



# The Fila Capsule

e-Magazine of Eastern India Philatelists' Association  
Bhubaneswar, Odisha



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JANUARY 2025

MONTHLY





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Volume 2 No. 1 \* January 2025 \* Monthly



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### PHILAINSPIRE

Stamps hobby is going to be there when you need them. Just remember, when you feel alone, there will be one partner with you, the most trusted companion, PHILATELY.

## Editorial...

The 2025 started full of hope for new beginnings, great possibilities and renewed spirits, with the fragrance of freshness in thoughts and dreams. January conveys commemorations of Republic Day with the quest for a free Nation—our cover page features New Year's and Christmas stamps from around the globe. Our team believes that philately is for all and should be accessible to everybody. From this issue, we have started a new chapter introducing Hindi pages and the English magazine. The Hindi Session covers the Prayagraj Kumbha mela and auspicious moments, Hindi days on stamps etc. We have published the list of winners in NAYAGARHPEX-2025 a district-level exhibition where EIPA sponsored a memento presented for the best Youth Exhibit, an interview of the Sparsh Scholarship awardee from Odisha Circle a mark of recognition.

The current issue store with a travel story from the island Mauritius, Europa stamps- how it started, Chadar a unique mail line from Ladhak valley, Indian Space philately and many more. We hope our efforts of love for the hobby will offer you an experience into the world of philately. We encourage our readers to go through them and offer their comments and help the writers to improve. A wise man once narrated "It's not the length of time it took to build the passion but the length of time it took to learn how to create it that needs to be considered".

As always let us know your feedback at [editorcapsuleeipa2024@gmail.com](mailto:editorcapsuleeipa2024@gmail.com). Don't forget to tell us your favourite article in this issue.

*Dr. Bibhudatta Mishra*  
Editor

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# Chadder-A Unique Mail Line in Kargil

Chander M Bhat, Sri Nagar

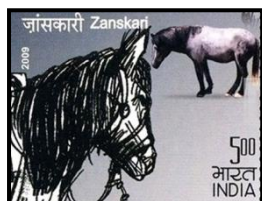


Ladakh unfolds a treasury of vibrant cultural heritage renowned as "Little Tibet" has a Postal Division under Jammu and Kashmir Circle. The region is famous for



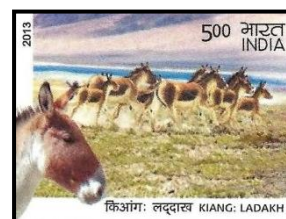
high-altitude desert boasting rugged Kargil, awe-inspiring panorama with challenging weather conditions that attracts tourist round the globe. There is an inimitable postal distribution also called mail line is the Kargil Padam (Zaskar valley). For the local the isolated part cleared by mechanical means in summer months from June to September and postal contact possible through buses operated by the Jammu and Kashmir State Road Transport Corporation (J&K SRTC). Other means of postal bag transported occasionally done on Zanskari a horse breed and Kiang wild ass available in this region. The valley has postal networks at places from Kargil to Padam such as Sankoo Sub Post Office, Panikhar Branch Office (B.O.), and Parkachik Branch Office (B.O.), before reaching the final destination Padam Sub Post Office. This ensures that the inhabitants of these far-off regions receive timely postal services during the summer months.

The timeless rhythms of the Tibetan Plateau grieve a lot with onset of winter from October onwards for the life to persist. Sparsely populated Ladakh, the roads become treacherous and are eventually blocked by heavy snowfall. During these times the postal bags were sent from Parkachik B.O. by six Departmental runners known in early days as Harkara. The region transforms into a



magical winter wonderland as the mountain peaks, and girding hills are adorned with a delicate sub caste of white snow. The beautiful white fleece runners navigate difficult terrain in challenging conditions to deliver the mail service. The runners used one special dresses in multiple layers called Goncha is worn by males, the ladakhi cap Gonda, Ladakhi shoes or pabu were traditionally made made of woven yak hair and wool, The serpo (yellow) tipi is made of a yak felt called nambu and keeps the head warm during sub-zero temperatures in the winter. But by late December, the Sankoo-Padam mail line is completely cut off. The challenges posed by the winter months in this high-altitude region highlight the dedication and resilience of the postal department runners connecting despite the formidable natural barriers.

The river of Zaskar transforms into a thick white blanket of ice which enables people to walk on the frozen water, following a path which is inaccessible in summer. The ancient method of mail delivery is employed by foot runners walk on the frozen river also known as the "Chadar." The Hindi word "Chadar" translates to "blanket" or "a sheet" in English, which aptly describes the frozen Zaskar River. The intense cold reaching as low as -30°C (-22°F) or even colder is essential for the formation of a thick layer of ice on the river's surface. The nomadic communities, adventure near the village of Chilling leaves an indelible mark with the runner's team, the sheer thrill of walking on



ice-covered surfaces, surrounded by towering snow-clad peaks, is an experience unlike any other. The walls of the gorge through which the river flows are almost vertical, reaching heights of up to 2000 feet, leaving no space to walk beside the river. Along this deceitful path, there are natural caves carved into the walls of the gorge, offering much-needed shelter to those making the journey. These caves have served as halting points for centuries, providing protection from the biting cold and harsh winds. Travelers and mail runners can rest here during the night or take a break before continuing their

journey. The key halting stages along this icy route are Tilat Sumdo, Kharnak, Nera 1, Hanumil, Pishu, Stonde, Nieraq, and finally, Pidmo village. Each of these locations serves as a waypoint in the difficult journey to Padam.

The total distance from the starting point near Chilling to Padam typically takes no less than three days to cover, under ideal conditions. However, this time can extend significantly depending on weather conditions and the state of the ice. The runners must be prepared for sudden delays and unexpected challenges, such as cracks in the ice or the appearance of fast-flowing water in sections where the river has not frozen completely. These delays can add considerable strain

to an already exhausting journey, requiring patience, endurance, and a strong will to reach the destination.

Once in Padam, there are limited options for leaving. For those who make the journey on foot, the choice is clear: either walk back over the frozen river or remain in Padam until the high mountain passes reopen in June, once the snow melts and the roads become passable again. While some may choose to wait out the winter, the mail runners do not have this luxury. After delivering their mail, immediately begin their return journey, retracing their steps along the frozen river to reach Kargil. The journey back is just as dangerous as the journey to Padam, with the same risks of ice instability, harsh weather, and the physical and mental challenges of navigating the frozen terrain.

#### Children Corner

### CHRONICLES OF HOBBYIST


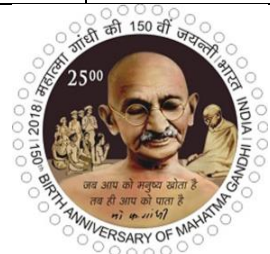
Mr. Bibhuprasad Mohapatra



As one and all knows and feels, each child is special in their own way. Children differ in talent, creativity, interests etc. Not only children but also every individual is unique i.e. one-of-a-kind. However, some of them share common behavioural patterns, each with their distinctive traits, embracing exceptionality. The unique talents and abilities, that they develop personal preferences, with life-long interests which eventually and ultimately shape their individuality, setting them apart from others by aligning them to stand out of the crowd. Few worldwide adventures on an obsession acknowledged in **the Guinness World of Record, Limca Book of Records, Assist World Records, India Book of Records, and Unique World Records** provide innumerable platform to accumulators.



The selection of hobbies is incredibly tough to start and focusing on analogue adventures in a digital world with the appropriate materials. A Hobby enthusiast grows, and mesmerizes to become lifelong assortment, researching and learning adopting adventure pathways. The real fun is carrying the hobby producing innovative claim to fame with period and converting it to an obsessive pastime. Some hobbies may be absurd but it allures collectors.

The collection categories differ according to the materials possess by the hobbyist. Few most popular collectable are listed below with their fancy name for the beginner collector. Any of the hobby we choose determine how a collector approaches with

unwavering dedication have factors such as cost, desire, passion, profit, space and future value.

Collectible item	Activity/name of collection	Collector/fancy word for collector
Antiques	Antiquing	Antiquarian
Arrow heads	Arrowhead hunting	Arrowhead collector
Antique 		
Autograph	Autograph collection	Autograph hound
Baseball cards	Baseball card collection	Baseball card collector/ Cartophile
Beer bottle	Beer bottle	Laberophilist
Bell-ring	Bell-ring collection	Campanologist
Bottle caps	Placomusophil ia	Placomusophile
Bottles	Bottle collection	Bottle digger
Butterflies	Lepidoptery	Lepidopterist

		
Buttons	Buttonology	Buttonologist
Cigarette cards	Cartophily	Cartophile
Coaster/beer mat	Coaster collection	Tegestologist
Coins	Numismatics	Numismatist
Comic books	Comic collection	Comic collector/Pannapictagraphist
Cork screw	Helixophily	Helixophile
Dolls	Doll collection	Plangonologist
Flag	Flag collection	Vexillophile
Key ring	Copoclephilia	Copoclephilist
Leaves	Leaf collection	Leaf-raker
Freeze Magnets	Memomagnetics	Memomagnetist
Match box	Phillumeny	Phillumunist
Newspaper	ephemerology	Journalistic ephemerologist

Paper money/ Paper note	Notaphily	Notaphilist
		
Postcard	Deltiology	Postcard Collector
Pressed flower	Herbarium	Pressed flower collector
Rocks	Rock collection	Rock hound
Spoons	Spoon collection	Cochlearist/ Koutalophile/ Spatulologist
Stamps	Philately	Philatelist
Teddy bear	Arctophily	Arctophile
Thimbles	Thimble collection	Digitabulist
Token/medal	Token/medal	Exonumist
Vintage	Vintage collection	Antiquarian
Watch	Horology	Horologist

N.B. *Study of rocks is called as petrology and petrology is different from rock hounding/collection in meaning.*

## Forthcoming Exhibitions

### International Exhibitions

- URUGUAY 2025 (FIP Patronage Special World Stamp Exhibition)**  
Maca Museum, Uruguay  
17th Feb – 22nd Feb, 2025
- EUROPHILEX 2025**  
Birmingham  
8th May – 11th May, 2025
- THAILAND 2025 (Asian International Stamp Exhibition)**  
Bangkok, Thailand  
8th - 12th August, 2025
- PHILAKOREA 2024 (FIP World Stamp Exhibition)**  
Seoul  
17th - 21st September, 2025
- UAE 2025 (FIAP Asian International Stamp Exhibition)**  
Dubai, UAE  
8th - 12th October, 2025
- SAVPEX 2025 - South African 10th Virtual Philatelic Exhibition**  
June 2025
- BOSTON 2026**

## Commemorative Postmarks

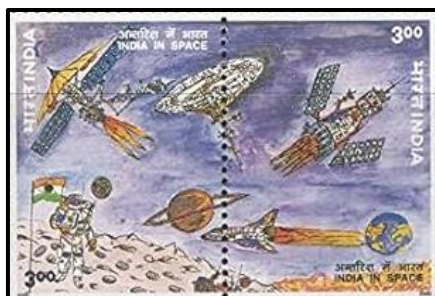
Mr. Rakhel Dash

Date of Issue	Special Cancellation 2024	Post Office
01.01.2025	Happy New Year	Mysuru HO-PB, Mangaluru HO-PB, Belagavi HO-PB, Bengaluru GPO-PB
04.01.2025	Braile Day	Mysuru HO-PB, Mangaluru HO-PB, Belagavi HO-PB, Bengaluru GPO-PB
05.01.2025	Closing day of the Exposition of the Sacred Relics of St. Francis Xavier	Velha Goa, Panaji HO-PB
08.01.2025	NAYAGARHPEX 2025- Utkal Ghanta Kabi Jadumani Mahapatra	Nayagarh
08.01.2025	NAYAGARHPEX 2025- Tiger	Nayagarh
08.01.2025	IKSHUPEX 2025	Belagavi
09.01.2025	NAYAGARHPEX 2025- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas	Nayagarh
09.01.2025	NAYAGARHPEX 2025- Samanta Chandrasekhar	Nayagarh
09.01.2025	Pravasi Bharatiya Divas	Bhubaneswar GPO (PB)
17.01.2025	Integrated Quality of Service Plan Workshop	Bengaluru GPO-PB
17.01.2025	National Startup Day	Mysuru HO-PB, Mangaluru HO-PB, Belagavi HO-PB, Bengaluru GPO-PB
20.01.2025	75 Years of Constitution	New Delhi
21.01.2025	75 Years of Constitution	New Delhi
22.01.2025	75 Years of Constitution	New Delhi
23.01.2025	International Girl Child Day	Mysuru HO-PB, Mangaluru HO-PB, Belagavi HO-PB, Bengaluru GPO-PB
29.01.2025	TANAPEX 2025 - Cultural Heritage of Tamil Nadu	Chennai
30.01.2025	TANAPEX 2025 - Natural Wonders of Tamil Nadu	Chennai
30.01.2025	Martyrs' Day 2025	Gandhi Nagar S.O.
31.01.2025	TANAPEX 2025	Chennai
31.01.2025	TANAPEX 2025 - Contribution of Tamil Nadu to Science and Technology	Chennai

### Part-2

## CRADEL OF THE INDIAN COSMIC PHILATELY

Mr. Sanjib Kumar Sahoo, Bangalore



Continuing with the article on the subject, in this issue we will focus on the philatelic items related to satellites of ISRO around the Earth.

