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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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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

September ushers in the new season of philatelic activity in the northern hemisphere. We are looking forward to lots of activity in India for in the next 6 months.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Rajesh Paharaia, H P Singh, Nikhil, and Ashish Talwar

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

PHILSENSEX SEPTEMBER 2008

By P R Krishnan [prkrish77@gmail.com](mailto:prkrish77@gmail.com)

I am pleased to provide the Philsensex data for the month of September 2008 for the benefit of collectors, dealers and investors.

Please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/valueindex/200809.htm> for viewing the data.

Stamp Watch

The recent issue of Indian Coast Guard with a printed quantity of .8 million is divided into two parts (1) 4 different sheets of 40 stamps per issue sheet - 10000 sheets per design (2) 5 different sheetlets of 16 stamps each - 20000 sheetlets per design. These sheetlets in my opinion are of the lowest quantity among the sheetlet issued so far. Take extra care for the mixed one - normally philatelic bureau uses these kind of issues (mixed block) to prepare FDC. The Philatelic bureaus normally use around 8 to 10000 FDCs per issue and if the philatelic bureaus continue to do the same using the mixed sheetlet, 2000 sheetlets are gone thus making the total available sheetlets sets to 18000 only!

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RAJA SEETHARAMAN DIES

Raja Seetharaman a young and very active philatelist of Chennai died in tragic circumstances in an accident on September 3, 2008.

Raja Seetharaman was a dynamic personality on the philatelic scene. He collected on various themes, prominently Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Nehru, Queen Elizabeth, Lady Diana and Mother Teresa. He was also a noted numismatist and notaphilatelist. His other collecting interests included Local Newspapers and Unusual Wedding Cards among many others. He was instrumental in organizing the Madras Day functions, and in bringing out the exquisitely designed Madras Day covers. He was working on a book on coins, stamps and currencies to be published for U G college students. Philatelic community in Chennai will be missing his ever-helping and enthusiastic nature.

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Sep 15: Sardar Patel National Police Academy

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:

National Tobacco Control Program, English, - 5 different
AIDS, Telugu, - 3 different
Malaria, Telugu
Tamil Nadu Power Finance, English

The grand total till date is now 659, with 128 added this year.

The complete illustrated listing 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

May 30: Indian Naval Ship Beas & The Grenadiers

Aug 01: Bangalore, "Bangalore Karga"

For an illustrated list of Special Postmarks & Covers in 2008, visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/2008pm.htm>

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

Army Postal Service issued following 2 Special Covers in July 2008:

Jul 01: 'Chetak Philex' Philatelic Exhibition, HQ 10 Corps

Jul 15: 41 Field Regiment Diamond Jubilee

For an illustrated list of Army Postal Service Issues in 2008, visit

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

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STAMP PACKS

India Post brought out a stamps pack for Bismillah Khan issue of August 21, 2008. Priced at Rs 30 the pack contains a FDC with Brochure.

The poster of the Olympic Games issue of August 8, 2008 publicizes a pack for this issue as well. The production of this pack is delayed and it will take some time before it is available on sale at the philatelic bureaus.

For an illustrated list of packs in 2008, please visit

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

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RAKHI ENVELOPES

Continuing the tradition, Rajasthan Circle of India Post brought out an exclusive design of Rakhi envelope this year too. It carries the advertisement of its sponsor, Vodaphone.

For an illustrated list of Rakhi envelope, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pss/rakhi.htm>

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NEW MAXCARDS

Hemant Kumar Jain [hemantkumar.jn@gmail.com](mailto:hemantkumar.jn@gmail.com), a philatelist from Jabalpur has created following maxim cards:

Apr 21: Civil Service  
May 20: Sai Baba, 2 different cards  
Aug 2: Aldabra Giant Tortoise, 10 different cards  
Aug 21: Bismillah Khan, 2 different cards

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

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ALDABRA GIANT TORTOISE MINIATURE SHEET

The miniature sheet of Aldabra Giant Tortoise is delayed in production at the India Security Press, Nasik. However it is not abandoned and shall soon be released.

