

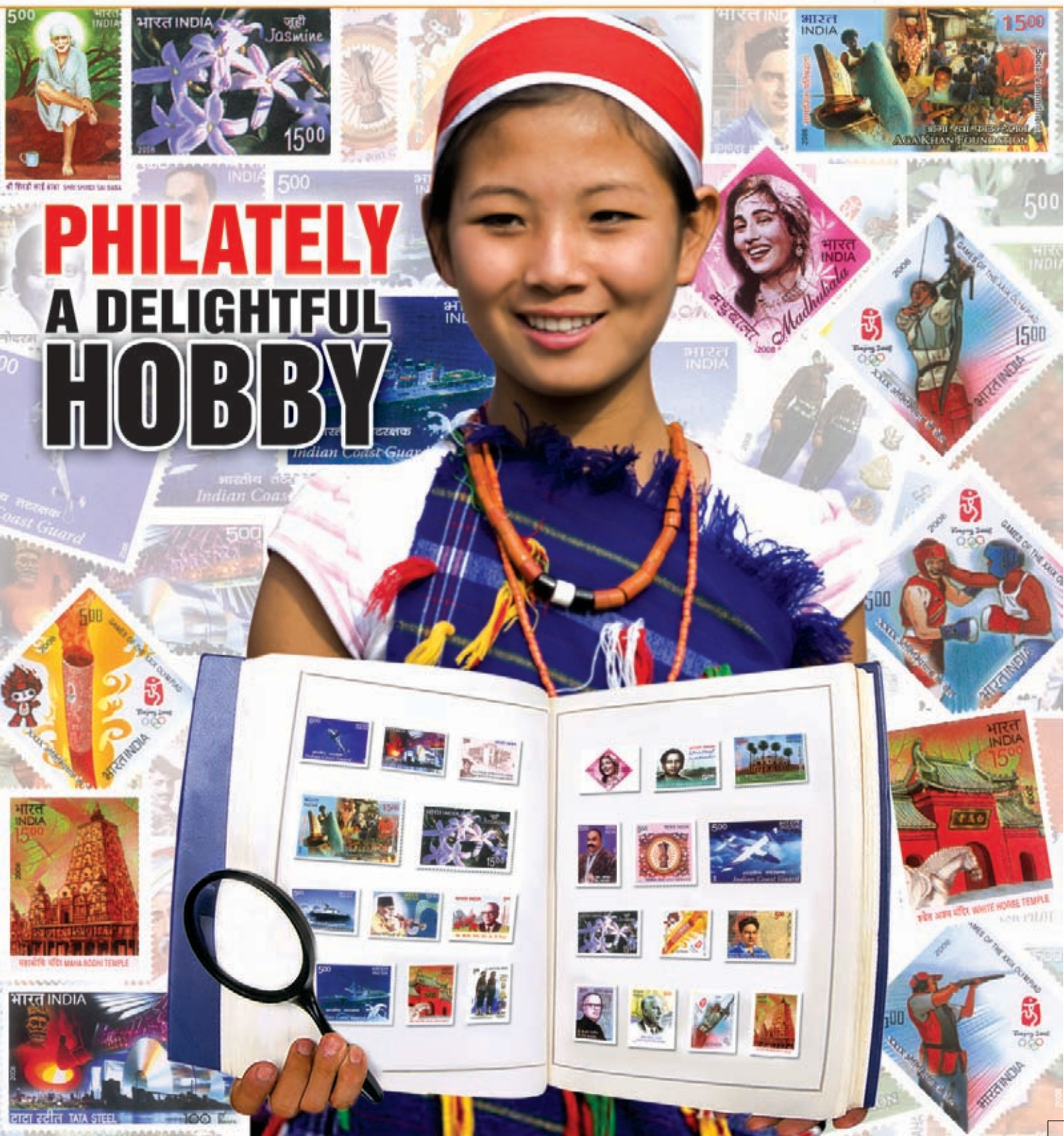
# PhilatPost

Inaugural Issue

October-December 2008

INDIA POST - PCI QUARTERLY

## PHILATELY A DELIGHTFUL HOBBY



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# FOREWORD

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The hobby of philately began with the issue of first postage stamp on 06 May 1840. Though, prior to that, collection of fiscals (Revenues) and Franks (autographs on letters providing free postage) was in vogue in the form of postal history since 1760s. Serious philately took roots and established itself in 1890s when philatelic exhibitions gained popularity and many postal administrations, starting with New Zealand, began to depict scenic beauties of their countries on stamps to popularize tourism. Philately diversified in all its grandeur.

International philatelic organization FIP (Federation Internationale de Philatelie) began in 1820s, but saw its rapid growth beyond Europe and America only in 1960s. Emergence of special agencies within many postal administrations to serve stamp collectors did not occur until after 1945. The last fifty years have seen an emergence of a very strong philatelic industry with three main interdependent players - stamp collectors, postal administrations, and commercial traders. In the last twenty years philately has reached the general masses with a whole range of philately related products, souvenirs and gifts.

It is easy to dismiss the hobby of philately as passion of some people playing with a few pieces of small paper lost in their own world in isolation. In fact so popular is this hobby that four out of every ten persons in the world have been attracted to this hobby at sometime or the other. It is a ten billion dollar industry with over 300 million philatelists of varying interests in the world. India alone boasts of over 30 million people drawn to this hobby with more than one thousand philatelic clubs and societies in existence. There are more than 1.75 lakh philatelic deposit account customers who steadfastly obtain their collections from 68 philatelic bureaus and 1138 philatelic counters across the country.

To serve the interests of such a large clientele, an authentic philatelic magazine providing information, news, views, a place to express opinions and to educate and bring like minded people together was a long felt need. India Post and Philatelic Congress of India have come together to fill that void with this quarterly magazine 'Phila-Post', whose inaugural issue is in your hand. PCI is the recognized body of FIP in India and speaks for the largest segment of philatelists in the country. Their contribution in terms of expertise and intricate knowledge of the hobby will bring in professionalism in features of this magazine. Please do send in your views on what you would like to see in this magazine to make it relevant and suited to your expectations. We wish you a very happy festive season.

**RRP Singh**  
Deputy Director General (Philately)  
Dept. of Posts, India





**राधिका दोराइस्वामी**

सचिव, भारत सरकार

महानिदेशक, डाक एवं अध्यक्ष, डाक सेवा बोर्ड

**Radhika Doraiswamy**

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## MESSAGE

Dear Readers,

An authentic Philatelic magazine was a long felt need of the lover of this delightful hobby of philately. I am happy that the dream has been fulfilled with the commitment of India Post and Philatelic Congress of India, a representative body FIP ( Federation Internationale de Philatelie) and a popular voice of philatelists in India with this quarterly magazine PHILA POST. Two august organization have come together in their zeal to serve the cause of philately with authentic news, view, information, entertainment and education on the most popular pastime in the world after football.

Philately has come a long way since its inception in 1860s. From classical philately when letter was supposed to travel the whole distance of its journey to qualify as philatelic collectible, to mint stamp collection, to philately related items to philatelic gifts and souvenirs. It has new adherents to the hobby and a whole product range has developed around it and the marketers are promoting innovations of immense varieties. It has finally reached the casual customers and investors who occasionally indulge in this pastime.

Phila Post will serve the needs of the philately lovers well. I am sure it will become hugely popular as we go along.

I am thankful to PCI for joining hands with India Post in bringing out this magazine. They would contribute professionally in crafting articles and features according to the needs of the philately lovers. The editorial board and management board consists of representatives from both the organizations.

I wish the magazine all success and congratulate the management and editorial teams for this fine inaugural issue

Yours sincerely,

(Radhika Doraiswamy)





## PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF INDIA

Registered under Societies Registration Act 1860

**Dilip Shah**

President



## MESSAGE

Date: 26-09-08

**I**t is very heartening that the India Post is bringing out the first issue of a Philatelic magazine 'PHILA POST' in the month of October 2008 in association with Philatelic Congress of India to fulfil the long felt need of philatelists in India.

The 'PHILA POST' will provide authentic information on the philatelic activities of India Post, Philatelic Congress of India (PCI) and its institutional members, Federation Internationale de Philatelic (FIP), Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP) and important National/International philatelic events. It will also include articles on various disciplines of philately including Youth & Modern philately.

The Managing Committee and Editorial Board of the PHILA POST consists of very senior executives of the India Post and very experienced and reputed philatelists to ensure high standard and quality of the magazine. This publication will be very useful to all the concerned philatelists both in India and worldwide. I am very confident that the PHILA POST will be a great success and landmark in the history of Philatelic Publications in India.

It will be available to philatelists at a nominal subscription fee and also through the network of Post Offices, Philatelic Bureaus, bookstalls etc.

I am very thankful to the India Post for giving me an opportunity to associate and be a part of this prestigious publication and wish it a grand success.

With Regards,

(Dilip Shah)

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# Promotion of Philately

## A Different Perspective

The department spends a lot of money in promoting philately but still they have not been able to hit the right market segment. Now it becomes a collective duty of philatelists, dealers and philatelic associations to provide a solution to get Indian Philately recognised internationally.

