



THE FILA CAPSULE

A Bi-monthly *EIPA* Bulletin

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September-October, 2008

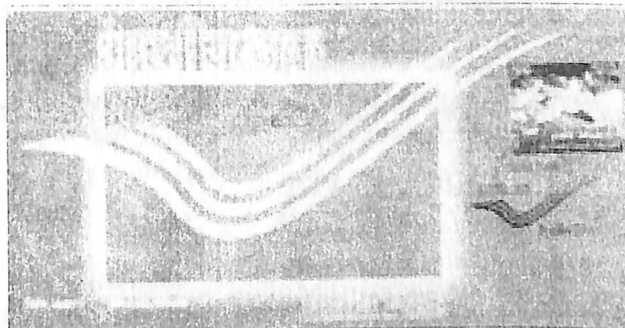
Bimonthly

God is almighty

Our long cherished dream to organise a State level Philatelic Exhibition was fulfilled after H.E. Muralidhar Chandrakant Bhandare, the Governor of Orissa cut the ribbon of the Exhibition Hall of the Jayadev Bhawan, Bhubaneswar at 11.00AM on 25.10.2008 and inaugurated the 1st Eastern India Philatelic Exhibition, EIPEX-08. We are very much grateful to our esteemed CPMG and the officers and men of the Department of Post, Orissa Circle for extending their full support and cooperation in organising this Grand event. I still remember the tension of 24.10.08. The weather forecast was that a low pressure has been formed at the Bay of Bengal and is going to take the shape of a cyclonic storm and hit the coastal belt of Orissa on 25.10.08 including Puri and Bhubaneswar. All arrangements were going in full swing to make the exhibition very impressive as our Hon'ble Governor will be coming to inaugurate the exhibition. The final approval of the minute to minute programme from the Governor's Secretariat was still awaited till 12.30 PM on 24.10.08. As the time was passing my blood pressure was also increasing simultaneously. At last the approval of the programme from the Governor's Secretariat was received by 1.30 PM. We were very much happy to receive the programme but at the same time we had a doubt, if the weather will be bad and actually a cyclonic storm will hit on 25.10.2008, all our dream will be washed by the rain. I was praying God all along to have a mercy look on us. As the night was increasing and the weather is becoming worse, the number of philatelists and workers in the hall engaged in mounting the exhibits were reducing slowly and slowly. Till 2.30 AM only 60 % of mounting were completed I found only three philatelists including myself inside the hall. Thanks to Mr. Anup Kumar Raut and Bibhuti Bhusan Patnaik who has assisted me in mounting the exhibits till 7.30 AM of 25.10.08 as I was doubtful about the completion of the work in time before the arrival of the Chief Guest. I didn't

know how we could work through out the night without any rest or a cup of tea and found that all the frames have been well mounted and the hall was ready by 7.30 of 25.10.08. This could only happen due to the mercy of his almighty. The amazing fact was that by mistake or by overlooking one frame in the hall was not covered with Glass and left as it is which was discovered after the Governor has inaugurated and visited the Hall. We again thank his almighty that even after the visit of the Governor and a lot of visitors and the media people, all the stamps and covers of that uncovered frame was in tact. Is it not a miracle? Off course it is! We had a lot of good experience from this exhibition. The most important factor was that, the climate was changed to our satisfaction and the whole programme was completed smoothly with appreciation from HE the Governor of Orissa. I must thank again his almighty for his kind mercy and unseen power. my philatelic friends and colleagues for their hearty cooperation in bringing the event a Grand Success. Jai Philately.

-A.K.Dash,
Editor



Project Arrow - A special cover on the New Logo of the Department of Posts, released at New Delhi on 23.09.08

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.

STAMP NEWS

India

SIR PITTI THEAGARAYAR



Sir Pitti Theagarayar was born at Egathur near Chennai on 27th April, 1852. He took his B.A. Degree in 1873 from the Presidency College, Madras. Later he entered public life and served as Member of the Madras Municipal Corporation for 40 years since 1882.

He was elected to the Madras Legislative Council in 1910. He started the Justice Party and in 1920 the Justice party got a decisive majority in the in the legislative council. He was invited by Lord Wellington, the then Governor, to hold a responsible post in the new Ministry, but he declined the invitation.

Theagarayar was elected as Chairman, Chennai Municipality in 1920 and held that post until 1923. His active participation in the promotion of commercial activities led him to establish the South Indian Chamber of Commerce of which he was the Chairman from 1910 to 1921. In appreciation of his selfless services to the people the Government honoured him with the title of 'Rao Bahadur' in 1909. He was also conferred with the title "Oiwani Bahadur" in 1919 and "Sir" in 1921.

He passed away on June 30, 1925 at the age of 73. Theagaraya Nagar, an area in Chennai was named in his memory.

Credits:

Text .Based on material provided by the proponent.

