



THE FILA CAPSULE

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The Future of Indian Philately

Philately is treated as *'the King of hobbies and hobby of Kings'*. Now a days it is accepted as *'the King of hobbies'* only. The days of kings are over and the taste of philately is at the reach of a common people even in some parts of our country, which are still treated as the backward and under developed areas. The Department of Posts, Govt. of India is taking ample steps and providing sufficient funds for the promotion of Philately.

The first Orissa State Philatelic Exhibition (ORPEX-73) was held at Barabati Stadium, Cuttack from 28.04.73 to 30.04.73 where mostly philatelists of Cuttack participated. Since then several State level philatelic exhibitions were organised during 1976, 1982, 1985, 1989, 1997, 2002 and at last 2006. The exhibitions were limited to Cuttack and Bhubaneswar only, except the year 1982 and 2006 during which the exhibitions were held at Rourkela. Till 1989 most of the participants were belonging to Cuttack only, as Cuttack was treated as the Philatelic center of Orissa. Till 1998 there was only one Philatelic Bureau at Cuttack and on 09.10.2001 the second Philatelic Bureau of the State was inaugurated at GPO, Bhubaneswar. Till 1997 there were two Philatelic Organisations actively doing philatelic activities. During 1998 a new association in the name of Eastern India Philatelists' Association (EIPA) having state level registration at IGR, Cuttack was formed at Bhubaneswar to strengthen the philatelic activities in Orissa. During 2000 a National level Philatelic exhibition was organised by the Orissa Philatelic Association, Eastern India Philatelists' Association with the active support of the Department of Posts under the patronage of PCI, the apex body of Philately in India, which was treated as the turning point in the Orissa philatelic scenario. Even after the worstly affected by the super cyclone in Orissa during October 1999, which has tilted the backbone of the states economy, it was out of imagination that the national event can not be held in Orissa. The main venue, i.e. the Netaji Indoor Stadium, Cuttack where the exhibition was going to be held was totally damaged and was not in a position to hold any event. Even then, the philatelists of Orissa did not disheartened and took it as a challenge and successfully conducted the exhibition at Bhubaneswar at a new venue and proved their ability to conduct the National event with the available philatelists. Besides, the organisers had also donated a

sum of about Rs.60,000/- to the Chief Minister's relief fund for the cyclone affected victims which were raised from the participants of Millepex-2000. Orissa emerged as one of the philatelic centre of India. During 2002 another National Philatelic Exhibition INPEX-02 was successfully organised by the Orissa Philatelic Association with active participation of EIPA under the patronage of PCI at Bhubaneswar without the support of the Department of Posts which was the turning point in the Indian philately. Due to dispute between PCI and the Department of Posts and due to internal disputes between the member of PCI the matter went to the court. It took another 8 years since 2000 to hold a National Philatelic Exhibition at Chennai by the Department of Posts. Since 1997 except the Asiana-Indepex-2001 exhibition at Kolkata not a single international philatelic exhibition could be organised in India.

In spite of the internal problems of PCI, which appears to be a defunct body, the philatelic activities in all most all states are going on with full swing. In Orissa also due to regular visit of philatelists of EIPA and OPA to different districts and with the active support of the Department of Posts several district level Philatelic exhibitions were held in different districts including in one of the backward districts of KBK, along with other philatelic activities like workshops, Seminars, Philatelic Qizzes, Stamp design contests resulting the born of four more philatelic organisations at Balangir, Berhmapur, Cuttack and Keonjhar with maximum participation of Philatelists from several districts in State and National level exhibitions.

But the activities of PCI, the apex philatelic body of India are still in question. Philatelists in India are hopefully waiting for the day to come with the full fledged activities of PCI or expecting an alternative body to roll the philatelic ball ahead. It is high time to forget all the personal disputes between the members for the greater interest of philately and the activities of PCI be resumed without any further delay in the matter.

The future of Indian Philately is very bright, it only requires the removal of the dusts from the philatelic brass and polish it to sign as bright as possible.

-A.K Dash,
Editor

STAMPNEWS

India

MAHARSHI BULUSU SAMBAMURTHY



Bulusu Sambamurthy was born on 4th of March, 1886, in Dulla village, East Godavari District. His father, Subbavadhanulu, was a vedic scholar who followed the scriptural injunctions in his daily life. Philanthropy was an important part of this life.

Sambamurthy was greatly influenced by his father and these philanthropic qualities played a major role in influencing the path his life would take. A graduate in Physics from Maharajah's College Vizayanagaram, Sambamurthy started working there as a lecturer in physics.

In 1920, Mahatma Gandhi gave a call for Civil Disobedience movement, which included boycott of institutions created by the "British government. Many legal luminaries joined the movement. Inspired by a stirring speech given by Konda Vekatappayya, Sambamurthy also joined the movement.

