

ISSN 0972-3587

----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
Issue # 334 - March 27, 2008. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingam

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We take this opportunity to thank all those who have sent us greetings on Holi that was on March 21, 2008 and we know that our friends and well wishers will forgive our not been able to respond individually.

This year March 21 was indeed very very special day as it had a bouquet of festivals, Holi - the Indian Festival of Colors, Good Friday, the Birthday of Prophet Mohamed and Parsi New Year Navroze. Unbelievable but true.

As it is March 21 is special every year because it happens to be the Vernal Equinox when night and day were of equal durations. It is also the first full day of the sign of Aries, the traditional first day of the astrological year and International Astrology Day. While United Nations observes it as International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the UNESCO observes it as World Poetry Day. It is also observed as World Down Syndrome Day since 2006.

By the way Indian cine star Rani Mukherjee was also born on this day.

We think 'March 21' is a befitting topic for a one frame exhibit! What do you think? Do let us have your views.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Vinod Sabharwal, Jeevan Jyoti, and Ashok Tiwary

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.

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Mar 28: Asrar ul Haq 'Majaaz', Rs 5

Bismillah Khan, scheduled for release on April 3, 2008 is now postponed  
and the new date is yet to be announced.

Now days, issues are scheduled and rescheduled for release at very  
short notice say couple of days! As you can see that the world is  
moving at very fast pace and we bring out an issue only after 7 long  
days. Thus it is impossible to inform our readers thru this weekly  
publication. We however do our best to list this information on the  
home page of [www.stampsofindia.com](http://www.stampsofindia.com) as soon as it becomes available.

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 2008, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2008stamps.htm>

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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>

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Mar 26: Jamshedpur, district philatelic exhibition, 1 cover

For an illustrated list of Special Postmarks & Covers in 2008, visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/2007pm.htm>

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

Jan 01: Assam Rifles Training Centre & School, Dimapur
Jan 12: 15 (Chinar) Corps, 93rd Raising Day

For an illustrated list of Army Postal Service Issues in 2008, visit
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/aps/2008aps.htm>

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MADHUBALA PACK

India Post also released a pack for Madhubala issue. Priced at Rs 30 the pack contains a stamp and a miniature sheet.

Please visit for images of packs issued in 2008

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/packs/2008packs-sets.htm>

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GANDHI FDC CROSSES RS 100,000 AT AUCTION

A private first day cover of 1948 Mahatma Gandhi issue sold for a record US\$ 2717 that is Rs 109,000, at ebay.com on March 23, 2008. It was won by an Indian bidder. The cover by cachet-maker Advani is commonly referred to as mourning cover being printed in black. There were 6 bidders competing for it. The cover was registered from Bombay GPO and addressed to Tanganyika with delivery markings on the back. The unusual destination contributed in achieving the record price.

ITS POSTAL AUCTION #40

Indian Thematic Society indianthematicsociety@gmail.com is holding postal auction # 40. The 155 lots auction closes on April 19, 2008.

For a list of auctions in India, please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/auction.htm>

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

RAINBOW STAMP NEWS, Whole #3, March 2008, Monthly

Editor: Jeevan Jyoti [j.jyoti9@gmail.com](mailto:j.jyoti9@gmail.com)

Publisher: Jeevan Jyoti, Shimla

Annual Subscription: Free

Also available online at <http://rainbowstampnews.blogspot.com/>

ITS STAMP NEWS, Whole #41, Vol.11 #1, Jan-Mar 2008, Quarterly

Editor: Suraj Jaitly [surajjaitly@yahoo.com](mailto:surajjaitly@yahoo.com)

Publisher: Indian Thematic Society, Ludhiana

Annual Subscription: Rs 150, US8, Euro 6

Also available online at <http://rainbowstampnews.blogspot.com/>

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mar 25-26: Dehra, Kangra district philatelic exhibition

Mar 26-27: Jamshedpur, district philatelic exhibition

Mar 27-28: Jodhpur, district philatelic exhibition

Mar 28-29: Hazaribagh, district philatelic exhibition, REVISED DATES

Mar 28-29: Imphal, Division Level Philately Exhibition

All Philatelists of Manipur and the surrounding areas are requested to participate in the Exhibition. Seminar, workshop and quiz will also be organized for the school children and beginners.

Contact: Director of Postal Services, Imphal, Manipur Postal Division

Mar 29-30: Keonjhar, 2nd district philatelic exhibition

Mar 30-31: Bokaro, district philatelic exhibition, REVISED DATES

Mar ??: Bhubaneswar, 1st district philatelic exhibition

Apr 11-13: Mumbai, Coins Show
Todiwala Auction

For a list of exhibitions in 2008, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events2008.htm>

MEETINGS

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

ADVERTISEMENTS

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

ITS COLLECTORS DIRECTORY, 3rd edition 2008 Edited by Suraj Jaitly, 80 pages listing contact details of stamp collectors, dealers, clubs, magazines, websites, from India & overseas. Plus lots of relevant information. Price Rs.250 or US \$8 or Euro 6 OR £4 [Post paid]
Contact at surajjaitly@hotmail.com or indianthematicsociety@gmail.com

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

SELLING Miniature Sheets of India Complete Mint 51 Different, Rs 6500
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

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.>

M S NARAYANAN, Chennai

I would like to share my bitter experience with Philatelic Bureau, Chennai. I have a PDA Account with them. But they have not been giving good service. For each and every despatch I had to approach some consumer group for help.

When I read about the poor show at the exhibitions, I feel that Philately in India is in very low profile.

Please do something about this.

JEEVAN JYOTI, Shimla

In response to the letters of the participants of Inpex 2008 published in previous issues of this newsletter one can easily conclude that the participants are too close observers and have sound philatelic knowledge. Their views cannot be ignored at any cost. Winning a gold in exhibitions does not mean that the person is an authority in philately. It is their tag that has given them the position of jury.

In my opinion there should also be a panel of general philatelists who give points to exhibits secretly and on the basis of average marks given by jury and the panel of general philatelists the final result should be declared. The general philatelists too should have the right of voting in certain classes like one frame or thematics in which large number of entries are sent by the exhibitors. At least 30% marks should be in hands of general philatelists. This may be a solution to give satisfactory result at the exhibitions to some extent.

Mr. Rajesh Verma should have elaborated the "Flag and Map mentality of the jury members" as some readers might have not understood the meaning of this line. But those participating in exhibitions since a long time have well understood its meaning and sense and must have enjoyed the content.

Now after reading lot of comments I have come to the conclusion that we should find the way out of this existing situation at all level of exhibitions. There is a big need of some senior as well as young philatelists and the philatelic societies to come forward in this regard and join hands with each other and send representation through proper channel to the Philately Section of India Post against the irregularity prevailing at the exhibitions. India Post is the highest authority responsible for holding and managing exhibitions. So it is necessary that the real facts must come to the notice of concerned officers of Philately section. Mere discussion on the problem is not a way out to curb the present situation of philately in India.

It's also a fact that officers concerned of philatelic section of India Post are not philatelists, they are simply administrators. Many of them are ignorant about the basics of philately. The detailed report must be sent to them for clear understanding about the exhibitions. After all we the philatelists make the Postal Department to earn a big amount of money through purchase and publicity of philatelic items. We must send our representation to it for the betterment of Indian Philately.

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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>

PHILATELY EXTENDS LIFE

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20080303005882&newsLang=en

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ADMINISTRIVIA

'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is published by Madhukar Jhingan 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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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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