TECHNICAL DATA

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Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

DR. C. NATESAN

Dr. C. Natesan is hailed as the father of the Dravidian movement and he was the first person to use a word Dravidian. In the first quarter of 20th century there arose a powerful movement in Madras Presidency against the dominance of the



upper castes. For the upliftment of the oppressed communities Dr. Natesan along with Pitti Theagarayar and Dr. T.M. Nair started 'South India Welfare Society' which later became Justice Party. It became a powerful voice of the deprived and downtrodden.

Dr. Natesan was born in 1875 at Tiruvallikeni in Chennai. He studied in the village school and subsequently graduated from Madras University. He was enamored by medical profession and went on to achieve a medical degree from the Medical College.

The plight of poor and the downtrodden people suffering at the hands of the strong upper castes moved him to action. Dr. Natesan organized 'The Madras United league' and became its Secretary with the sole purpose of providing effective voice to the deprived. Subsequently, its name was changed to 'Dravida Sangam'.

'Dravida Sangam' conducted evening classes for educating senior citizens and government employees. The students suffered at the hands of higher castes in hostels and colleges in Madras. To alleviate the suffering of such students Dr. Natesan organized separate hostels for them in the name of 'Dravidian Association Hostel'.

Dr. Natesan was twice elected to the state assembly during 1920-26 and 1953-37. He was a powerful speaker and raised many pertinent issues in the assembly on the upliftment of the weaker sections.

In the government formed by the Justice Party, important legislations like Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Act and the Legislations for abolishing Devadasi system were enacted. The impact of these legislation on the society has been profound.

He worked for achieving equality, social justice, education and eradication of poverty. He awakened and shook the conscience of the people towards the rampant ills of the society of the times.

Credits:

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Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

DR. T.M. NAIR



“Taravat Mahadevan Nair” popularly known as T.M. Nair, was one of the prime moving forces of the Dravidian movement that singularly contributed to the upliftment of poor and downtrodden in South India. A doctor by profession, Dr. Nair was a precocious child. He passed his matriculation examination with flying colours while still in class V. He was born on 15th January, 1868 in Koduvayur in Calicut district in Kerala.

He had his early education in Palghat from where he went on acquire master’s degree in Arts from Madras Presidency College. But his urge to become a doctor, led him to achieve degree in Medicine from Madras Medical College. His insatiable quest for knowledge took him to England in 1889 from where he achieved the highest degree in medicine M.B.C.M. in 1894 followed by a Doctorate from Edinburg University in 1896. He specialized in ENT from Paris in France.

Returning home, he dedicated himself to the medical profession with full vigour. He joined Indian National Congress and for quite sometime he was one of its prime spokesperson. He later left Congress to join ‘South Indian Welfare Association’ and together with Sir Pitti Thiagarayar and Dr. C. Natesan formed the ‘Justice Party’ that became the precursor of the Dravidian Movement in India.

Dr. Nair was the Chief architect of the communal representation principle. He went to England on 2nd October, 1918 and presented his views in the British Parliament. He cogently presented his arguments with facts and figures on the terrible deprivation and discrimination faced by the downtrodden at the hand of the upper castes.

The report of Montague-Chelmsford was placed for study before the British Parliament the next year. Dr. Nair once again traveled to England despite his failing health to seek the opportunity and speak the oppressed voices. Fate willed it otherwise, Dr. Nair passed away in London on 17th July 1919.

Credits:

Text: Based on Material received by the proponent.

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FESTIVALS OF INDIA



India, the vibrant land of mythological tales, of Gods and Goddesses and thousands beliefs, has evolved over centuries as a mystic land of festivals. These colorful and happy festivals bind the people of the nation across various states and religions in unique way and provide a spectacle that cannot be experienced anywhere else in the world. Two very important and popular festivals of India are Dussehra and Diwali.

The festival of Dussehra, also known as “Vijaydashmi” is one of the fascinating festivals of India and is celebrated with joy and enthusiasm for ten continuous days. Dussehra, or the tenth day, as it literally means, marks the end of the nine days of Navratri. The first nine nights are spent in the worship of Goddess Durga. This festival falls in the month of Ashwin (Sep-Oct). The legend underlying the celebration, as also its mode of conduct, vary vastly by region; however, all

festivities celebrate the victory of the forces of Good over Evil.

In Southern, Eastern and Western parts of India, the festival of Navaratri which culminates with vijaydashmi, commemorates the legend in which the Goddess Durga, also known as Chamundeshwari or Mahishasur Mardini, vanquishes the demon Mahishasur, an event that is said to have taken place in the vicinity of the present day city of Mysore in Karnataka.