On 6th April 1930, during the Salt Satyagraha, Sambamurthy along with other leaders marched to Chollangi village near Kakirlada town and defied the Salt laws by making salt from the sea water there. On 18th April 1930 he was arrested and imprisoned in Vellore.

After independence too, Sambamurthy continued to work in the public sphere. He supported the demand for a separate state of Andhra Pradesh. Challa Seshagiri Rao, the editor of Andhra Patrika, recognizing his greatness called him "Maharshi", an apt title. He retired to Kakinada where he spent the evening of his life attending religion discourses. Maharshi Bulusu Sambamurthy passed away on 2nd February 1958 at Kakinada.

Credits:

Text & Stamp: Based on material provided by the proponent.

FDC: Alka Sharma

Cancellation: Alka Sharma

TECHNICAL DATA

Date of Issue: 04-03-2008

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Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million

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Printer: Security Press, Hyderabad

MADHUBALA

Madhubala was one of the earliest Hindi cinema actresses, along with her contemporaries Nutan and Nargis, to acquire a cult status amongst moviegoers. Her evocative beauty and her prodigious talent combined to give her a mass magnetic appeal, which has so endured through the last thirty years, that she was voted the most popular actress of all-time in Hindi cinema recently.

Born Mumtaz Begum Jehan Dehlavi on February 14, 1933 in Delhi, she entered the world of films at the tender age of nine, acting in several films as child artist where her acting potential was noticed by the celebrated Devika Rani Roerich who



Miniature Sheet

rechristened her as Madhubala. While her big break came in Kidar Sharma's Neel Kamal (1947), at the very young age of thirteen, it was her haunting performance as the ghost-spirit in Kamal Amrohi's Mahal (1949) that catapulted Madhubala into a big cine star.

The decade of the 1950's saw her at her versatile best, whether as the conventionally fair lady in Amiya Chakravorthy's "Badal" (1951) or as the village belle in Tarana (1951) who falls in love with a doctor stranded in her village, a role played by Dilip Kumar, with whom she formed a great on-screen romantic pair. It was her great spontaneity and comic timing in Guru Dutt's "Mr. And Mrs. 55", which saw her evolve and mature as an actress. It was this same flair for comedy which saw Madhubala at her exquisite best in "Chalti ka naam gadi" (1958) paired opposite singer-actor Kishore Kumar whom she married in 1960.

Madhubala essayed the role to perfection and won serious critical acclaim as well for her portrayal of Anarkali, which immediately set a new benchmark

for all such historical roles. A third cult song, "Pyar kiya toh darna kya..", picturized on her, etches out the tragic dimensions of the character beautifully and seemed to mirror Madhubala's own inner emotional struggle with her health condition, even while trying to make the most of life itself.

Madhubala followed this up with another intense portrayal of a musician's daughter in love with a poet in the blockbuster "Barsaat ki Raat" (1960), paired with Bharat Bhushan. Her acting skills often underplayed by the media and critics, which largely focused on her ethereal beauty, resulted in extremely sensitive and mature performances, which drew interest from Hollywood even and Frank Capra in particular, who proposed a project with her. Though the project did not materialize and she never worked in Hollywood under family pressure, Theatre Arts, an American magazine, in its August 1952 issue featured Madhubala extensively in an article entitled, "The Biggest Star in the World-And she's not in Beverly Hills".

Her short, brilliant professional career was cut short at the young age of thirty-six as her delicate heart ailment worsened, and she succumbed to her failing health on February 23, 1969. But Madhubala has continued to live in the hearts of millions of Hindi cine-goers with her mystical feminine allure, which has accorded her a cult status amongst fans.

Credits:

Text By: Pranav Khullar

Stamp & FDC: Sankha Samant

Cancellation: Alka Sharma

TECHNICAL DATA

Date of Issue: 18-03-2008

Denomination: 500p

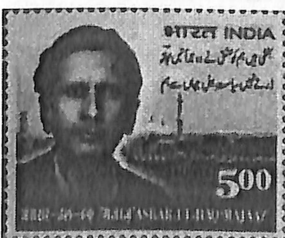
Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million

Miniature Sheets: 0.2 Million

Printing Process: Photogravure

Printer: India Security Press, Nasik

ASRAR.UL.HAQ'MAJAAZ'



Born at Rudauli in Bara Banki district of modern Uttar Pradesh on 19th October, 1911, Majaaz whose real name was As!ar-ul-Haq, was educated at Lucknow,

Agra and Aligarh from where he graduated in 1936 from Aligarh Muslim University. Later he wrote

the university anthem entitled "Yeh Mera Chaman" (This is my Garden) which is still sung at university convocations and other solemn occasions.