By Mr. Mainak Kathiara, Ahmedabad

**P**hilately as a hobby rests on three pillars: **Post Office - originator; Philatelist - end user; and, Dealer - market feeder.** A very strong coordination among all the three is required at every stage to sustain the hobby and take it to new heights.

The Dealer will help the philatelist to fill up the gaps in his collection, so free and frank exchange of ideas is a must between a philatelist and a dealer. The Post Office should encourage both the philatelist and the dealer to make the stamp collecting a successful hobby. Local/State/National level Philatelic Associations also have a major role to play in promoting philately.

The department spends a lot of money in promoting philately but still they have not been able to hit the right market segment. Now it becomes a collective duty of philatelists, dealers and philatelic associations to provide a solution to get Indian Philately recognised internationally. For this, an exhaustive plan of 10 to 20 years should be drawn up by taking the views of the experts of the field. We have to look towards the future and work in accordance with the future in our minds.

### Registration of Dealers & Philatelic Association

It is a pity that even after 60 years of our Independence, there is no National Stamp Dealers Association. The dealers in general are still much unorganised. India Post should try to register a few good dealers and a few good philatelic associations and give them accreditation (rating). This will help the dealers and philatelic associations to become stronger and accountable. With the years to come, they will gain the confidence of philatelists and investors both in India and abroad. A certain code of conduct should be adhered to and ratings should be given only on merits like (on the lines of) the membership of Philatelic Trade Society (PTS), American Stamp Dealers



Association (ASDA) etc. In foreign countries dealers associations are so strong that they normally conduct major philatelic events besides a number of regional events in a very organised manner.

Once this system is established amongst dealers, the confidence of the philatelist will increase. This confidence will give birth to the fourth pillar of philately and that is the 'INVESTORS'. Of late there have been a few investors in philately, but the numbers are minuscule. Still, big corporate investment bankers etc., have not entered in this field because of the evils of the unorganised market. There is huge potential for this market segment to be tapped.

### Certificate of Authenticity/Genuineness

There is an urgent need to form an expert committee to give certificates of authenticity for premium grade stamps,





rarities etc. Sindre dawks, early lithographs, early cancellations, rarities and other philatelic gems are sold with certificate of authenticity and its genuineness. In India, there is no specialised organisation to certify these items. We have to get this certified either in England, USA, Germany and France etc., whose certificates of genuineness are valid and respected internationally. Even for classic Indian items, the certificate of Royal Philatelic Society (RPS) or American Philatelic Society (APS) etc., is needed. There are a few reputed individuals also whose certificates are recognised. India Post in association with senior philatelists and associations can work in this regard and help fellow collectors to enhance their collection values. Something like this will help in promoting philately in a big way.

#### Stamps should be available On-line

In the era of technology the stamp of India Post should be available on-line. It would be a boon for collectors in India and abroad. Proper guidelines for despatching the materials and the mode of receiving the payment should be mentioned. This system if implemented would increase the sale of stamps and related products of the Department of Post by many-fold. The unsold stock of the bureau would be a 'hot cake' item for collectors of other States. By doing this people at large would see the stamps for sale on the net and at the end the DOP will be a sure winner.

Also I would like to add that any information of the post office relating to philately should be available on-line. Each postal circle should have its own website, with all philatelic information. Philatelists would like to take cue from the introduction of new products for their collections.

#### How to get the Grass Root Collector to Exhibit

In India, like in other countries, a discontent is growing amongst would be collectors. They feel that the exhibition world is reserved for collectors with fat wallets and that only they can win high-placed medals. They also feel that the rules were too rigid.

The exhibitors realised that at their exhibitions, the public crowded around the dealers and post office stalls and queued up to get a set of newly released stamps or special covers. The man from the street did not understand the refinements of looking page after page, frame after frame of say, 1st issues of England or early India cancellations etc. They needed new and more exciting exhibits to attract the public.



**IN THE ERA OF TECHNOLOGY THE STAMP OF INDIA POST SHOULD BE AVAILABLE ON-LINE. IT WOULD BE A BOON FOR COLLECTORS IN INDIA AND ABROAD. PROPER GUIDELINES FOR DESPATCHING THE MATERIALS AND THE MODE OF RECEIVING THE PAYMENT SHOULD BE MENTIONED.**

These are the suggestions, which if implemented will become a win-win situation for all concerned. Again consensus should be reached among the three pillars of philately as to how to get more and more young people involved in exhibiting their collections. Still a lot of constructive work with innovative ideas is needed to put India amongst the more respectable country promoting philately.

I would like to conclude by quoting a note of management expert Mr. Peter F. Drucker.

“Today’s efforts are tomorrow’s work, which a manager thought yesterday”.

This will be an ongoing article and reader views and suggestions etc., are welcome.

This will take us one step ahead in promoting and developing philately in India.





# Calendar Stamps

**P**hilatelic Advisory Committee in its meeting on 30 July 2008 approved the issue of 12 calendar stamps, one in each month, in 2008 and 2009. Calendar stamps are on popular themes selected by the department and will be released as per fixed schedules. They will not be subjected to the vagaries of release function that suffer frequent changes depending on the convenience of the proponents and the VIPs for the function. In normal course they would be released without any release function on the scheduled dates. Functions, if any, will be held on the announced dates of release only. Generally it is proposed to release the calendar stamps in the second week of the month preferably or on dates of special occasions.

Another important feature of Calendar Stamps is advance publicity and promotion that would be under taken so that collectors could plan their collection in advance and place orders with philatelic bureau. It serves a long felt need of philatelic collectors for release of stamps on scheduled dates, on popular themes with advance information on the subject of issue.

The first Calendar stamp on “Festivals of India – Dussehra of Kolkata, Dussehra of Mysore and Deepavali” was released on 07 October 2008.

The schedule and themes of other Calendar stamps proposed to be released in 2008 and 2009 are as under:

1	<b>Festivals of India</b> (Deepavali-Dussehra stamps issued)	07-10-2008
2	<b>Spices of India</b>	November 2008
3	<b>Christmas Eve</b>	24-12-2008
4	<b>Seasons of India</b>	01-01-2009
5	<b>Heritage Temples</b> 1. Dilwara Temple, 2. Ranakpur Temple	09-02-2009
6	<b>Legendary Heroines of Cinema</b> 1. Kannan Devi, 2. Devika Rani, 3. Savitri, 4. Meena Kumari	08-03-2009
7	<b>Astronomy</b> (12 astrological signs)	06-04-2009
8	<b>Colonial Heritage of India</b> 1. Gulmarg, 2. Darjeeling, 3.Ooty, 4. Shimla	04-05-2009
9	<b>Children Fables Series-I</b> 1.Vikram and Betal, 2. Mogli	11-05-2009
10	<b>Endangered Species of India</b> 1. Ganges River Dolphin, 2. Lion Tailed Macaque, 3. Himalyan Musk Deer, 4. Nilgiri Tahr	05-06-2009
11	<b>Architectural Splendours</b> 1. Ujjanta Palace, Tripura, 2. Patwonki Haveli, Jaisalmer	06-07-2009
12	<b>Children Fables Series-II</b> 1. Tenali Ramalinga Stories, 2. Akbar and Birbal Stories	03-08-2009
13	<b>Unique Villages</b> 1. Toda Village, 2. Kutch Village	18-08-2009
14	<b>House Boats</b> 1. Kettuvalam Boats of Kerala, 2. House Boats of Kashmir	07-09-2009
15	<b>Tracing Civilization</b> 1. Bhimbetka Caves, 2. Barbar Caves, 3. Udaigiri Caves, 4. Nagarjuna Caves	01-10-2009
16	<b>World Heritage Architectural Splendours</b> 1. Mattanchery Palace, Ernakulam, 2. Rani-Ki-Vav, Patan	02-11-2009
17	<b>Amazing Textiles of India</b> 1. Banarasi Silk, 2. Kanchivaram Silk, 3. Tant (West Benal), 4. Chanderi (MP)	08-12-2008
18	<b>Seasons Greetings</b> 1. New Year Eve	18-12-2009



# Learning Philately

Stamp collecting or 'Philately' is one of those timeless hobbies that might have been enjoyed by your grandfather and could be a past time for your grandchildren. Stamp collecting is far more compelling than just the removal of the paper from the back of the stamp.

By Mr. Mainak Kathiara, Ahmedabad

A world of opportunity opens up when you start to learn about a stamp. Philately is one of the more interesting and educational hobbies as it teaches us about history, geography, politics, art & culture, all inside the borders of a postage stamp. It trains our power of observation, improves our perception, broadens our views and adds to our knowledge of many fields of learning.

Stamp collecting or 'Philately' is one of those timeless hobbies that might have been enjoyed by your grandfather and could be a past time for your grandchildren. Stamp collecting is far more compelling than just the removal of the paper from the back of the stamp. Philately is a way of engaging in the past through pictorial imagery and preserving it for the future.

