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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

We will be in Mumbai for the release of "Collectors Guide to First Day Covers & Folders of India 1947-1964 Official & Private" on April 23, 2010 and look forward to meeting our friends there.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue:

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, philatelic 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 26: Sant Kanwar Ram Sahib (Rescheduled from Apr 13)

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 at nearly 1000 selected Post Offices including all Philatelic Bureaus and Philatelic Counters in India.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2010, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2010stamps.htm>

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

Mohammad Hamid Ansari, Vice President of India, released a postage stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 each on former prime minister of India and founder of the Samajwadi Party, Chandra Shekahr on April 17, 2010 at New Delhi.

Brham Prakash designed the Stamp, and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs 2 each. India Security Press, Nasik printed 0.4 million stamps each by photogravure process.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2010, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2010stamps.htm>

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NEW ISSUES AVAILABILITY STATUS

ARRIVED

2010 Apr 14: Astrological Signs, Miniature Sheet

AWAITED

2008 Aug 02: Aldabra Giant Tortoise, Miniature Sheet

2009 Oct 14: Heritage Temples, Miniature Sheet

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

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

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>

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NEW SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Tiruchirappalli: Holistic Mediscan Silver Jubilee

For an illustrated list of Special Postmarks & Covers in 2010, visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/2009pm.htm>

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

The Army Postal Service issued 14 special covers and postmarks in February 2010 as follows:

Feb 04: Artillery Regiment 12th Reunion Deolali
Feb 05: 126 Infantry Battalion Jammu & Kashmir Rifles Golden Jubilee
Feb 06: 23 Mechanized Infantry (Recce & Support) Wheeled Silver Jubilee
Feb 11: 18th Battalion Brigade of the Guards Silver Jubilee
Feb 11: 19th Battalion Jammu & Kashmir Rifles Silver Jubilee
Feb 11: 21st Battalion The Grenadiers Silver Jubilee
Feb 11: 18th Battalion Garhwal Rifles Silver Jubilee
Feb 11: 21st Battalion Parachute Regiment (Special Forces) Silver Jubilee
Feb 11: 12th Battalion Assam Regiment Silver Jubilee
Feb 11: 13th Battalion Sikh regiment Silver Jubilee
Feb 11: 20th Battalion Jat Regiment Silver Jubilee
Feb 18: 19th Battalion Dogra Regiment Silver Jubilee
Feb 20: 142 Air Defence Regiment Silver Jubilee
Feb 20: 511 Air Defence Missile Regiment (Self Propelled, Composite) Silver Jub

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

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FORGERIES & FRAUDS ALERTS

If you detect forgeries and frauds of Indian philatelic items, please inform to [suspect@stampsfindia.com](mailto:suspect@stampsfindia.com). The names of volunteers and contributors will not be published, if so desired.

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AUCTION ACTION

Murray Payne Ltd www.murraypayne.com informs that due to the continuing problems with European airspace, their Auction 6 deadline has been extended to midday Tuesday April 27, 2010. Those who have sent bids from overseas by post, should confirm by e-mail (info@murraypayne.com) or by fax to +44 1934 733498.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Apr 22: Mumbai, Coins & Stamps Show  
Organizer: Oswal auctions  
Venue: Tejpal Galleries, Gowalia Hall, Mumbai  
Contact: Girish Veera 09820010483

Apr 23-25: Mumbai, Coins & Stamps Show  
Organizer: Todywalla auctions  
Venue: Tejpal Hall, Gowalia Hall, Mumbai  
Dealers Booth: Rs 5,500  
Contacts: Farokh Todywalla 09820054404 Malcom Todywalla 09820213620

May 7-9: Ludhiana, Stamp-Fiesta 2010 Stamp Festival of Punjab  
Organizer: Ludhiana Philatelic Club  
Online: <http://stampfiesta2010.wordpress.com/>  
Contacts:  
Chairman Dr S K Sondhi 9815657647, [info.sf2010@gmail.com](mailto:info.sf2010@gmail.com), [sksondhil@gmail.com](mailto:sksondhil@gmail.com)  
Secretary Mukesh Malhotra 9023084608, 9417349808, [secretary.sf2010@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.sf2010@gmail.com)  
[mukeshlibra@yahoo.co.in](mailto:mukeshlibra@yahoo.co.in)

Dec 10-12: New Delhi, STAMPS OF INDIA NATIONAL EXHIBITION  
Organizer: Bharatiya Daktkit Sangstha, Kolkata

Venue: NSIC Exhibition Ground, New Delhi  
Contacts: Ashish Talwar 09810186108, Madhukar Jhingan 09350537037  
Email: [sine@stampsofindia.com](mailto:sine@stampsofindia.com)  
Website: <http://www.stampsofindia.com/ChaloDelhi/sine.html>

For a list of exhibitions in 2010, 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

[http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south asia new issues.htm](http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/south%20asia%20new%20issues.htm)

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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.>

NARESH AGRAWAL, Bilaspur

The news regarding Markand Dave's trap by customs and judicial custody is stunning. The points raised by you are certainly important. Philatelic community should come forward to help him in whatever way it can be done. Kindly keep updating.

