

Stamps of India Collectors Companion

The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India

March 10, 2011 | Published Every Thursday | Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan | 461

[Back Issues](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Write back](#)

In This Issue

Premature Release: National Mathematics Day Stamp
Christoph Gaertner India Super Sale
Forthcoming Stamp Issues
New Issues Availability Status
INDIPEX 2011 - An Independent Assessment
New Special Postmarks & Covers
Stanley Gibbons India Catalog
Auction Action
Jainism Philately Group Formed
Recent & Forthcoming Events
News of the World: Mauritius. Meeting of the Queens in Berlin
Readers Forum: Jeevan Jyoti, Umesh Kakkeri

Jhingans Jottings

Hi

Another installment of reports on INDIPEX 2011 is here. More reports will continue to appear in forthcoming issues with your inputs.

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](#)

Premature Release: National Mathematics Day Stamp

The website of India Post lists as "withheld" the stamp scheduled for release on December 22, 2010 on the National Mathematics Day on their page Stamp Issue Program for 2010 at the following link <http://www.indiapost.gov.in/netscape/philatelycalendar2010.htm>

The stamp, as usual, was withdrawn at the last minute resulting in several philatelic bureaus reportedly selling it in normal course of business.

December 22 is the birthday of Srinivasa Ramanujan, an all-time great mathematical genius. However we have been unable to find any reference of this being declared or observed as National Mathematics Day.

An image of the stamp has now been uploaded on the home page of www.stampsofindia.com

Christoph Gaertner India Super Sale

The 17th International Public Auction of Auktionshaus Christoph Gaertner is being held from March 7 to 12, 2011 in Bietigheim-Bissingen, Germany. The sale of over 25,000 lots is covered in 7 catalogues, as follows:

INDIA & INDIAN STATES catalogue offering about 1,650 lots with top-class, unique and rare items from a specialized collection.

ASIA Specialized catalogue with many exotic and unusual items on sale. Choose from more than 3,000 single lots and several hundred collections. This has over 500 lots of India and Indian States.

Volume 1 OVERSEAS + THEMATICS (1,826 + 709 lots)

Volume 2 EUROPE (,.746 lots)

Volume 3 GERMANY (4,922 lots)

Volume 4 COLLECTIONS (7,000 lots)

INTERNATIONAL RARITIES

LIVE AUCTION Only for India & Indian States

Register now for the Gartner Live-Auction at www.philasearch.com to bid live via internet.

The catalogues of the sale are available online at <http://www.auktionen-gaertner.de/> and www.stampsofindia.com.

Stamps of India is also distributing the catalogues in India. Rush your request now for the catalogue/s to: mj@stampsofindia.com with your name, postal address, and collecting interests.

Forthcoming Stamp Issues

Mar 23: Subhadra Joshi

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.

Now days, issues are scheduled and rescheduled for release at very short notice say couple of 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 as soon as it becomes available.

ILLUSTRATED LISTS <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2011stamps.htm>

New Issues Availability Status

AWAITED

2008: Aldabra Giant Tortoise, Miniature Sheet

2009: Heritage Jain Temples, Miniature Sheet

INDIPEX 2011 - An Independent Assessment

At INDIPEX 2011, India Post brought in workers and Director level officers from all over India which was a welcome revival of a great idea prevalent in all early national and international exhibitions organized by India Post. This not only exposes the postal officials to the world of philately but is excellent learning opportunity for them to be better equipped for future philatelic events and services. If utilized properly this will work for qualitative improvement of philatelic service on all India basis.

For the first time an outside event management company was hired. However neither the postal officials nor the event managers knew what to do as this was the first time for both. Somebody who could advise and guide the operations was missing. The top rung of the management was bereft of any philatelic knowledge as well as knowledge of conducting International Level event hence the entire organizing was rudderless and misguided by petty vested interests.