## Definition of Philately

The oxford dictionary defines the word 'Philately' as the 'collection and study of stamps'. The term 'Philately' was coined in 1865 by a Frenchman, Mr. George Herpin, who combined the Greek words 'PHILOS + TELEIN', where Philos means 'love' and Telein means 'exemption from the payment of tax'.

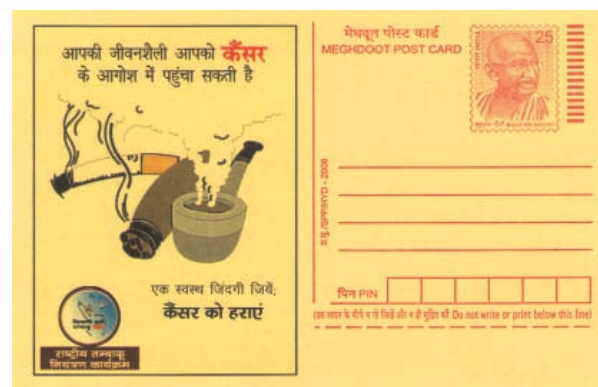


The postage stamp permitted the letter to be delivered free of charge to the recipient, thus rendering it as untaxed. The introduction of the postage stamp and its popularity gave rise to an interest in philately and birth of the Philatelist. The history of philately is as old as the history of the postage stamp itself.

Stamp collecting today is the world's oldest and most widely followed hobby. It is also one of the very few hobbies which has acquired authentic status and enjoys extensive government support.

## A Few Generalised Tips for the Collectors

Be a regular visitor at the post office philatelic bureau. The advantages are many.



- By opening a philatelic deposit account, you are secured about your supply of Mint Stamps, First Day Covers, Brochures and postal stationery etc.
- You get the material delivered to your address without extra cost.
- You get the stamps from the post office at face value, which is a parallel currency and hence you are never a loser.
- You can get 25p Meghdoot Post Cards. Lot of slogans, information on social issues are to be seen on them and they will be a good source for Thematic collection.
- The brochure of any stamp is worth reading. It will help to learn the details of the particular stamp. It is also a collectable item.



f) You get a chance to meet fellow philatelists of your area and it gives you chance to exchange views.

The department is carrying out all these activities to promote philately. You can take advantage of them. **So what are you waiting for?** Go and open a philatelic account.

- Be in touch with senior philatelists - they have learnt philately the hard way and their experience will help you a lot.
- Refer to the many Internet auction sites on philately.
- Try to get a few good catalogues, reference books, auction lists, magazine, articles written by senior philatelists, and postal information from time to time from post offices.
- Go for quality material even if it is a bit more costly. It will be more worthy in the long run.
- Buy good accessories to preserve your philatelic material in good condition.
- Visit National and International exhibitions, which will broaden your vision for collecting.
- Become a member of a local philatelic society where you can interact with philatelists of your area.
- Never speculate on stamps unless you are guided by the specialist of that subject.

**THE INTRODUCTION OF THE POSTAGE STAMP AND ITS POPULARITY GAVE RISE TO AN INTEREST IN PHILATELY AND BIRTH OF THE PHILATELIST. THE HISTORY OF PHILATELY IS AS OLD AS THE HISTORY OF THE POSTAGE STAMP ITSELF.**



**Be Innovative**

Innovation will take you a step ahead of your fellow collectors. Shown below are hexagonal stamps of the 'Aldabra Giant Tortoise' issue. Different attractive combinations can be made which gives a beautiful look. Try to be creative - it does not cost much and it is a pleasure to look at.

Also shown on the next page are two covers which were made by a philatelist to commemorate the 'World Aids Day'. These types of innovative/creative ideas will give birth to exclusive items for the future and will enhance your collection.

**Educate Yourself**

You have to ask a few questions of yourself if you want to be an expert of philately.

- Do you want to lead your fellow philatelists, rather than being ignored by them? Then educate yourself and share what you know with others.
- Do you want to get goodies that busy and lazy dealers overlook for cheap prices? Then.....READ.
- Do you want to make fruitful investment in stamps? Then the answer is, READ as much as you can.

You have seen them. They are usually quiet. They sit at a dealers table and sift through everything within their speciality. What are they looking for? Dozens of things: can-



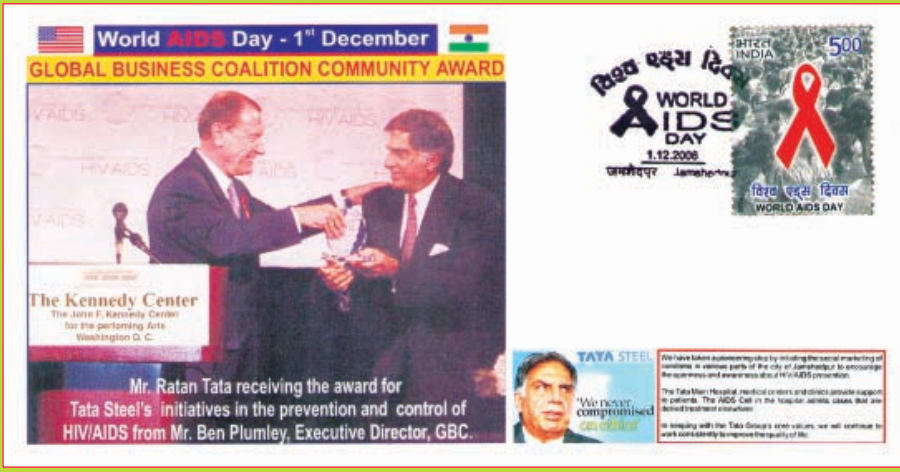


To commemorate World Aids Day on 1st December.

Cover was cancelled with Date Stamp, as no special cancellation was available.

A private First Day Cover commemorating the release of Aids Stamp on 1st December 2006.

The cover shows 'Tata Steels' initiative for prevention of HIV Aids.



**THESE DAYS, STAMPS ARE CONSIDERED AS AN ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT. STAMPS POSSESS CONSIDERABLE AESTHETIC QUALITIES AND THERE IS ALSO PSYCHOLOGICAL APPEAL OF SOMETHING TANGIBLE, RATHER THAN THE FIGURES IN THE BANK PASS BOOK OR DEMAT ACCOUNTS.**

cellations, the rare shade, different perforations, die variety, rare rate, rare destinations and many more things. Don't ask these experts; they are professionals at what they do and they won't tell you the secrets. They took the time to READ the books. They are experts and if you know what they know, you would get in line or ahead of them, wouldn't you? So keep reading!

These days, stamps are considered as an alternative investment. Stamps possess considerable aesthetic qualities and there is also psychological appeal of something tangible, rather than the figures in the bank pass book or demat accounts. The beauty of investing in stamps is that there is such an enormous range and diversity of material available to suit every pocket-book. With the present surge of interest in philately as an alternative investment, the future looks very bright.

The next time when you pass by a post office in any city pay attention to how they are using their philately to promote the country, cater to the tourist, or commemorate moments of significance. My appeal to young professionals, doctors, lawyers, chartered accountants is to have a peep at the philatelic bureau wherever they go. I am sure they will find something or the other that is interesting to take home as a collectible or to gift someone as a memento.





# A Brief History of Philatelic Societies in India

Philatelic Society of India (PSI) was born on 6<sup>th</sup> March 1897 and its journal, *Philatelic Journal of India* (PJI) also saw the light in the same year.

By Mr. Yogesh Kumar, Bareilly

The Philatelic Societies has done so much to keep true Philately alive in India, but we knew very little about the history of various Philatelic Societies in India. They had laid the foundations of Philately in India. Perhaps The Philatelic Society of Bengal, based in Calcutta was the first stamp Society established in India. It was founded in early part of 1894 and the first President was a British Postal Officer. Mr. G. J. Hynes was then Deputy Director General, Post Offices in India. After his retirement in 1894 Mr. C. Stewart Wilson succeeded him as Deputy Director General of P.O. in Indian as well as President of the Society. In the end of year 1896 it was decided to make a 'Philatelic Society' for all India. Thus Philatelic Society of India (PSI) was born on 6<sup>th</sup> March 1897 and its journal, *Philatelic Journal of India* (PJI) also saw the light in the same year. All the members of the Philatelic Society of Bengal joined the PSI and Sir C. Stewart Wilson

remained as President of the Society. In the beginning there were only 60 members including 6 ladies and all of them were British. In year 1897, Mr. C. K. Dutt became first Indian to join the PSI.

At the same time in 1894 a Philatelic Society was also functioning in Bombay with the name 'The Philatelic Society of Bombay' and were also publishing a journal with the name of 'The Philatelic Magazine', but much information of this Philatelic Society is not available; we found no record of its journal after 1896. It appears it had a very short life.

I am sorry I do not know much about the other old Philatelic Societies in India, but would welcome the information from the readers.

