



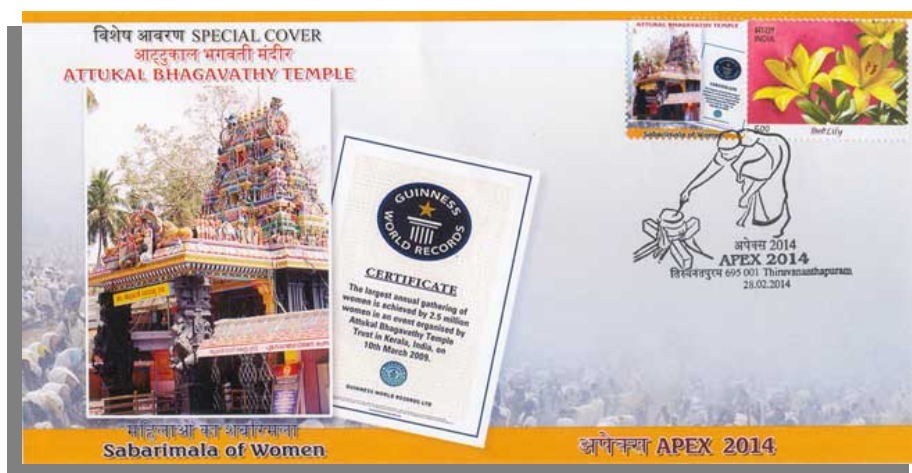
Digital Newsletter of Indian Philately Digest | Published Monthly | Powered by : Prashant Pandya

Issue No. 14 : February 2014

**Special Cover issued on Attukal Bhagavathy Temple at Apex 2014 - 28th February 2014.**

Attukal Bhagavathy Temple is situated in Thiruvananthapuram, the capital city of Kerala State. This Temple is noted for its "Pongala Festival" which draws nearly 2.5 million pilgrims, mostly women from all over India and abroad. This temple has occupied a place in the Guinness Book of World Records in the year 1997 and 2009 for the largest congregation of women in the world.

A special cover issued on Attukal Bhagavath Temple on 28th February 2014, during Apex 2014 philatelic exhibition held at Thiruvananthapuram from 28th February to 2nd March 2014. (Sp. Cover approval no. KL-7/2014).



*Courtesy: Sreejesh Krishnan, Thiruvananthapuram*

**Special Cover issued at Assampex 2014 - 26th - 27th February 2014.**

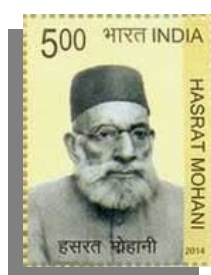
Two Special Covers were issued during Assampex-2014, State Level Philatelic Exhibition held on 26th and 27th February 2014 at Jorhat, Assam.





Courtesy: [Rainbow Stamp Club](#)

### Commemorative Stamp on Maulana Hasrat Mohani - 25th February 2014.



"Inquilab Zindabad / इंकिलाब ज़िन्दाबाद" phrase which translates to "Long Live the Revolution!" was a revolutionary chant during the British rule over India. It was coined by Maulana Hasrat Mohani. The word inquilab means "revolt" and zindabad means "to live forever".

Maulana Hasrat Mohani (b. 1875 Unnao, d. May 13, 1951 Lucknow) was a Romantic Poet of Urdu language who also penned the very popular ghazal Chupke Chupke Raat Din sung by Ghulam Ali. He was also a journalist, politician, parliamentarian of British India, besides a being a part of the Indian Independence Movement. The real name of Maulana was Syed Fazl-ul-Hasan. Hasrat was his pen name which he used in the Urdu poetry and the word Mohani refers to the native place of Mohan where he was born.

The Vice President of India, Shri M. Hamid Ansari released a commemorative postage stamp in honour of Maulana Hasrat Mohani, a freedom fighter, at a function held at Vice President House, New Delhi on 25th February 2014.



Photo Courtesy: PIB

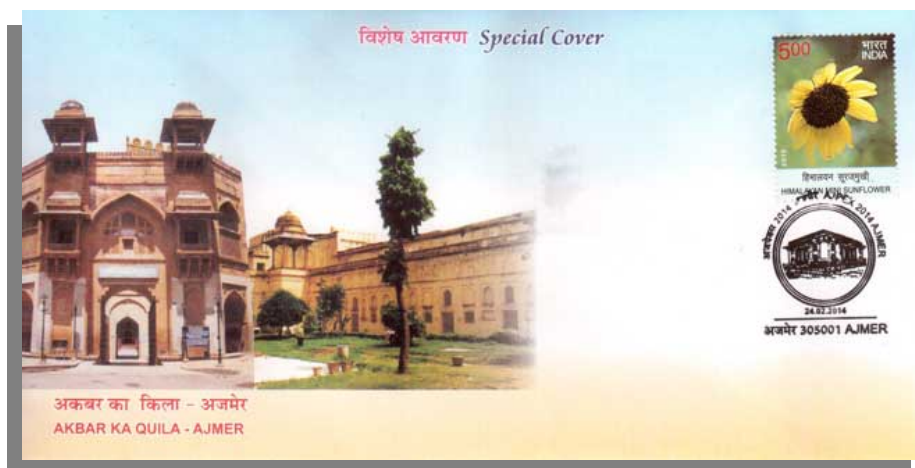


Pakistan Post had also issued stamp in denomination of Rs. 3 to commemorate the Pioneers of Freedom on Maulana Hasrat Mohani on 23rd January, 1989.

#### Special cover issued at Ajmer during Ajpex - 2014 Philatelic Exhibition - 24th February 2014.

Ajpex 2014, 5th district level philatelic exhibition inaugurated on 24th February 2014 at Ajmer. A Special cover on Akbar Fort was released by Shri Jitendra Gupta, Postmaster General, Ajmer Region. Shri Rajesh Paharia, noted Philatelist of Jaipur and Shri Dinesh Kumar Sharma were member of Jury of the exhibition. A quiz competition was also organised during the exhibition. There were 14 entries in Junior Class and 14 entries in Senior Class comprising of 60 frames. In Senior Class first, second and third prize were awarded to Anju Jain (India stamps sheetlet), B. L. Sahu (Postmarks of Rajasthan) and R. D. Mathur (Unique errors) respectively. In Junior class first, second and third prize were awarded to Anchal Jain (Bangladesh), Anjali Jain (Depth & Dimensions) and Siddharth Jain (Maxiaphilly) respectively.

