West Bengal Circle released a commemorative stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on December 21, 2005 to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Jadavpur University

The history of Jadavpur University can be traced from the Swadeshi Movement and the University has distinguished itself by developing a trans-disciplinary program of teaching and research and offering quality education in humanities, science, engineering and technology.

The University has a very focused research agenda and an average of 350 research projects are being executed. Close interaction between the faculties of Arts, Science and Engineering and Technology has enabled the University to take up several important multidisciplinary research activities.

Jadavpur University has collaborated with various Universities all over the world and has also been in close contact with industry through its support and services; it has achieved great success in its endeavors.

Sankha Samanta designed the Stamp and 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 0.8 million in sheets of 24 stamps.

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

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Feb 11: Rampurhat, Birbhum District Level  
Jul 30: Kakinada, Draksharma Bhimeswara Temple  
Sep 25-26: Midnapur, district philatelic exhibition, 2 covers  
Oct 1: Cuddapah, district philatelic exhibition  
Oct 27-29: Tambaram, district philatelic exhibition, 3 covers  
Oct 28-30: Kurseong, philatelic exhibition, 2 covers  
Nov 12: Kolkata, Golden Jubilee of Lions Service in India  
Nov 12-13: Jeypore, Koraput district philatelic exhibition, 4 covers  
Nov 19-21: Hyderabad, FAPCCI-HYPEX philatelic exhibition, 2 covers  
Nov 26: Kolkata, Goenka College of Commerce & Business Administration  
Nov 26-27: Muzaffarpur, district philatelic exhibition, 2 covers  
Nov 28-29: Indore, district philatelic exhibition, 2 covers  
Dec 1: Kolkata, Howrah Railway Station philatelic exhibition  
Dec 6-8: Jamshedpur, district philatelic exhibition, 3 covers  
Dec 10-11: Puri, SRIPEX district philatelic exhibition, 4 covers  
Dec 16: Serampore, Gopinath Saha Birth Centenary  
Dec 17-19: Kolkata, 'Stamp Show' state philatelic exhibition, 4 covers

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

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NEW KIND OF PACK

The Philatelic Bureau, Calicut has brought out an 'Expert Collection of the Mahatma Gandhi's Dandi March' on December 14, 2005. The pack consists of the traffic light blocks of 4 stamps of all the four positions of the Mahatma Gandhi's Dandi March stamps issued on April 5, 2005. Only 50 individually numbered packs priced at Rs 125 were brought out.

For the images, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/packs/misc-packs.htm>

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NEW MAXIM CARDS

Cdr U N Acharya, Secretary of the Naval Philatelic Society has brought out a maxim card for Buider's Navy stamp issue of December 4, 2005.

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

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NEW ARRIVALS

STAMP COLLECTING TODAY

Author: Sangeeta Deogawanka
Publisher: Vasundhara Publications
Distributor: Stamps of India orders@stampsofindia.com
Pages: 80 pages, A5, Softbound
Price: Rupees 96

Sangeeta Deogawanka is a prolific writer on Parenting. As a Collector, she has been actively involved in philately for a few years now, her primary interest being Postal history.

The USP of this work is that it has approached philately with a new and refreshing angle, to interest even the casual reader in this leisure pursuit. It expounds all the reasons why one ought to take up Philately as an activity to pursue in leisure time at any age, not just limit it to a short-lived hobby of adolescence.

MILEPOST

Publisher: West Bengal Circle of India Post
Pages: 94 pages, A4, all in color, Hardbound
Price: Rupees 400 or US\$ 40
Also Available from: Stamps of India orders@stampsfindia.com

This was first released in April 2005 as a part of celebrations to mark the 150 years of India Post. However the first edition was available on sale. Now a priced edition was released for sale on December 17, 2005 to fulfill the demand from book lover philatelists and postal historians.

