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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----  
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India  
Issue # 377 - January 22, 2009. Published Every Thursday  
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

We are looking forward to the first national Festival of Stamps at Ahmedabad on January 30, 31 & February 1, 2009. We expect to see lots of philatelists from all over the country converging there. The organizers - Gujarat Philatelists Association, has chalked out an interesting program that has something for everyone. We urge you to visit and avail this wonderful opportunity.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Kalyan Negal, Jaydev Nansey,

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

STAMP POPULARITY POLL

Stamps of India now present the Stamp Poll 2008 to select the best stamp of 2008, best miniature sheet of 2008, and best sheetlet of 2008. The results shall be announced based on the most number of votes polled. You can send as many ballots as you wish.

Please select from the issues of 2008 as shown at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2008stamps.htm> and vote for the best stamp, miniature sheet, and sheetlet of 2008 in your opinion. Also write your name, City, email id, and philatelic interests on the ballot and email your ballots to: [stamppoll@stampsofindia.com](mailto:stamppoll@stampsofindia.com)

The last date to receive the ballots at Stamps of India is January 28, 2009. Incomplete ballots shall not be considered. The results will be announced in the Issue #378 of January 29, 2009.

Several attractive philatelic prizes will be given away. The winners will be decided by draw of lots.

Aries Stamps and Collectibles of Gurgaon has sponsored the First Prize - complete set of stamps of 2008.

We welcome the sponsors for more prizes, please contact [admin@stampsofindia.com](mailto:admin@stampsofindia.com) in this regard.

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PHILSENSEX JANUARY 2009

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

I am pleased to provide the Philsensex data of India mint stamps and miniature sheets for the month of January 2009 for the benefit of collectors, dealers and investors.

I regret for not been able to provide the data for December 2008.

Please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/valueindex/200901.htm> for viewing the data.

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FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

Jan 25: Saint Paul's Church, Rs 5

Jan 27: INTACH Heritage Centers, 4 Stamps x Rs 5 +Miniature Sheet, Jaisalmer Fort, Qila Mubarak Patiala, Manyu Monasteries Ladakh, Saint Anne's Church Goa

Jan 31: Bishnu Prasad Rabha, Rs 5

Jan ?: Spices of India, Set of 5 Stamps + Miniature Sheet, Black Pepper Rs 5, Cinnamon Rs 5, Clove Rs 5, Cardamom Rs 5, Turmeric Coriander & Chilly Rs 20

Feb 3: Steel Authority of India SAIL  
Feb 4: Girl Child Day  
Feb 5: Postal Life Insurance  
Feb 8: Santaji Jagnade  
Feb 9: Mahakavi Magh  
Feb 19: K K Birla, Rs 5

Mar 01: 10th Definitive Series - Builders of Modern India, 9 stamps,  
Re 0.50 - K Kamraj  
Re 1 - Mahatma Gandhi,  
Rs 2 - B R Ambedkar,  
Rs 3 - Satyajit Ray,  
Rs 4 - Homi Bhabha,  
Rs 10 - Periyar E V Ramaswamy Naicker  
Rs 15 - J R D Tata  
Rs 20 - Mother Teresa  
Rs 50 - Rukmini Devi Arundale

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/2009stamps.htm>

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**NEW STAMPS RELEASED**

India Post released a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on Vaikom Muhammad Basheer, the noted Malayalam novelist and short story writer on January 21, 2009 on the occasion of his birth centenary.

Alka Sharma designed the Stamp, 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 0.4 million stamp by wet offset.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2009, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2009stamps.htm>

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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 2009, visit <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2009PC.htm>

For an illustrated list of Aerogramme & Inland Letter in 2009, visit <http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2009ILC.htm>

For an illustrated list of all kinds of Envelopes in 2009, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2009EN.htm>

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BROCHURE IN BRAILLE

India Post brought out a brochure in Braille for Louis Braille stamp issue of January 4, 2009. This priced at Rs 10 and shall soon be available at philatelic bureaus.