Special Cover issued on 24th February depicts main gate of Fort of Akbar where by sitting in the peep-hole Jahangir used to hear public grievances and give judgement. The cancellation depicts, a beautiful audience chamber situated in middle part of fort of Akbar, which was used for residence by Mughal Emperor during his visit to Ajmer. On 25th February 2014 a Special cover was issued on Dargah Shareef, Ajmer



Courtesy: [Rainbow Stamp Club](#) | Rajesh Paharia, Jaipur



**Special cover issued at Gaya Stamp Festival 2014 - 22nd February 2014.**

Gaya Stamp Festival 2014 was organised by the Bihar Postal Circle of India Post from 22nd to 23rd Feb 2014 in Gaya, Bihar. Anil K. Saxena distinguished philatelist of Gaya exhibited his collection in the festival and is honoured by the postal authority and the local administration.

A Special Cover was issued on 22nd February 2014 on the occasion by the Commissioner of Magadh Division. (Sp. Cover approval no. BH/02/FEB2014) The theme of the special cover is "80 foot Buddha statue". The Giant Buddha Statue is one of the many stops in the Buddhist pilgrimage and tourist routes in Bodhgaya, Bihar. The statue is 25 m (82 ft) high in meditation pose or dhyana mudra seated on a lotus in open air. It took seven years to complete with the help of 120,000 masons. It is a mix of sandstone blocks and red granite. It is possibly the largest built in India and was consecrated on 18 November 1989 by the 14th Dalai Lama. The foundation stone for the statue was placed in 1982. Cancellation design depicts footprints of Lord Buddha on Lotus.

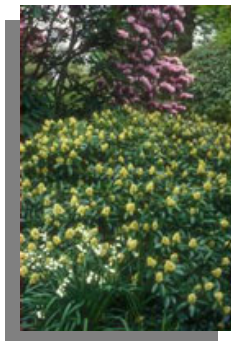


View News Clippings: [Prabhat Khabar](#) - 23.02.2014 | [Jagran](#) - 23.02.2014 | [Prabhat Khabar](#) - 24.02.2014

Courtesy: [Rainbow Stamp Club](#) | Anil Kumar Saxena, Gaya

**Special Cover on Kedarpatri (*Skimmia laureola*) issued during Basant Ke Rang (Colours of spring), State Flower Show at Dehradun - 22nd February 2014.**

Started in 2003, the State Flower Show is held at Raj Bhawan, Dehradun, every year. Releasing of special cover and cancellation is customary in the flower show as it is part of the official agenda, courtesy to the then Governor H.E. Sh. Sudarshan Agarwal, who himself is a keen philatelist. Special covers have been released in 2003, 2004 and 2006 to 2013. This year the flower show held on 22nd and 23rd February 2014.



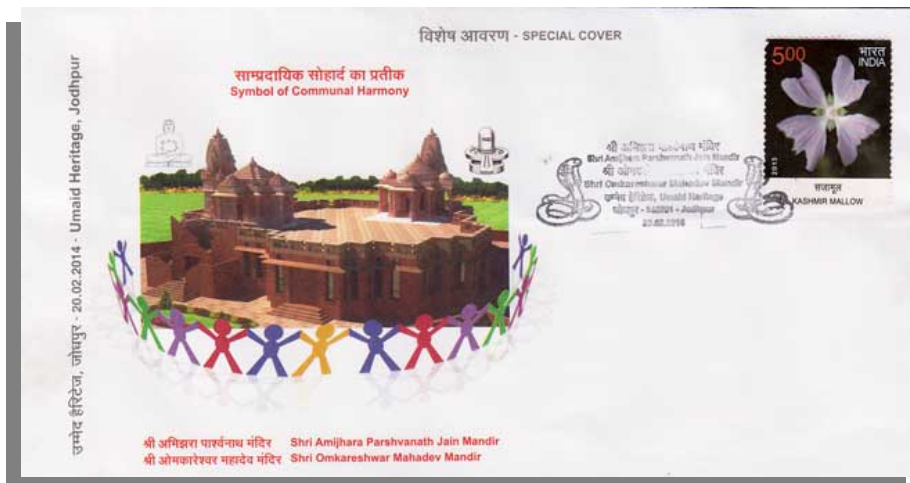
On the occasion the H.E. Dr. Aziz Qureshi, Governor, Uttarakhand released the Special cover on Kedarpatri on 22nd February 2014 (Sp. Cover approval no. UK/01/2014). Cancellation is designed by Philatelist, Vinay Gupta of Dehradun. "Kedarpatri (*Skimmia laureola*) has medicinal values and is also favourite food of musk deer. It is found at 2400-3600 mt. height in northern India. It is a strongly aromatic evergreen shrub, creeping or erect to 150 cm., with simple rather thick leathery, oblanceolate to oblong-elliptic, shortly pointed leaves, and very compact terminal clusters of yellow flowers, flowering from April to June.



*Courtesy: Abhai Mishra, Dehradun | Vinay Gupta, Dehradun*

**Special cover on Amijhara Parshvanath Jain Temple & Omkareshwar Mahadeo Temple, Jodhpur - 20th February 2014.**

Amijhara Parshvanath Jain Temple and Omkareshwar Mahadeo Temple in common building at Umaid Heritage, Jodhpur is a unique symbol of communal harmony. Rajasthan Postal Circle issued special cover on Amijhara Parshvanath Jain Temple & Omkareshwar Mahadeo Temples on 20th February 2014 at Jodhpur.



