

ISSN 0972-3587

----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
Issue # 323 - January 10, 2008. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

Mr Krishnan informs that we all have to wait a little longer and the next update of PhilSensex will now appear in the next issue.

Mrs Deogawanka informs that she will skip this month's column 'History of Postal Communications in India' and perhaps next month's too as she busy doing cover story for a prestigious print publication on science & technology.

We take this opportunity to appeal to you for contributions by your writings on a regular basis to this digital weekly.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Anil Reddy, Mahendra Sharma, Dipok Dey, Ashok Bayanwala, Ashish Talwar, Anil Suri, Madhukar Deogawanka, N Kalyani, and Vinod Sabharwal.

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

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAMP POLL 2007

Thank you for the overwhelming response to Stamp Poll 2007. Kindly continue to do so and let us make a new record for the numbers of votes polled this year. Please spread the word about Stamp Poll 2007.

The best stamp of 2007 shall be announced based on the most number of votes polled. You can send as many ballots as you wish. Several attractive philatelic prizes will be given away. The winners will be decided by draw of lots.

Please select one from the commemorative stamps issued in 2007 displayed at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/2007stamppoll.htm>

Vote for the best stamp of 2007 in your opinion. Vote by the number only. (My Favorite 2007 Stamp is: #)

Also write your name, City, email id, and philatelic interests on the ballot and email your ballots to: stampoll@stampsofindia.com

The last date to receive the ballots at Stamps of India is January 31, 2008. Incomplete ballots shall not be considered.

NEW STAMPS RELEASED

India Post released a stamp to commemorate birth centenary of Dr B P Pal, the Father of Roses in India, on January 5, 2005 during 95th Indian Science Congress at Visakhapatnam in the denomination of Rs 5.

Benjamin Peary Pal (1906-1989) was born in a Hindu family at Mukandpur in Punjab on May 26, 1906. After early education in Yangon, Myanmar, Pal moved to Cambridge and received his doctorate degree in 1933.

After returning to India, he joined the Imperial Agricultural Research Institute at Pusa, Bihar (Now Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Delhi) as Second Economic Botanist and rose to become the Institute's Director. He was the first Director-General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. He was the first President of the Society for the Advancement of Breeding Researches in Asia and Oceania from 1969 to 1973.

Pal is known for his work on breeding wheat variety (new Pusa 809) resistant to all the three types of rust disease. He also introduced a high degree of resistance to the smut disease. He is responsible for starting the all India Coordinated Research projects for important

Indian crops. It is through his initiative that the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources came into existence.

Dr Pal was a rose breeder of distinction and created several varieties. There is a Dr B P Pal Rose Garden at the India Agricultural Research Institute, planted with roses developed in India. Pal himself bred over eighty. He was founder President of the Rose Society and Bougainvillea Society. He also founded the Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding and edited the Indian Journal of Genetics and Plant Breeding for 25 years.

Dr Pal was elected President of the Indian National Science Academy in 1975 and served as the President of the Indian Science Congress in 1974. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1972 and received numerous awards including the Padma Vibhushan.

Dr Pal was an accomplished artist and, even in his last few years, painted regularly.

Pal was an institution builder, able to administrator and a policy maker.