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AUCTION ACTION

Indian Thematic Society's postal auction sale # 31, with 95 Lots, will close on January 21, 2006. It is published in the just released issue # 32 of "ITS Stamp News". It is also available at <http://www.indianthematicsociety.com/auctions.aspx>

Contact at [indianthematicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:indianthematicsociety@gmail.com) or [surajjaitly@hotmail.com](mailto:surajjaitly@hotmail.com) or ITS General Secretary Suraj Jaitly at his Mobile 09872851244

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

STAMP SHOW 2005

The 6th West Bengal Circle Philatelic Exhibition, "Stamp Show" was successfully held on December 17, 18, and 19, 2005 at Kolkata. The earlier state level was held in 1987 and this was perhaps the biggest gap between two exhibitions. However the show was worth the wait as it turned out not only the best stamp show of 2005 but one of the best organized in recent times.

Stamp Show 05 had 96 entries in the competitive class, including youth and 12 entries in the invitee class. The highlight of the invitee class was the 4 Anna stamp with the inverted head of Queen Victoria of 1854.

4 special covers were issued on the occasion, December 17 was earmarked as Post Office Day and had 2 special covers - First Indian Stamp printed in 1854 in Calcutta and Calcutta Tramways. December 18 was Environment Day and December 19 cover was a tribute to the army with Vijayee Sena Diwas.

December 17 also saw a special event in the form of carriage of mail between Kolkata GPO and Bidhannagar. The Show was inaugurated by Amit Kiran Deb, Chief Secretary, West Bengal. The evening saw a cultural extravaganza with a Hindustani classical recital by Sandipan Samajpati, Odissi dance recital by Sanchita Bhattacharya, Santoor performance by Tarun Bhattacharya, accompanied by Subrata Bhattacharjee on Tabla.

Jury was chaired by the Postmaster General of Kolkata Region of West Bengal Circle - M Kumar with Manohar Lal, Dr R S Gandhi, and Director Postal Services - Ambesh Upmanyu as members. The Assistant Postmaster General (BD&TO) Kolkata - J Lalrinsailova was the lone Apprentice Juror.

5 gold medals, 8 silver medals, 16 bronze medals, and 14 Diplomas were awarded. The only Gold medal in the Youth Class was awarded to Anuj Bagri for 'My Own Atlas', the other Gold Medals were awarded to Sangeeta Deogawanka for 'Modes of Mail Transport'; Md Saifullah for 'Pre India - 1852 to 1947'; Dipak Kumar Bachawat for 'French Settlement'; and Mrinal Kanti Roy for 'Mahatma Gandhi - His Life and Messages'.

Silver Medal winners for youth exhibits were awarded to Sashank Agarwal for 'Highest Peaks of Himalaya'; Suvarna Singh for 'The Stamp Zoo'; Jinu

Verghese for 'Pre-Indian'; and the Senior exhibitors to win the Silver medal were Mir Samsuzzaha 'India Pre Independence'; Dipak Ranjan Das for 'The Tiger'; Saneesh Singh for 'Postal Overprints and Surcharge'; Sourik Roy for 'Hinduisam - A Way of Life'; and Dr. Pradip Sarkar for 'Essence of Vedas - Concepts of Four Vedas'.

Bronze Medal winners Youth were Arghajit Bhadra, Sumnima Parajuli, Apramit Bhattacharya, Surmyaa Singh, Abhijit Sanyal, Swanali Barua, Chiranjib Chakraborty, Tina Samuel and Robert O'Brien. In the Senior they were Amarendra Nath Bag, Dipak Kumar Bachawat, Biswajit Kumar Bhattacharya, Manoranjan Sharma, Syeda Kabira Khatun, Udayan Sen and Robert Smith.

The Diploma was awarded to Apratim Bhattacharya in Youth and Ripan Datta, Sujit Kumar Chanda, Malay Chanda, Subhasish Sarkar, Eeshita Basu Choudhury, Mrinmoy Chanda, Subhabrata Basu, Santosh Kumar Lahoti, Dr. Prabir Kr Laha, Md Zobal and Pradipta Kanti Roy in the Senior Class.

The Indian Philatelic Traders' Association also held a 'Stamp Fair' on December 15 and 16 at the same venue.