### Satellites

A satellite is an object that orbits around a planet or other celestial body. Earth's natural Satellite moon had been our major source of imagination during childhood. All of us had grown up with stories on Chandamama. A communications satellite is an artificial satellite that relays and amplifies through the use of a transponder, radio telecommunications signals, between a source and a receiver. A satellite works by receiving radio signals sent from the Earth and resending the radio signals back down to the

Earth. The modern journey of artificial satellites started with British science fiction writer and futurist Arthur C Clark's article published in the magazine 'Wireless World' (October, 1945) "Extra-Terrestrial Relays: Can Rocket Stations Give World-wide Radio Coverage?" In this article, Clarke envisaged a group of three manned space stations arranged in a triangle around the earth, launched by versions of the German V-2 or larger intercontinental ballistic missiles. This is the basis of geostationary satellites used today.

The world's first artificial satellite launched on 4th Oct, 1957, when Soviet Union successfully propelled Sputnik I beginning the Space Age.

This achievement opened up entirely new realms of exploration and scientific research, paving the way for future space missions and the eventual exploration of other celestial bodies.

### The Marvels of Indian Satellites

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is the dream product of late Dr Vikram Sarabhai. The outstanding technological feat of the human race triggered new advanced scientific developments for the betterment of the common man and the nation.

The various satellites are broadly divided into Geostationary (APPLE, INSAT, GSAT, Kalpana), Earth Observation (IRS, Megha-Tropiques, SARAL, CartoSat, RISAT, OceanSat, ResourceSat), Navigational (IRNSS), Scientific and Space Exploration (AstroSat, SROSS-C), Experimental (Aryabhata, Bhaskara, APPLE, Rohini Series, SRE, SpaDex) Satellites. Many of these have been recognized by Department of Post with issue of postage stamps and stationery.

### Aryabhata

19th Apr, 1975 is a landmark in the history of India's Space Journey when the rocket thrusts fired to launch India's first indigenous satellite



Aryabhata (Named after the great Indian mathematician and astronomer during 5th century CE). It was an Experimental Satellite meant for Study of Earth Science & Space Physics. The instruments were assembled at Peenya, near Bangalore, but launched from the Soviet Union by a Russian-made rocket launch site Kapustin Yar, using a Kosmos-3M launch vehicle. India Post issued a stamp during the 1st Anniversary on 20th Apr, 1976 from Sriharikota.

Interestingly, postal items (stamps, souvenir sheets, aerogrammes, postal cards, etc.) also issued from countries like Dominica, Germany, USSR and St. Thomas and Prince Islands, too. Govt of India Printed Rs 2/- bank Note with Aryabhata.

### Bhaskara I & II

Bhaskara I is the first experimental Remote Sensing satellite. It was also meant for study of



Astronomy & Earth Sciences. It was launched in a Soviet Kosmos-3M rocket from Kapustin Yar on 19th Jul, 1977 with mission life of 1 year. Bhaskara-II was built in India and was launched in a Soviet Kosmos-3M rocket from Kapustin Yar on 20th Nov, 1981. The main objectives of Bhaskara-II were similar to Bhaskara-I and was used to conduct earth observation experiments for applications related to hydrology, forestry, and geology. A pictorial cancel and multi-colour printed cachet on stamped envelope issued from Moscow during launch of the Bhaskar-1.

### APPLE

Ariane Passenger PayLoad Experiment (APPLE), was an experimental communication satellite with a C-Band transponder launched on 19th Jun, 1981



by launch vehicle Ariane of the European Space Agency (ESA) from Centre Spatial Guyanais near Kourou in French Guiana.

APPLE was India's first three-axis stabilised experimental Geostationary communication satellite. It served as testbed of the Indian telecommunications space relay infrastructure.

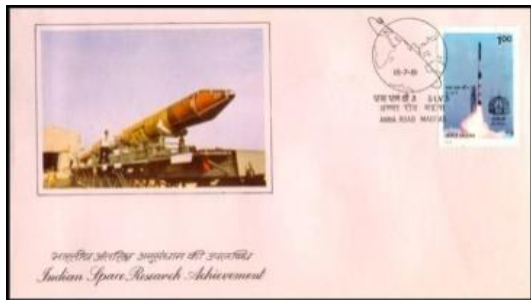
A Commemorative Postage Stamp on APPLE was released on 19 Jun, 1982 on the first year anniversary of the launching of APPLE.

### Rohini

Rohini is a series of 4 satellites, were launched during 1980-1983 by the Indigenous Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-3) rocket and three of which made



it successfully to orbit. These are experimental Satellites meant for study on Earth Sciences.



Rohini Stamp and pictorial) cancel and (multi-color printed) cachet on FDC were released on 18th Jul, 1981.

## IRS-1A

Indian Remote Sensing satellite-1A (IRS-1A), the first of the series of indigenous state-of-art remote sensing satellites,



was successfully launched a VOSTAK launcher from Soviet Union into a polar Sun-synchronous orbit on 17th Mar, 1988 from the Cosmodrome at Baikonur, Khazakhstan. IRS-1A carries two Linear Self Scanning Sensors, LISS-1 and LISS-2, with resolutions of 72 m and 36 m respectively with a swath width of about 140 km during each pass over the country. The satellite provided excellent data during 1988 - 1991. A Commemorative Postage Stamp on IRS-1A was released on 18th Mar, 1991.

## INSAT-3B

The Indian National Satellite (INSAT-3B) on-board the European Space Agency's Ariane-5G lifted-off from Kourou, French Guiana on 22nd Mar, 2000 is a geostationary communication satellite.



INSAT-3B was the first of the five ISRO built satellites meant for serving to business, mobile and developmental communication. It provides the first set to transponders for Swaran Jayanti Vidya Vikas Antariksh Upagraha Yojana (Vidya Vahini) for interactive training and developmental communication. A Commemorative Postage Stamp on the satellite was released on 29th Sep, 2000.

## Oceansat-1

Oceansat-1 or IRS-P4 was the 1st Indian satellite built for Ocean applications, launched by PSLV-C2 from

the Satish Dhawan Space first launch pad Centre, Sriharikota on 26th May, 1999. The satellite carried an Ocean Colour Monitor (OCM) and a Multi-frequency Scanning Microwave Radiometer (MSMR) for oceanographic studies. Oceansat-1 thus vastly augments the IRS satellite system and extends remote sensing applications to several newer areas.



A Commemorative Postage Stamp on Oceansat-1 was released on 29th Sep, 2000.

## Rukmani

Indian Navy's tryst with a dedicated Defence communication satellite began on 30th Aug, 2013 with the successful launch of GSAT -7 under the "Project Rukmani". With this landmark event, Indian Navy joined the elite group of Navies that possess the capability to conduct operation using dedicated communication satellites.



Rukmani provides a multi-band SATCOM capability on VHF, S, C and Ku Bands to surface, Sub-Surfaces and air assets of Indian Navy in various combinations. Project Rukmani has heralded Indian Navy into a new era of indigenous SATCOM communications as a force multiplier.

A Commemorative Postage Stamp was released on 14th Feb, 2015.

## SpaDeX

Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX) is a twin satellite mission to mature technologies related to orbital rendezvous, docking, formation flying, with scope of applications in human spaceflight, in-space satellite servicing and other proximity operations.

SpaDeX consists of two modified IMS-1 class satellites weighing 220 kg each, one acting as Chaser and other being Target. Both were launched as co-passengers from the First Launch Pad of Satish Dhawan Space Centre aboard a dedicated Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle on 30th Dec, 2024 and injected into slightly different orbits. A Special Cancellation was Released by Mumbai Philatelic Bureau on 31st Dec, 2024.



# Stamps Round the World

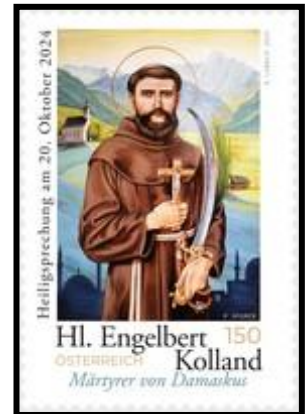
Courtesy: Mr. Shubhrajyoti Behera



*Finland  
More Fun Together- 15.01.2025*



*USA—Compass Rose  
24.01.2025*



*Austria—Martyrs of  
Damascus –St.Engelbert  
Kolland 24.01-2025  
24.01.2025*



*Taiwan –WBSC Premiere12 2024 Global Champions - 22.01.2025*



*Australia – Native Orchids  
21.01.2025*



*Turkey – Family Tree  
15.01.2025*



*Japan- Record of Nature- 22.01.2025*

## Sparsh Scholarship - Odisha Circle

### Deen Dayal SPARSH (Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude & Research in Stamps as a Hobby), ODISHA CIRCLE

“The Fila Capsule” team has made an effort to touch the young students who have qualified for the SPARSH scholarship, 2024. Class VI, VII and VIII (all 30 awardees) were contacted over the phone. The up-to-date information shared regarding the objectives of the endeavor of achievements was very much accepted by the parents. Class IX, (10 selected students) was correspondence by sending letters but only a few responded. Many of the student express the non-cooperation by philatelist in their venture but few are fortunate to receive guidance and proudly express their gratitude the mentor.

I am Biswajit Dash a student of Class-VI reading in Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Satrusola, Block /Dist – Ganjam qualified for the Sparsh Scholarship this year securing 64 marks (third position). My philately project title was "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: Foreign Policy of India -The world is one family". However, I have not received any support for acquiring materials nor guidance from any philatelist listed by DoP. I was inspired by Sri Panchanana Panigrahi. The journey of preparation for the philately assignment was amazing with learning new things and researching our bilateral relationship with different countries. It was tempting to collect stamps and other postal instruments. Fabricating words with embroidery of colourful stamps was quite fascinating. I enjoyed and learned a lot throughout the process of making this project. I am a new entrant to the world of philately and engaged in collecting stamps and other postal instruments for the last couple of years. I was the district topper in both Navodya Entrance Test i.e. JNVST 2024 and Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Entrance test. I was the solo achiever in class VI Merit Scholarship.



In addition to academics, I have an immense interest in Science and Technology. I have participated in different levels of science exhibitions and brought laurels.

Myself Dinesh Kumar Behera, reading in Class-VI at D.A.V Public School, Berhampur, Ganjam. I have submitted a philately project on “Important heritage buildings of India” selected by the evaluator and bagged 4th position with 62 marks. I am blessed to receive encouragement from my mother and guidance from Sri Ajit Kumar Dash, a Philatelist from the philately workshop at Berhampur and Mr R. N. Das (Post Master of Berhampur HPO) were behind the trip in receiving this prestigious scholarship. I felt very excited to collect different stamps and enjoyed thoroughly during the project preparation. I am not collecting stamps but this National scholarship motivates me to pursue the hobby.