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RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

PHILANEWS, Whole #39, May Jun 2008, Bimonthly  
PHILANEWS, Whole #40, Jul Aug 2008, Bimonthly  
Editor: Rajesh Paharia [shreeshell@hotmail.com](mailto:shreeshell@hotmail.com)  
Publisher: Philatelic Society of Rajasthan, Jaipur  
Annual Subscription: Rs 200

VADOPHIL, Whole #115, Jul 2008, Quarterly  
Editors: Prashant H Pandya [vadophil@indianphilately.net](mailto:vadophil@indianphilately.net) and  
Timir R Shah [trs\\_shah@rediffmail.net](mailto:trs_shah@rediffmail.net)  
Publisher: Baroda Philatelic Society, Vadodara  
Annual Subscription (including membership): Rs 100

RAINBOW STAMP NEWS, Whole #9, September 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/>

For a list currently published Indian philatelic periodicals, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/a602.htm>

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sep 12-14: Mysore, Coin & Stamps Show
Sep 21-23: Indore, Numismatic Exhibition
Oct 13-15: Rajkot, Numismatic Exhibition
Oct 17-19: Bangalore, Philatelic Exhibition

Nov 7-9: Mumbai, Numismatic Exhibition

Nov 21-23: Thrissur, Philatelic Exhibition, THRISSURPEX-2008
Participation: Open to Kerala State, 100 Frames
Organizer: Philatelic Club Thrissur, part of their 30 year celebrations
Venue: Pandy Samootha Madhom, Thrissur
Dealers Booth: Rs 3,000 (limited to 15 dealers only)
Philatelic issues: 1 Special postmark Mahatma Gandhi theme
Contact: philatelicclubthrissur@rediffmail.com

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>

SOUTH ASIA NEW ISSUES

Bangladesh

Jul 29: Stamps Day, Souvenir sheet, TK 50

Sri Lanka

Apr 30: Proto-Historic Era & Early Anuradhapura Era, Set of 6 stamps, Rs 5, 10, 12, 15, 30, & 40

Jul 23: Games of the XXIX Olympiad-Beijing 2008, Set of 4 stamps, Rs 5, 25, 40, & 45

http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south_asia_new_issues.htm

THE CALENDAR OF WORLDWIDE PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

The Calendar for September 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.

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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]
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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

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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.>

HEMANT V KULKARNI, Milwaukee, USA

If not for your fine newsletter, I would have been in the dark about India's commemorative stamp issues. Indeed, I do receive a variety of airmail letters, packages and magazines from India (sometimes just the wrappers with contents missing) but seldom do I find 'eye catching' usage of artistic stamps on them. To put it bluntly, most have been unicolor (or bicolor at the most) and as if Indians are not permitted to use stamps beyond certain types that must have been printed in billions -not deserving an honorable mention of the picture they depict.

I often wonder if the local recipients of mail in India get to see actual freshly released stamps of Rs. 5.00 denomination on their incoming mail (our US equivalent cost of \$ 0.43 for a similar service is equivalent to Rs. 18.50). Also, the amount it costs to airmail an overseas letter from India -which is only Rs. 15.00 (against US \$ 0.93 -equivalent of nearly Rs. 40.00 for a similar service from this end) is an outstanding value. In short, friends have you realized what a bargain you've been receiving from the Indian postal service (IPS)? In that regard, I salute the IPS and thus my above comment can be forgiven or ignored (or should it really be?).

Other than the criticism I constantly get to read from your reader base about India's inept philatelic bureau operations, I believe that not taking pride in designing its stamps must be the strongest & ugliest reason to 'put off' stamp collecting incentive amongst India's youth. I bet, stamps that are printed in lavish colors and designs must be printed in short numbers due to the higher costs involved -causing a limited supply of their availability and if true, this has to change for the sake stamp collecting hobby promotion in India.

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

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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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