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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION ----- The First & Only Weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India

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<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/Download/archives.htm>

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi,

Putting the list of forthcoming events makes us feel happy that philately is permeating to all corners of the country and not just the metro cities as use to be the case earlier. More than 20 event listings are there between now and March 2006. That's more than 3 events a month in diverse locations. And no way is the list complete, as many more additions are expected.

It is our sincere hope that this trend would continue and this educative hobby would continue to enlighten students and adults alike

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Abhai Misra, C R Andhare, and H P Singh.

We invite your inputs, please email to "writeback at 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

Oct 21: Vi Kalayanasundaranar

Oct 21: Kavimani Desiga Vinayagam Pillai Oct 21: Ayothidhasa Pandithar Oct 24: Prabodh Chandra These issues along with the First Day Cover and the information sheet, at Rs 2 each, shall be available on sale at nearly 1000 selected Post Offices including all Philatelic Bureaus and Counters in the country.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2005, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2005stamps.htm>

#### ~~~~~ LETTERBOX STAMPS RELEASED

Dayanidhi Maran, Minister of Communications & Information Technology released a set of 4 stamps and miniature sheet at the closing ceremony of the Sesquicentennial Celebrations of India Post on October 18, 2005 at New Delhi.

All the 4 stamps are in the denomination of Rs 5 and depict the letter boxes down the ages, the Victorian Letter Box, the Penfold Letter Box, the Cylindrical Letter Box and the TV type Letter box. Though the shape and size of Letter box has changed over time, letter boxes are more ubiquitous and visible than any other symbol of State all over the world. The miniature sheet contains one of each stamp and priced at Rs 20.

The Victorian Crown type was the first letterbox imported in India during 1856-57 from England. This was followed by Lotus type also known as Penfold after its designer. In 1879 cylindrical design was adopted. The TV type letter box was introduced during 1970's.

Sankha Samanta designed the Stamp, miniature sheet, and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed 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. India Security Press printed the stamps by Photo Gravure in the quantity of 0.8 million in the sheets of 20 stamps containing 5 se-tenant sets. The miniature sheet is printed in the quantity of 200,000.

#### ~~~~~ NEW STAMPED ENVELOPE ISSUED

Dayanidhi Maran, Minister of Communications & Information Technology released a new Stamped Envelope in the denomination of Rs 5 at the closing ceremony of the Sesquicentennial Celebrations of India Post on October 18, 2005 at New Delhi.

The envelope is on white paper in the new Standardized size of 220 x 110 mm. This size is meant for A4 sheet folded in thirds and A5 sheet folded in half lengthwise. The stamp is the single color replica of the fourth stamp in the set of 4 stamps issued on October 4, 2004 at the inaugural ceremony of the Sesquicentennial Celebrations of India Post. It is printed by the Security Printing Press Hyderabad in blue color.

For an illustrated list of envelopes in 2005, please visit <http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/2005EN.htm>

#### ~~~~~ INDIA POST AFTER 150 YEARS

Dayanidhi Maran, Minister of Communications & Information Technology was the Chief Guest at the closing ceremony of the Sesquicentennial Celebrations of India Post on October 18, 2005 at New Delhi.

The Minister stated that all the 26,000 departmental post offices would be computerized with a view to create network infrastructure across post offices in the country.

He launched new postal services such as Corporate e-Post, New Look Letter Box, Brand Image Post Office on this occasion.

Corporate e-post allows a person to compose a text message on his computer, access the e-post portal [indiapost.nic.in](http://indiapost.nic.in) and send the message like an e-mail. The message is printed at a Post Office close to the destination and sent in an envelope to the addressee through postman like an ordinary letter for delivery. The present charges for the e-post service are Rs 10 per page per addressee.

'New look' letter boxes are being inducted in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Patna and in a few select locations initially and have been developed with the assistance of Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai.

School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi has been engaged to develop suitable features for the faces of the postal buildings and Post Office to create and make visible a unique brand image of more contemporary India Post.