My self Adarsh Mania a student from Sainik School, Bhubaneswar from class VII bagged 3rd position with 69 marks for receiving the prestigious Deen Dayal Sparsh scholarship for the year 2024. I have got inspiration from Mrs Rituparna Mam, Counsellor on the project “Stamps on Odisha”. I started this hobby last year after joining my school. I belong to a other state than Odisha but this project gave me exposure and the opportunity to know a lot about culture and festivals. For preparation for the philately project, I have enjoyed with Odia classmates who guided me to complete the assignment.



I am Pritam Pradhan, studying at Public English Medium School, Phulbani in Class VII. I got the communication of the Sparsh scholarship from our school teacher Sri Sivananda Mohapatra Sir and qualified in both rounds securing 4th position (68 Marks) in the philately project round. My project was guided and materially supported by the eminent stamp collector of Baudh, Sri Biswanath Mishra Sir. I have been collecting stamps for the last few months as Indian stamps reflect the traditions and culture of our country. I am privileged to have received the scholarship for my project “Women empowerment”



and won the Gold medal in the SOF Science Olympiad for the current year.

My name is Mohesh Kumar Behera, from Saraswati Shishu Vidya Mandir Tulsi Chaura, Baripada. My arranged philately project “Butterfly-the flying insect in the world” with the help and guidance of our town philatelist Mr Saswat Kumar Sethi awarded 5th position in Class-VII acquiring 69 marks. I am not collecting postage stamps as such but



after the selection of 1st round, I have explored postage stamps on the butterfly. In addition to the sparsh scholarship, I have displayed a science exhibit at Jaipur, Rajasthan in Agriculture Technology, Akhil Bharatiya level.



I am Sibatri Panda a student of D.M. School, Regional Institute of Education Bhubaneswar reading in class-VIII. I am happy that my philately on “Indian heritage building” was selected for the scholarship. My mother Jasadhara Dash inspired me for this project.

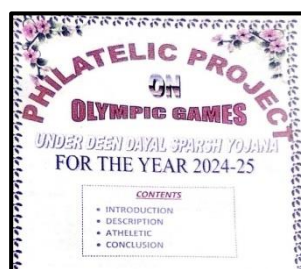
My name is Aniket Tripathy. I am studying in class VIII at O.A.V Patharchepa, Balangir. I have been selected for the Sparsh Scholarship 2024 securing 4th position in all Odisha. My father Shri Pravash Ranjan Tripathy, was back bone of my interest and Balangir eminent philatelists Shri Gangadhar Tripathy Sir and Shri Hardik Bhammar Sir advise me for the prepared project of "Stamps on Odisha". The new areas of the hobby were mind-soothing and fantastic as I have been collecting stamps for the past several years. This is the second time I have been selected for the Sparsh project scholarship.



I am Pradymna Kumar reading at Holy Family English Medium School position in the Class IX Sparsh scholarship categories with 70 marks. Nayagarh. I have submitted one philately project on “Olympic games” which bagged 2nd position. The idea of exploring a new hobby excited me during the collection of information about the Olympic Games that unite sportsmen around the world every 4 years. I got involved by arrangements of Stamps and First-day cover with the local philatelist Mr Kalpatra Raut who helped me in getting appropriate stamps and timely submission of my project. I have received 2nd position for Youth categories and 3rd position in Nayagarhpex-2025. I have also received a Gold medal in the SOF Olympiad in Science, Mathematics and English.



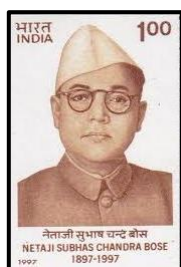
My self Parthapriya Pandit presently reading in the residential school Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya, Salapada in Class-IX. I was adjudged 5th position with 68 marks and qualified for the Odisha Postal Circle Sparsh scholarship. The title of my philately project was “The Essence of Western Odisha Cultural Grandeur” inspired and helped by Dr



Chandrasekhar Basak renowned philatelist from Keonjhar. I am fascinated and enjoy the process of preparing for the hobby. I realised that if you pursue this hobby one has to immerse yourself in the

research and explore the thematic stamps, their origins, and significance including learning about famous collections or rare stamps. Hunt for new stamps, visiting local or online philatelic stores. Here’s how I make it enjoyable. I have some stamps and special covers from the Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup, Maa Hingula pitha, Maa Tarini Temple, Utkal university etc. mostly related to my state.

## CHILDREN COMPARTMENT



### SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE-THE REVOLUTIONARY FIGHTER

Subhash Chandra Bose an Indian Freedom Fighter, was born on 23rd January 1897 at Cuttack. His mother was Pravabati Devi, a housewife and

his father was Janakinath Bose, an advocate. He was influenced by the teachings of Shri Ramakrishna Paramhansa and Vivekananda. At one time, he believed that religion was more important than studies. Netaji distinguished himself as an above-average student. He was admitted into the Protestant European

School in January 1902 at the age of 5 years. Then, he joined some of the premier institutions Such as Ravenshaw Collegiate School in Cuttock and Presidency College Calcutta for Further studies.

In the year 1919 Netaji left for London to fulfill a promise made to his father, about preparing and getting selected in the Indian Civil Services (ICS). He prepared for ICS and enrolled in mental and moral sciences at Fitzwilliam College, under Cambridge University. He got selected in the ICS examination, but he resigned from his job on 2nd April 1921. In a letter to his brother, he stated "Only on the soil of sacrifice and suffering can we raise our national edifice".

Bose came back to India and started a newspaper named Swaraj Bengal. He also took charge of publicity for the Bengal Province Congress Committee. He devoted his entire life to the Independence of our Country. In 1938 and 1939 he was elected President of the Indian National Congress. However, he quit the post of President due to ideological differences with Gandhiji. He formed the All India Forward Bloc within the Congress Party in Bengal Province. During the 1940s Bose travelled to Japan, Singapore and Germany for support. Netaji reached Singapore in July 1943 where he delivered his famous



slogan-"Delhi Chalo" and also on the 21st of October of the same year Netaji announced the formation of the Azad Hind Government and Indian National Army. Netaji recruited 20,000 Indian prisoners of war out of 60,000 lying in the Japanese camps. Indian businessmen settled in South-East Asia provided financial support to INA. Indian National Army under the command of Netaji working at its best. During March-June the INA together with Japanese troops, tried to capture Imphal but this attempt failed. Netaji hoisted the national tricolour for the first time on Indian soil on 30 December 1943.



Netaji was a true patriot and advocated complete independence without any conditions and obligations. His famous slogan was-" तुम मुझे खून दो, मैं तुम्हें आज़ादी दूंगा". This great revolutionary fighter died on 18th August 1945 in a plane crash in Taiwan. The ashes of Netaji have been preserved in the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo, Japan.

Aniket Tripathy,

Class-VIII, Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya,

Patharchepa, Balangir

## Philatelic Exhibition, Events and Workshop

### NAYAGARHPEX-2025

#### District level

The First district level Philatelic Exhibition NAYAGARHPEX-2025 was organized at the Diamond Jubilee Auditorium, Nayagarh Autonomous College during 8-9<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

The two days exhibition was inaugurated by Sri Anil Kumar Dhir, Eminent Philatelist and Vice-President, EIPA as Chief Guest, Sri Amit Kumar Jha, DPS Head quarter, Odisha Circle, Bhubaneswar, as Guest of Honour, Sri Ajay Barik, Eminent Philatelist, Jury of the Exhibition and Chief Speaker in presence of Mr Khageswar Mallick, Chairman Organising Committee, Nayagarhpex-2025 and SSPO, Nayagarh. There were 2 Special covers on Mahatma Gandhi, Nilamadhav Temple and 2 Commemorative cancellations (Utkal Ghanta Kabi Jadumani Mahapatra, replica of Tiger-the

feudatory state receipt stamp of Nayagarh were released by the guest on first day. In total 142 frames exhibited during the events with invitee class-67, youth class-31, competitive class-40 and 4 school exhibits were displayed for the visitors.



The 2<sup>nd</sup> day (9.1.2025) was attended by Mr Shanti Swarup Rath, Secretary, EIPA as Chief Guest and Mr Anil Dhir, eminent historian as Guest of Honour on concluding session. There were 2 more commemorative pictorial cancellation released celebrating Pravasi Bharatiya Divas and ancient astronomer Samanta Chandrasekhar for the philatelist.

Mr Abhilash Sahoo, received the memento sponsored by EIPA, Bhubaneswar a certificate and medal for best Youth Award. The exhibit project entitled “Jayadev Geetgovind” was displayed by him under the guidance of district philatelist, Mr Kasinath Sahoo. The Jury Committee have selected in total 2 vermeil (Junior and Senior), 2 large silver (Junior and Senior), 2 silver (Senior), 2 silver bronze (Junior) and 9 each bronze for both categories.

There was competition for letter writing both in Odia and English, Stamp designing and Quiz in Junior and Senior categories organized. The results are as follows.

<b>Letter Writing (ODIA, Junior and Senior)</b>		
<b>Name and School</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Position</b>
Gourav Kumar Maharana	VII	1 <sup>st</sup>
Mitanjali Nayak, CS Govt UP School, Machhipada	VII	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Sthiti Pragyan Das, NAC High School	VII	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Rajalaxmi Muduli, NAC High School	IX	1 <sup>st</sup>
Pujarini Sahoo, Nabaghanpur HS	IX	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Subhalaxmi Sahoo, Girls High School, Nayagarh	VIII	3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>English Letter Writing (Junior and Senior)</b>		
Anshuman Malla, KV, Nayagarh	VI	1 <sup>st</sup>
Punya Pratyush Behera KV, Nayagarh	V	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Trishna Aradhya, KV Nayagarh	VI	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Sephali Pradhan, DAV Public School	IX	1 <sup>st</sup>
Aditya Pritiranjana Barad, DAV Public School	IX	3 <sup>rd</sup>
N. Sai Prasad, DAV, Nayagarh	IX	2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Stamp Designing (Sub Junior, Junior and Senior)</b>		
Simran Priyadarshini, KV, Nayagarh	IV	1 <sup>st</sup>
Sai Saswat Rout, Aurobindo School, Nayagarh	III	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Snehali Priyadarshini, KV Nayagarh	IV	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Arpita Das, KV, Nayagarh	VI	1 <sup>st</sup>
Ankita Mishra, KV, Nayagarh	VII	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Soumya Ranjan Das, NAC High School	VI	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Pritirekha Sahoo, KV,	VIII	1 <sup>st</sup>

Nayagarh		
Soumyaranjan Das, KV, Nayagarh	VIII	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Hiranmayee Acharya, SSVM, Nayagarh	IX	3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Stamp Quiz (Junior and Senior)</b>		
Prativa Kumari Parida, KV, Nayagarh	VI	1 <sup>st</sup>
Ashish Kumar Barad, KV, Nayagarh	VII	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Daksha Dutta, KV, Nayagarh	VIII	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Ayesha Priyadarshini, KV, Nayagarh	X	1 <sup>st</sup>
Debasish Sahoo, Holy family English Medium, Nayagarh	IX	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Pradyumna Kumar , Holy family English Medium, Nayagarh	IX	3 <sup>rd</sup>



**FELLCITATION TO MR ANIL DHIR, Member EIPA, AT PRAVASI ODIA DIVAS**

On the celebration of Prabasi Odia Dibas 2025, the World Odisha Society had given Sri Anil Dhir, Vice-President, EIPA with a memento and shawl the “Ratnashri Award” in recognition for his services and contributions to Odia Society” (according to the citation given by them). The award was bestowed upon him for the Odishan heritage restoration work over the past few years.



### **MR HARDIK BHAMMAR WON THE BEST INTERNATIONAL EXHIBIT AWARD**



Mr Hardik Bhammar, won the Best Exhibit Award for his collection on “The Butterfly, Indian Legend” at the 5<sup>th</sup> International Match Box and Label Exhibition organized by the Bangladesh Match Box Collector Club (BMCC) and the Australian Match Cover Collectors Society (AMCCC). There were 42 match box collectors from

13 countries participated in the competition during 1-15<sup>th</sup> January, 2025.