At 25, Majaaz was drawn towards the Progressive Writers' Movement which was the rallying center of liberals and intellectuals, and the impetus it gave to literature was remarkable. Started by Sanad Zaheer and Mulk Raj Anand, among others, it swept the whole country in all major Indian languages. The movement attracted the best minds of the time such as Faiz, Firaq, Manto, Krishan Chander and Bedi. It was this upsurge which made Majaaz change from the traditional 'Ghazal' to the modern 'Nazm'. It suited his genius and the temper of the times.

Majaaz wrote sparingly. His poetic output is frugal but whatever little he has left deserves to be bound in pure gold. His small collection consists of 'Ahang' (1938) which was re-printed several times under different names such as 'Shab-e-Tab' (1945) and 'Saz-i-Naau' with marginal additions. He shot into prominence with his 'Nazm', 'Awara', one of the best in Urdu poetry, included in 'Ahang'-a rare combination of melody and resilience in the life of the restless youth.

Persuaded by friends he joined the All India Radio where he started the radio magazine called 'Awaz'. He was in the company of other illustrious writers like Nirad C. Chaudhuri and Upendranath Ashk. This too did not last long, as his intense melancholic restlessness resulted in serious nervous breakdowns and mental agony. His persona and poetry both epitomized the classical melancholic hero-poet, at odds with the world and himself. Ali Sardar Jafri was to later recreate the life of Majaaz in his popular tele-serial "Kahkashan" in 1990, on the life and times of famous Urdu poets.

Credits:

Text: Pranav Khullar (with Contributions from Prof. Sharib Rudaulvi)

Stamp & FDC: Brahm Prakash

Cancellation: Alka Sharma

TECHNICAL DATA

Date of Issue: 28-03-08

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Stamps Printed: 0.4 Million

Printing Process: Wet-Offset

Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

CIVIL SERVICE



One of the oldest examples of a civil service based on meritocracy is the imperial bureaucracy of China that established a civil service bureaucracy recruited by written examinations and recommendation [at the initiative of Emperor Wen of Sui Dynasty (581-604 AD)].

The Chinese civil service became known to Europe in the mid-18th century and influence the development of European and American systems. Ironically, and in part due to Chinese influence, the first European civil service was set up not in Europe, but in India by the East India Company under which administrators were engaged as "Honourable East India Company Civil Servants" as distinguished from its military servants.

The system continued with the constitution of the Imperial Civil Service of India based on the recommendation of the Public Service Commission, 1886-87 and the Provincial Civil Service and Subordinate Civil Service on the recommendation of the Aitchison Commission.

Today, the Civil Service constitutes the permanent executive of the modern state. The All India and Central Services along with the State Civil Services form the basic framework of administration and governance in India. They are entrusted with exercise of sovereign functions of the State. In addition they are expected to perform duties in diverse fields ranging from rural development to railways, from commerce to communications, from foreign policy to fiscal reform.

The Civil Service has continued to be an important instrument for initiating and managing change. Much of this change has been in areas and activities that had a strong presence of the government. Higher public expectations, public-private partnerships, emergence of regulatory bodies and global competition have created new challenges for the Civil Service. Civil Service has tried to meet these expectations of citizens of India with innovation, induction and extensive use of technology and systemic change.

21st April has been earmarked as Civil Service Day, an occasion for the civil servants to rededicate

themselves to the cause of the nation and renew their commitment to public service and excellence in work. As a philatelic innovation, the Ashoka Emblem in the stamp has been embossed.

Credits:

Text: Based on Material provided by the proponent

Stamp & FDC: Shankha Samanta

Cancellation: Alka Sharma

TECHNICAL DATA

Date of Issue: 21-4-2008

Denomination: 500p

Stamps Printed: 0.8 Million

Printing Process: Photogravure

Printer: India Security Press, Nasik

JASMINE

Variouly known as Juhi, Chameli, Mogra and Malati in North India and as Malligai and Mallepoovu etc. in the South, the fragrant and delicate Jasmine flower is deeply embedded in the Indian psyche.



A native to the tropics and warm temperate regions of the world, Jasmine belongs to the family Oleaceae, and may grow as a shrub or as a climbing vine. Typically its leaf shape is simple, trifoliate or pinnate, with upto nine leaflets growing opposite each other. The small and delicate flowers are usually white in colour, though some species bear yellow blossoms. Flowering in the spring and summer, the blossoms bloom in the dark, perfuming the night air with a lingering sweet fragrance.

Widely used in religious offerings, the flowers are also popular for decorative purposes. Many Indian women wear these flowers in their hair. The flowers are also kept inside homes to perfume the air.

The aromatic oil distilled from its flowers is prized in aromatherapy, and in the making of joss sticks, cosmetics, and perfumes, etc. It is also used to add flavour to tea and rice in China and in South East Asia. Many believe that daily consumption of Jasmine tea helps in preventing certain cancers.