SRIPEX

The first District Level Philatelic Exhibition of Puri District was held at Puri Zilla School on 10th and 11th of December. About 30 participants took part in the said exhibition exhibited in 77 frames. Four special covers were also released for that occasion. The first covers were released on 10th were on Puri SriJagannath Temple and on the Dolphins of Satapada, Puri. The other two Covers were released 11th were on The Freedom Fighter Jayee Rajguru and the first Visit of Mahatma Gandhi to Puri in 1921. A Philatelic Quiz competition was also conducted by Ajit Kumar Dash on 11th where students of 7 Schools participated.

Dec 29-31: Ratnagiri, district level

Dec 30-31: Jamnagar, CRICKETPEX thematic exhibition to be held as a part of the legendary cricketer K S Duleepsinhji Birth Centenary Year Celebrations

Contact: nawaphilatelic@yahoo.co.in

Dec: Jammu, Army Postal Service

2006

Jan 4-6: Sambalpur, HIRAPEX district level, 2 covers

Jan 10-11: Valsad, district level

Jan 10-11: Yavatmal, district level

Jan 14-15: Chandigarh,

Jan 20-22: Coimbatore, regional

Venue: Techno Park, TNAU

Contact: SSP, Coimbatore HPO, Coimbatore 641 001

Dealers' booth available for Rs1500. 3 Different Stamp Booklets (Wild life theme), Cards (Gandhi theme) and Special Covers (Musical theme) will be issued in the quantity of 500 each

Jan: Sambalpur, district level

Jan: Kolkata, Army Postal Service

Feb: Hyderabad, Army Postal Service

Mar: 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>

STAMP DEALER MAKES MUSIC

Prem Chand Jaiswal the well known stamp dealer, auctioneer, and manufacturer of philatelic accessories from Kolkata sings as a hobby. He recently brought a CD of his ghazals.

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF INDIA CONFERENCE

The 89th Annual Conference of the Numismatic Society of India will be held at Chandigarh on December 24-26, 2005. An exhibition and Fair will also be held concurrently with the Conference. Farokh S Todywalla will hold its auction sale # 12 of on December 25, 2005 during the conference.

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SPECIAL OFFER: China issued a post card on the 50 years of Indo China Friendship portraying J L Nehru, Dr Radhakrishnan, Dr Rajendra Prasad and Cho-En-Lai. Available for Rs 100 each plus postage.

BANGA jjanmolgk@gmail.com Telephone - 0 9810651829

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.>

VINAYAK KARNICK Ahmadabad

Please accept my heartiest congratulations on bringing out 250th issue of the electronic Stamps of India. I must say that I am greatly benefited by reading it regularly since past 250 issues. Moreover, the coverage is excellent and wide. Trust all the readers of this magazine will join me in sending best wishes and felicitations on this achievement.

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>

ALSO IN THE NEWS

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION AT DOHA

Hassan bin Abdullah al-Ghanem, Qatar's Minister of Justice opened the 15th Gulf Philatelic Exhibition at the City Centre at Doha on December 21, 2005. The exhibition will continue until December 26, 2005.

The exhibition is being held in connection with the two-day Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Postal Summit, at the General Post Office. Formally known as the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, it consists of United Arab Emirates, State of Bahrain, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Sultanate of Oman, State of Qatar and State of Kuwait.

The postal administrations and philatelic clubs of the six GCC states are taking part in the exhibition. Stamps from India, Pakistan, and the UK used by Gulf States, especially in the UAE, Qatar and Oman are represented. Also on display were an array of airmails, envelopes, inlands and first day covers that were in use in postal departments in the 50s and 60s. The three-member jury consists of Norman Banfield (New Zealand), Ray Todd (Australia) and Abdulla al-Khoury (UAE).

NEWSSCAN

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

The Telegraph, December 20, 2005

RANGE OF RARITIES AT STAMP SHOW by Sudeshna Banerjee

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1051220/asp/calcutta/story_5620093.asp

ADMINISTRIVIA

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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

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 worldwide.

Credit cards accepted <http://www.stampsofindia.com/99999.htm>

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