



# SIPA

For Private Circulation to Members only

## Bulletin

web : sipa.org.in  
E-mail :  
mail@sipa.org.in

Vol.31 No. 1

COLLECT  
SWEDEN 6

JAN - MAR - 2012

FIRST ISSUES  
OF COUNTRIES 8

QUARTERLY

### Editorial

#### Review 2011

It is the time of the year to 'see through' the issues of India Post 2011. In other words, let us have an overview about all the stamps issued by India post in the year 2011.

Going for the count, we had 44 issues accounting to 62 stamps in all.

In 2011, we had a peculiarity of receiving a commemorative stamp printed in a special material (Khadi) having a face value of Rs. 100/- fixed in a printed folder and sold at a cost of Rs. 250/-. That means, to have a stamp costing Rs. 100/- the collector has to shell out Rs. 250. The Wisdom of India Post is to be appreciated.

Further, to disturb the minds of first day cover collectors, we had the sets of Aerophilately and legendary heroines of Indian cinema, where in we may have to have more than one cover to accommodate all the stamps comfortably and attractive. A first day cover with a single cancellation will always look grand.

Therefore, we had one stamp (face value Rs. 100/-) costing Rs. 250/-, two stamps of value Rs.20/- two stamps of Rs. 25/- and fifty seven stamps of Rs. 5/- working up the year pack of 62 stamps to cost Rupees six hundred and twenty five (Rs. 625/-).

Moreover, we were happy to receive 9 miniature sheets starting with the single stamp miniature sheet of Krishnadevaraya costing Rs. 5/- (may be the cheapest in the world) at a total cost of Rupees four hundred and thirty five. (Rs. 435).

Coming to the subject of 'personality issues', we had about 26 personalities excluding the father of the nation and the Nobel laureate for literature. 26 at of 62 gives a percentage of, above 40 which is 'far higher' than the 10 percent fixed by the 'India Post Norms'. No comments. We have to live with it year after year.

Though, most of the miniature sheets are quite attractive, the number of issues are really prohibitive making international collectors to think twice about collecting Indian miniatures which are already in the range

of 100 numbers, starting in 1973 and gaining momentum in 1987 only.

On the whole, though we had a lot of personalities, we the collectors had a fruitful year with quite a few good sets and miniatures like Aerophilately, India Summit 2011, Rashtrapathi Bhavan and Archeological survey etc. which brought cheers on our faces and happiness in our hearts.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Switzerland's rarest stamp

133 years after its creation and 32 years after its discovery, the famed 5c. 'Rayed Star', the only known example of its kind, become Switzerland's rarest stamp.



This rarity was created in 1878 when the Bernese printer, Stampfli, began to produce a series of Postage Dues for the Swiss Post Office with values of between 1c. and 500c. The intended design for all the values included a radiating star design. However, when the printing of the 1c. value began, the printer noticed that the radiating star was being filled in with printing ink, producing a poor print quality. After consulting the Swiss Post Office it was decided to drop the radiating star design and opt for a white background for the remaining values. However, a sheet of the 5c. with the radiating or 'Rayed' star design was printed before the printing plates were changed. The 200 stamps were separated into sheets of 50 stamps found its way to the postmaster in the tiny parish of Bissegg, where many of the 'faulty' stamps remained unused, and may even have been returned to Bern to be destroyed when the green Postage Dues were released in 1883. It is also probable that the majority of the 5c. stamps, which were correctly used, were destroyed by the recipients in annoyance of having to pay the penalty tax.

As a result, only one example of the 5c. Rayed Star is known.

\*\*\*\*\*



**CHITRAPUR MATH**

**09.10.2011**

**500**

**0.4 mill**

Chitrapur Math established in 1757 by the first Guru Swami Parijnanashram who came from Kashi with an idol of Lord Bhaanishankar - the Presiding Deity of the Math, is located in Shirali village in North Kanara, Karnataka. For well over 300 years, the Chitrapur Math devoted itself to rejuvenate the community spiritually and guide people in their Sadhana. The Math runs a Vedic School and teaches Sanskrit free of charge. The library it runs has a rich collection of valuable books and ancient palm leaf manuscripts. The museum is home to over 400 relics belonging to the period of 300 AD to 1800 AD. The main festival of the Math is 'Rethotsava'- the car festival which celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> year in 2011.



The Math firmly supports widow remarriage and opposes child marriage. Free education, books, uniforms and mid-day meals are provided to the children studying in educational institutions run under the aegis of the Math. Srivali Clinic provides free medical help. The Handmade Paper Project uses leaves and grass collected in surrounding areas as its raw material. It strives to preserve flora and fauna in a Hill belonging to the Math. Chitrapur Math is not only a math but a home.

Theme : Religion, Culture, Hinduism.

**THE PUNJAB REGIMENT & 1 PARA (SF) (1 PUNJAB)**

**12.10.11**

**500**

**0.4 mill**

The Punjab Regiment is one of the oldest infantry Regiments of the Indian Army. The first battalions were raised between 1761 and 1798. Designation of these battalions underwent many changes in subsequent years and got redesignated as the 67<sup>th</sup>, 69<sup>th</sup>, 72<sup>nd</sup>, 74<sup>th</sup> and 87<sup>th</sup> Punjab in 1903. These battalions later came to be known as 2<sup>nd</sup> Punjab Regiment and recruitment for all these battalions was confined to areas of Punjab.



1 PARA (SF) raised as 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Coast Sepoys in 1761 at Trichinopoly underwent various changes to be designated as 7<sup>th</sup> Carnatic, 7<sup>th</sup> Madras Native Infantry, 67<sup>th</sup> Punjab, 1/2nd Punjab Regiment and 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Punjab Regiment. In 1952 it was converted to 1 PARA (PUNJAB) and later to 1 PART (COMMANDO) in 1978. It earned the

distinction of being converted to SPECIAL FORCES and was redesignated as 1 PARA (SPECIAL FORCES) in 1996.

The Regiment has the proud privilege of earning 35 pre-independence battle honours and 14 post-independence battle honours besides eight COAS unit citations and 13 Army Commander Unit citations. A highly decorated Regiment with 747 pre-independence awards 1388 post-independence awards with six PVSM, Eighteen MVC, eleven KC, two UYSM, Nine AVSM, fifty eight VrC and fifty five SC.

The Regiment insignia is a Galley, an ancient Greek or Roman warship. It is perhaps the only Infantry Regiment with an insignia of a naval vessel in the world.

Theme : Armed forces, Army, Ships. Uniforms.

**INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH**

**08.11.2011**

**500**

**0.3 mill**

To fund various research activities related to medical science, the officers of the then Indian Medical Service established the Indian Research Fund Association in 1911. After independence, it was rechristened as the Indian



Council of Medical Research (ICMR). What was started to conduct "enquiry" into health problems, has blossomed into a vibrant network of 30 permanent institutes/Centres and over 70 field stations, employing over 5000 personnel including 750 scientists. The budgetary allocation of the Council has also grown over successive plan periods and stands at Rs. 4496 crores in the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan.

The Mission of the ICMR is to provide better health through research. The Council has evolved over the years in line with changing health research needs, effectively addressing the new challenges that have emerged as a result of the economic, demographic, nutritional and epidemiological transition of the country.

The strategy of ICMR is to have close interaction with health systems, including disease control programmes which are supported by continued exploration of scientific and technological advances from basic to applied, biomedical to health sciences and from laboratory to field research.

The research priorities of the Council coincide with the health policy and priorities of the country. The ICMR is actively engaged in various aspects of research for control of communicable diseases, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and improving maternal and child health including nutrition.