Credits:

Stamp & FDC: Suresh Kumar

Cancellation: Alka Sharma

TECHNICAL DATA

Date of Issue: 26.4.2008

Denomination: 1500 P, 500 P

Stamps Printed: 1500P-3.0 Million, 500P-1.00 Million

Miniature set: 0.5 Million

Printing Process: Photogravure

Printer: India Security Press, Nasik

TATASTEEL



Established in 1907 by Jamshedji Nusserwanji Tata, Tata Steel is the world's 6th largest steel company with

an existing annual crude steel production capacity of around 28 million tonnes. While the main plant is located in Jamshedpur, Tata Steel has lined up several Greenfield Projects in Orissa, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh in India and Iran and Bangladesh overseas. The first private sector steel plant that started with a production capacity of 100000 tonnes has now transformed into a global giant with operations in 24 countries and commercial presence in over 50 countries. With investments in Corus, Nat Steel and Tata Steel (Thailand), the Company has created a manufacturing and marketing network in Europe, South East Asia and the Pacific-rim countries. The iron ore mines and collieries in India give the Company a distinct advantage in raw material sourcing. Exploration of opportunities in titanium dioxide in Tamil Nadu, high carbon ferro-chrome plant in South Africa and setting up of a deep-sea port in coastal Orissa are integral to the Growth and Globalization objective of Tata Steel.

Hot and cold rolled coils and sheets, galvanized sheets, tubes, wire rods, construction rebars and bearings are some of its main products.

The social outreach programmes of the company cover the city of Jamshedpur and over 800 villages in and around its manufacturing and raw materials operation through initiatives in the areas of income generation, health and medical care, education, sports and relief. It is said Charity begins at home:

Endeavouring to continue the tradition of aligning business interests with nation building objectives set by its illustrious founder, Tata Steel has completed 100 glorious years of existence.

Credits:

Text: Based on Material provided by the proponent

Stamp & FDC: Kamleshwar Singh

Cancellation: Alka Sharma

TECHNICAL DATA

Date of Issue: 22-4-2008

Denomination: 500p

Stamps Printed: 1.3 Million

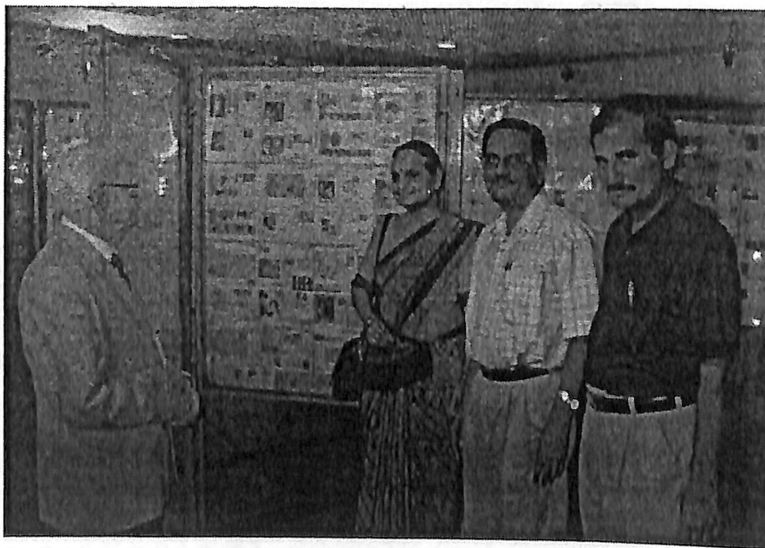
Printing Process: Wet-Offset

Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

Exhibition News

MAHAFILMPEX -2008

Department of Posts, Maharashtra Circle organised a special film and philatelic event on 'Magic of Films' in the name of MAHAFILMPEX-2008 was at Ravindra Natya Mandir, P.L.Despande Academy, Pravadevi, Mumbai from 17-19, March, 2008. Exhibits of 29 philatelists including the exhibits of National Philatelic Museum, New Delhi in 57 frames were displayed during the exhibition on the themes