The website for some not yet known reasons was not being updated regularly and is plagued with poor navigation. The list of participating dealers and postal administrations was uploaded few days before the opening of the show. While the emails for Commissioners were not uploaded, the complete contact details of the Jury were provided. There was a mismatch between some of the names and photos of Commissioners and Jury. In another case the name of the Father of the winner was incorrect!

Dilip Shah, a person whose passport was impounded and who is charged with smuggling philatelic antiquities by the Government of India was found sharing the dais with the India's First Citizen, which not only reflects prevalent corruption all around but also the reach and influence of mercenary middleman in India Post.

The Organizing and other committees of INDIPEX 2011 also included several persons who are either convicted, or facing serious criminal charges, or pursuing legal proceedings against India Post, or are vendors to India Post.

Many of the committees never met even once, wonder what was the secret agenda behind forming these?

The entire opening ceremony seemed to be comedy of errors where even the President of India was addressed as Patel instead of Patil. The speeches of various dignitaries included the same matter but the facts did not agree with each other. It would be appropriate for the so called official speech writers not only to compare their facts but also not to be repetitive.

It is a mystery to whom the thousands of the invitation cards of the opening ceremony, hundreds of the cards of official reception, and 27,000 free passes were distributed. The invitation cards of the opening ceremony were received only by a miniscule number of the exhibitors to whom this and 2 passes for entry to the exhibition on all days were promised in Bulletin 1.

The promised Catalog of Exhibits was put on sale at India Post Booth late on the second day at Rs 250 each and were given to booth holders and exhibitors only on the last day after the show was over after most of them had paid money to buy them.

The booth holders were outright cheated by the INDIPEX 2011 team that did unashamedly renege on several of their commitments such as giving 2 instead of 3 entry passes per booth promised in Bulletin 1, no invitations to official reception of INDIPEX 2011, no invitations to trip to Agra as promised on the official website, and no help in clearing consignments from customs. In an unprecedented move their names weren't even listed in the INDIPEX 2011 Catalog!

There were serious problems in clearing exhibits and stocks of dealers and postal administrations from the customs and several exhibits were put up days later.

The numbers of frames available were less than the required, and then some frames were not in working condition. These are newly made frames in steel with acrylic sheets built by a prominent steel manufacturer.

Sadly, at least eight of the literature exhibits were lost either in Bin Room, Jury Room or in between. Some exhibitors who were present at the show, such as Stanley Gibbons, managed to give again copies of the relevant literature for their entry, from their stand stock!

The loss of exhibits particularly in the literature class has been a regular feature of world philatelic exhibitions in last two decades and is well documented. It is now time that the International Philatelic Federation (FIP) begin entering lost exhibits as lost and not as Absent in the Award List.

Perhaps the most unfortunate event of the entire show is the loss of one whole frame of an exhibit from United Arab Emirates after it was duly submitted to the INDIPEX 2011 Bin Room by the UAE's National Commissioner. Further, to add insult to injury and utter shock to the exhibitor, UAE national commissioner, and UAE Philatelic Federation, the exhibit was also marked as absent in the award List.

India Post also brought out coffee mugs, bags, ties, and scarves exorbitantly priced at Rs 270, 715, 1020, and 1700 each. This is similar to the recent trend of the issue of obscenely priced presentation packs that gives an opportunity to make tax-free money for postal officials, printer/supplier, and the touts.

The Philatelic Passport was another case of high priced merchandise at Rs 100. In most international exhibitions it is nominally priced and some even provide it free of charge. And it carries at least host country page with a stamp and special postmark to encourage the buyers to go on which was not the case at INDIPEX 2011. All the postal administrations whose pages were in the passport were not at the show and several postal administrations who were at the show were not shown in the passport.

Special covers were not available the first few days and no one, neither philatelists nor the postal workers, knew which postmark will go on which cover.

The quality of printing on the personalized portion of My Stamp was uniformly very poor. To begin with the pictures taken are bad, the colors appear dark due to bad lighting and untrained persons taking them, and the images are not placed correctly and neatly in the place marked for them on the sheetlet. Some of the sheetlets supplied are crumpled, and dirty. There is no provision of replacement of defective sheetlets.