**Special cover issued during Meghapex - 2014 Exhibition - 19th February 2014.**

Meghalaya Postal Division and the Department of Posts, North East Postal Circle, organised 'Meghapex - 2014', State Level Philatelic Exhibition from 19th to 21st February 2014 at Anton Hall, Don Bosco Square, Laitumkhrach, Shillong. Exhibition was inaugurated by the Governor of Meghalaya, Dr KK Paul, in the presence of Director General Assam Rifles, Lt. General Ranbir Singh, PVSM, AVSM, Vice Chancellor of Martin Luther University, RG Lyngdoh, distinguished guests, academicians, students, many stamp enthusiasts. Collection of Meghalaya Governor Krishan Kant Paul, was also on display who himself is an enthusiastic philatelist. During the exhibition 'My Stamps' were also launched.

A Special cover was released on 19th February 2014, the first day of 'Meghapex - 2014', depicting Post office of Cherarapunjee. Special Cancellation was withdrawn on the last day Exhibition due to spelling mistake in word of month which shows Februray instead of February.

Note: As per guidelines of India Post the special cancellation should indicate name of exhibition, date(s) of exhibition and name of the post office where cancellation is provided or if at venue of exhibition then name of place/town/city with pincode, where exhibition is held. Also it should be bilingual, in Hindi and English. Special Cancellation of Meghapex - 2014 is not designed as per guidelines of India Post mentioned in Hand Book of Philately.



*Cover Courtesy: Vishal Sangneria, Guwahati*



### **Jainism Philately Group Anniversary Celebrated - 16th February 2014.**

Jainism Philately Group, Pune Chapter organised a special function on Sunday 16th February 2014 at Pune. JPG National Chairman Sudhir Jain of Satna was the Chief Guest of function. 3rd Anniversary of Jainism Philately Group and 1st Anniversary of JPG Pune Chapter was celebrated in this function. Sudhir Jain delivered talk on pictorial cancellations on Jainism and Bazaar Cards and displayed his collection on both these themes. Mr. Hemant Bafna, President, JPG Pune chapter gave welcome speech and honoured Mr. Sudhir Jain. Chapter Treasurer Mr. Haresh Shah presented annual accounts and Secretary Mr. Kamlesh Motiwale conducted the function. Function was well attended by the Philatelists and followed by lunch.



*Courtesy: [Rainbow Stamp Club](#)*

### **Commemorative Stamp on Central Vigilance Commission - 11th February 2014.**



Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) is an apex Indian governmental body created in 1964 to address governmental corruption. It has the status of an autonomous body, free of control from any executive authority, charged with monitoring all vigilance activity under the Central Government of India, and advising various authorities in central Government organizations in planning, executing, reviewing and reforming their vigilance work. It was set up by the Government of India in February, 1964 on the recommendations of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption, headed by Shri K. Santhanam, to advise and guide Central Government agencies in the field of vigilance. Nittoor Srinivasa Rau, was selected as the first Chief Vigilance Commissioner of India.

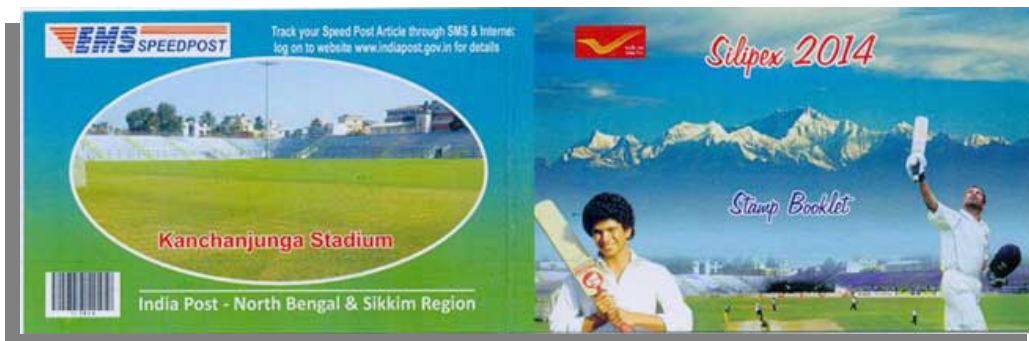
The President Shri Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Central Vigilance Commission on 11th February 2014. Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister also presided over the inaugural function. A commemorative stamp was released to mark the Golden Jubilee of Central Vigilance Commission on 11th February 2014.



*Photo Courtesy: PIB*

## Booklet on Sachin Tendulkar released at Silipex-2014 held at Siliguri, Sikkim - 10th February 2014

"SILIPEX-2014", Philatelic Exhibition was organised by North Bengal & Sikkim Postal Region at Ramkinkar Hall, Dinabandhu Mancha (Tathya Kendra), Siliguri on 10th and 11th February 2014 with the help of Siliguri Philatelists' Society. SILIPEX-2014 was Inaugurated by Hon. Minister Sri Goutam Dev. A Booklet on Sachin Tendulkar was released on the occasion. 52 frames were exhibited in the Exhibition. During the exhibition drawing competition and philatelic workshop were also organised.



Postal Rates	
Post Card	Rs. 0.50p
Competition Post Card	Rs. 10.00
Meghdoot Post Card	Rs. 0.25p
Envelope	Rs. 5.00
Book Post (within India up to 50gms)	Rs. 4.00
Aerogramme	Rs. 15.00
Air Mail (for 20gm)	Rs. 25.00
Air Mail (Nepal, Bangladesh & Bhutan)	Rs. 23.00
Speed Post (Within West Bengal)	Rs. 39.00
	(Minimum)



*Courtesy: Suman Banerjee, Berhampore*

## Special cover on the occasion of 50 Years of Excellence of St. John's College, Anchal - 10th February 2014.

St. John's College, Anchal, Kollam District, Kerala is one of the Malankara Syrian Catholic Colleges managed by the Major Archdiocese of Thiruvananthapuram, affiliated to the University of Kerala was established in 1964 by the Late



Arch Bishop Benedict Mar Gregorios with heavenly mediation of the Servant of God Mar Ivanios. The college with its motto "Let Your Light Shine before Men" currently flourishes under the patronage of the Major Arch Bishop His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis Catholicos.