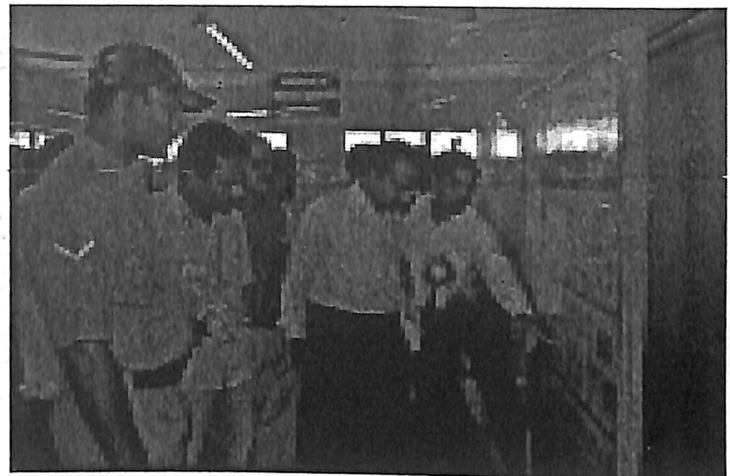


Dr. Pradeep Kumar Padhi (extreme right), Dr. Prachand Panda (second from right) with Mrs. Damayanti Pittie (PCI) during the Mahafilmpex-08, Mumbai

of Music, Dances and Films by invitation only. The exhibits of Mr. Gurudutta Panda represented by his father Dr. Prana Chand Panda, Berhampur (Ganjam) on Indian Cinema and exhibit of Dr. Pradeep Kumar Padhi, Cuttack on Dance & Music were exhibited in the exhibition. This is the rare opportunity that two exhibits from Orissa were displayed in the prestigious exhibition organized by the Department of Posts. On this occasion the stamp on Madhubala and the miniature sheet were also released there. During the three days festival of Exhibition, show of old classic films, Posters Costumes and photographs, Cultural show, stamp design and quiz contests were also organized. Three special covers were released during this exhibition. Noted film stars namel Shakti Samant, Manoj Kumar, Nimmy, Ameen Sayani, Kiran Shantaram. Sonali Kulkarni, sister of Madhubala Mrs. Madhur Bhushan along with senior officers of Postal Department were also present to grace the occasion. All the participants were presented with mementos and a ceretificates.

BALNGIRPEX-2008

The 3rd District level philatelic exhibition of undivided Balangir district, Balngirpex-2008 was held at the HPO complex on 25-26, March,2008 organised by the Department Posts in active participation of the Balangir Philatelic Club. Exhibits of 13 philatelists along with the exhibit of the jury were displayed in 40 frames. The function was inaugurated by Sh. R.S.Gopalan, IAS, Collector of Balangir. Sh. Sadanand Agrawal historian and chairman of Bhima Bhoi Trust was the guest of honour and Sh. Ramesh Patri, Lecturer DIET was the speaker. Shri Ajit Kumar Dash, Secretary of

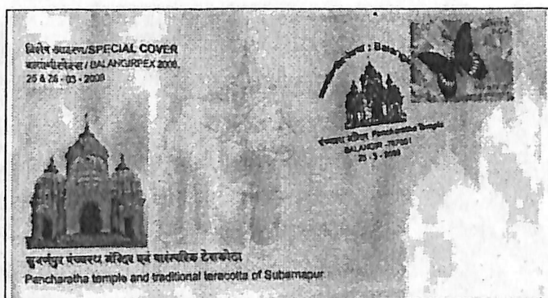


Sh. Ajit Kumar Dash, Jury explaining the exhibits to Sh. R.S.Gopalan, IAS, Collector, Balangir during Balangirpex-08

EIPA and editor of Fila Capsule was appointed as the chief Jury for the exhibition. A stamp design contest was organized amongst the school students in three groups. 2 Gold medals, 4 Silver medals, 4 Bronze Medals and 3 Diplomas were awarded by the Jury. Sh Kamal Chakrabarty was awarded Gold

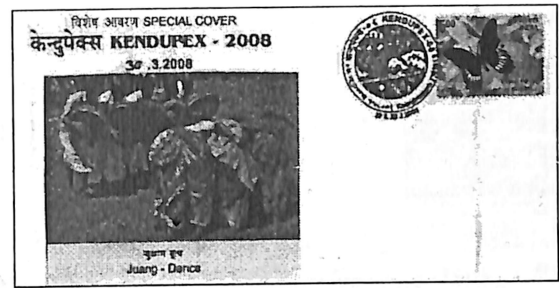


medal plus Best Exhibit award for his exhibit "angel of Peace" in the senior group and Miss Chkarabarty was awarded Gold medal plus best exhibit award in the youth group for her exhibit "The nature". In the Closing ceremony Shri A.K.Dash, IPS, Post Master General, Sambalpur Region was the Chief Guest who awarded medals and prizes to the winners of exhibition and stamp design contest, Sh.P.K. Mohapatra,ITS, Telcom District Manager was Guest of Honour and Dr. Siba Prasad Nanda, PG Department of History, Rajendra College, Balangir was the Chief Speaker. The meeting was presided over by Shri B.B.Mishra, Chairman, Balangirpex-08 and Supdt of Post Offices, Balangir. During the exhibition two special covers were released on Pancharatha Temple and Terra-cotta work of Sonepur (Subarnapur)