India Post sanctioned INDIPEX 2011 Official Show Daily, on what basis only they are aware of it, this gave a license to make money by printing photos of people and products for a fee only because it was projected as the official show daily.

Don't know when India Post would be able to apply the learning from this show as it is unlikely that the next International would take place anywhere in the near future. By then the officers who have worked in this show will either be superannuated, posted elsewhere, or simply not be interested in involving themselves in the exhibition as has been the case all along in the past.

(The contents of reports and editorials on INDIPEX 2011 in earlier issues have not been repeated here, which when read together will throw light on more misdemeanours of India Post.)

New Special Postmarks & Covers

Mar 5: Dehradun, Spring Festival

ILLUSTRATED LISTS **Special Postmarks 2011** <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2011pm.htm> |

Stanley Gibbons India Catalog

Stanley Gibbons published the third edition of its India and Indian States Catalog on Aug 20, 2009 at £22.50 equivalent approximately to Indian Rupees 1800. However there was a very special price of Rs 750 for India for this all color 240 page catalog. We had distributed it all over India.

THIS CATALOG IS NOW ON SALE AT INCREDIBLE OFFER : BUY 1 GET 1 FREE!!!!!

Please add Rs 50 for packing and postal charges for delivery by registered bookpost or

Rs 200 for packing and postal charges for delivery by Speed post anywhere in India

Total weight of 2 catalogs when packed is 1.050 Kilograms

Rush your orders to orders@stampsofindia.com now. The orders will be fulfilled on first come first served basis.

We accept payment by transfer and cheque deposit in to our bank account (ask for details), bank draft payable at New Delhi, and 'payable at par' cheque drawn in favor of 'Stamps of India'.

We also welcome enquiries from bulk buyers.

Auction Action

Indian Thematic Society is holding its 52nd postal auction sale of 140 lots that will close on April 16, 2011. The entire listing is online at <http://indianthematicstamps.webs.com/itspostalauctions.htm>. The images of the auction lots are online at http://www.flickr.com/photos/its_offers.

ILLUSTRATED LISTS [Philatelic Picture Post Cards](#) | [Stamp Booklets](#) | [Year Packs](#)

Jainism Philately Group Formed

A meeting of Philatelists collecting Jainism and allied themes was organised on February 15, 2011 at the main exhibition Hall No. 11 during the World Philatelic Exhibition INDIPEX 2011. 43 stamp collectors from all over India who collect stamps on Jainism, Non-violence, Peace, Vegetarianism etc. attended this meeting. Meeting was started with Navkar Mantra prayer by Geetaben Veenubhai Bhavishi of Akola.

Senior Philatelists like Pradip Jain Patna (Member INDIPEX Organising Committee), Jatan Mal Dhor Jaipur (Member Philatelic Advisory committee, Government of India), Ajeet Jain Kolkata, Nemichand Chopra Bikaner and Major General A R A Shah Additional Director General Army Postal Services were on the dais and gave their valuable suggestions.

Deepak Modi of Jalna, well known Philatelist running 'Mobile Philately' gave welcome speech and Dr Pradip Jain of Balod described the aim of holding this meeting. All the Philatelists formed an association of the collectors of Jainism and allied themes titles as "Jainism Philately Group". Following office bearers have been elected unanimously –

Sudhir Jain (Satna, M.P.) – National Chairman

Dr Pradip Jain (Balod, C.G.) – Vice Chairman

Pramod Kumar Jain (Pondicherry) – Vice Chairman

Deepak Modi (Jalna Maharashtra) – General Secretary

It has been decided that every State will have a State Representative in the National body. Some of the names announced for the State Representative were Sanjay Kumar Jain Patna (Bihar), Ajeet Jain Kolkata (West Bengal), Vikas Jain Ajmer (Rajsthan), Atul Jain Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh), Sanjeev Jain Dehradun (Uttarakhand), Yogendra Kumar Jain (Uttar Pradesh), Hemant Kumar Jain Mandla (Madhya Pradesh), Vijay Shah Bhavnagar (Gujrat), Chhanganraj Jain Bellary (Karnataka). The philatelists of other States collecting above themes will be added shortly. Those philatelists who wants to join this group can contact the above mentioned office bearers at sudhirjain@unistar.co.in or jain_pradeep2000@yahoo.com for details.