The college is celebrating its Golden Jubilee year and to mark this occasion a special cover was issued on 10th February 2014 at Anchal. (Sp. Cover approval no. KL-5/2014)

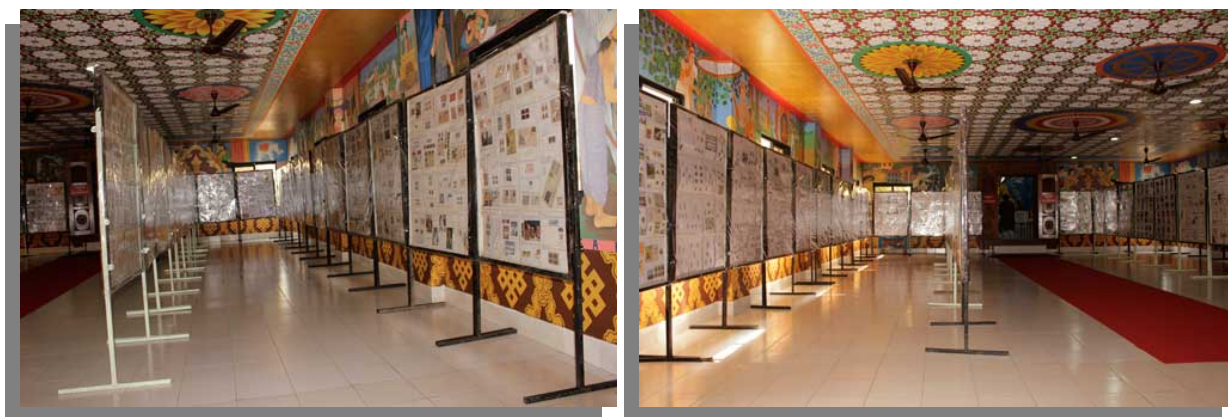


*Courtesy: Sreejesh Krishnan, Thiruvananthapuram*

#### **EIPEX-2014, 2nd Eastern India Philatelic Exhibition - 8th - 9th February 2014.**

The 2nd Eastern India Philatelic Exhibition, EIPEX-2014 was organised by the Eastern India Philatelists' Association with the active support of the Department of Posts at Kalinga Buddha Vihara, Unit-IX, Bhubaneswar-751009. The theme of the exhibition was "Save our Environment". The Exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Bijoyshree Routray, Honorable Cabinet Minister for Forest and Environment, Govt. of Odisha on 8th February 2014. The exhibition continued for two days on 8th & 9th, February, 2014. 44 exhibitors have displayed their exhibits in 100 frames. 14 Philatelic Dealers' counters and one Philatelic Counter of the Department of Posts and one counter for "Make my Stamps" catered the needs of philatelists and stamp lovers.

A special cover on endangered Birds of Mangalajodi, the bird sanctuary of Chilika Lake was released on 09th February 2014 at Mangalajodi. A set of 8 picture postcards on the endangered birds were also released by the Minister at Mangalajodi on the same day. 50 philatelists from all over Odhisa witnessed the function at Mangalajodi about 70 Km from Bhubaneswar.



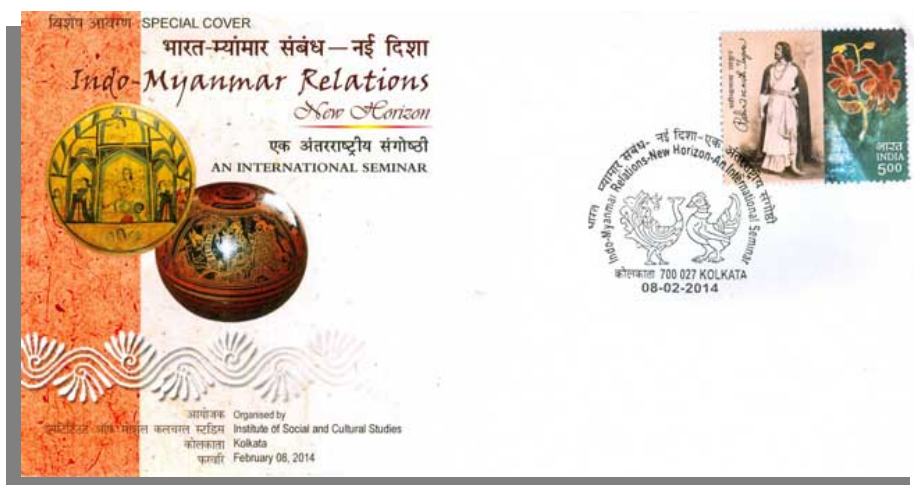


Courtesy: [Rainbow Stamp Club](#)

### Special Cover on An International Seminar on 'Indo-Myanmar Relations: New Horizon' - 8th February 2014.

An International seminar on 'Indo-Myanmar Relations: A New Horizon', was organized by the Institute of Social and Cultural Studies (ISCS) at Kolkata on 8th and 9th February, 2014. The event was supported by the Public Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and the National Library, Kolkata.