Although till 1903 very few Indians were taking an interest in Philately, a number of dealers had sprung up in Bom-



**ALTHOUGH TILL 1903 VERY FEW INDIANS WERE TAKING AN INTEREST IN PHILATELY, A NUMBER OF DEALERS HAD SPRUNG UP IN BOMBAY.**



bay. And it was suggested in PSI, that if the headquarters of the Society had been in Bombay, perhaps it might have succeeded in drawing a large number of Indian Philatelist into its fold. But 1906 was the notable year in the history of PSI as that was when George V, Prince of Wales, visited Calcutta and personally inspected the collection of stamps of the members. Mr. A. C. Wright, a member, presented a superb used copy of the Red Scinde Dawk stamp to the Royal Guest.

As earlier mentioned, Philatelic dealers were rising in Bombay day by day. During 1942 a Indian Stamp dealer Mr. Jal Cooper formed 'The Empire of India Philatelic Society (EIPS) and in a very short span of 20 months of its existence he had 300 members in its fold, with free distribution of his publication India's Stamp Journal (ISJ). Mr. Cooper activated philatelic life in India and inform philatelist in India and other countries about the glory of Indian Philately and Postal History. Mr. Jal Cooper had acquired ISJ from a Swiss dealer Mr. Neukom of M/s Philatelic Orient, who had started this Journal in 1937. Thus after the turn of the century both these Societies were serving and guiding not only the Philatelists of the India, but the Philatelist of the world. PSI and Mr. Jal Cooper were serving the Philatelists in his own way. Mr. Cooper was the founder Secretary of the Empire of Indian Philatelic Society and remained the Secretary and Editor of the ISJ till his death 1972.

The PSI is responsible for publishing various Philatelic works not only on Indian stamps but also the stamps of other countries. Sir Wilson the first President was joint author of 'The Stamps of the Convention States' and 'The Postage & Telegraph Stamps of British India'. In 1898 PSI published another works of a member Mr. Wilmot Corfield titled 'The Adhesive & Telegraph Stamps of India' and 'Court Fee Stamps of India'. But the monumental work 'the Postage and Telegraph Stamps of India,' which was the stepping stone to further progress on India's postage stamps was penned by Mr. L.L.R. Hausberg. Apart from Hausberg another member Sir David Mason was also a brilliant Philatelic writer and penned 'the Stamp of Afghanistan, Sirmoor and Kashmir,' but during 1912 to 1923 a civil servant named Mr. W. Renouf, I.C.S. was the editor of PJI and also brought original a study on 'Early Indian Cancellation and Indian Stamp Used Abroad'. The first Indian President of PSI was Mr. C.D. Desai who served between 1946 and 1948. He devoted his energies to further popularizing the study of the Indian Lithographs.

From time to time PSI organized various Philatelic Exhibitions but notable ones were the Diamond Jubilee Philatelic Exhibition or DIJUPEX – 1957, National Philatelic Exhibition or NAPEX – 1965, and Platinum Jubilee Exhibition or PLAJUPEX – 1972. All of these exhibitions were organized in Jehagir Art Gallery Bombay. But another important exhibition was organized by the PSI under the

patronage of Philatelic Congress of India to celebrate their 'Centenary'. This was held at Mumbai in 1997 and a set of two stamps was also issued by the India Post to commemorate this occasion.

Like PSI, EIPS had several exhibitions including one man exhibitions when India Post was not holding them regularly. Regular display/talks have also been held. Monthly meetings were later converted into forth nightly meetings where members exchange ideas, views, news and philatelic material. The EIPS had many distinguish philatelists as its members such as M/s. A.R. Binns, P.F. Lally, R.H. Tucker, M.R. Billimoria and Maj R.A. Dubash. Another important incumbent was Mr. P.M. Medhora who was an internationally known authority on India and Indian States, who became the President of the Society in 1977. In the year 2001 EIPS celebrate its 'Diamond Jubilee' by holding National Philatelic Exhibition 'INPEX-EMPIRE-PEX 2001' at Nashik, under the patronage of Philatelic Congress of India and with the support of India Post.

### Books on Indian Stamps written by veterans who are no more with us:

1. The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of British India by Hausberg, Stewart Wilson and D.R. Martin.
2. The Half Anna Lithographed Stamps of India, 1854-1855 by E.A. Smythies and D.R. Martin.
3. The One Anna and Two Annas Postage Stamps of India, 1854-55. By L.E. Dawson.
4. The Four Anna Lithographed of India. By D.R. Martin and E.A. Smythies.
5. The Essays, Proofs and Reprints of the First Issued Stamp of British India of 1854-55. By Sir E.D. Bacon, C.V.O.
6. Specialised Catalogue of Early India Lithographs. By L.E. Dawson and E.A. Smythies.
7. India: Issues of the East India Company. By W. Harold S. Cheavin.
8. Stamps of India. By Jal Cooper, F.R.G.S.
9. The Adhesive Fiscal and Telegraph Stamp of British India. By C.S.F. Crofton and Wilmot Corfield.
10. The Handstruck Postage Stamps of India. By D. Hammond Giles.
11. Early Indian Cancellations and Postmarks, 1852-1884. By W. Renouf, I.C.S.
12. Early Indian Cancellations. By Jal Copper, F.R.G.S.
13. British Indian Stamps used Abroad. By W. Renouf, I.C.S.
14. Indian Stamps used Abroad. By Robson Lowe
15. Indian used Abroad. By Jal Cooper, F.R.G.S.
16. Indian used in Burma. By Jal Cooper, F.R.G.S.
17. The Persian Gulf. By Major T.L.C. Tomkins.
18. Indian Airways, Parts i, ii and iii, by Stephen H. Smith.
19. Indian Rocket Mails. By Jal Cooper, F.R.G.S.
20. A Specialised Priced Catalogue of Indian Stamps. By Jal Cooper, F.R.G.S.
21. A priced catalogue of Indian Post-Independence Stamps. By Jal Cooper, F.R.G.S.

(Note: Due apologies for any inaccuracies or omissions)  
(Input from PJI & ISJ)



# War Tax Through Indian Postal Meter Markings

Although significant works on the subject have been reported in the literature, levy of the tax through meters remains unexplored.

By Dr. R.S. Gandhi

The present Communiqué is devoted to selective postal history topic – Refugee Relief Tax Postal Meter Markings – that offer an alluring peep into the political and social history of the time. This short time levy was charged to help meet the needs of the huge influx of political and religious refugees pouring into India from the new country of Bangladesh. The Refugee Relief War (RRW) Tax Type VIII (Universal Simplex LV. 25 Model of 1957), discovered in 2007, reported for the first time ... The documentation has been structured to benefit postal historians at future exhibitions both as judges and exhibitors and will evoke interest of enthusiasts engaged in the task of recording war tax postal mail in the present era.

RRW tax was charged from November 15, 1971 as stipulated under the provisions of Postal Articles Act 1971. It was levied through the postal system to ensure that the impact was complete while not being a noticeable burden to common people, and without leakage of revenue. The RRT was not a part of postal charges; its use was not compulsory on all postal articles; postcards and blind literature packets were excluded. Postal articles posted within the borders of Jammu and Kashmir need not bear this tax, though such articles would have to bear the tax if posted elsewhere in India until June 30, 1972. It was discontinued by the Refugee Relief Taxes (Abolition) Bill 1973 effective from 1st April 1973. Meticulous scrutiny of bulk commercially used postal articles would infer that RRT realization might broadly be categorized as under:

## 1. ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS

- 1.1 Handstamped overprint,
- 1.2 Machine/type written overprints
- 1.3 Public Postage (Definitives) overprints

## 2. SERVICE (OFFICIAL) ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS

- 2.1 Handstamped overprints

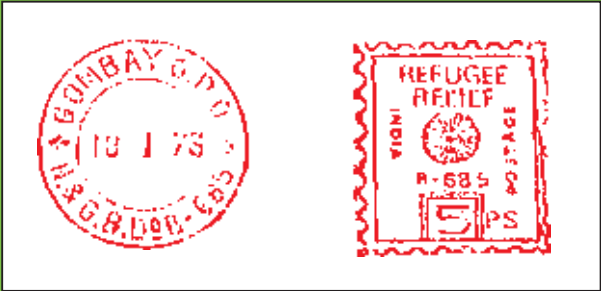
**NOW SEEMS THE TIME TO FILL SOME GAPS LEFT IN EARLIER WRITINGS AND TO BRING THE STORY UP-TO-DATE BY COMPILING A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF RRT METER STAMPS AND THEIR USERS.**

- 2.2 Machine / type written overprints
- 2.3 Definitives overprints.
- 3. RRT PREPAID IN CASH
- 4. RRT PREPAID BY METERS
- 5. RRT DUE
- 6. RRT STATIONARY - PROVISIONAL/NEW DESIGN
- 7. RRT EXEMPTIONS
- 8. RRT ON DIPLOMATIC MAIL
- 9. RRT FISCAL STAMPS
- 10. MISCELLANEOUS

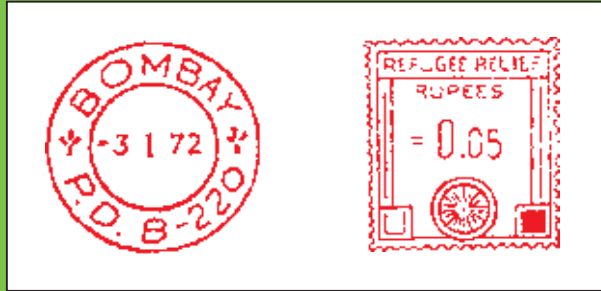
Although significant works on the subject have been reported in the literature, levy of the tax through meters remains unexplored. An attempt has been made to enlist types already defined (Ref. 1 & 2). Now seems the time to fill some gaps left in earlier writings and to bring the story up-to-date by compiling a comprehensive list of RRT meter stamps and their users.