The proponents provided the design of the Stamp to India Post. Alka Sharma designed the First Day Cover and 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. Security Printing Press, Hyderabad printed the stamps by wet offset in the quantity 0.4 million in the sheets of 40 stamps.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2007, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2008stamps.htm>

~~~~~ FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

No issue is scheduled for release in next couple of weeks. As soon as India post announces one the same will immediately be listed on the home page of www.stampsofindia.com.

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 POSTAL STATIONERY

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:

AIDS, Gujarati
AIDS, Gujarati
Safe Motherhood, Hindi
Nutritious Food for Healthy Life, Hindi
Ambulance Service, Hindi
Eye Care, Hindi
Eye Care, Oriya

The grand total till date is now 511, with 235 added in 2007 alone.

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

Following post card with advertisement was recently released:

Oct 24, Ankur Salt, English

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>

INPEX 08 REPORT

The Minister of Communications and Information Technology, A Raja inaugurated the 7th National Philatelic Exhibition organized by India Post on January 2, 2008 at Chennai. Raja also released a set of 4 postage stamps featuring Endemic Butterflies of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and a book '1857 Through Indian Postage Stamps' at the inaugural function.

There were 350 exhibits in 1298 frames on display in 12 classes. For some strange reason Modern Philately, Frugal Philately, and Social Philately Classes which need to be promoted, were excluded in this show. Reconfirming the trend the world over there were 94 exhibits in Thematic Philately Class including 32 in Indian Themes subclass. There were 50 exhibits in One Frame Class and 80% in these were also Thematic. The organizers made special efforts to get 105 exhibits in Youth class including 13 in School Collections subclass. However majority of these were from Tamil Nadu only and most were unqualified for participation at the national level. There was no exhibit of Convention States subclass in Traditional philately, Postal History, and Revenues Classes. There were only 3 exhibits in Aerophilately class, surprisingly none in India up to Independence subclass, none in Astrophilately class and there were only 2 exhibits in Maximaphily class.

The Jury consisted of G Madanmohan Das (President), Sundar Bahirwani (Secretary), Dr S P Gupta, Professor V K Gupta, Vishnu Saksena, Sahadeva Sahoo, Ashok Bayanwala, and Rajesh Bagri. There were five Apprentice Jurors - Rameshwar Das Binani, Ambesh Upmanyu, Charles Lobo, Manohar Lal, and Dr R S Gandhi.

The Jury awarded 6 Gold Medals, 12 Large Vermeil Medals, 13 Vermeil Medals, 36 Large Silver Medals, 48 Silver Medals, 69 Silver Bronze Medals, 81 Bronze Medals and 69 Diplomas. Only 9 exhibits failed to score. 4 exhibits were absent. 3 exhibits were moved out of competition due to the presence of banned items such as modern proofs and unissued items such as Guru Granth Saheb issue.

National Grand Prize in the National Championship Class was awarded to Madhukar Deogawanka of Kolkata for his exhibit on Indian (Stamp) Booklets. The other 3 exhibits in the Championship Class were Kishor Chandak's Handsruck Postage Stamps of India, Anil Suri's Fiscals of Mysore, and Valmick Desai's Philatelic Terms.

Kanimozhi, Member of Parliament and daughter of the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu was the chief guest at the Valedictory Function and distributed the awards on concluding day, January 6, 2008.

K V Sundar Rajan, Post Master General of Western Region of Tamil Nadu Circle of India Post moderated a Seminar on 'Modern Trends in Philately' on January 2, 2008. The proceedings of this Seminar in a book form were released on January 6, 2008 at the Valedictory function. P S Sheshadri and P Soundara Rajan, both senior philatelists, conducted philatelic workshop each on January 3 and 5, 2008 respectively. On the spot painting competition and state level quiz competition were conducted on January 4, 2008.

4 special covers were issued, one on each day from 2nd day onwards. There was no special cover issued on day one. 5 booklets and 4 picture post cards with stamp images were also issued by Tamil Nadu Circle of India Post on this occasion.

This is the first national that has been organized by India Post after the India Post Regulations came in force in 2003 for organizing exhibitions, evaluating exhibits, and maintaining the Roster of Jurors. However the level of compliance to these regulations was barely 50%. It is after a long gap of 15 years that India Post was hosting a national and they unfortunately did not have in-house expertise. It is hoped that India Post will use this opportunity as a learning experience and the mistakes of this national will not be repeated in the forthcoming exhibitions.

Though it is unpleasant we have voluntarily taken up the responsibility of recording the shortcomings of this exhibition so that these are not swept under the carpet.