KALPEX-2008

The first District level philatelic exhibition of Kalahandi District was held on 26-27, March, 2008 at Bhawanipatna organized by the Department of

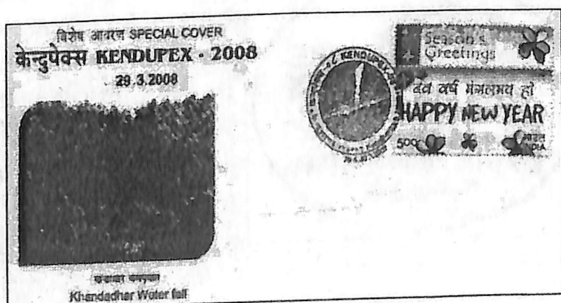


Posts. Exhibits of 3 philatelists were displayed in 10 frames, besides several philatelist have shown their stamps mounted in the albums separately. The

exhibition was inaugurated by Shri P.K.Satpathy, Collector, Kalahandi. Shri Bijoy Kumar Sinha, Senior Philatelist of Eastern India Philatelists' Association was appointed as the Jury for the exhibition. In view of the poor participation only three prizes were awarded in each Senior and Youth Group. During the exhibition stamp design contest was also organized between the school students. In the closing ceremony Shri Lalitendu Pradhan, IPS, DPS, Berhampur Region was the chief Guest and awarded prizes to the philatelists and students. Shri E.D.Reddy, Chairmen of KALPEX-08 and Supdt. of Posts, Kalahandi division presided over the function. During the exhibition one special cover on famous *Manikeswari Temple*, Bhawanipatna was released on 26-03.08.

KENDUPEX-08

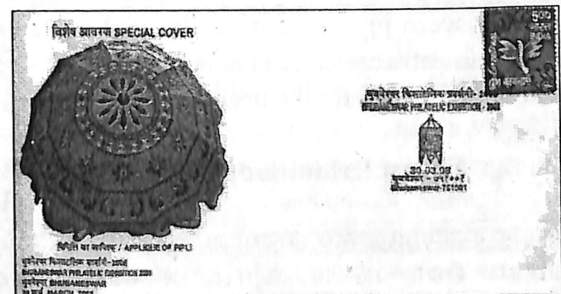
The Second District Level Philatelic Exhibition, KENDUPEX-08 was held at Keonjhar on 29-30, March, 08 organised by the Department Posts in active participation of Keonjhar Philatelists' Association. Exhibits of 25 Philatelists were displayed in 40 frames. Due to shortage of frames 3 exhibits in 9 frames in competitive group and one exhibit in five frames of the jury in the invitee class could not be displayed. The function was inaugurated by Sh. B.B.Mohapatra, IAS, Collector



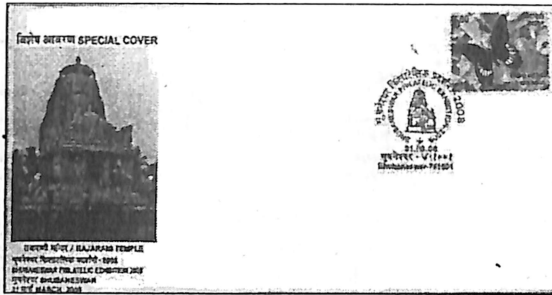
of Keonjhar. Shri Ajit Kumar Dash, Secretary of EIPA and editor of Fila Capsule was appointed as the Jury for the exhibition. After evaluation of the exhibits 6 Gold medals, 11 Silver medals, 8 Bronze Medals were awarded by the Jury. Miss Kalyani Baishak was awarded Gold medal plus Best Exhibit award for her exhibit "Health & Medicine" in the senior group and Mr. Abhijit Pattnaik was awarded Gold medal plus best exhibit award in the youth group for her exhibit "Indian Freedom Struggle through FDC". In the closing ceremony Shri Ananta Nayak, MP, Keonjhar was the Chief Guest and Shri A.K.Dash, IPS, Post Master General, Sambalpur Region was the guest of honour. Shri Akshaya Kumar Nayak, President Keonjhar Philatelists' Association was the chief Speaker. The Chief Guest awarded medals to the winners of exhibition The meeting was presided over by Shri B.C.Sethi, Chairman, KENDUPEX-08 and Supdt of Post Offices, Keonjhar. During the exhibition two special covers were released on *Khandadhar* water fall and *Juang* dance(tribal dance) of Keonjhar .