### **PRAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS, BHUBANESWAR**



The Odisha Postal Circle celebrated 18<sup>th</sup> Pravasi Bharatiya Divas on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at Philatelic Bureau, Bhubaneswar with release of a commemorative Postmark. The event was observed in participation of Mr Manoj Pattanaik, Sr Post Master, Mr Mohan Suna, DSP, Head Quarter, Mr Mrtyunjaya Hota, DPM, Bhubaneswar GPO and Mr Ajit Dash, Senior Philatelist from EIPA.

### **BARODA PHILATELIC SOCIETY GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION AND VADOPHILEX- 2025**



Baroda Philatelic Society was established on 27<sup>th</sup> April 1975; with 17 founder members is oldest Societies in Gujarat.

The Society has completed 50 years of its establishment and celebrating the Golden Jubilee year during the period of 2024-2025.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024, at Blue Lagoon Restaurant, Vadodara. Mr. Prashant Pandya, President of the society welcomed with sharing of information about past presidents and contribution of Shri R. P. Shah in the formation of society and nurturing the society. Bouquets were presented to Mr.

Digant R. Mehta, Mr. Dinesh T. Desai and Mr. Mihir R. Shah who are Golden Jubilee members of the society.



The society organised two days philatelic Exhibition

‘Vadophilex-2025’ on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at Diwalipura Atithi Gruh, Diwalipura, Vadodara. The exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Ganesh V. Sawaleshwarkar, Chief Postmaster General, Gujarat Postal Circle, Shri Dinesh Kumar Sharma, Postmaster General, Vadodara Region and Dr. S. Shivaram, Director, Postal Services, Vadodara Region on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

The Department of Posts released a Skate Carried Cover on this occasion. The Carried Cover features an artistic design depicting



postmen delivering mail using roller skates - a nod to innovative and eco-friendly delivery methods. Skate Carried Covers were carried by four little skaters and their coach in traditional postman bags from the Race course Sub Post Office to the exhibition venue. A set of 12 Picture Postcards on Heritage of Vadodara was also released on the inaugural day.

This exhibition showcased collections of Thematic Exhibits, Hundis of Baroda State, Postal Stationery, Postal History, Cancellations and Stamps of Pre Independence-Period and many more in 100 Frames. Closing Ceremony was held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025 Evening. Shri Dinesh Kumar Sharma, Postmaster General, Vadodara Region and Dr. S. Shivaram, Director, Postal Services, Vadodara Region were the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour of the function.

Phila Report- Shri Prasant Pandya,  
Philatelist, Baroda

### **MAHAPEX-2025**

The State level Philatelic Exhibition of Maharashtra Postal Circle MAHAPEX-2025 was inaugurated at World Trade Centre, Mumbai on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2025 by the Honourable Governor of the State Sri C.P.Radhakrishnan. The dignitaries present on the occasion were Sri Amitabh Singh, CPMG, Maharashtra and Goa Circle, Sri Vijay Kalantri, Chairman, World Trade Centre, Sri Manik Shah, Director, Manik Shah Group and Smt Bhabana Roy, AssociateVP, Times of India, Mumbai. The 3days philatelic exhibition have different philatelic activities such as release of Special covers, carried cover, Customised My stamp, Permanent Pictorial Cancellation, Braille script Special Covers, e-Bicycle Expedition Cover. In a special session philately workshop was organised for Divyang Student by Sri Dinesh G.Bhombad. A Philately

learning work shop “How to win a Gold Medal in Thematic Exhibition by Sri Anad Kakkad, spot letter writing competition among school children, Special green and red pictorial cancellation, PPC on Dr Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary, Chorao, Goa; Stamp booklet on “Nature India”, Special Cover on State butterfly of Maharashtra and State flower of Goa etc on the occasion. A special Cover released to mark the Golden Jubilee year of iconic movie SHOLAY of 1975.

-Social Media

## NEWS MAKER

### Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia Visit National Philatelic Museum

The Union Minister visit National Philatelic museum at Dak Bhawan, New Delhi and witness the "Postal Exhibition" organized to mark the 75 years of the Indian Constitution. Speaking on the occasion he has highlighted “Our national philately museum is not just philately museum, but a collection of people's feelings. People will be surprised to see the treasure of old stamps," the Union Minister told reporters.

### DoP Postal Delivery Networks

India Post maintains network of 19,500 delivery post offices to supervise mail delivery work. This goes through Nodal Delivery Centres (NDCs) or Independent Delivery Centres (IDC). At present, delivery related function is one of the works of the

Post office bring focus to delivery with improved monitoring mechanism, Mail Operations Division is working on the with provision of 2-wheeler and 4-wheeled vehicles for timely distribution and customer friendly services of all types of articles i.e. Speed Post document, Registered Post, parcels, ordinary mail, etc. at doorstep.

### Special Cancellation on Martyr's Day Berhampur, Odisha on 30.1.2025

A Special Commemorative Cancellation released at the Gandhi Nagar Sub Post Office of Berhampur to commemorate the Martyrs' Day on 30.1.2025. The function was coordinated by Sri Basanta Panda, SSPO, Berhampur in presence of Sri Sanjay Biswal, AD1, Sri Pitabas Jena, Dy Superintendent of post, Sri R.K.Maharana, AD2 and Dr P.C.Panda, Philatelist were on the dias. The image depicts the Raj Ghat cremation black-marble platform is inscribed with what are said to have been Gandhi's final words, Hai Ram (Oh, God) and Gandhi. The Cancellation found a technical mistake of only inscribed GandhiNagar but not Gandhi Nagar S.O with PIN 561001.



## BOOK REVIEW-5

**Title of the Book:** “Tiny Treasures: The Science and History Behind the World of Stamps”

**Author:** Dr M.R.Ramesh Kumar

**Year of Publication:** 2025

**Publisher:** Notion Press

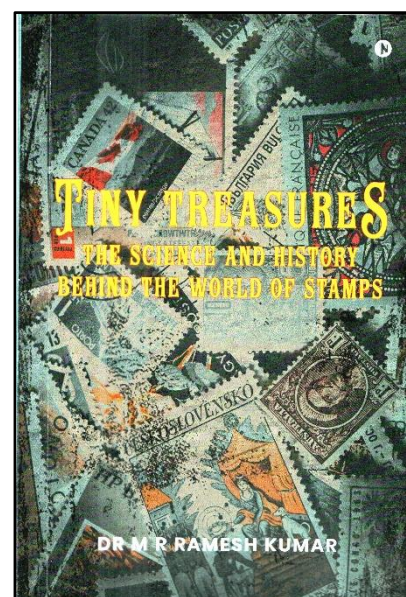
**ISBN 979-8-89632-799-8(Paper Back)**

**ISBN 979-8-89632-792-6(Hard Case)**

**Language-**English

**MRP: Paper Back:** INR 725

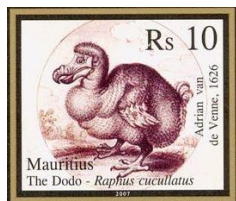
The book is review by by Shri M Lokeswara Rao, I.F.S. (Retd), Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, & Head of Forest Force, Bangalore.



# THE LAND OF THE DODO

Mr Sarada Mishra and Mrs Deepika Singh, Mumbai

Mr Sarada Mishra and Mrs. Deepika Singh from Mumbai are young couple met "The Fila Capsule" Editor Dr Bibhudatta Mishra. They share their childhood compassion for the postage stamps that ensued in a trip to the land of the extinct bird- the Dodo.



## 1. Please introduce yourself and why you have considered Mauritius as your Phila-tourist destination? What was your route to Port Louis from India?

I am Sarada, from Bhubaneswar, currently working as a Vice President in a Private Indian Bank at Mumbai. My wife Deepika works as Program Manager (CSR) in one of the largest business houses of the country. Both of us are travel enthusiasts and harbour a fascination for collecting postage stamps



since our childhoods. We vacationed on the island of Mauritius recently. The island is in Indian Ocean to the east of Madagascar. Mauritius is blessed with pristine sandy beaches, lagoons, colourful corals, abundant marine life, and a rich history owing to its strategic location between Cape of Good Hope and India. Otherwise, Mauritius was home to the now extinct Dodo – a flightless bird endemic to the island. It is the first example of human involvement leading to the extinction of an entire species (within a century of it being discovered).



Our itinerary was based upon our shared interests of venturing to new places, indulging in water activities relating to philately. Hence, we divided the vacation between



beaches, whale watching, sightseeing, and visiting museums showcasing postal history as well as the famous stamps.

We flew directly from Mumbai to Mauritius through Air Mauritius. The journey was 6 hours long. Mauritius has a single airport – Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam International Airport – located at Plaine Magnien in the South-East of the island, approximately 50 kms from the capital, Port Louis.

## 2. Can you share how you allure in the country with inhabitants from diversified groups?

The Dutch, the French, and the British laid claim at different times on the island since the Portuguese first landed in 1507.

The Dutch, despite having discovered and frequenting the island since 1598, settled on the island from 1638 till 1710 when they abandoned the island. They were responsible primarily for driving the defenceless, docile, and flightless *Dodo* to extinction. Today, the only significant reference to the Dutch is the name of the island Mauritius, named after Prince Maurice van Nassau of Netherlands.

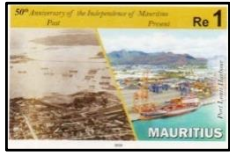
The French colonized the island from 1715 till 1810 when the British forced them to leave the island. During their time, the French developed the island besides laying down roads, introducing postal services, and using slaves for agriculture. The French brought in slaves, mainly from East Africa and from their colony in Reunion Island. Descendants of these people inhabit the island today. They speak Creole and French.



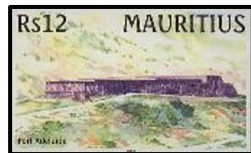
The British colonized the island from 1810 till 1968 when Mauritius gained its independence. The British replaced the slaves with indentured workers in the plantations. Almost 2.3 million indentured workers migrated from Indian sub-continent to various British colonies across the world, with a significant number, from present day Bihar and Purvanchal regions, coming to Mauritius. Descendants of them form the majority of the population of Mauritius today.

Post-independence, Mauritius is a multi-cultural society with Hindus forming the majority of the population. Mahashivratri is the biggest festival on the island. Besides English, French, Creole, Bhojpuri is spoken by a very large majority of populace. Dhollpuri is the most famous street food of Mauritius.

### 3. What best you have experienced in Port-Louis- the Capital city?

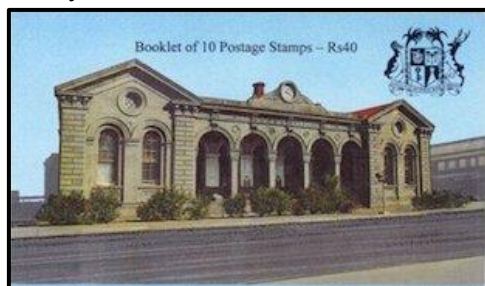


We visited many places in and around the capital city of Port Louis. It included a visit to Fort



Adelaide, a fortress perched atop a hill overlooking the city of Port Louis, the harbour, and the famous race course.

Then we journeyed through China Town, a locality in Port Louis. One can find delectable oriental food here across the myriad restaurants.



Port Louis further houses the Postal Museum, Aapravasi Ghats, and Intercontinental Slavery Museum. These places highlight the rich history of Mauritius.

The most famous place in Port Louis is La Caudan Waterfront, situated right besides the harbour. It houses shops, banking facilities, casinos, cinemas, restaurants, a marina, loads of souvenir shops. The sea shell on the shops was bewitching with the entrance was stunning with beautiful parasol above the walk way. It is known as Umbrella Alley and is a very popular selfie point. Lots of songs and videos in Bollywood movies from 1980s/1990s/2000s were shot here, the most famous being *Makhna* song from the movie *Bade Miyan Chote Miyan*.