Two beautiful multicolored special covers have also been issued on this occasion. Pramod Kumar Jain of Pondicherry (9894252549) designed these covers. These covers attracted the visitors of INDIPEX and huge demand was there for these covers.

It was resolved that a strong persuasion should be made for issuance of a commemorative stamp on Acharya Gyansagar Ji Maharaj and Shrimad Rajchandra Ji Maharaj. As presently there are four Jain members in the Philatelic Advisory Committee of Government of India, it will be easy to pursue the same. All the members congratulated to Sanjay Kumar Jain for his Jainism exhibit displayed in the INDIPEX 2011.

Chairman elect Sudhir Jain assured that this Group will spread the message of Jainism, Non-violence, Peace, Harmony, Vegetarianism through Philately. Meeting was concluded with the condolences to the senior Philatelists of Jainism Late Naresh Kumar Jain (Patna), Late Gaurav Dalal (Ahmedabad) and Late M L Bafna (Jodhpur).

ILLUSTRATED LISTS [Aerogramme & Inland Letter Card](#) | [Envelopes](#) | [Postcards](#) | [Meghdoot PostCard](#)

If you've found this digital newsweekly useful, recommend it to a friend. Better still, forward a copy of this issue. Also, please mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists.

Stamps of India Online Offers

Stamps of India now bring you useful and unique philatelic items fulfilling a long standing demand of subscribers and friends. These philatelic items can be viewed online and several easy options to make the payment are provided. Visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/shop/shop.htm>

Forgeries & Frauds Alerts

If you detect forgeries and frauds of Indian philatelic items, report to suspect@stampsofindia.com. The names of volunteers and contributors will not be published, if so desired.

Advertisements Tariff

[Text Ads](#) Stamps of India Collectors Companion | [Display Ads](#) www.stampsofindia.com

Recent & Forthcoming Events

Mar 12: Mumabi, Coins n Notes n Stamps Exhibition, 10 am - 7pm

Organizers: Mumbai Coin Society

Venue: Bai Kabibai School , Bora Bazar , Opp GPO, Fort, Mumbai

Contact: Razakbhai on 9820024329 , 9819732255 , 22852355

Apr 21-24: Mumbai, 20th Annual Shukla Day Numismatic & Philatelic Fair

Timings: 2 pm to 7 pm

Organizers: Todywalla auctions

Venue: World Trade Center, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai

Stalls: 4 square meters, Special rate for Philatelists (Limited Stalls available) Rs 9,000

Contact: Kaizad Todywalla, 0 9819872202

Website: www.shukladay.com (Online from Mar 25, 2011)

Auction Schedule: Apr 22 - 3pm Philatelic, Apr 22 - 6pm Numismatic, Apr 23 - 6pm Numismatic

May 6-8: Bangalore, National Numismatic Exhibition

Timings: 10am to 7 pm

Organizers: Marudhar Arts

Venue: The Bell Hotel, Adjacent to City Railway Station & Opposite Majestic Bus Station

Contact: Rajender Maru, 0 80 6532 9800

Tables: Rs 9,000 includes Lunch, and Snacks for 2 persons

Auction Schedule: Oswal Auctions May 6 - 6pm Philatelic, May 7 - 6pm Numismatic

Website: www.marudhararts.com/exhi.php

Nov 3-6: New Delhi, **Stamps of India National Exhibition**

Venue: NSIC Exhibition Complex, Okhla Industrial Estate, Govindpuri Metro Station