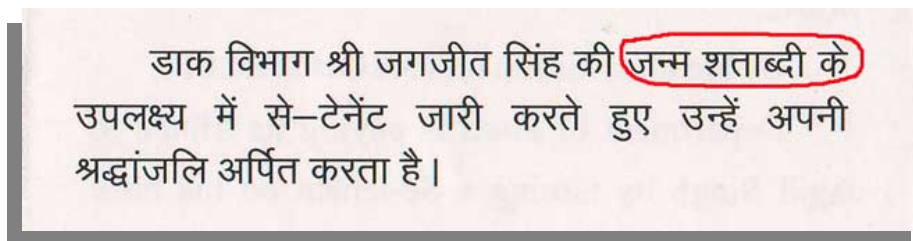
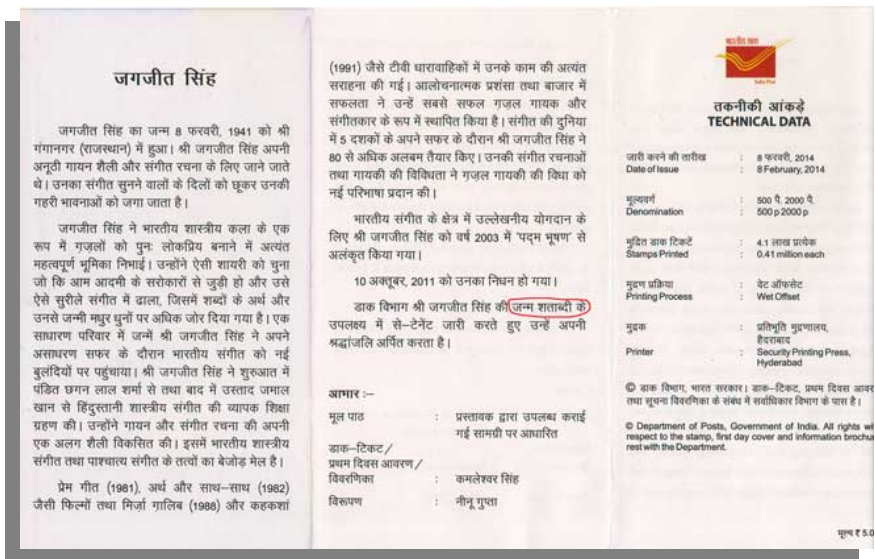
A Special Cover was released to mark the event on 8th February 2014 at Kolkata.



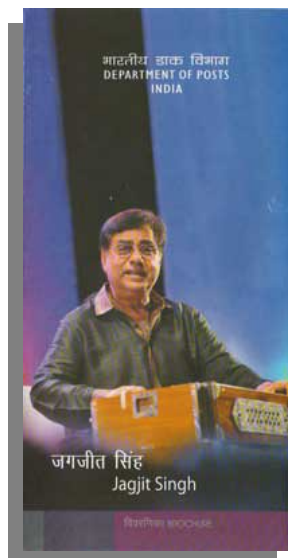
Cover Courtesy: [Sreejesh Krishnan, Thiruvananthapuram](#)

## India Post's biggest mistake in Shri Jagjit Singh's Commemorative Stamp Brochure - 8th February 2014.

In the publicity brochure of Jagjit Singh's commemorative stamp India Post has made a biggest mistake. It has been mentioned that India Post is paying tribute to Shri Jagjit Singh by issuing Se-tenant Stamp on the occasion of his Birth Centenary. Shri Jagjit Singh was born on 8th February 1941 and this year we are celebrating 73rd Birth Anniversary. How come Birth Centenary is celebrated in 2014 ?



Contributed by: [Prashant Pandya](#)



## Commemorative Stamp on Legendary Ghazal Singer Jagjit Singh - 8th February 2014.

Jagjit Singh, born Jagmohan Singh (8 February 1941 – 10 October 2011), was a prominent Indian Ghazal singer, song writer and musician. Known as the "Ghazal King", he gained acclaim together with his wife, another renowned Indian ghazal singer Chitra Singh in the 1970s and 1980s. Their combination album comprising music from the films, Arth and Saath Saath is the HMV's largest selling combination album of all time. Sajda (An Offering, 1991), Jagjit Singh's magnum opus double album with Lata Mangeshkar holds the same record in non-film category.

Jagjit Singh is credited for the revival and popularity of ghazal, an Indian classical art form, by choosing poetry that was relevant to the masses and composing them in a way that laid more emphasis on the meaning of words and melody evoked by them. In terms of Indian Classical music, his style of composing and *Gayaki* (singing) is considered as *Bol-pradhan*, one that lays emphasis on words. He sang in numerous languages. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan by the government of India in 2003.

Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh's released a Commemorative Postage Stamp in honour of eminent Ghazal singer and musician, Shri Jagjit Singh, in New Delhi on 8th February 2014. Minister of Communication and Information Technology Kapil Sibal and Jagjit Singh's wife Chitra Singh were also present in the stamp release function.





*Folder & Invitation Card Courtesy: Shri Pradip Jain, Patna*

### **Bal Thackeray stamp not cleared; Jyoti Basu's in July.**

New Delhi, Feb 5 (PTI): A government panel has so far not approved the issuing of commemorative stamp on Shiv Sena patriarch Balasaheb Thackeray, Parliament was informed today.

The statement placed in the Lok Sabha by Minister of State for Communications and IT Killi Kruparani showed that 16 names out of 86 in all were "not approved" or were "placed before sub-committee meeting held on June 7, 2013 but could not be approved".

The names listed in Kruparani's reply included that of Thackeray, who died on November 17, 2012.

The commemorative stamps are approved by Philatelic Advisory Committee which meets once a year. The sub-committee has been formed to consider the proposals in case the committee is not able to meet.

The status report showed that the commemorative stamp of ghazal singer Jagjit Singh is likely to be released on February 8 and a stamp of Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader Jyoti Basu is due for release on July 8 this year.

Several other names such as Amrita Shergill, Harkishan Singh Surjeet, Sarat Chandra Sinha and Parmanand Deepchand Hinduja are being considered.

The list from Maharashtra had 18 proposals, highest from a state, out of which seven were approved including that of Cricket star Sachin Tendulkar which was released on the eve of his last test match.

The other names that have not been approved by the sub-committee of Philatelic Advisory Committee included Mandali Venkata Krishna Rao of Andhra Pradesh, TP Kelu Nambiar and Stephen Padua from Kerala, Thakur Nirranjan Singh, Col Ajay Narain Mushran from Madhya Pradesh.

The other names are: Vishasrao Dattajirao Chowgule, Chakradhar Swami and Pranlal Bhogilal from Maharashtra, U Soso Tham from Meghalaya, Dr Sitaram Lalas from Rajasthan, Swami Satchidananda, Dr Mathuram Santosham and Dr P Sivandhi Adityan from Tamil Nadu, Devi Prasad Rahi from Uttar Pradesh were also not approved, the status report said.