In Bengal, the festival is celebrated as Kali Puja or Durga Puja, while in Tamil Nadu, the festival incorporates worship of the goddesses Lakshmi, Saraswati and Shakti. Durga Puja, or Durgautsav of Bengal has earned international repute for its majestic celebrations, puja pandals, exquisite idols of the Goddess and the geity and ritual traditions. In the nine days long celebrations of Durga Puja, Goddess Durga, is worshiped in different forms like as goddess of valor, wisdom and wealth. On Vijaydashmi (tenth day) the idol of Durga is immersed in water after performing customary rituals. Apart from being a festival, Goddess Durga has become a socio-cultural event that celebrates the cheerfulness of life, the vibrant culture, the set rituals and traditions. Durga Puja is celebrated with equal fervour and festive spirit in other states of India like Durga Puja is celebrated with equal & festive spirit in other states of India like Manipur, Orissa, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.

The festival of Navratri acquires quite a fascinating and colourful dimension in the region of Gujarat, and in some parts of Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

In Southern India, over the years Mysore has become synonymous with Dushara or Dussehra festival. This festival has been celebrated in Mysore with great pomp and show since centuries. Today Dasara in Mysore has become the state festival of Karnataka. The Mysore Palace is open to the public and the famous royal throne is displayed. The main attraction is the procession in which the idol of Goddess Chamundeshwari is kept in the golden howdah on top of a decorated elephant and taken round the city.

Diwali is one of the most significant, grand and auspicious occasions not only celebrated in India but other parts of the world too. 'Diwali' or "Deepavali"

is a festival of lights. Diwali, celebrates the abundance of autumn harvest and is dedicated to various gods and goddesses.

The magnificent jubilation of Diwali celebrations is marked by multi-coloured Rangoli designs, special pooja ceremonies, lines of lamps, floral decorations fireworks, exchange of sweets and gifts that lend grandeur to the occasion.

Credits:

Stamp & FDC: Brahm Prakash

Cancellation: Alka Sharma

TECHNICAL DATA

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Miniature sheet: 1.0 Million

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Printer: India Security Press, Nasik

III Commonwealth Youth Games 2008



The Commonwealth Games Federation, founded on the intrinsic principles of humanity, equality and destiny, first discussed the idea of Millennium Commonwealth Youth Games in 1997. The Commonwealth Youth Games are a mini Commonwealth Games attracting the best young athletes (18 years and under) from the member countries. The city of Edinburgh in Scotland, hosted the first Youth Games in 2000 with participation from 14 countries and the second Games followed in 2004 in Bendigo, Australia with a participation of 24 countries respectively.

The III Commonwealth Youth Games has confirmed participation of all 71 nations and territories of the Commonwealth and will be held from 12th to 18th October, 2008 at the Shri Shiv Chhatrapati Sports City, Balewadi, Pune. Athletes
September-October

compete in 9 disciplines (Athletics, Badminton, Badminton, Swimming, Shooting, Tennis, Table Tennis, Wrestling & Weightlifting). The unique feature of the Shiv Chhatrapati Sports City, Balewadi is that all 9 competition venues and the Athletes Village are housed in one single complex.

It is the first time that the Commonwealth Youth Games are being held in Asia in Pune. Over 1300 athletes and 350 officials from all 71 nations and territories will participate in the Games.

For the first time in the history of the Youth Games, the unique concept of a Youth Baton Relay was introduced. The Youth Baton Relay was flagged off from Delhi University on 1st August 2008 and after traveling through 9 states, 199 cities, towns, villages and visiting more than 1000 schools, colleges and universities, the Baton will reach Pune on 7th October 2008.

The YBR is being run in support of the "Save the Tiger" initiative of WWF and Green Games initiatives. The Relay also aims to promote Olympic sports in India.

The III Commonwealth Youth Games have been declared as the Green Games. Regarding this, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between CYG and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). A Green Sport Consortium comprising IL&FS and Nature First are on board for implementing the Green Games initiative.

Credits:

Stamp & FDC: Kamleshwar Singh

Cancellation: Alka Sharma

TECHNICAL DATA

Date of Issue: 12-10-2008

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Stamps Printed: 0.8 Million each

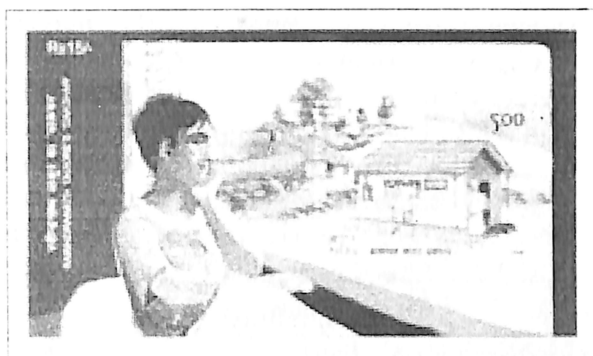
Miniature sheet: 0.2 Million

Printing Process: Photogravure

Printer: India Security Press, Nasik

POST OFFICE

Today we are so used to electronic aids like telephones, mobiles, e-mail, that we have taken these inventions for granted. For these inventive geniuses thousands of devoted workers who carried out with the spirit of adventure and built this present day structures and institutions. Today



these institutions belong to us to be cherished and to be taken forward. The Post Office is one such institution. Post Office is one of those public organizations which is more intimately bound up with human relations than other governmental departments.