In 1971 the postal service was not prepared for the tax, and hastily overprinted existing adhesive stamps for its supply. These were used until a special tax stamp could be printed and distributed. Many Postal Circle authori-





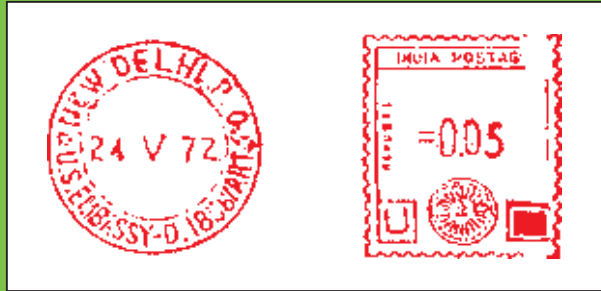
TYPE - I



TYPE - IVa



TYPE - II



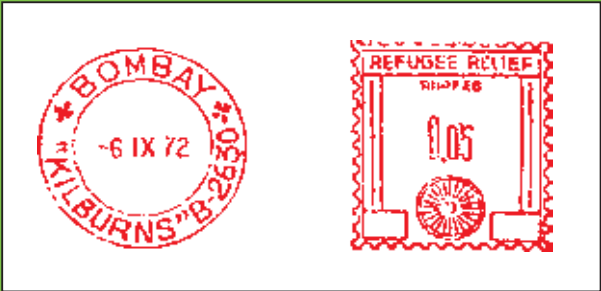
TYPE - IVb



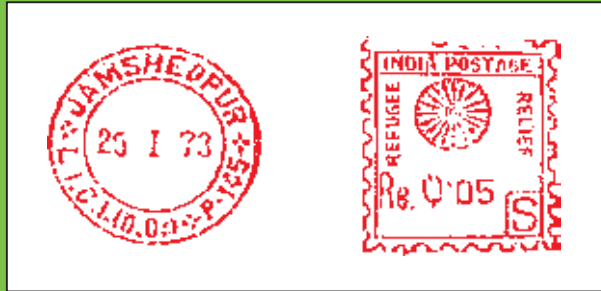
TYPE - III



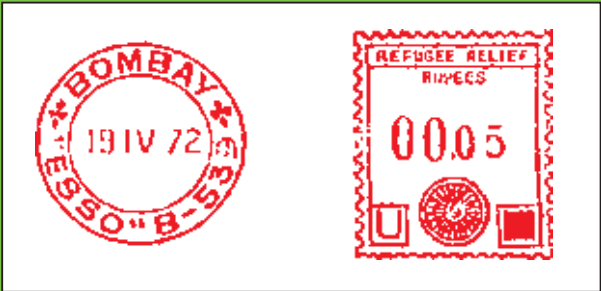
TYPE - V



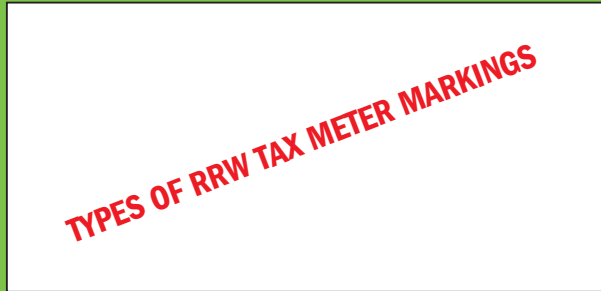
TYPE - IIIa



TYPE - VI



TYPE - IV





ties also overprinted stamps locally. These stamps became a target of collectors and philatelic fakes soon appeared in the market.

But foremost, why was the use of meter tax stamps authorized? For large firms, banks, insurance companies etc. the use of adhesive involved a massive slowdown of mail-processing and created many related problems. To obviate these, the Postal Department devised and approved the necessary accounting system to ensure realization of the tax without any leakage. Under the scheme it could be paid through specially designed prepaid postage meters of fixed value of Re. 0.05 (5 Paise). Special meters are reported to have been used only in four postal

circles namely Bihar, Bombay, Karnataka and West Bengal, out of sixteen circles then in existence. Other postal circles having important and considerable business, commercial & industrial establishments and Governmental undertakings in their areas await reports of meter use. Precisely to produce the RRT marking, the manufacturer usually used a standard commercial-use meter format but in some cases modified design meters were developed for the purpose. Eight different types of tax dies on six machine models are known so far. Five distinct typesets alone were used on Neopost machines. Type VIII and three more sub-types IIIa, IVa and IVb were discovered later on. The RRT stamp types and the mailer are as follow:

### WAR TAX THROUGH INDIAN POSTAL METER – RECORDED USAGES

USER'S INITIALS	LICENCE MARKS	USER FIRM	REMARKS (known dates of usage)
1. TYPE I	<b>N. &amp; G. B. LTD. B – 685</b>	National And Grindlays Bank Ltd., P.O. Box 141 90 / 94, Mahatma Gandhi Rd., Bombay – 400 023	Neopost (LV 6 or 8) Model 1961, modified design, two lines REFUGEE / RELIEF at top and INDIA / POSTAGE sideways, small Ashoka Wheel, denomination as 5 PS 20 XII 71; 24 IV 72; 8 V 72; 7 VI 72; 21 VI 72; 15 VII 72; 18 IX 72; 25 XI 72; 27 XII 72 & 18 I 73
2.	<b>TIMES B 680</b>	Times Of India P.O. Box 213, Bombay No. 1	- do - , 7 I 72; 19 II 72; 6 IV 72; 22 V 72; 5 VII 72; 8 VII 72; 11 IX 72; 2 X 72; 13 X 72; 16 X 72 & 23 X 72
3.	<b>D.O. (I) LTD B – 4032</b>	Dorr - Oliver India Limited 56 A, Free School Street, Calcutta – 16	- do - , 12 I 72; 14 I 72; 5 II 72; 10 IV 72; 28 VI 72; 7 VII 72 & 4 IX 72
(printed corner return address; but meter licensed from Maharashtra Postal Circle)			
4.	<b>BK. OF INDIA B – 4009</b>	Bank of India, Express Towers, Nariman Point, Bombay – 21	- do - , 6 X 72; 7 X 72, 18 XI 72; 25 XI 72; 4 I 73 & 10 I 73

**The Bank of India used the same RRT die (license no. B – 4009) with two different regular Postage meters (Neopost Model of 1957, ID mark BOMBAY G.P.O. ; B. Of I.; B – 1092 and Stampmaster Model of 1957, ID mark BOMBAY, BK. OF INDIA, B – 3827 date 5 X 72)**

5.	<b>B – 650</b>	Dharmayug, Magazine, The Times of India Press,	- do -
6. TYPE II	<b>B.B. (I) LTD, C -1 /RRT</b>	Brooke Bond India Limited Calcutta	Neopost (LV 6 or 8) Model 1961, Modified design, curved REFUGEE RELIEF in semicircle at top, No INDIA POSTAGE legend, large Ashoka Wheel, denomination. as 5 PAISE 12 XI 72



7.	<b>D.I.LTD. C – 3 / RRT</b>	Dunlop India Limited, Dunlop House, 57 – B. Mirza Ghalib Street, Post Box No. 9023, Calcutta- 16	- do -27 IV 72; 21 VI 72; 14 VII 72; 18 IX 72; 21 X 72; 28 X 72; 4 XI 72; 24 I 73 & 31 I 73; 15 I 73 13 II 73
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**( postage meter dated 15 I 73 on cover but meter imprint paying RRT is dated 15 XII 73 on back side, obviously a wrong date mark)**

8.	<b>B. S. C – 5 / RR</b>	M / S Burma Shell Hongkong House, Calcutta – 1	- do - 5 X 72
9.	<b>C.E.S.C. C – 6 / RRT</b>	Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation Limited, 443 / 1 Grant Trunk Road, Howrah	- do -28 VII 72; 19 VII 72; 21 VII 72; 13 IX 72; 25 IX 72; 14 X 72; 20 X 72 & 3 XI 72;

