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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
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Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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I N T H I S I S S U E

Forthcoming Stamp Issues  
New Postal Stationery  
Recent Special Postmarks & Covers  
New Stamp Booklets  
Obituaries: Ed Deschl, Gerald Sattin, Ron Doubleday  
Recent & Forthcoming Events  
South Asia New Issues  
Readers Forum: Santanu Panigrahi, P Mohanachandran Nair, Anil Dhir

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

Last week we once again had been on the move, first to Jaipur on April 13 & 14 and from thence at Kolkata from April 17, 2008. Next we will be in Ludhiana on April 26, 2008. In all these occasions the philatelic events being held there have drawn us. We love to meet fellow philatelists and events provide a wonderful opportunity to do so.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Rajesh Varma, S K Biswas, Madhukar Deogawanka, Vinod Sabharwal, and M I Choudhary

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

Apr 21: Civil Services  
Apr 22: Tata Steel  
Apr 27: P T Theagarayar

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 are still bringing out an issue only after 7 long days. Thus it is impossible to inform our readers thru this weekly publication about forthcoming stamp issues of India. We however do our best to publish 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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NEW POSTAL STATIONERY

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:

2007

Child Labor, Tamil

2008

Stop AIDS, Telugu

Eyes, Khasi Language (Megahlaya)

The grand total till date is now 539, with 7 added this year.

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 2008, visit <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2008PC.htm>

For an illustrated list of Aerogramme & Inland Letter in 2008, visit <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2008ILC.htm>

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

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Mar 15: Ranipool, International FloriShow Sikkim

Apr 04: Dehradun, Uttarakhand Police Color Presentation

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 2008, visit <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/aps/2008aps.htm>

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NEW STAMP BOOKLETS

Following stamp booklets have recently been issued privately:

Gurudutt (Guru Datta Padukone)

Renewable Energy

Endemic Butterflies of Andaman & Nicobar Islands

This is the 3rd booklet of this issue.

Madhubala

This contains a miniature sheet and in our opinion is a pack and not a stamp booklet.

For an illustrated list of Stamp Booklets, visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/sb99.htm>

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OBITUARIES: ED DESCHL, GERALD SATTIN, RON DOUBLEDAY

The latest issue of the India Post, the journal of India Study Circle for Philately, reports the death of three stalwarts of Indian philately.

Ed Deschl of USA was hospitalized after an accident and died sometime in 2006. It is sad that getting his death confirmed in today's fast moving world took this long. The last mail we had from him was on June 6, 2006. Deschl was an expert on postal stationery not only of Indian Princely states on which he authored a catalog, but also of India He had travelled extensively in India and had friend all over.

Gerald Sattin, a Grand Prix d' Honneur nominee, was President of India Study Circle for Philately and a friend of 'Stamps of India'. His exhibits, Campaign mails of India to 1909, and Soldiers Privilege Rates of the British Empire to 1898 have won Large Gold and gold respectively at world philatelic exhibitions.

Ron Doubleday passed away on February 8, 2008. He was an expert on 1947 provisional issues of Pakistan and co-authored the book on the subject with U A Isani. He also wrote on 1961 currency change overprints of 1961 of Pakistan and was working on 1972 provisional issues of Bangladesh. He also served as the President of the Pakistan Study Circle.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Apr 18-20: Kolkata, Stamp Exhibition at Outram Club
In collaboration with Bharatiya Daktkit Sangstha as part of Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of the Club
2 Special covers on sports and cinema and a booklet is planned
Dealers Booth - Rs 1000, Contact Arun Bhattacharya Mobile 0 98304 12286

Apr 26-27: Ludhiana, district philatelic exhibition

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>

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SOUTH ASIA NEW ISSUES

Pakistan

2007

Sep 06: Pakistan Air Force Defence Day, Rs 5

Designer Fazi Ameer, Printer Pakistan Security Printing Corporation (PSPC) Karachi, Quantity 0.5 million in sheets of 64 by Offset lithography in multicolor

Sep 22: 3rd Meeting of the ECO Postal Authorities, 1st Anniv, Rs 10  
Design supplied by the proponent, Printer PSPC Karachi, Quantity 0.5 million in sheets of 56 by Offset lithography in multicolor  
Withdrawn from sale on 12th October 2007

Nov 15: Completion of 5 Years Term of National Assembly of Pakistan, Rs 15

Designer Fazi Ameer, Printer PSPC Karachi, Quantity 0.5 million in sheets of 64 by Offset lithography in multicolor

Nov 14: Centenary Celebration of Catholic Cathedral Church Lahore, Rs 5  
Designer Fazi Ameer, Printer PSPC Karachi, Quantity 0.5 million in sheets of 56 by Offset lithography in multicolor

2008

Apr 04: Zulfikar Ali Bhutto 29th Martyrdom Anniv, Rs 4

Designer Adil Salahuddin, Printer PSPC Karachi, Quantity 0.5 million in sheetlets of 8 by Offset lithography in multicolor

Apr 04: Zulfikar Ali Bhutto 29th Martyrdom Anniv, Miniature Sheet Rs 20  
Designer Adil Salahuddin, Printer PSPC Karachi, Quantity 0.1 million by Offset lithography in multicolor, MS #16

[http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south\\_asia\\_new\\_issues.htm](http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south_asia_new_issues.htm)

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ITS COLLECTORS DIRECTORY, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:surajjaitly@hotmail.com) or [indianthematicsociety@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.>

SANTANU PANIGRAHI, Sambalpur

INPEX-2008 was a mega event recently concluded at Chennai. Many medals were won by the aspiring philatelist. A lot of frustration has cropped up among the exhibitor. It is a common phenomenon in every sphere of life that in any contest one win and other loose that don't make the contest end. Life is like that we should always think positively. We should never lose heart, because failure makes a man perfect. In any mega event mismanagement is a must. So was INPEX-2008 event with a mixed experience.