P R KRISHNAN, Coimbatore

It is really very unfortunate that Mr. Markand Dave has been detained by the Indian Customs for violating the provisions of The Indian Antiquities and Art Treasures Act 1972 at the Ahmedabad International Airport. I sincerely feel sorry for him for the hardship he is/will be going through due to the above. Though, it is offence under the law, still people in India are trading items falling under the above act in e-bay, Delcampe auctions etc - how the Indian Government officials are going to stop this ????????

The shocking statement that someone has tipped Customs about Mr. Dave's movements with the philatelic items "may be his business rivals" pains further. The person whoever has done this damage might feel happy that he set score with his rival, but the damage done to Indian philately by his act will be irreparable.

For the last few years the Indian philately is looking up and the foreign collectors showing keen interest to acquire Indian material from India as well as from other parts of the world. Now most of the stamp dealers in the world dealing in Indian material are feeling the shortage of material availability and unable to satisfy their clients. At this stage, an act of this nature by a fellow philatelists/ dealer will hurt everyone and the collectors overseas will shy away from Indian material. Our country with over 1000 million population don't even have 25000 organized stamp collectors and

still philately in India is at the infant stage! Do we need this kind of rivalry when we are trying to establish our mark in world philately? Do we need this kind of an act by Government of India when a World Stamp Exhibition is round the corner? Which foreign dealer will have the guts to bring Indian material during the exhibition vis a vis who will take the Indian material out of India? Who will be the losers?

Now, the need of the hour is a powerful/strong forum consisting of philatelists must represent to Government of India and explain the fact to the Government to delist "stamps, stamp related materials" from the list - since stamp is not an antique item. The Chambers 21st Century Dictionary means for ANTIQUE: A piece of furniture, china etc which is old and often valuable and is sought after by collectors, Ancient classical art especially sculpture from Greek and Roman times, which has been a source of motifs and a model for style for artists since the Renaissance. Moreover the stamps are not made by a artist, it is printed by the postal authorities for collecting the tax and printed in large quantities - when more than one piece is available how an item can be called as antique?

I hope a quick relief must be sought from the government to end these kind of painful episodes to the philatelic community. Thanks

HEMANT V KULKARNI, USA

There has been a pictorial example of a German cancellation on a cover (Ketan Patel, Campaigns #430 & 431) where he has questioned its authenticity. Christian Sperber (Germany, Campaign #432) has correctly expressed that the cancellation used seems like a rubber stamp with a valid example (on his blog) of cancellation mark through its picture.

First and foremost, how would a letter bearing a lone Indian stamp for postage can get cancelled from a German post office? Thus, finding such a fraudulent cover should be ignored as a 'no brainer'. To make this matter worse, Patel has gone further to take a shot at Apple Computer's iconic campaign of the past, namely, 'Think Different' theme. It's in relation to Apple's new iPad release with Patel creating his own US cover (it must be a CARD) bearing stamps that should have been worth 43 cents and not adding to 24 cents for a total he has glued (ironically he has made an issue of the value of Indian stamp that was used in his 'Rubber Stamp' criticism) and authenticated it by highlighting related USPS cancellation -in the process hinting further that 'Apple did not know how large in life Gandhi was' than what Apple advertising arm thought of him. I don't know if Patel meant his own CREATION (?) of the Gandhi cover a joke or an accomplishment but if he may be under an impression that it be considered an example of creativity, I can't help but state: his attempt has been laughable and it has zero Philatelic value. Moreover, he could have at least glued those nice US definitive stamps (including of Mahatma) rather articulately in a STRAIGHT LINE before getting them 'hand-cancelled' at his local US post office (which normally does not do such favors unless the cover is addressed to someone and submitted for mailing but then Indians can accomplish unthinkable when creating their own covers and special cancellations to boot). Had he done that, a reader like me would have derived some pleasure from the cover's decent look, if anything else. I would not have gone out of the way to make these remarks -had he not invited reader reaction to his achievement on the blog. Also, what he has managed to print on the Gandhi cover makes very little sense. Add to that, his formal 'courtesy' mention to Apple while criticizing this great company for its 'logo' (?) of the past, claiming Apple has not understood the greatness of Mahatma. It reflects sheer arrogance on

Patel's part. There should be a limit to how far an Indian should go to put someone on a high pedestal in relation to a successful corporate entity of a different nation that entire world admires for its creative skills and promotions. Let's not compare apples and oranges -they both taste great!

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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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