10.	<b>L.I.C.I. P – 191</b>	Life Insurance Corporation Of India, Patna Divisional Office, "Jeevan Prakash" Muzharul Path, Patna – 1	- do – 4 X 72
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11. TYPE III	<b>KILBURNS B - 2630</b>	Macneil and Magor Limited, P.O. Box 565, Mackinnon Mackenzie building, Shoorji Vallabhdas Marg, Bombay 400 001.	Kilburns (FV) Model K1 of 1970, commercial-use format, one additional vertical line above the left & right bottom tablets. No index letter K in right bottom tablet but one line in left tablets; small Ashoka Wheel & one lined REFUGEE RELIEF at top panel. No INDIA POSTAGE legend, Denomination as <b>RUPEES 0.05</b> 22 VII 72; 26 VII 72 & 6 IX 72
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TYPE III a.	- do -	- do -	Additional vertical line absent; neither line nor index letter K within the left & right bottom tablet respectively. Denomination as <b>RUPEES 0.05</b> 15 I 72
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12. TYPE IV	<b>ESSO B – 539</b>	Esso India, Esso Eastern Inc. P.O. Box No. 11041, Bombay - 20 BR.	Universal (MV) Model 1957, commercial – use format, Index letter U in left bottom tablet & right tablet being solid; one lined REFUGEE RELIEF at top, no INDIA POSTAGE legend, denomination as <b>RUPEES 0.05.</b> 24 IV 72; 14 VI 72; 29 VII 72 & 18 IX 72; 19 IV 72
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13.	<b>U.S.I.S. B – 4019</b>	United States Information Service, Bombay	- do - 9 IX 72
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14. TYPE IVa	<b>P.D. B – 220</b>	Parke-Devis (India) Limited, Saki Naka, Bombay – 400 072	Universal (MV) Model 1959, modified design two additional decorative vertical above bottom tablets, the right tablet being solid; denomination as <b>RUPEES = 0.05</b> 3 I 72; 10 I 72; 17 I 72; 12 II 72; 3 IV 72; 20 IV 72; 29 V 72; 20 IX 72; 11 I 73 & 24 I 73
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15. TYPE IVb	<b>U.S. EMBASSY D – 1868 6/RRT</b>	U.S. Embassy New Delhi	Universal Automax (MV) Model, REFUGEE and RELIEF vertically At Left & right side, Index letter
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	<p>16. <b>TYPE V</b></p>	<p><b>B.E.L. BG – 603</b></p>	<p>Bharat Electronic Ltd., Registered Office Jalahalli, Bangalore 13</p>	<p>U in the left bottom tablet, Solid Block at right bottom tablet. denomination as = <b>0.05</b> 24 V 72;</p> <p>Neopost (LV 6 or 8) Model 1961, commercial-use format, no Ashoka Wheel, INDIA POSTAGE legend at top panel and bi-lingual REFUGEE RELIEF in Roman &amp; Devanagari in large script letterings, denomination as <b>RUPEE 0.05</b> 14 XII 71; 24 XII 71; 15 V 72; 14 VI 72; 5 VII 72; 12 VII 72; 29 VII 72; 9 IX 72; 27 IX 72 &amp; 9. X 72</p>
	<p>17. <b>TYPE VI</b></p>	<p><b>L.I.C. (D.O.) P-145</b></p>	<p>Life Insurance Corporation of India, Jamshedpur Divisional Office, Hindustan Building Post Box. 41, Jamshedpur – 1</p>	<p>Stampmaster (LV.16) Model 1957, commercial – use format, large Ashoka wheel, REFUGEE / RELIEF sideways, denomination as <b>Rs. 0.05</b> 17 XI 72; 25 I 73 &amp; 13 II 73</p>
	<p>18. <b>TYPE VII</b></p>			<p>Neopost (LV. 6 or 8) Model 1961, commercial-use format, Bi-lingual REFUGEE RELIEF in Roman &amp; Devanagari <b>scripts in small fonts</b></p>
	<p>19. <b>TYPE VIII</b></p>	<p><b>TISCO P – 17</b></p>	<p>The Tata Iron &amp; Steel Co. Ltd, Jamshedpur</p>	<p>Universal Simplex (LV. 25) Model of 1961, REFUGEE and RELIEF at right &amp; left vertical panel, solid blocks at right &amp; left bottom. Denomination as <b>RUPEE 0.05</b> 5 XII 72</p>

Types III and IIIa were manufactured by the user and licensed under the same user's identification mark (B – 2630). Type IV, IVa and IVb were used by Bombay-based M/S Esso India, Esso Eastern Inc., M/S Parke-Devis (India) Ltd., and the US Embassy in New Delhi respectively, are different models of Universal MV version with slight modifications.

Apparently a Government of India undertaking, Bharat Electronic Ltd. of Bangalore (Karnataka Postal Circle) was quick to adopt this mode of prepayment. The earliest known use of RRT meter is 14 December 1971 and is by this undertaking. The latest known use is 13 February 1973 jointly by the Life Insurance Corporation of India, Jamshedpur (Bihar Postal Circle) and Calcutta Electric Supply Corp. Limited, Howrah (West Bengal Postal Circle).

Though the study identified only eighteen users of RRT meters so far, growing speculation of its usage by others cannot be ruled out. Further investigation of present meter survey study, marred partly in checking the identity of others, specially missing gaps of user's license marks C – 2 / RRT & C – 4 / RRT of West Bengal Circle. This may be due to a lack of information-sharing responses between RRT collectors, postal historians and the Department of Posts.

The scribe looks forward to additional newsworthy information

from postal historians and philatelists. Every little bit of help, and of course photocopies of items would be very welcome.

I thankful acknowledge Mr. John A Fochtman, Nottingham (UK); Mr. Don Trethewey, Victoria (Australia); Mr. Kenneth G. Adams, Glasgow (UK); Mr. Ron Klimley, Tampa Florida (USA); Col. Joel A Hawkins, Goodyear AZ (USA); and Mr. Pradeep Kumar Agarwal of Patna (India), for providing useful information of a general nature.

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- Private Communications:** Fochtman, John A.; Nottingham (UK) 1980;  
Trethewey, D.H.; Victoria (Australia) 1983; Adams, Kenneth G.; (UK) 2001;  
Klimley, Ron; Tampa Florida (USA) 2002; and Hawkins, Col. A. Joel; Goodyear AZ (USA) 2003.



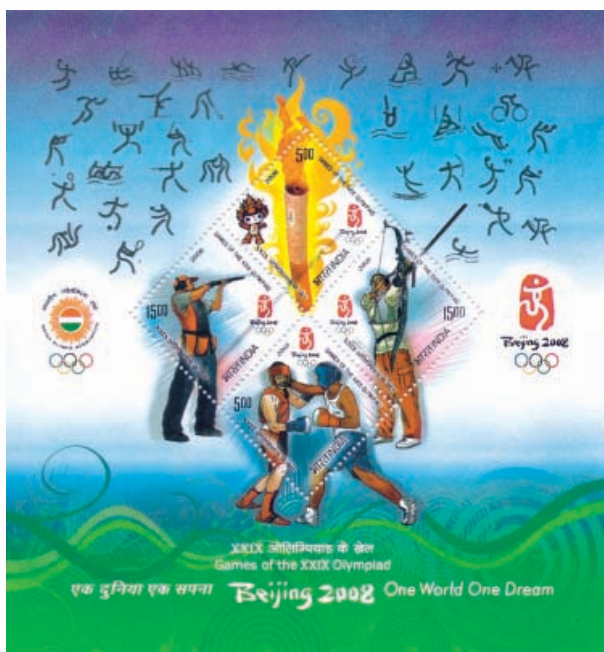


# High Profile First Day Covers

## Games of the XXIX Olympiad - Beijing 2008

By Mr. Shrikant Parikh, Ahmedabad

India Post has issued a beautiful Miniature Sheet depicting symbols of various games, and stamps of Olympic Flame and 3 sports in which our Heroes participated. They brought fame to India. It is my humble effort to pay tribute to the Olympic Heroes (medal winners) as well as to promote Philately, thus making it more popular by creating these four high profile First Day Covers. With help of India Post, who are of late bringing out magnificent Philatelic products, I am sure that junior and senior Philatelists will endeavour their best to develop and enjoy Philately to a great extent.



