

ISSN 0972-3587

----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
Issue # 317 - November 29, 2007. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

~~~~~  
I N T H I S I S S U E

Forthcoming Stamp Issues  
New Stamps Released  
New Stamp Booklet  
Gaurav Dalal is No More  
India at Sandafayre Auction  
30th Asian Pacific Postal Union, Executive Council Meeting  
Franchising of Services of Post Office  
Modernization of Postal Department  
Recent & Forthcoming Events  
The Calendar of Worldwide Philatelic Auctions  
Readers Forum: Abnash S Luthra

~~~~~  
To SUBSCRIBE, please visit www.stampsofindia.com
To UNSUBSCRIBE, click on the second link at the end of this message.
BACK ISSUES <http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/Download/archives.htm>

~~~~~  
JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

The month of December 2007 may see the issue of almost a stamp a day.  
However we believe the collecting community will prefer a more balanced  
issue plan.

The periods of famine and floods in respect of new issues are now  
annual occurrence.

The Program of Issue for next year is delayed as usual.

India Post continues to miss out on some important and interesting  
occasions such as Scout Centenary in 2007.

This year has introduced long delays in supplies to philatelic bureaus  
all over country where the new issues are usually not available on the  
issue date.

Looking at this situation regarding new issues of commemoratives, one  
can imagine the situation of definitives and postal stationery.

Several other philatelic activities of India Post are either not taking  
place or being conducted without much care.

We believe all stake holders in Indian philatelic industry, postal  
officials, designers, printers, stamp collectors, stamp dealers, and  
philatelic media definitely deserve a better state of affairs.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Mainak Kathiara, Ashok Kumar Tiwary, and Suraj Jaitly,

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

FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Dec 3: Int'l Day of Disabled Persons

New issues along with the First Day Cover and the information sheet, at Rs 2 each, are put on sale on sale at nearly 1000 selected Post Offices including all Philatelic Bureaus and Philatelic Counters in India.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2007, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2007stamps.htm>

~~~~~  
NEW STAMPS RELEASED

Pratibha Devisingh Patil, the President of India, released a set of 4 stamps and a miniature sheet on renewable energy to mark the Silver Jubilee of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy on November 22, 2007 at New Delhi. The stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 each depict Solar Energy, Wind energy, Small Hydropower, and Biomass Energy.

Sankha Samanta designed the Stamps 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, Nasik printed the stamp by photogravure in the quantity of 0.8 million. The miniature sheet is printed in the quantity of 0.2 million.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2007, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2007stamps.htm>

FIRST BATTALION 4TH GORKHA RIFLES

India Post released a postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 to commemorate 150 years of the raising of the first battalion of the 4th Gorkha Rifles on November 27, 2007.

The 33 Extra Gorkha Regiment was raised in 1857 at Pithoragarh. The first three battalions of Gorkhas were raised soon after the war with Nepal in 1817. It became the 4th Gorkha Rifles of the Bengal Infantry

and after the Coronation Durbar at Delhi, became the Prince of Wales' Own 4th Gorkhas. After Indian independence, the designation changed to the present one.

It operated in the Lushai hills in 1871, in China in 1900, and in Europe and Mesopotamia during the Great World War (World War I). There were four battalions of the Regiment during World War I. One of the battalions formed part of the Chindits under Wingate. The third battalion fought a fine action at Bilafond La, at heights of nearly 20,000 feet in 1947. Major Jackson in his book on the British Indian Army has called Fourth Gorkhas as the most traveled in the Indian Army.

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

For an illustrated list of all kinds of Postcards in 2007, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2007PC.htm>

For an illustrated list of all kinds of Envelopes in 2007, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2007EN.htm>

For an illustrated list of Aerogramme & Inland Letter in 2007, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2007ILC.htm>

~~~~~  
For an illustrated list of Special Postmarks & Covers in 2007, visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/2007pm.htm>

For an illustrated list of Army Postal Service Issues in 2007, visit
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/aps/2007aps.htm>