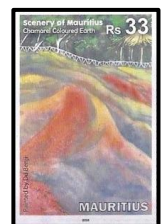
Situated near Port Louis is the Pamplemousses Botanical Garden, otherwise known as Sir



Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden, being named after the First President and Father of independent Mauritius. The garden was built in 1767 and houses over 600 different species of plants, brought from all over the world. The star attraction is the Giant Water Lily (*Victoria Amazonica*) from the Amazon basin in Brazil.

Situated in proximity of the garden is the Chateau de Labourdonnais, a grand neo-classical wooden castle completed in 1859. The grounds on which it is located include a vast orchard and the oldest distillery on the island of Mauritius.

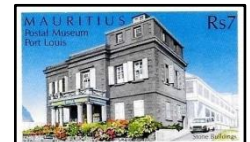
Further south, the geological formations – *Seven Colored Earth* and *Twenty-Three Colored Earth* – are located. Bassin Blanc volcano, a dormant volcano, emitted volcanic ash of different metallic composition. These airborne ashes were deposited in layers over in a valley and over time, with presence of moisture, oxygen, carbon dioxide, and clay, started to change resulting into different colour formations.



### 4. What is some of key Postal history you have gathered from Mauritius?

#### Postal Museum-

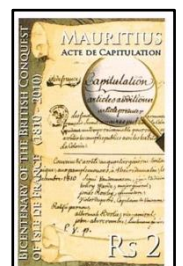
Located in the heart of Port Louis the Postal Museum traces the history of postal services in Mauritius right from the inception.



The Dutch first inhabited the islands in the 1638 and initiated the earliest mail exchanges there. Dutch records indicate presence of a postal depot in the North West for the reception and expedition of mail. Back then, letters were placed inside upturned bottles hanging on trees and emptied or filled in by the sailors.



Upon French takeover of the island, an inland postal service was initiated by Nicolas Lambert, Director of Royal printing, in 1772. The reason for creation of this service was to deliver



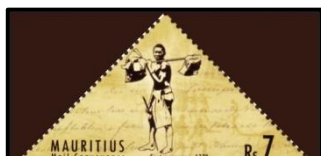
newspaper, printed locally, to its subscribers and to collect mails from subscribers and non-subscribers. Thus, the first post office on the island – *The Bureau general des Postes et Gazettes* – was opened on 21<sup>st</sup> December, 1772. As from 1776, the postal services were separated from the printing department. In 1790, the postal services were reorganized with a General Post – *Poste Generale* – in Port Louis with Post Offices – *Bureaux de cantons* – created in each district of the island. In 1795, these rural offices were closed following the French Revolution. Their closure resulted in the gradual deterioration of the postal services and of overseas communication. This was further exacerbated by the blockade imposed by the British in 1804 till their conquest of the islands in 1810.



Following the start of British rule on the islands, the general post office (GPO) became a civil department of the colonial administration in 1811. GPO was moved to the current building, which additionally houses the Postal Museum, in 1870.



In early 19<sup>th</sup> century, mail was carried, several times a week, by foot carriers to various parts of the island. Starting July 1835, Post Office peons were sent to distribute unclaimed letters within Port Louis with an additional postage of 1d (1 pence) paid to the peons. This service was known as *Penny Post*.



The postal organization underwent radical reforms in 1846 with the establishment of a prepaid postage system by the use of stamps. Up until then, the receiver had to pay for the mail. However, following the 1846 ordinance, the first adhesive stamps were conceived and printed on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 1847.

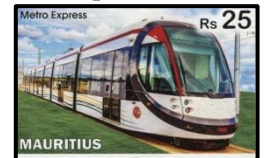


Mauritius was the fifth country in the world and the first colony to produce stamps. Prior to Mauritius, Great Britain (1840), Brazil (1843), Switzerland

(1843), North America (1847) had adopted this system.

The first stamp ever made – *Black Penny* – was issued in Great Britain in 1840. The first stamps printed and used in Mauritius were the *One Penny* (orange red in colour) and the *Two Pence Blue Penny* (deep blue in colour).

On 21<sup>st</sup> May 1864, Mauritius inaugurated the first railway line to transport goods from the sugar plantations to the ports. Upon railway construction completion, Mauritius had a railway network of 156 miles. This highly contributed to the development of the postal services and shaped the organization of the post office. By 1900, a post office was established in each station. In those offices, mail reception stopped half an hour before the arrival of the postal wagons. The mail could then be handed over to a postman abroad the train who collected and accepted mail after office hours. In 1964, railway services were shut down in Mauritius. The Metro express train were started in 2019.



Prepaid Inland Post Cards were introduced in 1879 and were tremendously popular amongst the populace for quick communication. By 1914, they accounted for 25% of all inland mail. Their importance decreased with the extension of telephone service throughout the island. Aerogrammes (Air Letter) were introduced in December 1943 and have been in use ever since.



We saw an original *Black Penny* stamp on display in the museum. Besides that, a post office of the early 1900s, along with relevant items, equipment, letter boxes, postman attire, original mails, and checklists are on display. Further on display are copper plates on which stamps were affixed initially, stamp cancellation machine, and details about earliest stamps. We thoroughly enjoyed our time visiting the museum.

**Blue Penny Museum** – Located in Port Louis near the famous La Caudan Waterfront, Blue Penny Museum showcases the postal history of Mauritius, the story of the pioneers who first navigated the ocean to reach the Mascarene islands (Mauritius, Rodrigues, Reunion

islands combined) and the maps they used and the history of Port Louis.



The biggest attractions of the museum are the rare *Two Pence Blue Penny* and the *One Penny* stamps housed in the Postal history section. The *Blue Penny* stamp is stored in a dark room in a small enclosure and lighted



up for 10 minutes every hour for the visitors to have a look. In 1993, a consortium of Mauritian companies bought this rare stamp from a private collector, almost 150 years after it was first printed in 1847, to be displayed publicly in Mauritius.

Equally fascinating is the story of the daredevils who, subsequent to discovery of the Cape of Good Hope by Bartolomeu Dias in 1488, ventured eastward and eventually discovered the sea route to the fabled Indian sub-continent in 1498 (by the Portuguese). This section houses the original maps created by these navigators, the navigational equipment used by them in their journeys, and wooden models of the boats/ships used by them along with adequate details. It is pertinent to note that the maps were drawn for private usage/collection and remained a secret with the Portuguese for almost 100 years following Vasco De Gama's landing in Calicut in



1498. This secret was revealed by a Dutch in 1595. Having spent 6 years in Goa (1583-1589), Jan Huygen van Linschoten discovered the sailing conditions and trade routes, a secret, and published them in his book "Travel Accounts of Portugues Navigation in the Orient" in 1595 in Amsterdam. Following this, Dutch ships sailed to present day Indonesia in 1595 and the Dutch East India Company was formed in 1602 to trade spices.

The museum has a room devoted entirely to the love story of Paul et Virginie (a very renowned mythical

Mauritian novel) set against the backdrop of Mauritius itself.

5. We learnt that you have breathed in the blue sea with a cruise to find marine mammals? Tell us the experience of hitchhiking dolphins and whales inside the sea?



It was an exhilarating experience to witness these giant leviathans in their natural habitat. Prior to this experience, we had seen whale videos in television or in movies only. The odds of spotting a sperm whale off the west coast of Mauritius are good. One may be lucky enough to even spot a Humpback whale too.

We checked out from our hotel, situated on the west coast, and headed south to Grande Riviere Noire, close to Tamarin Bay, from whence we started our adventure on a speed boat with the captain of the boat and 2 of his accomplices assisting us. One of them used a hydrophone to detect whale sounds and guided the captain towards the probable location of the whale(s). I want to highlight that sperm whale sounds have a large range and the loudest sounds are incredibly powerful, akin a gunshot underwater.

The boat started navigating through the high swells, ranging from 5-12 feet high, and moved away from the coast, northwards, towards deeper waters of the Indian Ocean. The water colour changed from turquoise to dark blue to almost black. It had been 75 minutes into the ride and we had ventured about 40 kms from the coast. Cometh 76<sup>th</sup> minute, we saw spouts at close quarters – it was a sperm whale.

At about 35 feet long, the greyish sperm whale was majestically swimming besides us. The captain quickly aligned the boat with the whale so that we could sail besides and along with it. The whale spouted and sailed for about



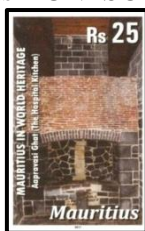
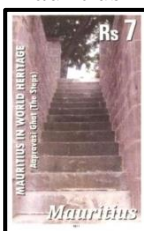
10 minutes along side us before converging towards and subsequently crossing beneath the boat to the other side. Then, it dived into the depths of the ocean.

As we were about to return to base, a second sperm whale popped up besides our boat, at 30 feet!!! Our excitement knew no bounds. We spent couple of minutes sailing alongside it, recording the moments both in our minds and in our cameras, before the whale dived. Subsequently, we returned to base.

Pictures and videos do not do justice to the experience we had. We do not know if we would do it again, but it was worth every bit of it. It was in fact the highlight of our trip.

## 6. The Island Nation has many UNESCO heritage site? What was your favourite hangout place cherished in memory for ever and why?

Mauritius has 2 UNESCO heritage sites-



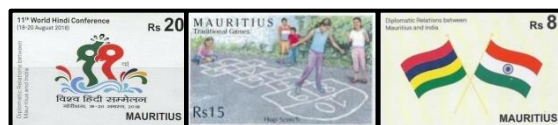
**Aapravasi Ghat:** This was the first site chosen by the British Government during the mid-nineteenth century for the “Great Experiment” in the use of indenture after slave labour was abolished. On arrival, indentured labourers stayed at this immigration depot for about

two days to complete required administrative procedures before leaving for the sugar estates. It was a key centre for indentured labourers and their descendants as it housed important civil status documents such as immigrants’ marriage and death certificates.

**Le Morne Cultural Landscape:** This rugged mountain and its surroundings were used by runaway slaves, maroons, through the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the early 19<sup>th</sup> century when the slave trade was at its peak and Mauritius was a key stopover for the Eastern Slave Trade.



## India and Mauritius- Relationship



We loved our stay and time spent at Flic en Flac, on the west coast of Mauritius, the most. The glorious sun sets, boat rides, sub marine view, whale watching, white sandy beaches, transparent water – it was thoroughly relaxing and satisfying.

January 2025

## Permanent Pictorial Cancellations

Anthony O.J., Chennai

*The permanent Pictorial Cancellation has been drawn enormous attention for collectors with 17 PPC from different release places in January. Some of them are place permanent pictorial cancellation. Few collectors design own commemorative PPC in registered cover, inland, postcard and envelope etc. to preserve the history. Once it travel from the place of issue to the addressee become a travel cover.*



**Gokak Falls**  
(Released in  
**IKSHUPEX2025**, cachet  
not Available)  
Issue Date: 08.01.2025  
Place: Gokak Falls SO,  
591308

The Gokak Falls is a waterfall located on the Ghataprabha River in Gokak town Belagavi district of Karnataka. It also has a hanging bridge which is an attraction for people visiting the place.

## Shri 1008 Parshwanath Bhagawan (Released in IKSHUPEX2025, cachet not Available)



Issue Date: 09.01.2025  
Place: Kamthana SO,  
585226  
Shri 1008 Parshwanath  
Bhagawan, The Kamthana  
Parshwanatha Temple,  
located Bidar in  
Karnataka, is a significant  
Jain pilgrimage site.  
Established around the

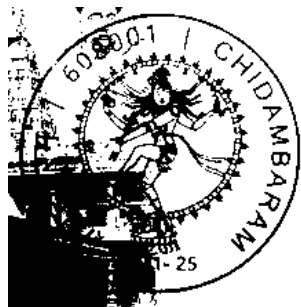
11th century with a 115-centimeter-tall black stone idol of Lord Parshwanatha, the 23rd Tirthankara, seated in the paryankasana posture beneath a seven-hooded serpent.

**Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna**  
(Released in IKSHUPEX2025, cachet not Available)



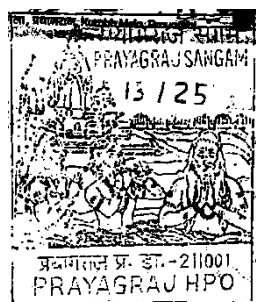
**Issue Date:** 10.01.2025  
**Place:** Nandgad SO, 591120  
Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna (15th August 1798 – 26th January 1831) was an Indian freedom fighter born in Sangolli, Belagavi. He served as a senior commander in the military of Kittur, princely state ruled by Kittur Chennamma, , during the early 19th century.

## Lord Nataraja



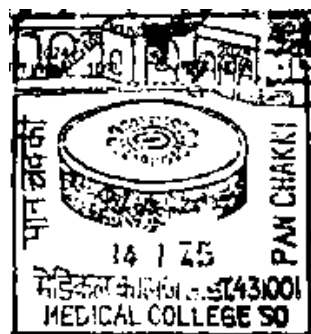
**Issue Date:** 12.01.2025  
**Place:** Chidambaram HO, 608001  
Thillai or Chidambaram Nataraja Temple is a Hindu temple of Lord Shiva located in Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu. The temple architecture symbolizes the connection between the arts and spirituality, creative activity and the divine.

## Prayagraj Sangam



**Issue Date:** 13.01.2025  
**Place:** Prayagraj HO, 211001  
Triveni Sangam In Prayagraj is the confluence of the River Ganges (Ganga), the Yamuna, and the legendary Saraswati, located at Prayag. The religious place has importance for the historic Kumbh Mela held every 12 years.

## Pan Chakki



**Issue Date:** 14.01.2025  
**Place:** Medical College SO, 431001  
Panchakki, a water mill, is located in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, displays the designed to generate energy via water brought down from a spring on a mountain. The watermill was used to grind grain for

the pilgrims and disciples of saints as well as for the troops of the garrison.

## First Airmail

**Issue Date:** 15.01.2025

**Place:** Prayagraj HO, 211001



15-1-25  
प्रयागराज प्र. डा. 211001-PRAYAGRAJ HPO

The world's first official airmail flight came was piloted by Henri Pequet, who flew 6,500 letters from Allahabad to Naini. The letters bore an official frank "First Aerial Post, U.P. Exhibition, Allahabad. 1911" The aircraft used was a Humber-Sommer biplane and it made the journey in thirteen minutes.

## Allahabad Surkha



**Issue Date:** 15.01.2025  
**Place:** Prayagraj HO, 211001  
Allahabad Surkha Guava is deep pink color with apple red exterior skin. This fruit is sweet, and strongly flavoured with few seeds and is slightly depressed at

both ends. It was awarded the Geographical Indication Tag (GI) in 2007-2008 and a postage stamp in 2023.

## Matheran Light Railway Locomotive

**Issue Date:** 17.01.2025

**Place:** Matheran SO, 410102



The Neral - Matheran Light Railway was built between 1901 and 1907. The Matheran Hill Railway, Pathera (MHR) is a 2 ft (610 mm) narrow-gauge heritage railway in Maharashtra. The MHR is on the tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites and postage stamp issued in 1993.

## Shillong Golf Course



शिलॉंग/SHILLONG-793001

17-1-25

**Issue Date:** 17.01.2025

**Place:** Shillong GPO, 793001

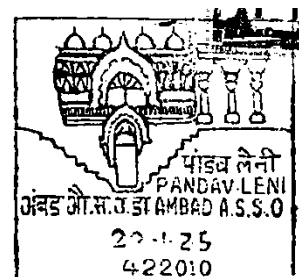
Shillong Golf Course is one of the oldest and biggest golf courses in the world. This golf course - "The Glen Eagle of the East" was established in 1898.

## Pandav Leni

**Issue Date:** 22.01.2025

**Place:** Ambad AS SO, 422010

Pandavleni, also known



as Tirthankar Leni, Panch Pandav or Pandav Leni Jain cave, is ancient rock-cut sculptures complex located at Gomai River, Shahada, Maharashtra. These caves are protected site under Archaeological Survey of India.



of Chorao along the Mandovi River, Goa.

*Phila Report-Basil  
Sylvester Pinto, GOA*

### Mount Mary Church

**Issue Date:** 24.01.2025

**Place:** Bandra West SO, 400050

### Dr. Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary

**Issue Date:** 23.01.2025

**Place:** Chorao SO, 403102

Dr Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary is an estuarine mangrove habitat and bird sanctuary located at Island



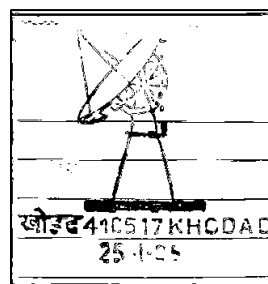
Basilica of Our Lady of the Mount, colloquially known as Mount Bandra and Mount St Mary Church is a Roman Catholic Church. The statue of the Madonna and the Prince of peace was crowned in a ceremony on 5th December 1954, by the late Cardinal Valerian Gracias at Mumbai

### Giant Meter Radio Telescope

**Issue Date:** 25.01.2025

**Place:** Khodad SO, 410517

The Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT), located at Narayangaon, Pune is an array of thirty fully steerable parabolic radio telescopes. It is the largest and most sensitive radio telescope is operated by the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA), upgraded Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (uGMRT).

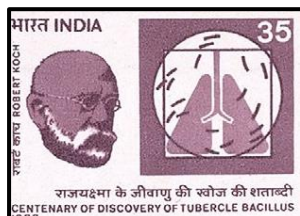


## Part-1

# Dive into the Depths, The Myriad Romance of TB Seal

**Dr Bhaskar Mitra, Kolkata**

## Introduction



Charity labels or Cinderella are images that resemble stamps but are not permitted for postal use. The present article focuses on one of such labels which

used to raise funds around the globe and contributed to Tuberculosis. The white death is a contagious disease spread among adults by mycobacterium claiming around 1.5 million lives in 2020. In India, the centenary of Robert Koch and the centenary of Tubercle bacteria was issued in 1981.

## Aetiology of TB

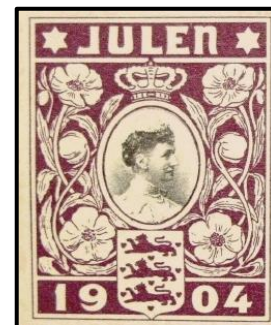
Tuberculosis is a chronic bacterial disease. TB victims discharge tubercle bacilli, a kind of bacteria which mainly affects the lungs and the bones. It is caused due to malnutrition. The disease tuberculosis primarily spreads through the inhalation of airborne particles that contain



infectious bacteria. Since 1904, lung health associations have raised millions of dollars in funds for lung diseases by selling Christmas seals or TB seals. Frequent or prolonged contact with untreated individuals in overcrowded and poorly ventilated settings significantly increases transmission risk.

## Intuitive of a Seal for Anti-Tuberculosis

A postman named Einer Holboell, saw a few children limping across a road in 1903. The incident happens during shorting of Christmas mail and was suffering from tuberculosis of the bone. On belief and apprehension for raising money to help the sick and needy children, started to sell a special Christmas seal resembling to postage stamp (Cinderella). The idea of received enthusiastically by the Danish people and the King of Denmark approved the thinking. This was how the first Christmas Seal appeared in 1904 with the Patronage of King Christian. He envisioned that even a small contribution of a penny for each letter and package could generate



significant funds potentially even establishing a hospital for them. The concept of the use of Christmas seals proved to be popular and spread quickly around the world, with 130 countries producing their issues.

## WORLDWIDE SCENARIO

### All Began in 1907

In the early 1900s, tuberculosis was the top cause of death in the United States. Doctors were beginning to see progress in treating the disease at sanatoriums, but many facilities, including the small Brandywine Sanatorium in Delaware, faced financial struggles. If \$300 could not be raised, Brandywine would have to shut down. Dr. Joseph Wales, a physician there, reached out to his cousin Emily Bissell, a skilled fundraiser. Inspired by a successful Danish initiative, she decided to create and sell special holiday seals for a penny at post offices.



*Seals issued and sold by the Delaware Chapter designed by Emily Bissell [1907]*

Emily Bissell, in 1907, aimed to raise funds for the local sanatorium by selling a bright red stamp she designed. Although her initial attempt did not succeed, a Philadelphia newspaper helped her gain attention, ultimately raising \$3,000 for the National Tuberculosis Association, far exceeding her original goal. The concept of Christmas seals captured the public's interest.

Denmark was the first to introduce Christmas seals, followed by the USA, Sweden and Iceland. These seals quickly spread across Scandinavia and into major European countries, remaining popular today. Various organizations around the world, including those in Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Australia, have issued Christmas seals, primarily during the holiday season, often featuring the double-barred Cross of Lorraine, a symbol against tuberculosis. Nearly one hundred lung associations globally produce their own Christmas seals, with distinctions made between national and local seals in Green's Christmas Seal Catalogue, a key resource for collectors.

## European Christmas Seals

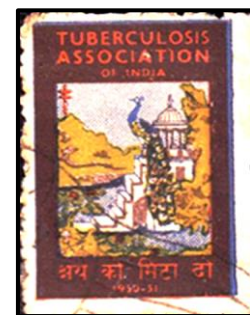
Since 1904, organizations focused on lung health have generated millions of dollars for lung disease research by selling Christmas or TB seals. The Union has recognized these vital fundraising and awareness efforts by allowing Heritage and Organizational Members to showcase their seals at The Union World Conference on Lung Health.



In a vibrant tradition at the conference, members and delegates cast their votes for their favourite seals. Since 2020, this voting has also been accessible to the public.

### The TAI-torch bearers of the Seal Campaign

The Tuberculosis Association of India (TAI) is one of the oldest and largest voluntary organizations in the country founded in February 1939. The TAI emerged from the merger of the King Emperor's Anti-Tuberculosis Fund and the King George Thanksgiving Fund, with the Marchioness of Linlithgow serving as its inaugural president.



### TB Seal Movement in India

In 1944, the idea of launching the TB Seal to generate funds for anti-tuberculosis initiatives in India was proposed, but it faced delays due to wartime conditions.

The TB seals campaign was spearheaded by the Tuberculosis Association of India, (TAI) one of the voluntary agencies engaged in collecting funds since 1950 and trying to instil awareness for preventing this disease and ensure the treatment to all. TAI

The annual TB Seal symbolizes the Association's commitment to fighting tuberculosis with the participation of common people. Proceeds from the TB Seal Campaign are allocated to State and District Associations, with a portion dedicated to research and 5 per cent going to the Tuberculosis Association of India. The campaign was launched on October 2nd, coinciding with Gandhi Jayanti, and inaugurated by the President of India. The seals, which are beautifully

designed with theme, are priced at just Rs.5 and can be distributed through State TB Associations affiliated with the Tuberculosis Association of India.

In India, we refer to the seal simply as the 'TB Seal' instead of the 'Christmas Seal' like in other countries. This is because Christmas is just one of many significant festivals here, including Dussehra, Puja, Diwali, and Id. Given India's secular nature, focusing on a single festival is not seen as appropriate. As a result, the Tuberculosis Association of India opted to name the initiative 'The TB Seal Campaign' and selected a season that encompasses several major festivals.

### Appraising of the Seal

At the beginning of the campaign in 1950, the seal was priced at one anna and raised to Rs2.00 per seal in 1998, Rs5.00 in 2014 continuing till date. The seals showcase varied thematic elements such as handicrafts, classical dances, and wildlife which are collectable as a hobby. The annual TB Seal reflect the resolve and determination of the Association to combat tuberculosis. The TB Seals produced by the Association received the 'First Prize for TB Seal Designs' from the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases in Paris for the years 2006, 2007, and 2010. Additionally, in 1992 and 2005,



they were awarded the 'Second Prize for TB Seal Designs' and 3rd prize in 2024.