Miniature Sheet



FDC of Olympic Flame



FDC of Shooting



FDC of Boxing



FDC of Archery



# COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

RELEASED IN 2008



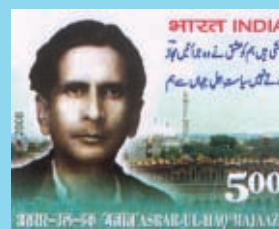
## Endemic Butterflies of Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Date of Issue: 02-01-2008  
 Denomination: 500p, 500p, 500p, 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 3.0 Million, 3.0 Million, 3.0 Million, 3.0 Million  
 Miniature Sheet: 0.2 Million  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Printer: India Security Press, Nasik



## Damodaram Sanjeevaiah

Date of Issue: 14-02-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



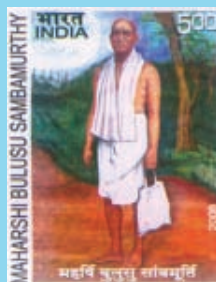
## Asrar-ul-haq 'Majaaz'

Date of Issue: 28-03-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



## Dr. B.P. Pal

Date of Issue: 05-01-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



## Maharshi Bulusu Sambamurthy

Date of Issue: 04-03-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



## Civil Service

Date of Issue: 21-04-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.8 Million  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Printer: India Security Press, Nasik



## Dr. D.R. Gadgil

Date of Issue: 08-02-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Printer: India Security Press, Nasik



## Madhubala

Date of Issue: 18-03-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Miniature Sheet: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Printer: India Security Press, Nasik



## TATA Steel

Date of Issue: 22-04-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 1.3 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



### Jasmine

Date of Issue: 26-04-2008  
 Denomination: 1500p, 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 3.0 Million, 1.0 Million  
 Miniature Sheet: 0.5 Million  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Printer: India Security Press, Nasik



### Rajesh Pilot

Date of Issue: 11-06-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



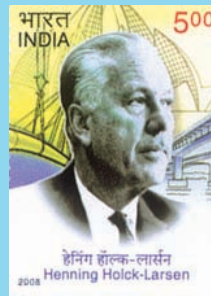
### India-China Joint Issue

Date of Issue: 11-07-2008  
 Denomination: 1500p, 1500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.8 Million, 0.8 Million  
 Miniature Sheet: 0.2 Million  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Printer: India Security Press, Nasik



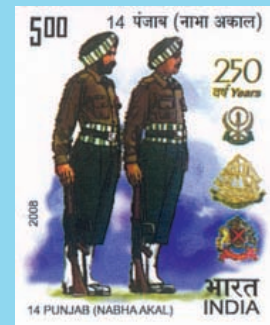
### Aga Khan Foundation

Date of Issue: 17-05-2008  
 Denomination: 500p, 1500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.8 Million each  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Miniature Sheet: 0.2 Million  
 Printer: India Security Press, Nasik



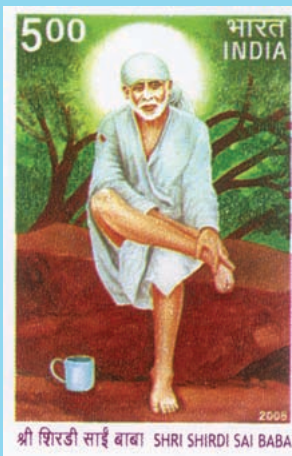
### Henning Holck-Larsen

Date of Issue: 12-06-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 2.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Printer: India Security Press, Nasik



### 14 Punjab (Nabha Akal)

Date of Issue: 21-07-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.8 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



### Shri Shirdi Sai Baba

Date of Issue: 20-05-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Printer: India Security Press, Nasik



### Madhav Institute of Technology & Science, Gwalior

Date of Issue: 30-06-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.8 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



### Damodar Dharmananda Kosambi

Date of Issue: 31-07-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



### Aldabra Giant Tortoise

Date of Issue: 02-08-2008  
 Denomination: 500p, 1500p  
 Stamps Printed: 3 Million, 3 Million  
 Miniature Sheet: 0.2 Million  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Printer: India Security Press, Nasik



### Games of the XXIX Olympiad, Beijing 2008

Date of Issue: 08-08-2008  
 Denomination: 500p, 500p, 1500p, 1500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.8 Million each  
 Miniature Sheet: 1.00 Million  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Printer: India Security Press, Nasik



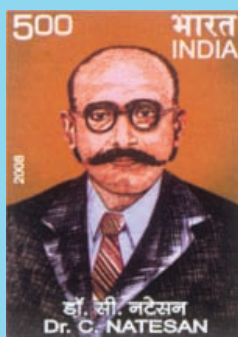
### Indian Coast Guard

Date of Issue: 12-08-2008  
 Denomination: 500p, 500p, 500p, 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.8 Million each  
 Miniature Sheet: 0.2 Million  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



### Ustad Bismillah Khan

Date of Issue: 21-08-2008  
 Denomination: 500  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



### Dr. C. Natesan

Date of Issue: 17-09-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



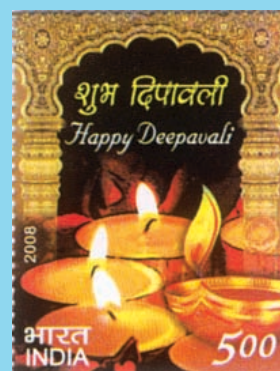
### Dr. T. M. Nair

Date of Issue: 17-09-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



### Sir Pitti Theagarayar

Date of Issue: 17-09-2008  
 Denomination: 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million  
 Printing Process: Wet-Offset  
 Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad



### Dussehra, Mysore Dussehra, Kolkata Happy Deepavali

Date of Issue: 7-10-2008  
 Denomination: 500p, 500p, 500p  
 Stamps Printed: 3.0 Million each  
 Miniature Sheet: 1.0 Million  
 Printing Process: Photogravure  
 Printer: India Security Press, Nasik

# MINIATURE SHEETS

FOR THE YEAR 2008



**GAMES OF THE XXIX OLYMPIAD**  
Date of Issue: 08-08-2008  
Number of Copies Printed: 1.00 Million



**INDIA-CHINA: JOINT ISSUE**  
Date of Issue: 11-07-2008  
Number of Copies Printed: 0.2 Million



**MADHUBALA**  
Date of Issue: 18-03-2008  
Number of Copies Printed: 0.4 Million



**ENDEMIC BUTTERFLIES OF ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS**  
Date of Issue: 02-01-2008  
Number of Copies Printed: 0.2 Million



**AGA KHAN FOUNDATION**  
Date of Issue: 17-05-2008  
Number of Copies Printed: 0.2 Million



**JASMINE**  
Date of Issue: 26-04-2008  
Number of Copies Printed: 0.5 Million



**INDIAN COAST GUARD**  
Date of Issue: 12-08-2008  
Number of Copies Printed: 0.2 Million

# TENTATIVE STAMPS ISSUE PROGRAMME FOR THE YEAR 2008

Issue No.	Stamp No.	Name of the stamp	Date of Issue
1	1-4	Endemic Butterflies of Andaman & Nicobars (in sheetlet with miniature sheet)	02-01-2008
2	5	Dr. B.P. Pal	05-01-2008
3	6	Dr. D.R. Gadgil	08-02-2008
4	7	Damodaram Sanjeevaiah	14-02-2008
5	8	Maharshi Bulusu Samba Murthy	04-03-2008
6	9	Madhubala (diamond shaped stamps in sheetlet with miniature sheet)	18-03-2008
7	10	Asrarul Haq Majaz (Majaz Lakhnavi)	28-03-2008
8	11	Civil Services Day	21-04-2008
9	12	Tata Steel	22-04-2008
10	13-14	Jasmine (Fragrant Stamps with miniature sheet)	26-04-2008
11	15-16	Aga Khan Foundation (with miniature sheet)	17-05-2008
12	17	Shri Shirdi Sai Baba	20-05-2008
13	18	Rajesh Pilot	11-06-2008
14	19	Henning Holck Larsen	12-06-2008
15	20	Madhav Institute of Technology and Science, Gwalior	30-06-2008
16	21-22	Indo-China Joint Issue (with miniature sheet)	11-07-2008
17	23	14 Punjab (Nabha Akal)	21-07-2008
18	24	Damodar Dharamananda Kosambi	31-07-2008
19	25-26	Aldabra Giant Tortoise (hexogonal stamps with sheetlet only)	02-08-2008
20	27-30	Games of the XXIX Olympiad (diamond shaped stamps with miniature sheet)	08-08-2008
21	31-34	Indian Coast Guard (with sheetlet and miniature sheet)	12-08-2008
22	35	Ustad Bilsillah Khan	21-08-2008
23	36	Sir Pitti Theagarayar	17-09-2008
24	37	Dr. C. Natesan	17-09-2008
25	38	Dr. T.M. Nair	17-09-2008
26	39-41	Festivals of India (with miniature sheet)	07-10-2008
27	42-45	Commonwealth Youth Games	12-10-2008
28	46	Post Office (with miniature sheet)	13-10-2008
29	47	Food Quality & safety Year 2008-2009	16-10-2008
30	48	Commonwealth Games 2010 (with miniature sheet)	18-10-2008
31	49-50	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy, Hyderabad (with miniature sheet)	25-10-2008
32	51	Infantry Soldier Year of Infantry	27-10-2008
33	52	T.V. Ramasubbaier	October 2008
34	53-56	Spices of India (with miniature sheet)	November 2008
35	57	L.M. Singhvi	November 2008
36	58	Dr. Raj Kumar	November 2008
37	59-62	Children's Day	14-11-2008
38	63	Joachim and Violet Alva	November 2008
39	64	Gas Authority of India	November 2008
40	65	Flagship Heritage Building of Standard Chartered Bank	November 2008
41	66	St. Joseph's Boys High School, Bangalore	November 2008
42	67	Buddhadeva Bose	29-11-2008
43	68-78	Jayadeva and Geetagovinda (with Miniature sheet)	November 2008
44	79	Evershed Effect (Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore)	02-12-2008
45	80	Universal Declaration of Human Rights	10-12-2008
46	81	Swami Ranganathanandji Maharaj	15-12-2008
47	82	Brahmos Cruise Missile	December 2008
48	83-84	Indian Institute of Science	December 2008
49	85	Field Marshal Manekshaw	December 2008
50	86	Reaching out to Martime Neighbours	December 2008
51	87-88	Christmas Eve	24-12-2008
52	89	Uttam Kumar	To be decided
53	90	B.N. Reddy	To be decided
54	91-93	Rare Fauna of North East (with miniature sheet)	To be decided
55	94-97	Rampur Raja Library (with miniature sheet)	To be decided
56	98	Rani Velu Nachchiyar	To be decided
57	99	Sheik Thambi Pavalar	To be decided
58	100	Thillaiyadi Valliammai	To be decided
59	101	Udumalai Narayana Kavi	To be decided