Bhubaneswar Philatelic Exhibition-2008

The Ist Bhubaneswar Philatelic Exhibition was held on 30-31, March, 08 at the Ist floor of the Orissa Association for the Blind, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar organized by the Department of posts with active participation of the Eastern India Philatelists'



Association. The exhibition was organized at a short span of 3 days only for which the exhibits of senior philatelists



were only exhibited by invitation in 40 frames. Exhibits of Ajit Kumar Dash, Daitary Mohapatra, Debasis Mitra, Mrs. Meera Biswal, S.B.Mohapatra, S.S.Rath, Ranjit Dash, Anup Raut ,

B.K.Biswal, Anil Kumar Dhir and Rutupurna Mansingh were displayed in the exhibition. The exhibition was inaugurated by Smt. Aparajita Sarangi, IAS, Bhubaneswar Municipal Commissioner. The exhibition attracted a lot of visitors and media persons which was evident from wide coverage in almost all local and English papers. During the exhibition quiz and stamp design contests were also conducted between the school students by Shri Anil Kumar Dhir. Two beautiful special covers were released during the exhibition on the famous *Rajarani* Temple of Bhubaneswar and the *Appliqué* work of Pipili.

One Man Show

A small philatelic Exhibition was organised by *Sreekhetra Yuba Sanskrutik Parisad* at Utkal Hindi Vidyapitha, Puri on 01.04.08 on the occasion of Orissa Day. The exhibit of Sh. Haripada Panda of Kendrapara on Orissa was displayed during the small exhibition. It has attracted a lot of visitors and students. Sh. Asit Panigrahi, Supdt. of Police, Puri, Sh Niranjana Behera, supdt. of Posts, Puri Senior Philatelist Sh. Jadunath Kanungo and Pradeep Mohanty were present during the inauguration amongst the other guests. This is a very good step taken by Mr. Panda for the promotion of Philately.

Stamp Exhibition, Kolkata

A stamp exhibition was organized by Outram Club, Kolkata from 18-20, April, 08 during the commemoration of its Platinum Jubilee Celebration in collaboration with Bharatiya Daktkit Sangstha. The show was inaugurated by Sandip Ray, the son of the legendary film maker Satyajit Ray and released a special cover and a stamp booklet

featuring Satyajit Ray and legendary actor Uttam Kumar. A special cover and a stamp booklet featuring Devika Rani were also released by Igor Karvaev Deputy Consul General of Russia, on April 19, 2008. A stamp booklet featuring Hollywood Actor Charlton Heston was released on April 20, 2008.

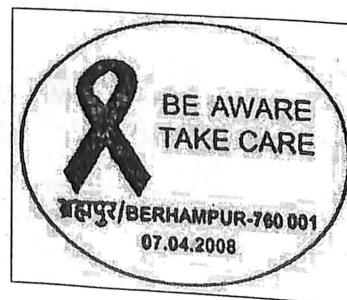
Workshop at KIIT, Bhubaneswar.

A philatelic workshop cum exhibition was held from 18-20, March, 2008 at the Kathjodi Campus of KIIT Deemed University, Bhubaneswar on the occasion of its Annual function. The function was inaugurated by the MP-cum-film star Shri Satrughna Sinha. on 18.03.08. Several engineering students have shown their exhibits in 8 frames. The secretary of Eastern India Philatelists' Association Sh. Ajit Kumar Dash, senior philatelists of EIPA Sh Anil Kumar Dhir and Kasinath Sahoo conducted the workshop. During the workshop Sri Dash has explained various aspects of philately through power point presentation. The documentary film produced by Shri Dhir was shown to the students. A Philately Quiz contest was also conducted by Shri Dhir and Shri Sahoo in which 57 engineering students took part. The international award winning exhibit "Scouts and Guides" of Biswajit Dash an ex-student of KIIT was also seen by the students. The students took much interest in the exhibition and the work shop by putting several questions on philately. In spite of the best efforts of the students, the Department of Posts declined to spare the exhibition stands for the exhibition for which the students exhibited their exhibits on big tables covered with similar size glass sheets, which shows the deep interest of students in philately. The Department of Post should provide the exhibition stands to such exhibitions in order to promote philately.

AIDS Cancellation

A special cancellation on AIDS awareness was released by the Department of Posts at Berhampur, Ganjam to commemorate the arrival of Red Ribbon Express at Berhampur railway station on 07.04.08.

The Shri A.N. Nanda, PMG and Shri L.Pradhan, Director Postal Services, Berhampur Region released the cancellation to spread the message of self





awareness on HIV and AIDS among the people. All the incoming and outgoing mails were cancelled with special cancellations at Berhampur H.O. A special private cover was also released by the South Orissa Philatelists' Association, Berhampur. To get the said cover Mr. K. Venkat Rao may be contacted at his mobile No.9437455356.