India Post, for reasons best known to them, selected few so-called senior philatelists (average age over 70) on the organizing committee at the cost of exclusion of many meritorious, deserving, experienced, hardworking, and honest philatelists. It seemed a criminal record helped one getting on to the organizing committee. Some of the organizing committee members, especially the local members, seemed hell bent on maximum violations by suggesting and advising India Post to make changes in the 2003 Regulations.

To begin with instead of 3 medal levels as uniformly provided for all classes in the India Post's Regulations it was changed to 7 medal levels, projecting that this is how it was done in international shows; conveniently ignoring the fact that as per International Philatelic Federation (FIP) there are 8 medal levels in all classes, 6 medal levels in Youth Class and 4 medal levels for One Frame Class. This is just one example of the advice given and unfortunately accepted by India Post which seems to have benefited no one.

However India Post needs to be congratulated for remaining steadfast to their regulations regarding the appointment of the Jurors and not succumbing to any external pressures.

There was no transparency and information sharing regarding the progress of the exhibition and the philatelic community at large was unaware of the developments. The host Circle Tamil Nadu decentralized the hosting by distributing work to Post Master Generals heading regions in Coimbatore, Madurai, and Trichy which made working even more difficult and information dissemination also equally difficult. It is a great idea to distribute the work of a national show across several circles in the country and use their expertise however it would make more sense to put a Steering Committee in place based at the host city so that the progress can be monitored and regular meetings of this committee should be held to ensure transparency and focus on the progress.

Due to the mismanagement several exhibitors decided to stay away from the exhibition and did not even apply for frames. It is further estimated that about 200 well qualified exhibits were arbitrarily not accepted. Many areas of the country went either unrepresented or were very poorly represented. Amazingly about 50 thoroughly unqualified exhibits were seen on display. Mounting of the exhibits got over by day two which is at par with past performances of India Post, however several exhibits that were sent by post were not put on display either partially or completely.

Mounting and dismounting was made difficult by use of poor quality adhesive on mounting strips. The strips simply came unstuck and the exhibit sheets were falling at all times. At the time of dismounting as soon as the frame was opened almost all the sheets fell on the floor. These sheets were randomly picked up by the dismounting team and shoved in to the exhibition envelope provided to the exhibitor for each frame. Each of these envelopes containing 16 sheets was for some mysterious reason then put in to another envelope. Later two teams checked these sheets before a third team delivered the same to the exhibitor. The untrained junior postal employees checking these sheets heavy handedly were enough to give a heart stroke to the owner of the exhibit. Fortunately very few exhibitors were inside the hall at the dismounting stage thus many lives were saved. Several reports of damage to delicate material have already been reported.

India Post's efforts in the last 6 years of nurturing philately at the grass root levels are paying rich dividends and the Chennai Show had 1300 frames on display, India Post definitely deserves congratulations for their efforts. However India is a large country and a stage has now been reached where to accommodate all qualified exhibits 3000 frame national exhibitions are required. India is not Hong Kong where 100 frames will suffice for a national show. A better alternative for India Post would be to organize specialized national exhibitions limited to one or at the most couple of classes only such as Thematic, Youth, One Frame, Traditional and Postal Stationery or Postal History, and Aero & Astro Philately completing a full round covering all classes within the stipulated period of 3 years. This will give an opportunity to have a national, although limited, more frequently and in a conveniently manageable size. The smaller size will also provide an opportunity to take such national philatelic shows to state capitals and even smaller

towns. This would also help to bring more participation from all corners of the country as well opportunity for more collectors to take their exhibits one step further to the International arena.

The archives material, in the opinion of the organizers, in 3 exhibits was seized and is at present awaiting a final verdict from India Post. These 3 exhibits were not evaluated for awards and were moved out of competition. India Post once again needs to be congratulated for taking this affirmative action which will instill respect for Regulations in the philatelic community. Readers will recall that in Bulletin 1 the organizers had left out details about India Post's ban on display of such material in exhibitions and the same was included subsequently. This was done when this digital weekly in Issue #312 of October 25, 2007 drew their attention to this omission. However some Jurors following the traditional path seemed biased against one frame and youth class exhibits, which is reflected in the results.