When we come to think of it, what an aroma of romance surrounds the letter! With what eager expectations one awaits the coming of a letter! How many of us have not felt like a little boy in Rabindra Nath Tagore's Play, "The Post Office; Dak Ghar" who anxiously awaits the letter from the King to be delivered to him through a newly opened post office or Dak Ghar in the village."

The Post office is Universally recognized as a facilitator of communication. The postal runner defied all odds -natural calamities, wild beasts, geographical terrain and bandits in the discharge of his duties. As aptly described by the Watchman to the little boy in the Play Dak Ghar,

Through his Play "Post Office" Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore portrayed Post Office as symbol of goodwill, good wishes and King's love for the common people".

Credits:

Stamp & FDC: Sankha Samanta

Cancellation: Alka Sharma

TECHNICAL DATA

Date of Issue: 13-10-2008

Denomination: 500p (Stamp), 1500p (Miniature Sheet)

Stamps Printed: 0.8 Million each

Miniature sheet: 0.2 Million

Printing Process: Wet-offset

Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

Food Safety and Quality Year 2008-09

The issue of food safety and quality is to be tackled with a multi prolonged, coordinated strategy with

various stakeholders. Improving food safety and quality is a constant and continuous effort. It is, therefore, necessary that personnel involved in managing, handling, storing, production and distribution of food for mass consumption are appraised/reoriented of the issues pertaining to food safety and quality.



Keeping in view the urgency and spreading awareness amongst masses, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries

(MoFPI), Government of India is observing the year 2008-09 as "Food Safety & Quality Year" with the approval of the Union Council of Ministers.

Personal hygiene of staff and protective clothing, safe drinking water, safe serving, hand wash before and after handling food, purchasing certified products like 81S, AGMARK Certification etc. microbiological safety of served foods. food testing and analysing, hygienic maintenance of kitchen, pest control in Kitchen, use of dustbins etc aspects need a specific attention. Food safety begins from the farm and remains important through the entire food supply chain till the plate of the consumer. A critical link in the chain in Food Safety Practices is Kitchens.

The concept of food safety and quality is important for all stakeholders starting from the farmers to the processors, to the retailers and to the consumers.

The food processing industry provides us with nutritious products, generates employment, investment and exports, links processing with farming, food retailing, food service and export trade. Safe food is equally important for export in this competitive world.

Recent trends in global food production, processing, distribution and preparation are creating an increasing demand for food safety research in order to ensure a safer global food supply.

To heighten public awareness about the world food problem and strengthen solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty, 16th October is celebrated as 'World Food Day' every year the Ministry is observing 16th October 2008 as "Food Safety & Quality Day".

Credits:

Text: Based on the material given by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Govt. of India

Stamp & FDC: Suresh Kumar

Cancellation: Alka Sharma

TECHNICAL DATA

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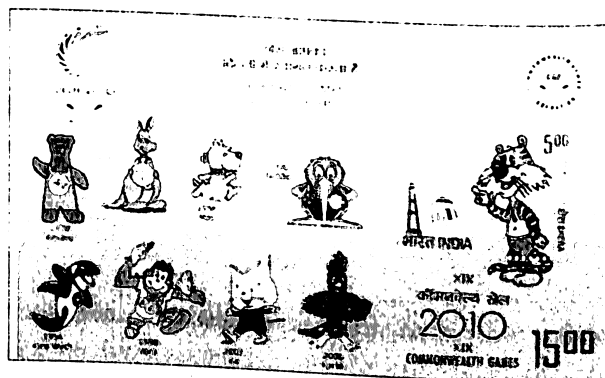
Denomination: 500p

Stamps Printed: 0.8 Million

Printing Process: Wet-offset

Printer: Security Printing Press, Hyderabad

Commonwealth Games Delhi-2010 Welcome to Delhi



The Commonwealth Games is a multinational, multi-sport event. Held every four years, it involves the elite athletes of the Commonwealth of Nations. The Firsts such event, then known as the British Empire Games, was held in 1930 in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. The name changed to British Empire and Commonwealth Games in 1954, to British Commonwealth Games in 1970 and assumed the current name of the Commonwealth Games in 1974.

There are currently 53 members of the Commonwealth of Nations, and 71 teams participate in the Games. The four constituent countries of the United Kingdom-England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland-send separate teams to the Commonwealth Games (unlike at the Olympic Games, where the United Kingdom sends a single team), and individual teams are also sent from the British Crown dependencies-Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man-and many of the British overseas territories. The Australian external territory of Norfolk Island also sends its own team, as do the Cook Islands and Niue, two non-sovereign states in free association with New Zealand. Only six teams have attended every Commonwealth Games: Australia, Canada, England, New Zealand, Scotland

and Wales. Australia has been the highest scoring team for ten games, England for seven and Canada for one.