~~~~~  
**NEW STAMP BOOKLET**

North Bengal and Sikkim Region of India Post released a stamp booklet with the theme 1857: The First War of Independence on November 27, 2007 during the Philatelic Festival at Siliguri. Noted philatelist S K Biswas has designed this stamp booklet.

~~~~~  
AUCTION ACTION: INDIA AT SANDAFAYRE AUCTION

Auction Sale #5142 of Sandafayre Ltd is closing on December 4, 2007. This auction has over 100 lots of some interesting India material. The entire catalog is online at their website <http://www.sandafayre.com>.

Our pick is the Lot #6817 that is described in the catalog as follows: 1866 TO 1984 OFFICIALS - FABULOUS SPECIALISTS COLLECTION bursting with stamps, shades, sets, multiples, flaws and varieties, unissued, Specimens, identified forgeries and so much more in a crammed album with many seldom seen stamps starting with superb mint and used ranges of "Service" overprints incl. 1866-72 issue with and without watermark to 8a, some reprints or forged overprints, 1866 Fiscal stamps 2a type O2 mint and a single type O3, 4a (Cat. £1100), six ½a used, a superb array of 1867-73 to 8a mint and used with unissued 6a8p (Cat £325), "O.H.M.S." opts. 1874-82 complete to 8a mint and used in black with a mint block of four 4a, and blue-black ½a (3) and 1a used, also 8a pair opt. "Specimen", 1883-99 complete set with 1r shade mint and used, similarly the 1900 colour changes, KEVII issues to 1r and 1909 high values with shades to 25r mint and used, KGV 1912-13 to 15r mint and used to 25r, a fascinating and valuable group of 1925 surcharges with KEVII 2r on 10r green and carmine and a block of four of the ordinary

shade both mint, 1912 issue both values and some double surcharges of this issue now considered clandestine, 1926 1a on 1½a forgery, 1926-31 to 10r mint, KGVI, 1948 Gandhi 1½a mint and used with a 12a forged overprint, very strong range of later issues with interesting 1971 Refugee Relief issue with local overprints and handstamps etc; generally good condition with the very modern fine to very fine, a SPECTACULAR lot which would take years to accumulate (approx 800 stamps) Estimate Range : £4000 - 5000
<http://www.sandafayre.com/webauction/auction.asp?Mode=11&Param=42217019>

~~~~~  
GAURAV DALAL IS NO MORE

Gaurav Dalal one of the most active philatelists from Ahmedabad died on November 25, 2007. He was 42. He felt chest pain and drove to the hospital and died there due to a massive heart attack. In his untimely death Indian philately lost a devoted philatelist.

He was very friendly in nature. He was quite involved with the issue and promotion of special covers and postmarks. He will be missed by friends and family.

~~~~~  
30TH ASIAN PACIFIC POSTAL UNION, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

A Raja, Minister of Communications and Information Technology inaugurated the 30th Asian Pacific Postal Union, Executive Council (APPU-EC) Meeting at New Delhi on November 27, 2007. More than 150 foreign delegates from 29 countries are participating in the five day Meeting from November 27 to December 1, 2007 with an aim to exchange views and discuss matters of mutual interest so as to strengthen co-operation amongst postal administrations and postal service providers in the Asia-Pacific region.

This is the third time India Post is hosting an APPU-EC meeting. India Post earlier hosted this meeting in the years 1980 and 1992. The APPU is an inter-governmental organization of 30 postal administrations of the countries of Asian-Pacific region founded in the year 1962. India became a member in the year 1973. APPU is affiliated to the Universal Postal Union, which is a specialized agency of the United Nations. The purpose of the APPU is to extend, facilitate and improve postal relations between member countries and to promote cooperation in the field of postal services.

~~~~~  
FRANCHISING OF SERVICES OF POST OFFICE

Dr. Shakeel Ahmad, Minister of State for Ministry of Communications and Information Technology gave the following information in the Rajya Sabha (Upper House of Indian Parliament) on November 22, 2007 in a written reply to a question by Supriya Sule.

Department of Posts has not decided to franchise its services to private players. The scheme of Franchisee Outlets launched by the Department and operated through individual Franchisees, in specified urban areas, aims at creating additional points of access to the postal network and provides counter services like sale of stamps and stationery, booking of registered/Speed Post articles, collection of bill payments, booking of money orders, etc. The Franchisee outlets are functioning like extension counters of Departmental Post Offices and after booking of articles, collection of payments of bills from public, the same are sent to the linked departmental post office for further

transmission, etc. The delivery and transmission of mails and savings bank work (other than cheque collection) etc. has not been franchised.

At present 13 Franchisee Outlets are functioning in Maharashtra State.

Franchisee Scheme has been launched only in specified urban locations. The scheme has not been launched in rural areas. There is no proposal to open Franchisee Outlets in rural areas.

~~~~~  
MODERNISATION OF POSTAL DEPARTMENT

Dr Shakeel Ahmad, Minister of State for Ministry of Communications and Information Technology gave the following information in the Lok Sabha (Lower House of Indian Parliament) on November 26, 2007 in a written reply to a question by Kashiram Rana and Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo.

In the Eleventh Plan the Department of Posts has submitted a proposal to the Planning Commission for computerization of 17598 Departmental Post Offices and 64,000 Branch Post Offices and network all computerized offices; provide Automatic Mail Processing Centres; Provide Remotely managed Franking Machines and Cash Counting Machines and provide anywhere anytime banking.

Following steps have been taken by the Department to enhance the revenue earning ability of the organization: Business Development and Marketing Directorate has been set up in the Department of Posts. It aims at developing new products and services and aims to make Department of Posts a customer oriented organization with business approach; A number of business products like Speed Post, Express Parcel Post and Business Post have been introduced; Value additions like collection from customer premises, credit facility, volume based discounts, door to door delivery, online track and trace system, pre-mailing services etc. have been introduced; Retail network of the Department of Post has been leveraged for providing new services and generating additional revenue and The department has taken initiatives to work out various business alliances and partnership with public and private corporations for leveraging the postal network in rural as well as urban areas.