The function also witnessed the Minister giving away the Financial Performance Awards to various Postal Circles in three categories, Postal Life Insurance Awards and Meghdoot Awards in recognition and rewarding the employees for excellence in service.

Maran said that during the 150th year, two major initiatives were taken up namely System Study by KPMG and Inter Ministerial Group set up to chart the path ahead for India Post. The recommendations of the Inter Ministerial Group and KPMG Systems Study should transform the Post in the coming year towards financial self- sufficiency, compete in an increasingly competitive environment, while continuing to fulfill the universal service obligation.

Maran further said that there was also an initiative to re-orient the mail services to meet variant niche customer requirements by providing value additions. City Post - a competitively priced local mail service, an inter-city mail service with assured next day delivery, and a Premium Speed Post Service between Central Business Districts of major metros with electronic Information of Delivery facility is on the anvil. The launch of immediate Money order (iMO) proposed in the next month as an on-line money transmission system will add to the basket of instant products to cater to the customers at a faster speed, he said.

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Oct 17: Dehradun, Himjyoti Foundation

For an illustrated list of special postmarks and covers in 2005, please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/stamps/2005pm.htm>

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SURGUJAPEX 2005

A two day district level exhibition was held at Ambikapur on October 15 & 16, 2005. There were 90 junior & 7 senior participants. The Chief Post Master General of Chhattisgarh Circle, Colonel Prithivi Raj Kumar released a special cover depicting Ramgarh Hill cave. The cave is also known as Sitabangra cave and was discovered in 1848. Ram Shanker Singh was awarded the best exhibit award for Diana and Neil Chandra Singh got the second Prize.

JALANDHAR

Two day stamp exhibition concluded with the prize distribution at Jalandhar on October 16, 2005. A cover on 300 years of forgiveness of 40 Muktas designed by H P Singh, Secretary of the Amritsar Philatelic Club was released by the Deputy Commissioner Ashok Kumar Gupta. The special postmark shows the signs of four religions Hindu, Sikh, Islam and Christian along with musical instrument and seashell with swords.

Prize distribution function was presided over by retired Chief Post Master General Colonel Tilak Raj.

RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Oct 21-22: New Delhi, Civil Services Officers Institute

Oct 22-23: Dhenkanal, district level

Oct 26-27: Saharanpur, district level

Venue: M S Degree College

Contact: Robin 0 98374 23191

Oct 27: New Delhi, South Delhi's Philatelic Festival

Venue: Godrej Auditorium, World Wide Fund for Nature, Lodhi Estate

Contact: Pulak Gupta 098680 92984

Nov 7-8: Jalandhar, Vajra Philex 2005 by Army Postal Service

Venue: Mall Road, Jalandhar Cantt

Nov 12-23: Jeypore, KORPEX Koraput District level

Nov 13-14: Ludhiana, LUPEX

Venue: Lions Bhawan, Udham Singh Nagar

Contact: Dr S K Sondhi sksondhi1@sify.com 0 9815657647

Nov: New Delhi, East District,

Nov: Muzaffarpur, district level

Nov 30-Dec 2: Jamshedpur, SINGHPEX Singhbhum district level

Venue: Tulsi Bhawan, Bistupur

Contact: Ashok Tiwary

Dec: Jammu, Army Postal Service

Dec: Puri, district level

Dec 15-16: Kolkata, Dealers Bourse  
Venue: Swarbhumi The Hermitage Plaza  
Contact: Kalyan Negal knegal@vsnl.net, Arun Bhattacharya 0 98304 12286

Dec 17-19: Kolkata, State Level, NEW DATES  
Venue: Rangmunch, Swarbhumi The Hermitage Plaza  
Contact: Madhukar Deogawanka, 0 98311 51219

2006

Jan 14-15: Chandigarh, district level

Jan: Sambalpur, district level

Jan: Kolkata, Army Postal Service

Feb: Hyderabad, Army Postal Service

Mar: Kamptee, Army Postal Service

For a list of exhibitions in 2005, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events.htm>