*Courtesy: PTI*

### **Stamp on Sachin Tendulkar rushed through, RTI reveals.**

Was the commemorative stamp on Sachin Tendulkar issued on November 14, 2013, rushed through after bypassing postal rules? Yes, says the postal department in a reply to an RTI filed by activist Subhash Agarwal on December 24, 2013. The cricketing icon played his last test against West Indies in Mumbai between November 14 and 18.

The stamp was issued within 20 days of the request being sent by Union minister Sharad Pawar. Under Rule 13 of the Rules for issue of Commemorative Postage Stamps, it takes much more than 20 days to design and approve a stamp to be released. Also commemorative stamps are issued 10 years after the death of a leader or celebrity and in exceptional cases, it is released to honour head of nations, said Rashi Sharma, director (Philately) & First Appellate Authority department of posts in the reply.

"The desired date of release of this proposed stamp is November 14, 2013 which is merely 20 days away and pre-production formalities of a stamp require a longer time for printing of a good quality stamp and its distribution nationwide on the date of release," said Sharma.

"It would be relevant to mention here that as per the rule 13 of 'Rules for issue of Commemorative Postage Stamps,' no stamp will be issued on a living personality. The personalities on whom commemorative postage stamp may be issued should be of national or international importance. The occasion to be commemorated must be the birth centenary or 10th, 25th, and 100th death anniversary. Stamps can be issued no sooner than 10 years after an individual's death," the director said in the reply.

The philately division assigned Kamleshwar Singh, an empanelled artist of the department of posts to design the stamp. Singh has to his credit various stamps, including those issued on the occasion of 100 Years of Indian Cinema and London Olympics 2012. Two set of stamps were issued on November 14, the first with Sachin's picture during the first test he played in Pakistan in 1989 and the second from his last test in Mumbai.

The stamps issued to honour Sachin are of a high denomination of Rs 20 and they are not available across the country though many fans of the cricketer may want to own them. "To ensure availability of attractive multi-coloured postage stamps for public through all the post offices, stamps of definitive series should not be printed in denominations in which commemorative stamps are usually printed. Currently even in Delhi, such colourful commemorative stamps are available only at head post office at Sansad Marg," Agarwal told TOI.

*Courtesy: [Times of India](#) | See also [NDTV Sports](#) and [Daily Bhaskar.com](#) for similar story.*

### **Special cover on 8th International Raptor Conference - 6th February 2014.**

8th ARRCN, Asian Raptor Research and Conservation Network's Raptor Conference aimed at conservation of birds of prey, was held for the first time in India in Pune from 6th to 9th February 2014. It was organized by Ela Foundation, Pune.

The main objectives of the ARRCN are to Exchange information concerning raptors among its members, Compile a database on raptors, especially on the status of resident Asian raptors, Coordinate research on migratory species as well as widespread species and conduct training programmes and to Promote the value and conservation of raptors through education and public awareness and providing training to local residents on raptor research.

To mark the occasion a Special cover on 8th International Raptor Conference was issued on 6th February 2014.



Image Courtesy: [Rainbow Stamp Club](#)

Special Covers issued at 'CHITRALI-2014', District Level Philatelic Exhibition, New Delhi- 5th - 7th February 2014.

Department of Posts, Delhi Postal Circle released two special covers on the occasion of 'CHITRALI-2014', District Level Philatelic Exhibition held at National Rail Museum, Shantipath Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110021 from 5th to 7th February 2014.

New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) is the municipal council of the city of New Delhi, and the area under its administration is referred to as the NDMC area. NDMC has its origins in the Imperial Delhi Committee which was constituted on 25th March, 1913 to overlook the construction of the new capital of India.

Santoor is an ancient string musical instrument native to Jammu and Kashmir, with origins in Persia. A primitive ancestor of this type of instruments was invented in Mesopotamia (1600-911 BC). The santoor is a trapezoid-shaped hammered dulcimer often made of walnut, with seventy two strings. The special-shaped mallets (mezrab) are lightweight and are held between the index and middle fingers used to play the instrument. A typical santoor has two sets of bridges, providing a range of three octaves. The santoor is played while sitting in an asana called ardhapadmasana position and placing it on top of the lap. Two special covers were released on 5th February on NDMC to mark its Centenary Celebrations and another on Santoor.





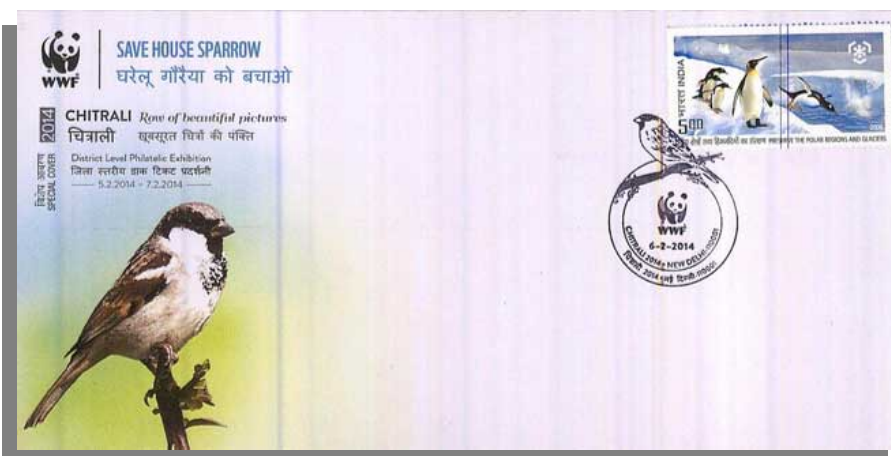


Three Special Covers were released on 6th February 2014. Two on conservation of Red Panda and House Sparrow and one on IIT New Delhi.

The Red Panda (*Ailurus fulgens*), also called lesser panda and red cat-bear, is a small arboreal mammal native to the eastern Himalayas and southwestern China that has been classified as Vulnerable by IUCN as its wild population is estimated at less than 10,000 mature individuals.