### TB Seal India of 2024

It emphasizes that tuberculosis can be prevented and highlights the need for good hygiene, a healthy diet, and avoiding smoking and drinking to lessen the disease's negative impacts.

The theme for the 2024 seals, chosen by the Association, aligns with the WHO's message, "Yes! We can End TB," showcasing their strong commitment to preventing and managing TB in the nation.

From Morning Light to Evening Shadows: The Story Unfolds: Don't Miss What's next!

### References

1. World Health Organization (WHO): Global Tuberculosis Report 2021. Accessed on 5/9/2022.
2. World Health Organization (WHO): Global Tuberculosis Report 2021. Accessed on 4/17/2022.
3. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): Tuberculosis—Data and Statistics. Accessed on 4/19/2022.
4. Deutsch-Feldman M, Pratt RH, Price SF, et al: Tuberculosis—United States, 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 70:409–414, 2021.

*The Christmas Seal Catalog. The Christmas Seal and Charity Stamp Society. 2014. The Christmas Seal Catalog is a simplified version of Green's Catalog of TB Seals of the World, part 1, U.S. National Christmas Seals.*

## VOYAGE TO EUROPA STAMPS

Col Akhil Kumar and Anubhav Gupta  
France



*Front page of Family album that preserved long history*

I was born in July 1954, and my son Anubhav was in April 1984. The idea for this series of postage stamps, whose story I will continue to share, was perceived

two years after my birth. Now, as a father-and-son duo, we are deeply committed to procure, organising and preserving this philatelic treasure spanning for the past 70 years.

### ETYMOLOGY OF WORD EUROPA



The name "Europa" originates from Greek mythology, a Phoenician princess admired for her beauty. Zeus, captivated by her, transformed into a bull and carried

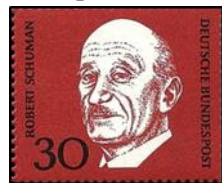


her across the sea to Crete. There, she became the mother of Minos, Rhadamanthys, and Sarpedon, key figures in Greek myths. The story symbolizes cultural

exchange and unity, reflecting from Asia to Europe. The name "Europa" later became associated with the continent, emphasizing its mythological and historical ties to ancient civilizations, particularly Greece, as a cradle of Western culture and identity. This being a unique philatelic subject of its kind, it is good to present the genesis of the issue of the EUROPA cept stamp.

### Background of the European Coal & Steel Community

"The European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) was a six-nation (in alphabetical order) Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands and Luxembourg international organization serving to unify Western Europe during the Cold War. It created the foundation for European democracy and the modern-day developments of the European Union. The ECSC was



first proposed by French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman on May 9, 1950, as a way to prevent further war between France and Germany. He mentioned that he

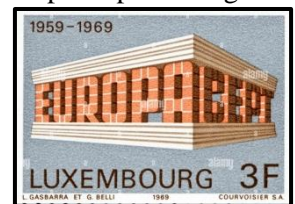
aimed to make war not only unthinkable but materially impossible. The means to do so, Europe's first supranational Community, was formally established in 1951 by the Treaty of Paris, signed not only by France and Germany but also by Italy and the three Benelux states: Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Between these states, the ECSC would create a common market for coal and steel." In 1969 all of the ECSC's institutions were merged with those of the European Economic Community (EEC), which later became part of the European Union, retaining its own independent identity

At some point, the six ECSC countries decided to issue stamps to further show their solidarity. During this decision-making process, two people served as Presidents of



the High Commission of ECSC. The first was Jean Monnet. His term of office expired in 1955. Monnet was followed by René Mayer, the former Mayor of Paris. During Monnet's tenure as ECSC President, a contest was held to submit a stamp design that would capture the purpose of the ECSC and further its efforts at solidarity as a way of achieving lasting peace. A design by Frenchman Daniel Gonzague was selected as the winning entry. Gonzague's design shows a tower made up of the six letters in the word "Europa," superimposed over the "E" flag of the European Movement. The design represents the rebuilding of Europe after the Second World War.

The first sets of Europa stamps representing the founding six member countries of the ECSC numbered 13 stamps were issued on September 15, 1956, under the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT). These initial stamps shared a common design, symbolizing solidarity among European nations. The initiative gained popularity, evolving into an annual tradition with a shared theme. EUROPA stamps became a platform to promote European ideals and culture, reflecting a shared commitment to collaboration and peace through artistic expression. The theme stamp was the "Reconstruction of Europe."



It is very interesting to know that the above six countries also signed The Treaty of Rome in 1957 established the European Economic Community (EEC) and laid the foundation for the European Union (EU).

### The Stamp Design

Behind the "tower" can be seen an image of the European Movement's "E" flag,

The second feature to be pointed out on the stamps is the tower. It is composed of the letters "EUROPA," from the Latin word for Europe, reading from top to bottom.

The tower is surrounded by scaffolding, and the whole rests on a base containing the word "POSTES" (in the French version of the stamp). The tower, scaffolding and base design elements represent the rebuilding of Europe.

## FRANCE

A set of two stamps was issued for Europa in 1956. The stamps were designed by Daniel Gonzague and engraved by Jules Piel. The colours of the stamps Rose-Carmine and Ultramarine



## BELGIUM

Like all of the other ECSC countries, except Luxembourg, Belgium issued a set of two Europa stamps in 1956.



They were designed by Daniel Gonzague and engraved by L. Janssens. The colours of the stamps are Green and Purple.

## GERMANY

The Deutsch Bundespost (Germany) issued a set of two Europa stamps in 1956. The designs were by Daniel Gonzague and engraved by Gerhard Schulz with the colour of the stamps Green and Blue.



## ITALY

Issued two 1956 Europa stamps in light green & dark green for the 25 L stamp and in light blue



and dark blue for the 60 L stamp.

## LUXEMBOURG



A set of three stamps was issued for Europa in 1956. The stamps were designed by Daniel Gonzague and engraved by René Cottet. The colours of the stamps are Brown, Orange and Blue.

## NETHERLANDS

00A Set of two 1956 Europa Stamps were issued from the Netherlands and are primarily brown-red/ dark grey colour on the 10-cent stamp and medium-blue/dark grey on the 25-cent stamp.



## Conclusion

These were the first Europa stamps with a common design. They were issued under the auspices of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC).

## References:

*Excerpts from Monograph of EUROPA study unit Stamp world – a digital stamp catalogue and Wikipedia*

## Odisha Special Covers

OD-01/2025



Mahatma Gandhi

OD-02/2025



Sri Sri Nilamadhab Jew Temple



# दी फिला कैप्सूल



ई-मैगज़ीन -ईस्टर्न इंडिया फ़िलैटेलिस्ट एसोसिएशन  
भुवनेश्वर, ओडिशा

Volume - 2 No.1

JANUARY 2025

MONTHLY

## संपादकीय

यह प्रसन्नता की बात है "दी फिला कैप्सूल" ई-मैगज़ीन अपने प्रथम संस्करण के रूप में पहला कदम रखने के लिए तैयार है। संपादकीय टीम उन सभी लोगों का आभार व्यक्त करते हैं, जिन्होंने अपनी लेखन-सामग्री प्रकाशन के लिए भेजी। हिंदी भासी राज्यों से लगातार सुझाव, प्रेरणा एबोम अनुरोध हमें डाक टिकट संग्रह में पहला हिंदी ई-मैगज़ीन का सफ़र सुरु करने में प्रोत्साहित किया। हमें आशा ही नहीं अपितु पूर्ण विश्वास है कि हमारे सभी पाठक रचनाओं का आनंद लेंगे।

शुभ कामनाओं सहित  
बिभुदत्त मिश्र  
संपादक

## डाक आबरण में प्रयागराज

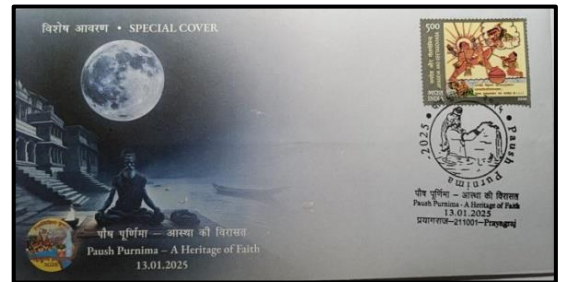
### कुम्भ मेला-२०२५

आस्था, विश्वास, सौहार्द एवं संस्कृतियों के मिलन का पर्व है "कुम्भ"। डाक बिभाग द्वारा इस उत्सव के आयोजन में व्यापक जनसम्पर्क अभियान, और अतिथियों को आमंत्रण किये जाने की ब्याबस्ता की गयी है। त्रिवेणी संगम पर, १३ जनवरी से २६ फरवरी तक चलने वाली इस महामेला को रोचक ओर संग्राहक को लुभाने के लिए डाक बिभाग मेले में 5 अस्थायी डाकघर माध्यमसे महत्वपूर्ण कदम उठाया है। ये डाकघर केन्द्रीय, परेड, अरैल, झुंमी और नागवासुकी जैसे प्रमुख स्थानों पर खोले गए हैं।



इसके अलावा, महाकुंभ के दौरान एक फिलेटिलिक गैलरी और सोवेनियर शॉप भी खोली गयी है, जहां श्रद्धालु विभिन्न

स्मृति चिन्ह खरीद सकेंगे। बच्चों के लिए इंटरैक्टिव गतिविधियां आयोजित की जाएंगी, जो इस बार विशेष आकर्षण का केंद्र होंगी। इसके अलावा, महाकुंभ विषय पर विशेष स्मारक डाक टिकट जारी किया जाएगा और महाकुंभ के छह स्नान पर्वों तथा अन्य प्रमुख तिथियों पर पिक्टोरियल पोस्ट कार्ड भी जारी किए जाएंगे। डाक बिभाग द्वारा एक विशेष लफाफा और स्मृति चिन्ह ३०.१२.२०२४ को जारी किया गया था।



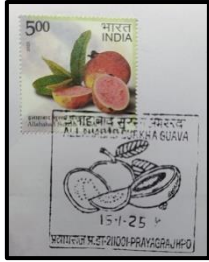
इस कड़ी में विभिन्न प्रमुख स्नान 13 जनवरी को पौष पूर्णिमा के दौरान सूर्य भगवान को जलदान दर्शाता हुआ "पौष पूर्णिमा-आस्था के बिरासत" नामक स्मृति चिन्ह का अनाबरण किया गया।



14 जनवरी को मकर संक्रांति साही स्नान तथा पतंग महोत्सव-उत्तरायण, भारत में मनाया जाने वाला एक लोकप्रिय त्योहार पोंगल, बिहू, लोहड़ी ऐसे कई अलग-अलग नामों में जाना जाता है। इसी दिवस को यादगार बनाने के लिए प्रयागराज से एक डाक रद्दीकरण पतंग उड़ता हुआ दर्शाया गया है।



१५ जनवरी को भारतीय सेना दिवस के अबसर पर “इलाहाबाद किला” प्रयागराज पर विशेष आवरण बिरुपन का बिमोचन प्रयागराज प्रधान डाकघर किया गया था।



इस दौरान “प्रथम हवाई डाक” व “इलाहाबाद सुरखा अमरूद” का भी स्थायी सचित्र निरस्तीकरण (पीपीसी) को विशेष अतिथि के रूप में कर्नल साकेत सुमन, पूर्वा उत्तर प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश उपक्षेत्र और श्री राजीव उमराव, पोस्ट मास्टर जनरल, प्रयागराज गरिमामयी उपस्थिति में विमोचन किया गया था

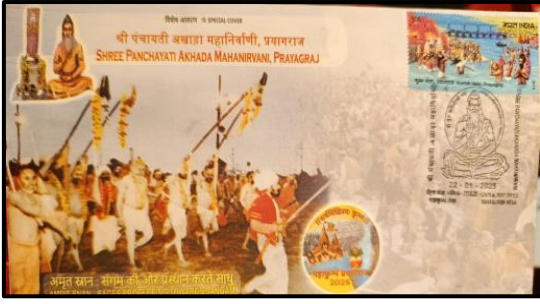
२२ जनवरी को मेला केन्द्रीय डाकघर, सेक्टर-२ में एक फिलाटेलिक गैलरी का उदघाटन किया गया। इस दौरान डाक विभाग द्वारा एक फिलाटेली प्रदर्शनी देशभर का २७ संग्रहकों का प्रदर्शन को साधारण जनता के लिए खोला गया।