The venue befitting a national show, it was stately, air-conditioned conveniently located and surrounded with hotels, restaurants and with ample space for everything including free parking. However the space could have been better utilized. A large amount of space was used for functions while frames were erected in inconvenient locations. The venue, a pair of wedding halls, seemed to have very poor acoustics which turned all amplified sounds almost inaudible and a small conversation went reverberating all over giving the impression of a fish market, created a lot of noise pollution. More attention should have been paid to the sound system. All functions including inaugural and concluding were conducted exclusively in Tamil language giving an impression of the show as being a Tamil Nadu State Level Philatelic Exhibition rather than a national level exhibition with participation from all corners of the country.

In the respect of issue of special covers this exhibition was conducted as a district level philatelic exhibition. Only 200 special covers, ready with stamp and special postmark, each day were brought in and these got sold out in less than 2 hours to buyers standing in queue getting not more than 2 covers each. After this about 500 blank covers were sold in 3 hours or so which were serviced with handstamping. Surprisingly there was no provision for accepting orders so that the covers could be supplied later. On the last day a postal employee was caught selling a set of 4 covers at 250% premium from the post office counter! At earlier national level exhibitions tens of thousands of special covers have been sold each day, this exhibition missed out on a lot of certain revenue for India Post.

Bulletin 2 was delayed in publication and a lot of information was redundant including information on accommodation in Chennai. However the saving grace was the inclusion of the catalog of exhibits which came in very handy while viewing the exhibition. The 2 websites that are there for the show also are not carrying updated information. Even now neither the award list nor the catalog of exhibits is uploaded. Souvenir Volume, in a warped tradition now seen at most exhibitions at district and state level, was released at the concluding ceremony where a few copies were circulated to the dignitaries on the dais. Philatelic Community may get it one day but what purpose will it serve?

40 dealer booths at 2 levels were accommodated in different halls. Most of the dealers were of the opinion that some of the State Level shows have offered better business opportunities including the State level show at Ahmedabad in October. Chennai however offered some good opportunities for buying and replenishing stocks.

Most surprisingly there were no philatelic meetings, not even by local societies and absolutely no social get together either official or otherwise. What kind of national meet was this?

There is reason to believe that although the National Exhibition got over in 5 days the postmortem will continue for next several months.
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#### RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

2007

Sep 27: Guwahati, Kamakhya Temple  
Oct 06: Rourkela, Youth Hostels Association of India - National Conf.  
Dec 24: Mumbai, New Technology Rakes - Mumbai Railway Vikas Corp

2008

Jan 03-06: Chennai, National Philatelic Exhibition, 4 covers

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

For an illustrated list of Special Postmarks & Covers in 2008, visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/2008pm.htm>

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

#### NEW PICTURE POST CARDS

Tamil Nadu Circle of India Post released a set of 4 picture postcards with images of stamps during National Philatelic Exhibition at Chennai.

For an illustrated list of Stamp Picture Postcards in 2008, visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/icards-2008.htm>

For an illustrated list of Max Cards in 2008, visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2008mc.htm>

#### THE LAST POST

Anil Dhir, a passionate philatelist from Bhubaneswar has made a short film 'The Last Post' on Mail Tonga Service that is still being continued in Orissa. A review will follow in the next issue.

#### UNFAMILIAR STAMPS

The Chief Post Master of Barabazar Head Post Office at Kolkata recently published 'A Handbook of Unfamiliar Stamps' edited by eminent artist and philatelist, Dipok Dey. This profusely illustrated little book of 96 pages is for free circulation and is available from the Chief Post Master, Barabazar HPO, Kolkata 700 007.

#### PHILA INDIA 2008 CATALOG

Philatelia of Kolkata has launched 2008 edition of the Phila India Guide Book at national philatelic exhibition at Chennai. This priced

catalog of Indian stamps since 1852 to 2007 is available for Rs 600 postpaid in India. Please send remittance in favor of 'Philatelia' and mail to One Moti Sil Street, Kolkata 700 013.

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#### RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

PHILA NEWS, Whole #35, Sep Oct 2007, Bimonthly  
PHILA NEWS, Whole #36, Nov Dec 2007, Bimonthly  
Editor: Rajesh Paharia [shreeshell@hotmail.com](mailto:shreeshell@hotmail.com)  
Publisher: Philatelic Society of Rajasthan  
Annual Subscription: Not indicated

SIPA BULLETIN, Vol 27 #6, Nov Dec 2007, Bimonthly  
Editor: G Madan Mohan Das  
Publisher: South India Philatelists' Association  
Annual Subscription: Not indicated

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MORE INDIAN AREA EXHIBITS ONLINE  