The House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) is a bird of the sparrow family Passeridae, found in most parts of the world. The House Sparrow is strongly associated with human habitations, and can live in urban or rural settings. The House Sparrow was until recently widespread in India. It is now believed to be fast depleting in India for various reasons ranging from destruction of its habitat to limited availability of insect food in urban area for its young and microwave pollution from mobile phone towers. An effort at all levels is required for its conservation.



IIT Delhi, like all other Indian Institutes of Technology, conducts various programs including bachelor's degree in Technology, the Dual Degree Bachelor-cum-Master of Technology program and an Integrated Master of Technology Program. It also offers postgraduate level programs like Master of Technology, Master of Science, Master of Science (Research), Master of Business Administration, Master of Design (Industrial Design). Vision of IIT is to contribute to India and the world through excellence in scientific and technical education and research, to serve as a valuable resource for industry and society, and remain a source of pride for all Indians.



Two special covers were released on 7th February on Kathak Dance and Morris Fire Engine.

Kathak is one of the eight forms of Indian Classical Dances. This dance form traces its origins to ancient Northern India known as Kathakars or storytellers. Its form today contain traces of temple and ritual dances, and the influence of the bhakti movement. (Sp. Cover approval no. DEL/06/2014)



The Morris Fire Engine (1914-2014) homed at the National Rail Museum, Chanakya Puri, New Delhi, India is the only one f its kind in the world fitted with original Shrewsbury and challiner solid tyres. After 46 years of generous service it got retired in 1960. It was restored in full by Lalaguda workshop in 1981. (Sp. Cover approval no. DEL/07/2014)



*Courtesy: Sreejesh Krishnan, Thiruvananthapuram*

### **Speed Post Launches Special Service for the Delivery of Delhi High Court Notices / Summons - 3rd February 2014.**

Shri Kapil Sibal, Minister of Communications & Information Technology, launched a special service of the Speed Post for booking and delivery of Notices/ Summons of the High Court of Delhi with 'Proof of Delivery' (PoD) facility on 3rd February 2014. The 'PoD' in its return transmission will also be booked under Speed Post Service. Shri Justice N.V. Ramana, Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi, was the Guest of honour at the launch function held in the High Court premises.

Key features of this special service of Speed Post are:

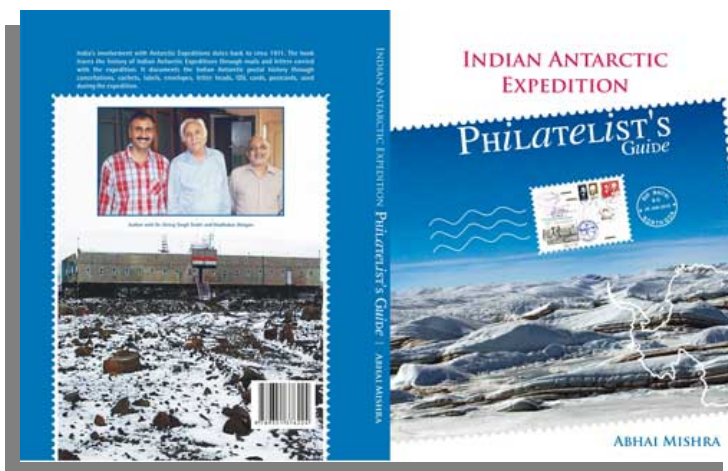
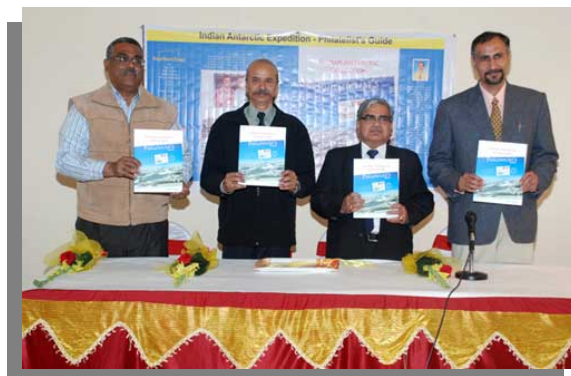
- Notices/ Summons of High Court of Delhi will be booked as Speed Post article in a specially designed envelope containing 'PoD', which would be available for sale at Delhi High Court Post Office Extension Counter;
- A separate Delhi High Court Post Office Extension Counter has been opened at Dispatch Section of Delhi High Court for convenience of the Customers;
- Separate Bar Code series have been allotted for these speed Post articles;
- Delivery of the Speed Post article as well as 'Proof of Delivery' can easily be tracked at India Post website : [www.indiapost.gov.in](http://www.indiapost.gov.in)
- The scanned copy of 'PoD' will also be sent to a dedicated email id of High Court of Delhi from Lodi Road Head Post Office;
- Speed Post booking Software has also been customized for the purpose.

*Courtesy: PIB*

### **Release of book titled "Indian Antarctic Expedition - Philatelist's Guide" - 2nd February 2014.**

A book titled "Indian Antarctic Expedition-Philatelist's Guide" by well known philatelist Shri Abhai Mishra was released by Shri R. C. Agarwal, Outstanding Scientist & Director DEAL in a glittering function, held at DEAL Officers Institute, Raipur Road, Dehradun. The function was attended by large gathering of scientists, philatelists and veterans of Indian Antarctic Expedition. Indian involvement with Antarctic Expeditions dates back to year 1911 when Captain Scott attempted to reach the South Pole. The book traces the history of Indian Antarctic Expeditions through mails and letters carried with the expedition. It documents the Indian Antarctic postal history through cancellations, cachets, labels, envelopes, letter heads, QSL cards, postcards used during the expedition. The book reveals very rare and lesser known facts of Antarctica.