Mascots for the Commonwealth Games were first introduced by the host country in 1978. They are now an integral part of the promotion and commercial success of the Commonwealth Games.

List of Mascots

Year	City	Mascot
1978	Edmonton	Keyano, a Swan Hills Grizzly Bear; Keyano is a Cree Indian word which means unity and brotherhood
1982	Brisbane	Matilda, the Kangaroo
1986	Edinburgh	Mac, a black "Scottie" dog
1990	Auckland	Goldie the Kiwibird
1994	Victoria	Klee Wyck, an Orca (Killer) Whale
1998	Kuala Lumpur	Wira, teh Orang Utan
2002	Manchester	Kit, a Cat
2006	Melbourne	Karak, a south-eastern Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus banksii graptogyen).
2010	Delhi	Shera, the friendly tiger. Tiger is the national animal of India. Shera is the elder brother of "Jigr" the mascot for Commonwealth Youth Games held at Pune from 12 to 18 October 2008.

As "Jigr" the mascot for Commonwealth Youth Games Pune, 2008, hands over the baton of the game to "Shera" his elder brother, the run up for Commonwealth Games Delhi 2010 begin with flame of enthusiasm and joy.

Credits:

Stamp & FDC: Kamleshwar Singh
Cancellation: Alka Sharma

TECHNICAL DATA

Date of Issue: 18-10-2008
Denomination: 500p (Stamp), 1500p (Miniature Sheet)

Stamps Printed: 3.0 Million
Miniature sheet: 0.5 Million
Printing Process: Photogravure
Printer: India Security Press, Nasik

Exhibition News

**EIPEX-08
Bhubaneswar**

The 1st Eastern India Philatelic Exhibition (EIPEX-2008) was organized by the Eastern India Philatelists' Association (EIPA) with active support of the Department of Posts, Orissa Circle at Jayadev Bhawan on October 25 and 26, 2008. Two special covers were released during the exhibition. The theme of the exhibition was Unity in Diversity. The exhibition was inaugurated by His Excellency Muralidhar Chandrakant Bhandare, the Governor of Orissa as the Chief Guest. He also released the special cover on peace depicting Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa and Swamy Vivekanand with cachet cancellation of Pigeon. K V Sundar Rajan, The Chief Postmaster General, Orissa Circle was the Guest of Honor. The meeting was presided over by Bijayshree Routray, the Chairman, EIPEX-08 and President EIPA. Anup Kumar Raut, Organizing Secretary, EIPEX-08 introduced the Guests. Ajit Kumar Dash, Secretary, EIPA presented the Report of EIPA. Vote of thanks was given by Shanti Swarup Rath, Convener, EIPEX-08. The Honorable Governor has appreciated the organizing committee for conducting a beautiful exhibition and also highly impressed upon the design of special cover in his speech. 31 participants from Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Rourkela, Keonjhar, Boudh, Bolangir, Sambalpur, Dhenkanal, Rengali, Berhampur, etc. from Orissa and one exhibit from Ghaziabad (UP) have taken part in the noncompetitive exhibition in 100 frames. All the



His Excellency Muralidhar Chandrakant Bhandare, the Governor of Orissa releasing the special cover

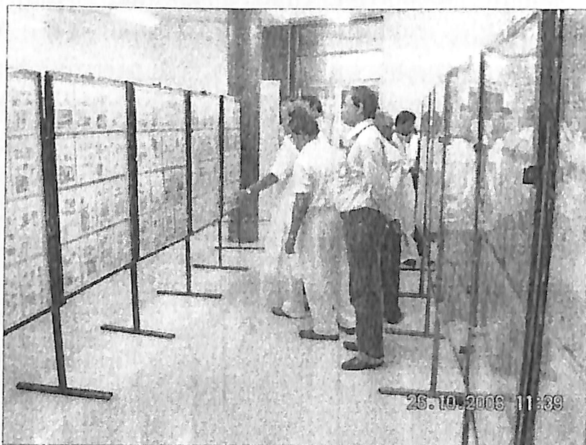


Shri Jadunath Kanungo receiving the Life Time Achievement Award for Philately from His Excellency Muralidhar Chandrakant Bhandare, the Governor of Orissa on 25.10.08

participants were given a commemorative memento.

Philatelic Quiz and Painting competitions between the School students were also conducted by Anil Kumar Dhir. 200 students from 20 Schools took part in the said competitions and received prizes from the chief Guest on the concluding day.

A Philatelic counter was also opened by the Department of Posts at the venue. There were four dealers booths were also opened which were



Visitors in the Exhibition Hall

provided by EIPA free of cost to facilitate availability of philatelic materials at reasonable price to the philatelists and stamp lovers. Dealers from Kolkata and Orissa attended the exhibition.