Following new exhibits are recently added on the EXPONET - The Permanent Worldwide Philatelic Expo Online:

Exhibit: Unidentified Burmese Cachet Publishers 1937-1948  
Exhibitor: Zwillinger Steven, Silver Spring, MD, USA  
<http://www.japhila.cz/hof/0332/index0332a.htm>

Exhibit: Indian Registration Envelopes of Edward VII  
Exhibitor: Zwillinger Steven, Silver Spring, MD, USA  
<http://www.japhila.cz/hof/0333/index0333a.htm>

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J L MAHAJAN IS NO MORE  
J L Mahajan, a prominent stamp dealer of Delhi died on January 6, 2007. He wasn't keeping good health and had been staying in the hospital for about a month. He was 68.

Mahajan, a collector since his school days, gradually got in to stamp dealing. He travelled far and wide. He was seen almost at all stamp exhibitions in all parts of the country since 1970s. On December 3, 2007 he returned from attending the Uttar Pradesh State Philatelic Exhibition at Lucknow and almost immediately was admitted in to hospital for health complications.

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#### RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Jan 30-31: Lucknow, Stamp Exhibition on Gandhi's 60<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary  
Contact: Pankaj Tyagi 0 93352 41900

Feb 7-9: New Delhi, Delhi State Philatelic Exhibition  
Venue: National Science Centre, Near Pragati Maidan Gate 1, Bhairo Marg  
Dealers Booth: Rs 3000  
Contact: A S Dahiya 0 98683 64888

Postponed Indefinitely: Chandigarh, Punjab State Philatelic Exhibition

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>

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#### THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

The Calendar for January 2008 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).

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#### ADVERTISEMENTS

Please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/other/siteguide/x16.htm> for tariff and terms

#### WANTED Miniature Sheets of India

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)

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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.>

##### JEEVAN JYOTI, Shimla

Inpex 2008 is over. I want to share Post Exhibition Blues with readers of your esteemed newsletter. I sent my entry in INPEX 2008 in the thematic section under title Tourism. It was awarded a Silver medal.

I am shocked at the result as this exhibit had got following awards in earlier National Philatelic exhibitions - Millepex 2000 Large Silver 76 points, Inpex2001 Nashik Silver 74 points and INPEX 2003 Large Silver 78 points. Almost five years have passed to last National, And in this long gap I collected new material and added 26 new pages to update my collection.

I was highly disappointed when I came to know that my exhibit was given a lower award from the last exhibition. I strongly appealed for re-evaluation of my exhibit through e-mail and sms as I did not attend the exhibition. If I cannot get a higher award from the last exhibition at least I deserved the same award. How can I get a lower award? I need a clear explanation from the concerned judges. In response to my appeal they conveyed the message that tourism is a too big topic and it needs to be pruned to any specific sector of Tourism. Is this argument of the judges is sufficient to cut off marks of an exhibitor and give her a lower award from the last exhibition?

If I am not wrong one or both of these judges were members of jury in previous national exhibitions and had earlier judged my exhibits and awarded large silver. Here I want to argue the judges if any part associated with the tourism is not covered in the exhibit. I have tried

to cover all the related aspects of tourism and even I showed a tourism website on a meter cancellation which is the latest material that can be added to update the exhibit.

I don't think that the judges had given sufficient time to understand my subject. If it is reduced to a particular sector of Tourism how it could be developed in five or more frames. There may be some like me facing this utter disappointment. It is not the matter of mere winning an award at the exhibition it is also a platform of expression which gives a sense of achievement to the exhibitor. When it hurts it is very painful as it involves hours of hard work of the exhibitor to prepare an exhibit for the exhibition.

It is a strong appeal against careless judging at the exhibition on behalf of all those who become victim of such decisions. Let's not make it a cricket match which becomes controversial with the biased decision of Steve Bucknor. Let the Philately be candid, unbiased and non controversial. Now the time has come to make a change in the present set up of philatelic activities otherwise this hobby will become a hobby of few hundreds of people of a country with such a big population.

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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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#### NEWSSCAN

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

The Hindu, Every Friday, Page 5, 'Young World'

Philately Column,

<http://www.hindu.com>

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#### 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

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<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>

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