The exhibits presented by the exhibitors were of international standard. Accordingly it was a top job for the jurors for the assessment of philatelic exhibits. The jurors have done their part of job within the stipulated time limits.

As laid down in the INDIA POST (Philatelic Awards System) exhibitors are to be encouraged rather than discouraged. Juror should be friendly and helpful towards the exhibitors and refrain from adopting a holier than thou attitude. Awards are given to the exhibit and not to the exhibitor. Assessment is made solely to the materials exhibited in the frames and jurors are not judging the owners.

Thematic exhibits are always difficult for the jury / jurors to assess, because the exhibitor has a better knowledge about his own theme. But criteria for evaluation of competitive exhibits are (1) Treatment, (2) Philatelic related knowledge, (3) Personal study and research, (4) Condition and rarity of material exhibited and (5) Presentation. The criteria are valid for all types of exhibits. Therefore the exhibitors should always keep in mind that they are showing their exhibits to the viewers as well as to the jurors in a national level exhibition. One should not always expect to make an award of the same level that an exhibit received in an earlier exhibition. Actual arrangement of the exhibit is a matter of personal taste. So the viewer's appreciation should be the first criteria of the exhibitor. However there were many exhibits that could not won a medal. Darwin's theory says "Struggle for existence and survival the fittest". So don't lose heart and prepare for participation in future exhibition.

Here I would like to appeal all the philatelic fraternity to unite for a brighter future of philately that, only philately can survive with a positive thinking and united stand, otherwise "I scratch your back and you scratch mine" will ruin the pleasure. Think about it and let us hope for the best for a better tomorrow.

P MOHANACHANDRAN NAIR, Thiruvananthapuram

I had gone through the article Dipok Dey's 'Why Indian Philately progress slowly & how it could be developed' which need to be discussed among philatelists. I am as a philatelist 100% agreeing with his vision.

It is true that in India, philately is treated as a kid's hobby. No other country is like that. Kids are collecting stamps only up to 9th

standard of their study. After that parents forced them to abandon the hobby to concentrate in their study. This is taking place in India. The postal department comes forward to organize Nehru Stamp Clubs in some schools, only for achieving their budgeted number and for disbursing the allotted fund. Except inaugural function, no other activities are taking place there. I was invited to take a class on philately on the occasion of an inaugural function of Nehru Philatelic Club at Thiruvananthapuram, three years back. On my recent enquiry on that club it is revealed that no other functions were took place thereafter. The department got some PD account on the inaugural day. That's all.

Now a day's philately turned to million rupee hobby and so most of the philatelists are pushed back. As in share trading, philatelists also fear about bullish attacks. So the progress in Indian philately is very slow. Here the postal department's role is only zero. They are only providing finance and UNSKILEED manpower. Proper education has to be given to staff members of the department on philately. Philatelic Advisory Committees organised in National/state level are not functioning well. I think that there is no Philatelic Advisory Committee functioning in Kerala for the last 12 years.

I am sure that Dipok Dey's proposal for a functioning National Philatelic Federation will eliminate these grievance a lot. It should act as an Apex body of all philatelic societies in India. The role of the Federation suggested by him is also welcoming.

I know some collectors, who have not yet participated in any exhibition even though they are having a good collection. By organizing district level societies, we can find out such persons, and give them a hand to come forward.

Thus the scattered philatelists in different parts of the country will come under one umbrella.

Thank you Dipok Dey. Thank you Stamps of India.

ANIL DHIR, Bhubaneswar

It was a pleasure to read the article. Mr. Dey's suggestion should be treated as a clarion call for Indian Philately. The suggestions that been outlined are vital for the survival of the good hobby in India. PCI is a defunct body, its peripatetic geriatric office bearers are clinging on to the little flotsam that is still around. Half of the so called members have abandoned the sinking ship

By now realization should have dawned of the 'D' Company, (or is it the 'P' Company) that they should peter off honorably so that whatever little is left could be salvaged. Or is it that these 'captains' of the sinking vessel want to go down with the ship?

By the way, it is intriguing for all PCI members to know where PCI stands today. Who all are there at the helm? When was the last meeting of the governing body held? What was the outcome and present status of the cases filed in the courts? When are the next elections going to be held?

The task of forming a Federation should be taken up with utmost urgency. In fact philatelists from each state should get about

seriously and chart the future of philately on the lines that have been suggested by Mr. Dey. It may take a year or two, but the outcome will be definitely good. It will give an impetus to the promotion of the hobby, and put us in a better position vis-à-vis other countries.

The Jury selection process too needs to be revamped. India Post should take note of the suggestions that have been put forth by genuine philatelists and not adopt the ostrich like approach that they have had. By relying and promoting only the handful of power hungry pseudo philatelists, they are only causing a lot of harm.

Philatelists should get pro active and start working on this lines. This should be taken up in the club and association levels, and concrete steps taken to ensure that a democratic and transparent body is formed.

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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>

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ADMINISTRIVIA

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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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