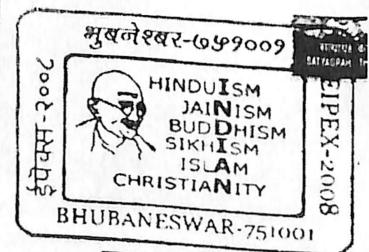
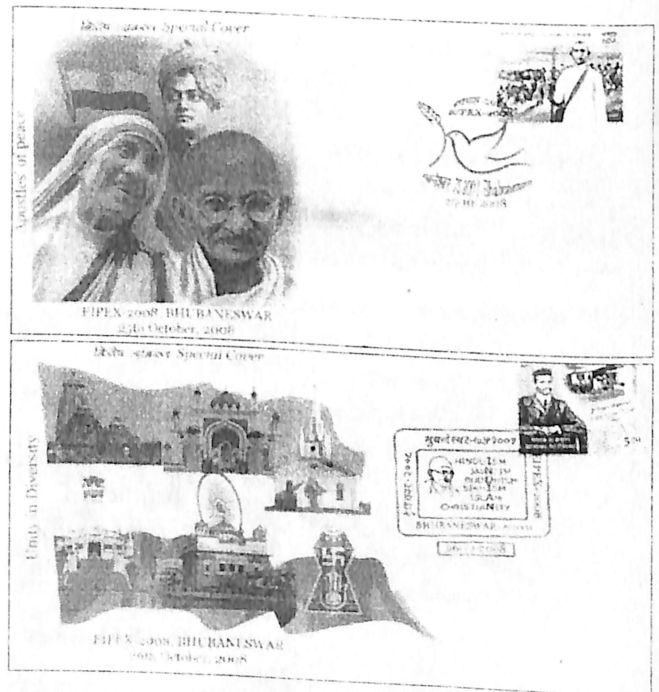
The exhibition was covered widely in all news papers and television. Thousands of visitors visited the exhibition and took advantage of the exhibition.

Santosh Kumar Kamila, Postmaster General, Berhampur Region was the chief Guest and released a beautiful souvenir of EIPEX-08 featuring several useful articles of Senior Philatelists on concluding day - October 26, 2008. He also released



Shri Santosh Kumar Kamila, PMG, Berhampur Region releasing the Souvenir of EIPEX-08 on 26.10.08

a special cover on Unity in diversity depicting the religious places of different religion with the background of National flag. The cachet design is



26-10-2008

also depicting the theme having the portrait of Gandhiji.

The members of Orissa Philatelic Association, Kalinga Philatelic Society, Utkal Philatelic & Numismatic Association, Keonjhar Philatelic

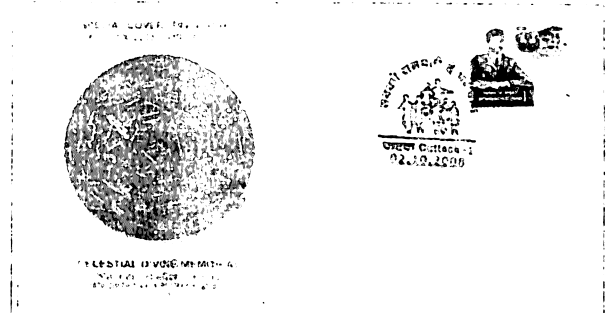
List of Participants

Sl No	Name of the exhibitor	Title
1.	Dr. Pradeep Kumar Padhi	Indian dances
2.	Dr. Prana Chand Panda	Orissa on Stamps
3.	Pramod Kumar Saraf	Feathered Marvels
4.	Bibhuti Bhusan Patnaik	Past to Recall
5.	Biswanath Mishra	The Life in the Speed
6.	H. B Ojha	Climatic Effects on Birds
7.	Haripada Panda	Indian Education System
8.	Gangadhar Tripathy	Buddhism on Stamps
9.	Kamal Chakrabarty	Angel of Peace
10.	Debasish Dash	Under Water Treasure
11.	Ranjit Dash	The Postal System in India
12.	Satyananda Rath	Save Our Environment
13.	Miss Namrata Nanda	Unity in Diversity
14.	Simantini Behera	X-Mas Array
15.	Daitary Mohapatra	UN Flag Series on FDC
16.	Vikash Singh	Philatelic Hand Book on Indian Railways
17.	Samanwita Mishra	Mode of Transport
18.	Debasis Mitra	Great Britain
19.	Shanti Swarup Rath	FDC
20.	Dr. Bibhudatta Mishra	Fishes
21.	Prasana Kumar Panda	Children on Stamps
22.	Rutupurna Mansingh	Postage Stamps of Australia-Pre Decimal Issue
23.	Akhaya Kumar Nayak	Orchids
24.	Bijoyshree Routray	Global Worming
25.	Manoranjan Mohanty	Snakes
26.	Ajit Kumar Dash	Creator's Most Faithful Creation
27.	Sasmita Raut	Maxim Cards
28.	Anindita Raut	Pacific Islands
29.	Anil Kumar Dhir	Scinde Dawk
30.	Kasinath Sahoo	Salute to Non Indians
31.	Bijoy Kumar Sinha	UPU

Association, Bolangir Philatelic Club and South Orissa Philatelic Association actively took part in the exhibition and made the exhibition a grand success.