Timings: 11am to 7 pm

Organizers: Stamps of India

Contact: sj@stampsofindia.com

Sales Stalls: Rs 20,000 covers 44 Square feet (2 x 2 meters) and includes a table, two chairs, name board, an electrical point, floor carpet, and lunch & snacks for two persons

Website: www.stampsofindia.com/sine.html

Nov 18-20: Thrissur, THRISSURPEX 2011 Philatelic & Numismatic Exhibition

Organizers: Philatelic Club Thrissur

Venue: Pandu Samooha Madom Hall

Contact: C J Vincent, 0 98470 21886

[Meetings of the Philatelic Organizations in India](#)

News of the World

Mauritius. Meeting of the Queens in Berlin September 2 – 25, 2011

This unique international exhibition unites most of the surviving legendary Blue and Red Mauritius postage stamps at the Museum for Communication Berlin

The Blue Mauritius and its 'sister', the Red Mauritius, are among the rarest and most precious postage stamps worldwide. These rarities symbolize everything that makes historic stamps attractive and mysterious, not only for experts, but also for amateurs, i.e. their amazing value, rarity and a fascinating story surrounded by myths and legends. Twelve Blue and fifteen Red Mauritius stamps have survived to date, each one with its own history of rediscovery and successive owners.

From 2 to 25 September 2011, the Museum for Communication Berlin will hold an exhibition entitled 'Mauritius. Meeting of the Queens in Berlin', which will include about three quarters of the twenty-seven historic Mauritius postage stamps still in existence today. The museum owns two of them (one red, one blue) and will present them together with others in this unique show – internationally unique because it brings together the largest number of these 'crown jewels of philately' ever exhibited under one roof. They were issued over 160 years ago by the British Crown Colony of Mauritius and will be on loan from the Royal Collection of Queen Elizabeth II, the British Library, the postal museums in The Hague and Stockholm, the Blue Penny Museum in Port Louis, Mauritius and from a number of private collectors. The accompanying exhibits and the catalogue will explain the historic background to the 'Mauritius myth' phenomenon, and will document the special history of reception of these most famous postage stamps of the world. The documents will include two original test-printed sheets of stamps as well as the printer's original quotation.

The Mauritius Myth

The blue two-pence and the red one-penny (500 of each) were issued in 1847 in the British Crown Colony of Mauritius. The engraver modelled the design on the very first postage stamp of the world, the English 'Penny Black' with the head of young Queen Victoria in profile. The stamps of this first issue bear the overprint 'Post Office' and are thus distinguishable from the less valuable later ones with 'Post Paid' printed on them.

These 'Mauritius Post Office' stamps became coveted collectors' items because they were initially regarded as misprints. This 'legend' was held to be true until the original printing plate was discovered in 1912. Another legend has it that Lady Gomm, wife of the English Governor of

Mauritius, ordered the stamps to be printed for her to enhance her invitations to a grand ball with stamps from the island colony itself.

History of the 'Mauritius Post Office' stamps in the Museum for Communication Berlin

After buying a Red Mauritius in 1901, the Reichspostmuseum Berlin acquired a Blue Mauritius in 1903 in exchange for a number of postage stamps from various colonies. Although the post office had delivered the letter in 1847, this two-pence specimen had not been postmarked. Both were combined on a tableau which, after World War II, was thought to be lost, but in 1976 it turned up again at a postage stamp fair in the United States. As both German states claimed ownership of the tableau, the American customs authorities refused to return it to either and kept it in custody for almost thirteen years. It was only in 1990, after German reunification, that the specimens were returned to Germany, to the Federal Ministry for Post and Telecommunication. Since the reopening of the Museum for Communication Berlin, the former Reichspostmuseum, in March 2000, the valuable postage stamps have been on display there.