60	102	A.T. Paneerselvam	To be decided
61	103	M. Baktha Vatsalam	To be decided
62	104	Y.B. Chavan	To be decided
63	105	Pramatesh Barua	To be decided
64	106-109	Indian Railway Stations (with miniature sheet)	To be decided
65	110	Bishop Robert Caldwell	To be decided

## FOR THE YEAR 2009

Issue No.	Stamp No.	Name of the stamp	Date of Issue
1	1-6	Seasons of India	01-01-2009
2	7	Louis Braille	04-01-2009
3	8	Vaikom Muhammed Basheer	20-01-2009
4	9	St. Paul's Church	25-01-2009
5	10	Postal Life Insurance	01-02-2009
6	11	Flowering TreePerospermum Acerifolium	02-02-2009
7	12	Steel Authority of India	03-02-2009
8	13-14	Heritage Temples, 3. Dilwara Temple, 4. Ranakpur Temple	09-02-2009
9	15	Lal Pratap Singh	19-02-2009
10	16	Maha Kavi Magh	February 2009
11	17-21	Legendary Heroines of Cinema, 5. Kannan Devi, 6. Devika Rani, 7. Savitri, 8. Meena Kumari	08-03-2009
12	22	Preserve the Polar Regions and Glaciers	27-03-2009
13	23	UN Convention on the Rights for Persons with Disabilities	30-03-2009
14	24	Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar	31-03- 2009
15	25-35	Astronomy (12 astrological signs)	06-04-2009
16	36	Henry Louis Vivian Derozio	18-04-2009
17	37	Lalit Kala Academy	May 2009
18	38	Prafulla Chandra Chaki	02-05-2009
19	39-42	Colonial Heritage of India, 5. Gulmarg, 6. Darjeeling, 7. Ooty, 8. Shimla	04-05-2009
20	43	Maharaja Surajmal	25-05-2008
21	44	Buddha Yayanti	May 2009
22	45-46	Children Fables Series-I, 3. Vikram and Betal, 4. Mogli	11-05-2009
23	47	Mahrashi Patanjali and Yoga	01-06-2009
24	48-51	Endangered Species of India, 5. Ganges River Dolphin, 6. Lion Tailed Macaque, 7. Himalyan Musk Deer, 8. Nilgiri Tahr	05-06-2009
25	52	Rev. J.J.M. Nichols Roy	12-06-2009
26	53	Bishnu Prasad Raha (Kalaguru)	20-06-2009
27	54	National Gallery of Modern Arts	July 2009
28	55-56	Architectural Splendours, 3. Ujjanta Palace, Tripura, 4. Patwonki Haveli, Jaisalmer	06-07-2009
29	57	Lifeline Express	12-07-2009
30	58	Rat Yatra Festival of Puri	July 2009
31	59	Pingali Venkaiah (designer of tricolour Flag)	02-08-2009
32	60-61	Children Fables Series-II, 3. Tenali Ramalinga Stories, 4. Akbar and Birbal Stories	03-08-2009
33	62-63	Unique Villages, 3. Toda Village, 4. Kutch Village	18-08-2009
34	64	P. Jeevanadam	21-08-2009
35	65	Virchand Raghavji Gandhi	25-08-2009
36	66-67	House Boats, 3. Kettuvalam Boats of Kerala, 4. House Boats of Kashmir	07-09-2009
37	68	Sacred Heart Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Chennai	09-09-2009
38	69	Dushyant Kumar	27-09-2009
39	70	Danmal Mathur	September 2009
40	71-74	Tracing Civilization, 5. Bhimbetka Caves, 6. Barbar Caves, 7. Udaigiri Caves, 8. Nagarjuna Caves	01-10-2009
41	75	R.K. Narayan	10-10-2009
42	76-77	World Heritage Architectural Splendours, 2. Mattanchery Palace, Ernakulam, 2. Rani-Ki-Vav, Patan	02-11-2009
43	78	Gauri Shankar Dalmia	12-11-2009
44	79-80	Childrens' Day	14-11-2009
45	81-84	Amazing Textiles of India, 5. Banarasi Silk, 6. Kanchivaram Silk, 7. Tant (West Benal), 8. Chanderi (MP)	08-12-2008
46	85	Seasons Greetings, 2. New Year Eve	18-12-2009
47	86	Indian Mathematical Society	December 2009

India Post Expo at Beijing  
08-18 August 2008



Indo-China Joint Issue Stamp  
Release at Beijing  
06 June 2008



Release of Madhubala Stamp  
at Mumbai  
21 March 2008



# MINIATURE SHEETS

Compiled by Mr. Shrikant Parikh, Ahmedabad

#	Date	Description	Denomination (Rs.P)	Post Price
1	14.11.1973	Indipex-73	20p, Rs.1, 1.45, 2	4.65
2	15.04.1974	Mask series	20p, 50p, Rs.1, 2	3.70
3	03.10.1974	U.P.U.	25p, Rs.1, 2	3.75
4	15.06.1987	India-89	50,500	8.00
5	17.10.1987	India-89	60,150,500,650	15.00
6	02.10.1995	Mahatma Gandhi	100,200	8.00
7	10.05.1996	Himalayan Ecology	500,500,500,500	30.00
8	15.12.1997	Mother Teresa	4500	45.00
9	07.04.2000	Indepex-2000	300,300,300,1500	24.00
10	24.08.2000	Migratory Birds	300,300,300,300	12.00
11	11.12.2000	Gems & Jewellery	300,300,300,300	15.00
12	16.04.2002	150 Years of Railway	1500	15.00
13	26.04.2002	India & Japan	1500,1500	30.00
14	30.10.2002	Mangroves	500,500,500,1500	30.00
15	15.11.2002	Handicrafts	500,500,500,500	20.00
16	05.02.2003	Aero India 2003	500,500,500,1500	30.00
17	07.04.2003	Medicinal Plants	500,500,500,500	20.00
18	15.05.2003	Playback Singers	500,500,500,500	20.00
19	29.05.2003	Mount Everest	1500	15.00
20	19.06.2003	Govt.Museum-Chennai	500,500,1500	25.00
21	03.10.2003	Waterfalls	500,500,500,1500	30.00
22	12.11.2003	Snakes	500,500,500,500	20.00
23	29.11.2003	India & France	2200,2200	44.00
24	22.12.2003	Sangeet Natak Akademi	500,500,500	15.00
25	25.04.2004	Tarangini	500	5.00
26	28.06.2004	Trigonometrical Survey	500,500,500	15.00
27	04.10.2004	150 Years of Postage Stamp	500,500,500,500	20.00
28	24.10.2004	Indian Soldiers of Peace	500	5.00
29	28.11.2004	Agra Fort	1500,1500	30.00
30	16.12.2004	Taj Mahal	1500	15.00
31	24.03.2005	Flora & Fauna of North East	500,500,500,500	20.00
32	05.04.2005	Dandi March	500,500,500,500	20.00
33	18.10.2005	Letter Box	500,500,500,500	20.00
34	12.04.2006	India & Cyprus: Joint Issue	1500,1500	30.00
35	23.05.2006	Kurinji	1500	15.00
36	11.09.2006	India & Mongolia: Joint Issue	1500,1500	30.00
37	05.10.2006	Endagered Birds of India	500,500,500,500	20.00
38	14.11.2006	Children's Day	500,500	10.00
39	13.12.2006	Sandalwood	1500	15.00
40	07.02.2007	Fragrance of Roses	500,500,1500,1500	40.00
41	27.02.2007	Fairs of India	500,500,500,500	20.00
42	08.03.2007	Women's Day	500,500,1500,1500	40.00
43	02.05.2007	2550 Years of Mahaparinirvana of the Lord Buddha	500 x 6	30.00
44	09.08.2007	1857: First War of Independence	500,1500	10.00
45	17.08.2007	Landmark Bridges of India	500,500,500,500	20.00
46	02.10.2007	Satyagraha Centenary of Platinum Jubilee	500,500,500,500	20.00
47	08.10.2007	Indian Air Force	500,500,500,1500	30.00
48	14.10.2007	4th CISM Military World Games	500,500,500	15.00
49	14.11.2007	Children's Day	500,500	10.00
50	22.11.2007	New and Renewable Energy	500,500,500,500	20.00

भारतीय डाक



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