**BAPUPEX-08
Cuttack**

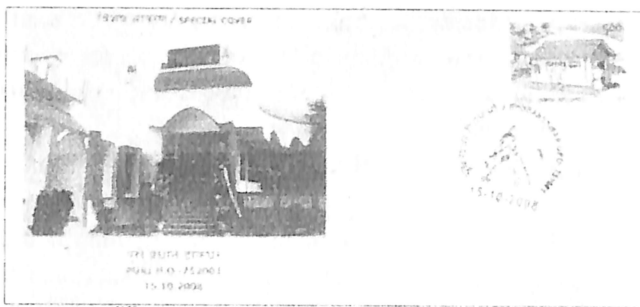
A philatelic exhibition on Mahatma Gandhiji was organised by the Orissa Philatelic Association with active participation of Kalinga Philatelic Society and Utkal Philatelic and Numismatic Association at the GPO Complex, Cuttack on 02.10.2008. The exhibition was inaugurated by Maj. Gen.(Retd)



B.P.Das,PVSM and Ex. CPMG, Orissa Circle. He also released a special cover on Celestial Divine Memorial, (Star named after Gandhiji). Exhibits of eminent Philatelists on Gandhiji were displayed in 30 frames. Smt. Manisha Mishra, DPS, Bhubaneswar Region was the Guest of Honour and Shri Sahadeva Sahoo, IAS(retd) was the chief speaker in the inaugural function presided over by Shri Jadunath Kanungo.

Exhibition on World Post Day

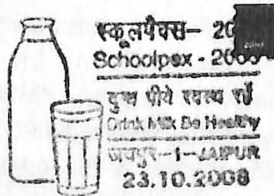
A small philatelic exhibition on Postal theme was held at the Philatelic Bureau, Bhubaneswar GPO, Bhubaneswar from 13.10.08 to 15.10.08 organised by the Department of Posts, Bhubaneswar Division. Exhibits of Mr. Anil Dhir on *Scinde Dawk*, Mr.Bijoy Kumar Sinha on 'UPU, Mr.Ajit Kumar Dash on 'Journey to Philatelic Terms' and Mr.Ranjit Dash on 'Postal System in India, were displayed in the exhibition. The exhibition was inaugurated by Smt. Manisha Mishra, DPS, Bhubaneswar Region. Philatelic quiz and painting competitions between the school students were also conducted. A special cover was released by Smt Misra on 15.10.08 on the



concluding day and prizes were awarded to the winners of the Quiz and painting competitions. The cover depicts the *Puri GPO building* on the cover design and *Lord Jagannath Temple* in the cancellation.

SCHOOLPEX-08, Jaipur, Rajasthan

The 13th State level Inter School Stamp Exhibition, Schoolpex-2008 was organised by the Philatelic Society of Rajasthan and St. Xavier's School, Jaipur from 23.10.08 to 25.10.2008. Two special covers were released on 23.10.08 and 15.10.08 on the occasion of Health day and Art Day respectively. The cover released on Health day



depicts World famous milk loving Indians and children and the cancellation depicts slogan 'Drink Milk -be healthy' along with milk bottle and glass. Similarly the cover released on Art day depicts Precious Gem stone Painting Box and the cancellation depicts Symbolic jewelry of famous Gem Stone Centre, Jaipur.

News Letters Released

GPA News

Editor-Ilyas Patel

The GPA News for the months of July , August and September has been released. The articles on 'The Railway Mail Service in India', 'The Great Indian Peninsula Railway' and 'Patriotic Mail of India' by Dr.P.S.Dixit, are very informative and impressive.

Vadophil

Editors: Prashant H. Pandya and Timir R. Shah
The quarterly philatelic news bulletin of the Baroda Philatelic Society, Vadodra for the month of July and October, 2008 were released. e mail: vadophil@indianphilately.net, website: geocities.com/vadophil/

New release from Fiji

FRESHWATER EELS OF FIJI

Eels are scale-less fish shaped like snakes, with long dorsal and anal fins that extend onto the tail. Freshwater eels belong mostly to the family Anguillidae, and go down to the sea to breed, returning as smaller versions known as 'elvers' that swim against currents and up waterfalls to return to their natural habitats. They are common in all streams and rivers in Fiji, and form an important component of the diet in some places, especially the highlands of the two main islands, Viti levu and Vanualevu. Although their flesh is tasty, they are rarely found in markets, and never in restaurants or hotels.

The most common generic name for freshwater eels in Fiji is tuna or, in parts of Eastern Fiji, its variant duna. The name rewai is also fairly widespread in parts of Eastern Fiji, including Rewa and the Muala group of western Lau. A common expression originating from Rewa is vakavutl na rewai, literally 'when eels have hair', meaning never -rather like the English 'when pigs fly' or 'when hell freezes over'.

