



SIPA

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NEW ZEALAND
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MASTER FORGER
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QUARTERLY

Editorial.

Like every new year issue, this is "Review 2012" time.

On the whole, with lesser number of issues and stamps it was a happy year for all of us as collectors and philatelists. Let us all hope and pray that this 'welcome trend' continues in issue of less standardized number of stamps (around 40 only) in the coming years also.

Coming to details, India Post made 34 issues comprising 47 stamps in the year 2012 for normal collectors and philatelists. Out of these 34 issues, one issue on philately day (12.10.2013) is in miniature sheet/souvenir sheet format only, with a face value of Rs.20/. Taking into account the philately day miniature sheet also, totally 6 miniature sheets have also been issued.

With respect to the cost aspect, a collector has to spent about Rs.545/- (365 for 47 stamps + 200 for 6 miniature sheets. With philately day issue on both parts) which is for less when compared with previous years, Many thanks to India Post.

Coming to the ticklish issue of "Personalities" the fare is no way better when compared to previous years ie, 15 issues out of 34 issues or rather 15 stamps out of 47 stamps are on personalities. These numbers brings a percentage of about 45% with respect to issues and about 33% with respect to stamps. Let us get reminded about rules or regulations which states that about 10% issues stamps only should be on personalities. Hats off to India Post.

Of course, as philatelists, we are happily pleased to see attractive sets on aviation, paintings, Olympics, endemic species and last issue but not the least, issue on Lighthouses.

Let us close the review with our usual request to India Post "Reduce personalities and increase theme sets".

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Interesting but true! BUILDING PRISONS BY POSTAGE STAMPS

The Turkish Government, in announcing the intended sale of seventeen million postage stamps to collectors, the proceeds to be devoted to building a railway between Damascus and Beirut, is merely following an old-established precedent.

Long ago Spain found the side of surplus stamps so profitable that she changed her designs every few years, realizing enough upon one occasion to construct a cruiser and several torpedo boats.

St. Helena has up till now kept herself from bankruptcy alter a similar fashion. Paraguay provided new uniforms for its by no means insignificant army upon one occasion, and upon another it added over five million rounds of small-arm ammunition to its reserve, San Marino built itself a hail of justice in 1889, and Roumania a new prison in 1891, the cost in each instance being defrayed by what are known in philatelic circles as "commemoration issues."

Canada cleared £20,000 in a like manner, and bought therewith a new Government experimental farm. The Begum of Bhopal appointed an official whose special duty it was to push the sale of local stamps among dealers and collectors, and invested the proceeds in pearls.

In French Guiana they have, within the last twenty years, sold to outsiders enough stamps, mostly surcharged varieties, to pay for the building of two hospitals, a fort, and a goal. British Honduras cleared £10,000 a year for many years in succession after a similar fashion, and invested it in attempting to improve the quality of the bananas grown there.

(Courtesy: Collectors Journal, 1907)

Monthly Second Sunday Meetings

With President
Mr. G. Balakrishna Das on the
Chair, 18- members attended the
meeting on 09.12.2012.

STAMP NEWS

INDO-TIBETAN BORDER POLICE FORCE

01.10.2012

500

0.55 mill

Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force (ITBPF) was raised in the wake of the Chinese conflict on October 24, 1962 under the CRPF Act. In 1992, the Parliament also enacted the ITBPF Act. ITBPF has also raised its first Mahila battalion in January 2010.



Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force is a versatile force capable of functioning in diverse terrain and in most challenging climatic conditions. Starting with only 4 battalions it has grown into 45 Service and 4 Specialist Battalions. It has been entrusted with the responsibility of guarding the 3488 km long India-China border from Karakoram Pass in Ladakh to Jachep La in Arunachal Pradesh. ITBPF provides security to VVIP/VIPs and protects vital installations. It also provides security cover to the yatis of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra. It played an important role in combating militancy in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and the North-East and has now been inducted in Chhattisgarh for anti-Naxal operations.

Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force has also played an important role in UN peace keeping efforts in strife torn countries like Angola, Namibia, Bosnia, Kosovo, etc.

Theme: Police, Army, Peace Keeping, Uniforms.

AIRBORNE WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM

08.10.2012

500

0.3 mill

The long cherished dream of the Indian Air Force (IAF) of having a radar system in the sky came into reality with the induction of the first Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) aircraft on 28th May, 2009, as a result of a tripartite agreement between India, Russia and Israel. With the induction of AWACS, India joined an elite group of nations with a radar system capable of tactical surveillance of airborne and surface targets simultaneously.

The IL-76 based AWACS has not only enhanced the electronic footprint of the IAF much beyond that of ground based sensors, but will also boost the network centric warfare operations. The AWACS provides all weather airborne early warning, air battle management and command and control functions for tactical and strategic operations.



The personnel of 50 Squadron of Indian Air Force, also known as 'Adwitya' which means 'Second to None' or 'Unique' are the men behind this magnificent machine.

Theme: Air Force, Aviation, Technology, Armed Forces

PHILATELY DAY

12.10.2012

2000

0.4 mill

Philately is termed as collection and study of postage stamps. It is an extremely popular hobby and has millions of collectors worldwide. The first postage stamp, the Penny Black, was issued by Britain in 1840 picturing a young Queen Victoria. It was produced without perforations and consequently had to be cut from the sheet with scissors in order to be used. Postage stamp collecting began at the same time that stamps were first issued, and by 1860 thousands of collectors and stamp dealers were appearing around the world as this new study and hobby spread across Europe, European colonies, the United States and other part of the world. At present, it is estimated that about 25 million people enjoy the hobby in the United States; while worldwide the estimated number of stamp collectors is around 200 million.



This souvenir sheet issued depicts the evolution of Indian postal system from 'Dak Harkara' to 'Air Mail' and show-cases two iconic postage stamps issued in pre and post independence.

Theme: Philately, Stamps, Mail Runner, Mail System

ENDEMIC SPECIES OF INDIAN Bio-Diversity Hotspots

(XI Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity)

16.10.2012 500,500,500,2500 0.4 mill each

In recent years, sustaining bio-diversity and maintaining ecological balance has come under increasing pressure due to factors such as habitat fragmentation, development imperatives and global warming. The global concern about loss of bio-diversity found expression in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which was adopted at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. The Convention has three objectives: conservation of bio-diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources.