अन्य एक समारोहों महाकुंभ नगर में उत्तर प्रदेश फिलाटेलिक सोसाइटी और डाक विभाग ने श्री पंचायती अखाड़ा महानिर्वाणी के अमृत स्नान के पावन अबसर पर २२.०१.२५ को एक विशेष कवर जारी किया। यह अनूठी पहल महाकुंभ की धार्मिक और सांस्कृतिक धरोहर को डाक सेवाओं के माध्यम से संरक्षित करने का सराहनीय प्रयास है।



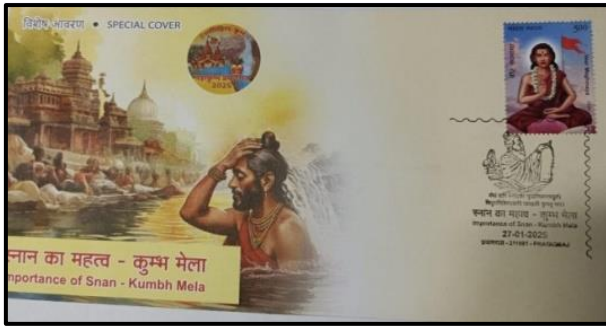
यह विशेष कवर का विमोचन अखिल भारतीय अखाड़ा परिषद के अध्यक्ष महंत रवींद्रपुरी और श्री पंचायती अखाड़ा महानिर्वाणी के सचिव महंत यमुनापुरी द्वारा किया गया। इस ऐतिहासिक क्षण पर पीएमजी प्रयागराज क्षेत्र श्री राजीव उमारो, एसएसपीओ श्री अभि जैन और उत्तर प्रदेश फिलाटेलिक सोसाइटी के महासचिव डॉ. आदित्य सिंह ने भी अपनी उपस्थिति से आयोजन की शोभा बढ़ाई। कार्यक्रम का आयोजन एम. गुलरेज़ द्वारा किया गया। डाक टिकट संग्रह के क्षेत्र में योगदान देने वाले वरिष्ठ संग्रहकर्ता अशोक मित्तल, अनिल गुप्ता, रेशादुल इस्लाम, एम. शारिक, जॉय ज्योति घोष और मुकुंद मित्तल की भागीदारी ने आयोजन को ऐतिहासिक महत्व प्रदान किया।



यह प्रथम दिवस लफाफा का महत्व इस लिए बढ़ जाता है जिसमे रधिकरण भगवन कपिल महामुनि के उपर हे जो बुध एबोम जैन धर्म को प्रेरित करता हे । लफाफा के ऊपर में नागा साधू को सूर्य उदय से पहले स्नान के लिए दिखाया गया हे ।

दिनांक २७.१.२०२५ को प्रयागराज फिलाटेलिक सोसाइटी, प्रयागराज के संयोजना में “स्नान का महत्व” के ऊपर एक बिशेष आवरण एबोम बिरुपण का बिमोचन किआ गया । प्रस्तुत किआ गया चित्रात्मक निरस्तीकरण में साधू संगम में नहाते हुए सूर्य देव को जल अर्पण की छबी को दर्शाया गया । लिखा हुआ एक स्लोक

गंगा वारी मानोहारी मुरारिचरणच्युतम  
त्रिपुरारिशिरस्त्रारि पापहारि पुनातु मां ।।



**इसका भावार्थ :** गंगा जी का जल मानोहारी है ।

विष्णु जी के श्रीचरणों से जिनका जन्म हुआ है,  
जो त्रिपुरारी की शीश पर विराजित हैं, जो पापहारिणी हैं, हे  
मां ! आप मुझे शुद्ध करें ।

२९.१.२५ को दिव्या, भव्य और डिजिटल महाकुम्भ के ऊपर एक बिशेष कवर एवं प्रख्यात प्रयागराज पर पिक्चर पोस्ट कार्ड का बिमोचन किआ गया । इस बिमोचन उत्सव में मुख्य अतिथि माननीय न्यायमूर्ति इलाहाबाद हाई कोर्ट श्री बिपिन चन्द्र दीक्षित एवं श्री आर.स.बेदी के कर कमोलमें दोनों डाक सामग्री का बिमोचन किआ गया था ।



संवाद प्रेरण और आभार:  
राहुल गांगुली एवं डॉ आदित्य सिंह, प्रयागराज

## रायपुर में स्थायी चित्रात्मक निरस्तीकरण का उद्घाटन



दिनांक 22 जनवरी 2025 ,को डाक परिमंडल कार्यालय रायपुर में दो परमानेंट पिक्चोरिएल कैंसलेशन ,लक्ष्मण मंदिर सिरपुर और माता कौशल्या मंदिर चंदखुरी का विमोचन किया गया, इस अवसर पर निदेशक डाक सेवाए श्री दिनेश कुमार मिस्त्री, रायपुर के वरिष्ठ डाक टिकट संग्रहकर्ता (फिलाटेलिस्ट) कैप्टन विजय वाधवा, कुमेश कुमार जैन, श्री एम् आर ठाकरे अन्य संग्रहकर्ता एवं डाक विभाग के अधिकारीगण उपस्थित थे।

माता कौशल्या मंदिर भगवान राम की माता माता कौशल्या को समर्पित एक हिंदू मंदिर है। यह माता कौशल्या को समर्पित दुनिया का एकमात्र मंदिर है



और यह छत्तीसगढ़ के रायपुर से लगभग 27 किमी दूर चंदखुरी गांव में स्थित है। छत्तीसगढ़ और भगवान राम के बीच का संबंध बहुत गहरा है, क्योंकि यह माता कौशल्या की जन्मस्थली है। छत्तीसगढ़ को भगवान राम का मायका माना जाता है। ऐसा कहा जाता है कि अपने वनवास के दौरान उन्होंने इस क्षेत्र के जंगलों में काफी समय बिताया था, जिसे कभी दंडकारण्य के नाम से जाना जाता था।

छत्तीसगढ़ के सिरपुर में स्थित लक्ष्मण मंदिर एक प्राचीन और महत्वपूर्ण हिंदू मंदिर है जो भगवान राम के छोटे भाई भगवान लक्ष्मण को समर्पित है।



सिरपुर, एक पुरातात्विक स्थल है जो ऐतिहासिक दृष्टि से बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। यह अपने प्राचीन मंदिरों और खंडहरों के लिए जाना जाता है, जो 6वीं-7वीं शताब्दी के हैं। सिरपुर में लक्ष्मण मंदिर एक वास्तुशिल्प चमत्कार है, जिसे विशिष्ट भारतीय मंदिर शैली में बनाया गया है, जिसमें जटिल नक्काशीदार मूर्तियां और एक शांत वातावरण है। माना जाता है कि मंदिर का निर्माण सोमवंशी राजवंश के शासनकाल के दौरान हुआ था, जिसने प्राचीन काल में इस क्षेत्र पर शासन किया था। सिरपुर के खंडहरों में महामाया मंदिर जैसे अन्य महत्वपूर्ण मंदिर और कई बौद्ध और हिंदू स्मारक भी शामिल हैं, जो इसे इतिहासकारों और भक्तों के लिए एक प्रमुख स्थल बनाते हैं।

संवाद प्रेषित और आभार  
-कैप्टन विजय वाधवा,  
रायपुर

### डाक मोहर का विमोचन, इंदौर डाक परिमंडल

दिनांक 28.01.2025, इंदौर में देवी अहिल्या बाई होलकर की 300वीं जयंती के अवसर पर विशेष डाक प्रदर्शनी का शुभारम्भ किया गया जिसमें माननीय कैबिनेट मंत्री श्री तुलसीराम सिलावट जी, संसाद इंदौर श्री शंकर लालवानी जी, पोस्टमास्टर जनरल सुश्री प्रीति अग्रवाल, प्रवर डाक अधीक्षक श्री शिवांशु कुमार जी के साथ इंदौर फिलेटलिक सोसाइटी के सभी सदस्य शामिल रहे\*

कार्यक्रम में इंदौर डाक परिमंडल में इंदौर की एक नई डाक मोहर का विमोचन किया जो कि कृष्णपुरा छतरी को प्रदर्शित करती है साथ ही पोस्टकार्ड का भी विमोचन किया गया जो कि कुछ इस प्रकार है\*

- 1) कृष्णपुरा छतरी
- 2) जम गेट
- 3) ममलेश्वर ज्योतिर्लिंग
- 4) महेश्वर फोर्ट

संवाद प्रेषित और आभार:

चिराग त्रिवेदी, कानपुर

### डाक टिकटों में हिंदी का झलक



14 सितंबर १९४९ में संबिधान ने हिंदी को राजभाषा के रूप में स्वीकार किआ गया जिसका प्रारम्भ १९५३ को हुआ था । देश-दुनिया में 10 जनवरी की तारीख हिंदी प्रेमियों के लिए काफी अहम है क्योंकि 2006 विश्व हिन्दी दिवस मनाया जाता है । प्रथम विश्व हिन्दी सम्मेलन 10 जनवरी 1975 को नागपुर में आयोजित हुआ था। आज तक यह सम्मलेन १२ बार बिश्वा भर में भारत के अलाबा मरिसुस, त्रिनिदाद टोबागो , यूनाइटेड किंगडम, सूरीनाम, अमेरिका,साउथ अफ्रीका, फिजी जैसे देशों में आयोजन किया गया था।



यह गर्व की बात है की 2024 में हिंदी राजभाषा हीरक जयंती मनाया ।

## Association Updates

### Office Bearers

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#### *Vice Presidents*

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Mr. Anil Dhir

Dr. Chandrasekhar Basak

Mr. Biswanath Mishra

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Mr. Shanti Swarup Rath

#### *Joint Secretary*

Mr. Prasanta Kumar Das

#### *Treasurer*

Dr. Bibhudatta Mishra

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### Call for Articles

We are now accepting article submissions for our upcoming **The Fila Capsule** edition! If you're passionate about philately and have insights, stories, or research on stamps, postal history, or related topics, this is your opportunity to get published.

#### Submission Guidelines:

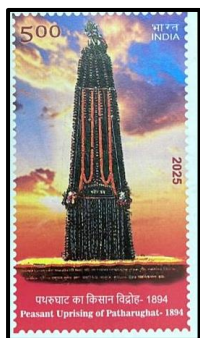
- Word count: 800-1500 words
- Format: .docx
- Articles must be original and unpublished; proper citations are required.
- Languages: English, Hindi

Submit your work to:

***editorcapsuleeipa2024@gmail.com*** with a short bio (50-100 words).

For inquiries, contact us at ***eipaodisha98@gmail.com***.

### NEW POSTAGE STAMP FROM ASSAM



The Enduring legacy of the historic peasants' uprising at Patherughat in Darrang district on January, 28, 1894. The imperial British Police gun down 140 rural peasants which was related to India's Freedom struggle. A Rs 5.00 postage stamp release on 24<sup>th</sup> January,

2025 to honour the Patherughat uprising against high taxes led to police violence numerous death.

### CALL FOR HINDI NEWS, SMALL ARTICLES FROM HINDI STATES

हिंदी में फिलाटेली संबंधित लेख, स्थानीय वर्कशॉप, ट्रेनिंग, आयोजित बिमोचन या अनाबरण समारोहों का विवरण को प्रकाशन के लिए निमंत्रण किया जाता है।

### Join us...

We extend a warm invitation to one and all to become a part of EIPA family. For membership related queries please contact to **The Secretary, EIPA** on Mob. No. +91 9437034621.

#### Address

*Eastern India Philatelists' Association*

*Plot No. 969/2436, Forest Park*

*Bhubaneswar 751009, Odisha*

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