[South Asia New Issues](#)

[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.](#)

VIEWS & OPINIONS

Readers Forum

[Dear Reader, Your feedback is important to us as it helps evolve this digital newsweekly. Please let us have your thoughts and suggestions.](#)

JEEVAN JYOTI, Kullu

Many philatelists have written about recent Khadi MS and criticized too because it has been sold by India Post at Rs 150 more than its actual price Rs 100 in an ordinary presentation pack. It is absolutely an open business done by Postal Department during INDIPEX 2011 . The Postal Dept knew well right from the beginning that Khadi MS will be in great demand because such type of philatelic item has been launched first time in India. It would have been nice if India Post had provided a decorative Presentation Pack which could be displayed as a decorative piece too. This would have not disheartened the philatelists and they would have willingly paid the extra cost of Presentation Pack. The cost of ordinary presentation Pack is very disappointing and rather it is humiliating for the philatelic community .

Moreover India Post had announced earlier following details about the Khadi Stamp on INDIPEX 2011 website which is still available and can be checked by anyone....

"The Presentation Pack - The Khadi Stamp will be available during the exhibition at the venue, as a Presentation Pack which will also include a miniature sheet. The Presentation Pack is priced at Rs. 250 . "

Where is the Khadi Stamp ??? It was not available anywhere separately... It means that India Post has cheated poor philatelists... Rs 100 Khadi Stamp should have been included in the Presentation Pack...Only then the cost of Khadi Presentation Pack seems appropriate !!

UMESH KAKKERI, Belgaum

As an exhibitor of Indipex 2011, I had attended the Mega Philatelic show in my own country and was shocked not only in the show, but till yesterday when I received my certificate from organizers. The entire show was organised by department of post with a defunct association of the Indian apex body P.C.I., philatelist who had come from nook & corner of my country were badly humiliated by postal

department by non co-operation of postal officials. There was no synchronization between themselves. There was deliberately created hype for the stamp issues during that period.

Security was just worst, as one entire pre-philatelic frame of Dubai collector was stolen in front of 1000+ people and search at the gate was conducted after an hour. Hence fourth Participation in such exhibition would be entirely at the participants own risk. It will be appreciated if Dept. of Post throw any light on the compensation given to that gentleman from Dubai.

Newly made frames were too short in height for an average man, tall persons were literally kneel down to see the last row of frame.

BUT....that was not the end of it. when I received my certificate yesterday, it was my shock of the life. certificate just mentioned...(1) my name, (2) title of my exhibit, and (3) class of exhibit.....believe me, that's all. No where it is mentioned about the medal which I won in INDIPEX 2011. It is just a participation certificate. If in future I want to produce this certificate to further exhibitions, How to convince those organizers about my credential is a question.

Features & Resources

[Indian Laws Relevant to Philately](#)

[Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud](#)

NEWSSCAN

<We invite you to contribute clippings on philatelic and postal matters, from other print and electronic publications, for inclusion here>

ADMINISTRIVIA

The **Stamps of India Collectors Companion** is published by [Madhukar Jhingan](#) for **Stamps of India**, 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. India. Mobile: +91-9350537037

Subject to Delhi Jurisdiction

The **Stamps of India Collectors Companion** received Silver Medal with the Felicitations of the Jury at BELGICA 2001 World Philatelic Exhibition, Brussels, June 9-17, 2001.

Stamps of India does not rent, sell, or otherwise share your e-mail address with any third-party.

[Our now famous Disclaimer!](#)

Stamps of India Publications

[Stamps of India](#)

The Hub Site of Indian Philately

[Princely States Report](#)

Journal of Indian States History, Philately & Numismatics

[Stamps on India](#) The site devoted to the stamps from all over the world on Indian topics

[Reprints of Rare & Out of Print Official Publications of Indian Post Office](#)

such as Postal Manuals, Postal Guides, Annual Reports, Postal Notices & Circulars; also of Indian Princely States

© Copyright 2011, Stamps of India, New Delhi. All rights reserved.

For reproducing content from Stamps of India publications please ask the publisher for the permission stating exactly what you would like to use, and for what purpose, before using the same.