~~~~~  
RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Nov 27-28: Philately Festival, Siliguri  
North Bengal and Sikkim Region of India Post organized stamp design contest, seminar, workshop, and a mini stamp exhibition during the Philatelic Festival at the Ramkinkar Hall, Siliguri. Over 200 students from various schools took part in the competitions.

Nov 30-Dec 2: Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh State Philatelic Exhibition  
Sales Stalls: Rs 2500  
Contact: Pankaj Tyagi, Mobile 0 93352 41900

Nov 30-Dec 2: New Delhi, Coins & Banknotes  
Contact: Goga Jain, Mobile 93123 18401

Nov 30-Dec 2: Palakkad, PHILA COINEX  
Venue: Town Hall Annex  
Contact: K A Radharishnan, Tel 0492-2284701, 2284480

Dec 5-8: Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala State Philatelic Exhibition  
Venue: Kanakakunnu Palace  
Sales Stalls: Rs 3000  
Contact: The Secretary [kerapex2007@gmail.com](mailto:kerapex2007@gmail.com) Mobile 0 94955 49431

Dec 7-9: Pune, STAMPEX  
Venue: Sonal Hall, 19 Karve Road, Next to Rasa Shala,  
Sales Stalls: Rs 4000, Two tables & two chairs. Breakfast & Lunch for two persons included. Last date booking: November 30, 2007.  
Contact: Rajendra Shah, Secretary ICSRI, (020) 24477660, 09890117252

For a list of exhibitions in 2007, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events2007.htm>

#### MEETINGS

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

#### THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

The Calendar for December 2007 has been updated and is now available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/2auctions.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](http://www.cwiakala.com).

#### ADVERTISEMENTS

Please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/siteguide/xl6.htm> for tariff and terms

FOR SALE India 1947-2006 Complete in blocks of 4, Commemoratives, Definitives, Army Overprints, Service EXCEPT Gandhi Service, Un-mounted Mint, Unique opportunity to acquire at a very Special Price Rs 280,000  
Contact RAMAWTAR B JAIN, Mobile: 093777 66365

STAMP QUIZZES by Anil Dhir, 224 pages, 2007 edition, contains over 1500 questions and answers. Comprehensive & detailed with quizzes on General Philately, India, Indian States, USA, Britain, Australia & New Zealand Must for all Philatelists & stamp clubs, Rs 300 post free in India. US\$20+ actual postage elsewhere, ANIL DHIR [anildhir2k5@hotmail.com](mailto:anildhir2k5@hotmail.com)

Get Listed for Free in ITS COLLECTORS DIRECTORY Download form now for listing > <http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/listing.pdf> and advertising > <http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/advertise.pdf>

WANTED India Stamp Booklets of King Edward VII, King George V & VI, Unexploded, exploded, and in all conditions,  
Contact MADHUKAR DEOGAWANKA [deogawanka@satyam.net.in](mailto:deogawanka@satyam.net.in)

#### 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.>

ABNASH S LUTHRA, Chandigarh

Long ago India Post (then P & T Department) used to supply across their counters all over India the much needed Airmail labels for foreign mail usage. It has since been stopped for reasons best known to the department. The post offices were giving away a few labels without charge to the public and were charging a nominal price from bulk users. I will be very pleased to see these labels reintroduced by India Post.

~~~~~  
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>

~~~~~  
NEWSSCAN

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

-----\*\*\*\*\*O\*\*\*\*\*-----  
ADMINISTRIVIA

'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is published by Madhukar Jhingan [mjhingan@yahoo.com](mailto:mjhingan@yahoo.com) for 'Stamps of India', 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. Phone: +91-11-25281578, Mobile: +91-9350537037  
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

'Stamps of India' does not rent, sell, or otherwise share your e-mail address with any third-party.

Our now famous Disclaimer!

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/siteguide/w04.htm>

STAMPS OF INDIA also publishes:

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, Credit cards & PayPal accepted, visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/shop/bookshop.htm>

=====  
© Copyright 2007, Stamps of India, New Delhi. All rights reserved.  
For reproducing content from Stamps of India publications please ask the publisher for permission stating exactly what you would like to use, and for what purpose, before using the same.