NEWS LETTERS RELEASED GPA NEWS

Editor- Ilyas Patel

The monthly philatelic bulletin GPA News for the months of February and March 2008 were released. Articles " *Definitives: A Great Thematic Subject* by Mr. Shrikant Parikh; *Unpaid Postage Due International Mail of India, 1854-1957- A Review, Part-II* by Dr. P.S.Dixit" were the important articles published in the bulletin in February issue, whereas the article " *What's New in India, Speed Post- A Peak into Modern indian postal history*" by Dr. R.S.Gandhi and Dr.K.S.Gandhi is a very good article published in March issue.

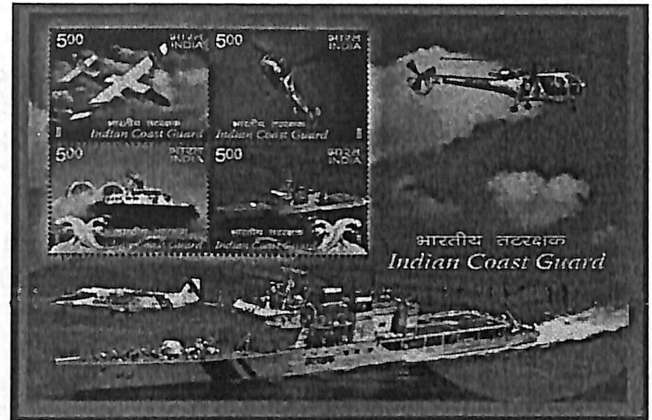
Error cancellation on Madhubala

The approved cancellation on Madhubala is found in almost all First day Covers in which the curling hair of madhubala is falling on her forehead, which is an important characteristic of Madhubala. The cancellation issued by the Bhubaneswar Philatelic Bureau is little different from them. We do not find the same curling hair on her fore head in that cancellation. This has happened as the person who was designing, probably thought it to be the unwanted thing and removed it from the design.



Pre-Issue stamps again

The precedence of pre issue of stamps and miniature sheet of the Department of Posts, Govt. of India again repeated. Instead of taking preventive measures to check such instances, the Department is sleeping over the matter without taking any drastic step. Some unscrupulous people taking advantage of these issues and making high money within



a short span. These things should not be simply excused and the persons concerned should be suitably punished. Last time the Jasmine issue was pre issued in a specific zone. This time also the stamps of Bismillah Khan and Coast Guard have been again pre issued. The stamp on Bismillah Khan was scheduled to be released on 3rd April was subsequently



postponed. There was no specific date fixed for release of the stamps and miniature sheet of Coast Guard. It is strongly suspected that some of the postal personnel are involved in these issues. It is high time that the Department should wake up and take appropriate action to stop these undesired instances and stop the business. The conscious philatelists should also come forward to get a way to prevent it.

The Eastern India Philatelists' Association is going to complete its tenth successful year in May,2008. All the members and contributors are congratulated for their active support and co-operation.

The life members of EIPA who have not sent their photographs are requested to send their p/p size or stamp size photographs for the record of our Association and preparation of new EIPA identity cards. They may send the photographs by post or the image can be sent as attachment by e-mail to 'akdash2000@yahoo.com'.

OUR NEW MEMBER

The following new life member joined to our EIPA family during March-April, 2008.



Mr. Gangadhar Tripathy,
At- Tikina Para,
Balangir-767001

Ph-06652-230479
Mob-9861250873

Membership No. LT-01

Philatelic Interest: *Historical Monuments*

Our readers are requested to give their comments, suggestions regularly to the Editor so as to improve the quality of this bulletin and also to promote philately. The views and comments will be published in the 'Reader's Desk' column of this bulletin. They are also requested to contribute any article or information on philately so that it can help the other philatelists to share their knowledge. They should send their articles in both hard copy as well as in soft copy by floppy or CD to the editor or may e-mail to any of the following email IDs "eipaorissa@yahoo.co.in" or "akdash2000@yahoo.com" so that it will be easier to edit and publish them in this bulletin.

Philatelic Exhibition, Ludhiana

A philatelic Exhibition was organized by the Ludhiana Philatelic Club in collaboration with India Post on April 26, 2008 at Bharat Nagar Head Post Office, Ludhiana. The exhibition was inaugurated by sh. Hira Singh Gabaria Minister of Prison and Tourism, Punjab. The collections of distinguished philatelists from Ludhiana were displayed in non-competitive class and exhibits of youth class were displayed on different themes in competitive class. The exhibition was attended by a large number visitors including philatelists and dealers from Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi. A special cover was issued on this occasion.

MADHUBALA PRESENTATION PACK

Department of Posts, Govt. of India also released a pack for Madhubala issue priced at Rs 30/- each. The pack contains a stamp and a miniature sheet. This is an attractive pack. In spite of its high price than the face value the stocks were sold in a very short time.

The monthly meeting of EIPA is held on every third Sunday at plot No. A/117, Press Colony, Kharavela Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751001 from 5.00 PM to 7.00 PM.

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(For free circulation among members only)

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