For an illustrated list of brochures in 2009, visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/brochure/2009brochure.htm>

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NEW ISSUES AVAILABILITY STATUS

The following stamps are now available on sale at the philatelic bureau at New Delhi:

Nov 14: Children's Day - all 3 stamps  
Nov 16: B N Reddi

The following Miniature Sheets are now available:

Nov 27: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy

The First Day Covers for these issues are now available:

Dec 31: Rani Velu Nachchiyar

The Brochures for these issues are now available:

Dec 15: Swami Ranganathananda  
Dec 16: Field Marshal Manekshaw  
Dec 31: Rani Velu Nachchiyar

The following Miniature Sheets are still awaited:

Aug 02: Aldabra Giant Tortoise  
Nov 14: Children's Day

The First Day Covers for these issues are still awaited:

Jan 21: Vaikom Muhammad Basheer

The Brochures for these issues are still awaited:

Jan 21: Vaikom Muhammad Basheer

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Jan 20: Mumbai, Indian Naval Ship Trishul & Jat Regiment

For an illustrated list of Special Postmarks & Covers in 2009, visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/2009pm.htm>

For an illustrated list of Army Postal Service Issues in 2009, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/aps/2009aps.htm>

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STAMP PACKS

Following Packs have recently been issued

Nov 16, 2008  
Saint Alphonsa  
Content: MS, FDC  
India Post, Rs 100

Nov 16, 2008

Saint Alphonsa  
Content: Stamp, MS  
Rs  
Quantity Printed: 150

Dec 16, 2008  
Field Marshal Manekshaw  
Content: Block of 4 stamps, FDC,  
India Post, Rs 75

Dec 22, 2008  
BrahMos Cruise Missile  
Content: Miniature Sheet, FDC,  
India Post, Rs 100

For an illustrated list of stamp packs issued in 2008, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/packs/2008packs-sets.htm>

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NEW MAXCARD

Orissa Philatelic Association released one Maxim Card on Louis Braille's Birth bicentenary. The card depicts the sculpture of Louis Braille with a blind boy. "Braille: A Boon for blinds" has been written on the card in Braille transcription by the blind boys at the transcription unit of Orissa Association for blinds. The design and concept of the card was given by Pradip Mohanty. Total no of cards is 200. The cost of maxim card is Rs.50.00 + postage. The sale proceed of this card will be donated for the cause of blinds. Please contact Pradip Mohanty, Hon Secretary, Orissa Philatelic Association, [oripphil@gmail.com](mailto:oripphil@gmail.com), [mohantypradip@hotmail.com](mailto:mohantypradip@hotmail.com) 09861032965(mobile)

For illustrated list of Maxcards in 2009, visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2009mc.htm>

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PHILATELIC PROFILE ON ORKUT

Deepak Modi from Jalna, Maharashta have created a Philatelic Profile on social networking and discussion site Orkut which is operated by Google. The profile contains 35 Photo Albums also carry 172 stamp collectors as friends, 83 Philately based Communities, 146 different photos of Philatelic Exhibition Publications includes Publications from District, State, National, Asian, World exhibitions, e Philatelic Products from India, stamps from the collection snaps and lots of other such interesting and informative material on the profile. So Philatelist and stamp enthusiastic who have Orkut profile can join by clicking on the following link and others may have a look on the same:  
<http://www.orkut.co.in/Main#Profile.aspx?rl=mp&uid=2130311454836300602>

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RIGHT TO INFORMATION

We reproduce a letter from Jigar Desai seeking information under Right to Information Act and the response from India Post.

From  
Jigar J Desai  
C/o J. K. Industries  
Gala No.8  
Damji Shamji Industrial Complex  
9 L. B. S. Marg  
Kurla (W) Mumbai 70.

Email: jigarjdesai1977@gmail.com

To,  
DDG Philately  
Dak Bhavan, Sansad Marg  
New Delhi 110001.

RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT

Dear Sir

This is Jigar Desai from Mumbai. I a collector n I would like to know under "RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT" why stamps from 14th NOV 2008 released on Children's Day till date 27th NOV Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy are not available at philatelic bureau all over india.  
14th nov Children's day  
16th nov Reddi  
16th nov Alphonsa  
17th nov Standard chartard bank  
19th nov GAIL India  
20th nov Joachim & Violet alva  
27th nov Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy.

I do not understand why Childrens Day stamp is delayed in reaching philatelic bureaus across india and mumbai philatelic bureau. As it is a confirm issue every year n there is no delay till 2 years ago. Why this year still till date (29th NOV 2008) stamps of 14th nov 2008 has not reached mumbai philatelic bureau.

So under "RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT" I would like to know following...  
1) When was order given to Hyderabad Printing Press to print the stamp.  
2) What is today's (29th nov 2008) position of printing of stamps.  
3) By when it will reach Mumbai Philatelic Bureau for sale on Counter.

Waiting for your reply at earliest.  
Thanking you very much.  
Sincerely Yours  
JIGAR J DESAI  
IPO Attached to Letter for RTI Fees: 74E 668096.

Registered  
No. 36-38/2008-Phil.  
Ministry of Communication & IT  
Department of Posts  
Dak Bhawan , Sansad Marg  
New Delhi 110001

Dated : 2 - 1 - 2009

To,  
Shri Jigar J Desai  
C/o J.K.Industries  
Gala No. 8  
Damji Shamji Industrial Complex  
9 L.B.S.Marg  
Kurla(W) Mumbai 400070.

Maharashtra

Sub : Request for information under RTI ACT 2005 regarding non-availability of postage stamps at Philatelic sale counters.

Sir ,

Kindly refer to your application - dated 3.12.2008 , on the subject mentioned above. The information sought for vide your above letter is furnished as under :-

S.No. Name of Stamp, Date of release of Stamp, Date of final order for printing, Government Printing Press

1. Children's Day, 14.11.2008, 3.11.2008, Hyderabad
2. B.N.Reddi, 16.11.2008, ¼.11.2008, Hyderabad
3. St.Alphonsa, 16.11.2008, ¼ .11.2008, Hyderabad
4. Standard Chartered Bank, 17.11.2008, 14.11.2008, Hyderabad
5. GAIL India, 19.11.2008, 5.11.2008, Nasik Road
6. Joachim & Violet Alva, 20.11.2008, 14.11.2008, Hyderabad
7. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy, 27.11.2008, 19.9.2008, Hyderabad

(2) & (3) The position regarding printing of stamps and non-availability of stamps in Philatelic Bureaus in Maharashtra Circle is being ascertained from Government Printing Presses , Hyderabad an Nasik Road separately.

Your's Faithfully  
(Manju Kumar)  
Director (Philately)

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WORLD WAR I & II AND INDIAN CONNECTION

Jyotirmay Bareria have started a blog on above subject at <http://stampomania.blogspot.com/> . The focus of blog is on India although items issued by Allies countries or Germany/Japan etc having an Indian involvement or connection are also included.

Bareria hopes to gain knowledge and invite guidance and corrections if any from experts in different areas of philately through their comments.

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INDIAN EXHIBITS FOR CHINA 2009

Dr Sita Bhateja, India's National Commissioner, informs that the following exhibits are accepted at the CHINA 2009 World Stamp Exhibition being held at Luoyang from April 10 to 16, 2009.

Ramalinglishwar Rao's Railways  
Santosh's The Lord of the Jungle  
Gautham's Cycling  
Mrinal's Cars on Stamps  
Nikhil's Mahathma Gandhi  
Dherat Chaijanya's Means of Transport  
Chitranjie's Transportation

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CALENDARS 2009

Delhi Circle of India Post has published a six sheet desktop calendar of 2009 featuring miniature sheets. Priced at Rs 34 the calendar is available at the philatelic bureau at New Delhi.

## RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### JAMPEX 2008

The first Jamnagar District Level Philatelic Exhibition was organized by Department of Posts, Gujarat Circle, Rajkot Region on January 9-10, 2009 at Jamnagar. Salim Durrani, Former International Test Cricketer inaugurated the exhibition. The logo of the exhibition depicts the statue of Jam Shri Raval, the founder of the erstwhile princely state of Nawanagar. On the first day B Sarangi, Director Postal Services, Rajkot Region released special cover and postmark on Ajitsinhji Cricket Pavilion Centenary Year and Corals.

The first albums were presented to the sponsors of the covers Jaydev Nansey, CE - Convener of Nawanagar Philatelic Society and Air Commde (R'td) S Tyagi - Co convener INTACH, Jamnagar. On the second day two special covers and cancellations were released to mark the 75th Anniversary of Jamnagar Chamber of Commerce and Industries and Khijadia Bird Sanctuary. Carried covers were taken by the DPS, Rajkot. Information on the covers can be had from [carriedcovers@yahoo.in](mailto:carriedcovers@yahoo.in).

The exhibition was organized in the Town Hall, Jamnagar. A total of sixty frames were on display of which thirty frames were in the senior and nine frames were in the junior categories. Gold, silver and bronze medals in senior and junior category were awarded along with special jury consolation prizes. Jury consisted of DPS, Rajkot as the Chairman with H C Mehta as a Jury Member and Y R Kapoor as the Apprentice Jury. A philatelic quiz and essay competition was organized for school students during the exhibition. A souvenir was also released on the occasion. The members of Nawanagar Philately society provided with support and technical assistance related to philately and organizing the exhibition to D S Solanki, SPO, Jamnagar Division for making the program a success. This district level exhibition was a unique achievement for Jamnagar as this was the first district level exhibition to be organized by the Department. Members of Nawanagar Philatelic Society, literary personalities, sportsmen, conservationists, eminent citizens and school students attended various programs held as part of JAMPEX 2008.

Jan 24-26: Nagpur, Coins exhibition

Organizers: Numismatic Research Institute

Dealers Booth: Rs 5000 2 tables 3 chairs + tea & lunch for 2

Contact: Avinash T Ramteke 0 98230 22662, Piyush Agrawal 0 93255 68570

Jan 30-Feb 1: Ahmedabad, Festival of Stamps

Organizer: Gujarat Philatelists' Association

Venue: Srimati Sushilaben Ratilal Hall, opposite Choice Restaurant, C G Road, near Swastik Crossroads, Ahmedabad 380009

Dealers Booth: Ground Floor Rs 7000, First Floor Rs 4000, inclusive of lunch and tea for 2 persons for 3 days

Contact: Anil Choksi, Treasurer GPA, 0 99257 03513 or 079 2656 4923

Feb 27-28: New Delhi, Coins, Numismatic Exhibition

Organizer: Delhi Coin Society

Venue: Bapu Samaj Seva Kendra, Panchkunjian Road,

Contact: Goga Jain 0 93123 18401

For a list of exhibitions in 2008, please visit



<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events2009.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

This is fully revamped with major updates and all countries in the region have their own pages now.

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

#### STAMPS ON INDIA - MANMOHAN SINGH CORRIGENDA

In the Issue #376 of January 15, 2009 we reported on the Bhutan's issue on December 17, 2008 featuring Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister of India.

Contrary to what was reported erroneously this is not the First stamp featuring Manmohan Singh who has earlier appeared on a stamp issued by Uzbekistan on August 25, 2006 to commemorate the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence. We now have this issue also uploaded.

For image, please visit

<http://www.stampsonindia.com/nir002.htm>

#### ADVERTISEMENTS

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

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)

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.>

##### C D SINGH

Of the many special cachets issued by philatelic bureaus and post offices, I have one without the date in the cachet. Are there any earlier examples? What is there worth?

Can any philatelist find out why there was no issue of a postal stamp on 300 years of grant of Guruship to the Granth Sahib, which is revered by millions of Sikhs, Sindhis, & Hindus, with verses of saints from 1200 A D?

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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

'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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