A fascinating eel is the koya, believed to be found only in the lake of Vuaqava island, near Kabara in Southern Lau. It is said that if you whisper it will hear you and hide, but if you make a lot of noise it will not hear you. and be easy to catch. Unfortunately, no specimen has yet been obtained to determine its scientific identity.

There are a number of traditional ways of catching eels. One is simply to feel with the hand in the mud where one is suspected to be hiding -known as **buburu** -or in a cave or under an overhang (**taraduna**). If the cave is particularly deep, a stick known as an **ikusa** is inserted to force the eel from its hiding place. Eels are also frequently caught in nets, weirs, and bamboo fish-traps (**vuvu**). The people of Rewa and Noco specialise in catching eels with a lemon- thorn hook line left overnight with a mangrove crab as bait, known as a **matei**.

There are believed to be at least six freshwater eels in Fiji. The following more common eels are featured in this set:



50 cents and \$1.50 -**bidamu** *Anguilla obscura*. This is the most common eel, long and slender and grey with a reddish tinge (hence the name, **damu** meaning 'reddish'), found from mangrove swamps to marshland, lakes and the smallest streams.



90c -**dirla** *Anguilla marmorata*. This is a large, full-bodied and highly esteemed freshwater eel with many small black, white and

yellow spots giving its body a mottled appearance- indeed its main Fijian name means 'the spotted one'. It is commonly found under rocks in larger rivers, and is less aggressive than the **badamu**.



\$2 -**dadarikai** *Gymnothorax polyuranodon*. This common black and white striped moray eel is the only freshwater species found in Fiji, frequenting the rocks of

faster-flowing streams. Unlike other moray eels, it is not particularly esteemed as food by Fijian and is

indeed taboo in some places, or simply not eaten. Like all eels, it can deliver a vicious bite, especially during the season when reeds flower (around February to April).

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Values: 50c, 90c, \$ 1.50, \$2

Stamp Artist: George Bennett

Text: Paul Geraghty

Printer: Southern Colour Print Process:

Lithography

Stamp Size: 30mm x 48mm

Stamp Format: Landscape

Stamp Paper: 104 Tullis Russell Non- Phosphor Gummed Stamp Paper

For further details please contact:

The Manager, Philatelic Bureau

GPO Box 100, Suva, Fiji Islands

Website: <http://www.stampsfiji.com.fj> or

www.postfiji.com.fj

Email: Orders@postfiji.com.fj



Smt Manisha Mishra, DPS Bhubaneswar Region visiting the exhibition held on 13-15, Oct.08 during Postal week at the Philatelic Bureau, Bhubaneswar

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 "eipaorissa@yahoo.co.in" or so that it will be easier to edit and publish them in this bulletin.

OUR NEW MEMBERS

The following new Life Members joined to our EIPA family during September-October, 2008.



Mr. Vikash Singh,
OAK Road, Flat No.1/5,
Shipra Sun City, Indirapuram,
Ghaziabad-201014 (U.P.)
Mobile: 9350982006/ 9899402297
Membership No. LS-15

Email: vikash.singh@reckittbenkiser.com

Philatelic Interest: Indian Railways, Tintin



Mr. Prem Kumar Bagri,
A-149/152, Bharati Towers,
Forest Park, Flat-301,
Bhubaneswar-75100
Ph: 0674-3296885 Mobile: 9938137785
Membership No. LB-06

Philatelic Interest: Stamps, Meghdoot Postcards



Mr. Surya Narayan Mohanty,
Plot No.599, Bhubasini Nagar
Near Jalaram Shaw Mill,
Samantarapur, Bhubaneswar
Mobile: 9437260344/ 9238815344
Membership No. LM-22

Philatelic Interest: Indian Stamps

The Last Journey

Capt. Laxmi Indira Panda the only INA soldier in the Subhas Chandra Bose's Azad Hind Fouz from the Jeypore town of Koraput District, Orissa is no more. She passed away at the AIIMS, New Delhi on 06.10.2008 at the age of 82. The country will remember this courageous lady for her bravery to fight against the British at the age of 14 only. She left us but her sweet voice with the song "Kadam kadam Badhai ja, Khushi ke git gai ja....." will be always in our heart and will remind us to fight against injustice. Let her soul live in peace. The members of EIPA family salute to the brave lady.



The last journey of Capt Laxmi Panda (inset). Ajit Kumar Dash, the Secretary, EIPA and Mr. Anil Dhir paying their last tribute

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Edited by **Mr. Ajit Kumar Dash**, D-13/6, Rental Colony, IRC Village, Bhubaneswar-751015, Orissa.
and assisted by **Dr. Bibhudatta Mishra**, CIFA, Kausalyaganga, Bhubaneswar-751002, Orissa

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