#### MEETINGS

The schedule of meetings of the philatelic organizations in India is available at  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/clubmeet.htm>

#### RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

Stamps Today, Whole # 2 – Jul Aug 2005, Bi-monthly  
Editor: Vijay Seth philanews@hotmail.com  
Publisher: Seth Communications  
Address: S-331 Grater Kailash Part 1, New Delhi 110048 Annual Subscription: Rs.150 or US \$10

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

#### FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

In one of the 48 cases involving Abdul Karim Telgi, the prosecution on October 19, 2005 completed examination of all 16 witnesses in a fake stamps case that had been registered with the M R A Marg police Station in Mumbai in 1995. Additional session judge U D Salvi will now record the statements of Telgi, Sanjay Gaikwad and Ramnath Soni, on October 29, 2005.

Judicial Magistrate (First Class), Chandigarh, M D S Dhillon convicted and sentenced four persons to three years of rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs 3,000 each on October 1, 2005 for their involvement in the fake stamp scam. Forged stamps valued at over Rs 21 million had been seized from the accused, Gopi Nath Nayyar, Sahil alias Sohail Khan, Sanjay Arora and Harmesh Singh operating in the name of Quick Service. The police had traced the links of the convicts to the biggest fake stamp scam run by Abdul Karim Telgi. According to the police, the convicts belonged to the Karim Bahi gang who had also been arrested by the Pune police around the same time in a fake stamp racket valued at Rs 7 billion. After his arrest Karim had reportedly directed his subordinates to wind up operations of the company in different cities, including Chandigarh. The Police acting on a tip off intercepted their car while they were fleeing to Delhi and arrested them and seized fake stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 to Rs 1000 for revenue, insurance, and postal purpose from the car. The clients of the Quick Services included insurance companies and other private institutions in Chandigarh and other cities of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal. The firm also had an office in Ludhiana. They used to win the confidence of the clients on the basis of a fake vendor license.

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4. No correspondence regarding advertising will be entertained.  
5. Stamps of India does not endorse any advertiser and can not be held liable for transactions of any advertiser.

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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.>

PRAKASH MODY, North York, ON, Canada

As in the past few years, once again, three stamps will be issued on Christmas but not a single for any other religion during the whole year! Canada Post does not recognize the multiculturalism of Canada and diversity is not visible to the well kept secret list of members of the Philatelic Advisory Committee. There was a request for Diwali stamp in the past but the voice goes to deaf ears. Even, at least one out of the three Christian stamps during X'mas can be for other than Christian faiths, as many other faiths have their holy-days around those days in November and December. Canada Post though federally owned public corporation is an example of a monopoly exploited! There is no change even after Andre Ouellet is gone!

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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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ALSO IN THE NEWS

GERMANY'S UN-ISSUED AUDREY HEPBURN STAMP German postal administration prepared a set of five stamps featuring movie stars, including Audrey Hepburn, in small sheets of 10 and also in a booklet pane. However one of Hepburn's sons objected to the Hepburn stamp at the last minute and the issue was redesigned and released on October 11, 2001.

The sheets of stamps with Hepburn stamp that were already circulated in official circles were recalled and destroyed except for 3 sheets.

In late 2004, the first example of the Hepburn stamp was discovered. Once the news of an un-issued stamp being found spread, a second example was found. Heinrich Kohler in their auction sale on June 1, 2005 at Wiesbaden, Germany sold this for an all inclusive price of nearly Euro 70,000

Ulrich Felzmann's in their auction sale on October 5-8, 2005 at Dusseldorf, Germany sold the recently discovered third example which a corner copy with selvedge for an all inclusive price of Euro 169,000 nearly a million rupees. This is a record for a German stamp since 2nd World War.

All examples are used and have been found in lots of used stamps.

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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>

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 post paid worldwide.

Credit cards accepted <http://www.stampsofindia.com/99999.htm>

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