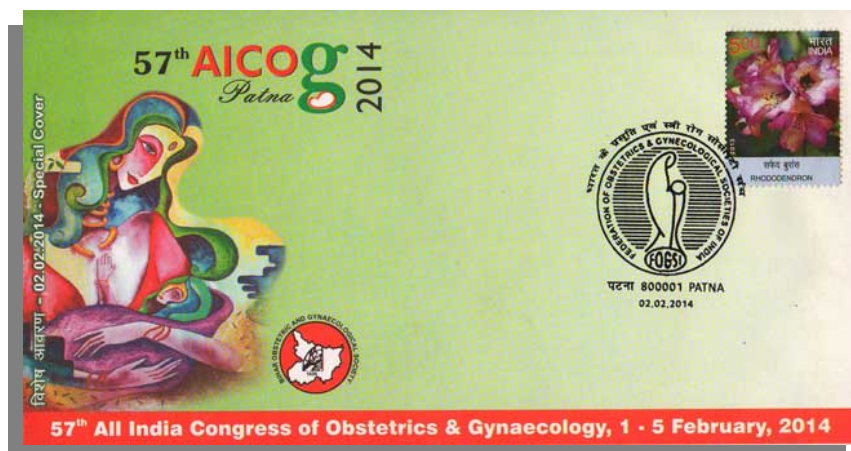


*Courtesy: Abhai Mishra, Dehradun*

#### **Special Cover on 57th All India Congress of Obstetrics & Gynaecology - 2nd February 2014.**

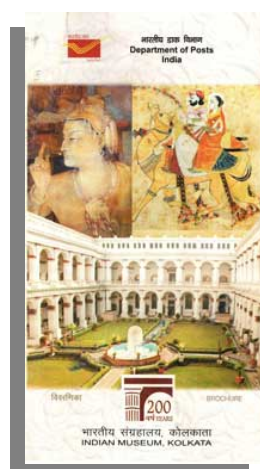
Bihar Obstetric and Gynaecological Society has hosted the 57th All India Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Patna from 1st to 5th February 2014 under the aegis of Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies of India. The conference aims to disseminate recently acquired scientific knowledge and skills as well as to provide a platform to ruminate on controversies. Such knowledge and discussions bear fruits by actually being put in practice in treating women. During the 57th All India Congress of Obstetrics & Gynaecology workshops, scientific sessions and various other programmes has been organised.

To commemorate the conference, Department of Post has released a Special Cover for first time with Cancellation honouring the 'Federation of Obstetrics & Gynecological Societies of India'. The cover was released by the Shri Nitish Kumar, Honbl'e Chief Minister of Bihar on 2nd February 2014. The cover price is Rs. 50/- each.





*Courtesy: Shri Pradip Jain, Patna*



### Commemorative Stamp on Bi-centenary celebrations of Indian Museum - 2nd February 2014.

The history of the origin and the growth of the Indian Museum is one of the remarkable events towards the development of heritage and culture of India. Founded in 1814 at the cradle of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Indian Museum is the earliest and the largest multipurpose Museum not only in the Indian subcontinent but also in the Asia-Pacific region of the world. With the foundation of Indian Museum in 1814, the Museum movement started rolling in India and through the years from then, got a new fillip and great momentum. The Indian Museum is the largest museum in India and has rare collections of antiques, armour and ornaments, fossils, skeletons, mummies, and Mughal paintings. The founder curator of the museum was Dr. Nathaniel Wallich, a Danish botanist.

The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh released souvenir sheet in denomination of Rs. 45 (3 Stamps in denomination of Rs 20, Rs 20 and Rs 5), on the occasion of the Bi-centenary celebrations of Indian Museum, in Kolkata on 2nd February, 2014. The Governor of West Bengal, Shri M.K. Narayanan, the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia, the Union Minister for Culture, Smt. Chandresh Kumari Katoch and the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Kumari Mamata Banerjee are also seen in the photo.

*Folder Scan Courtesy: Timir R. Shah*



*Image Courtesy: R. Kasinath, Thanjavur*

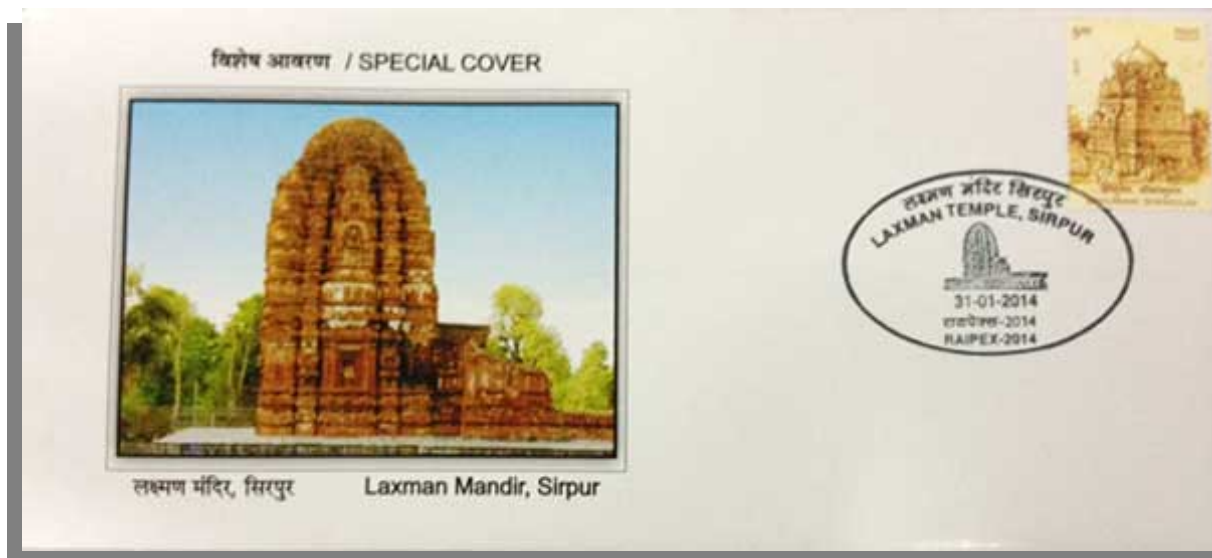




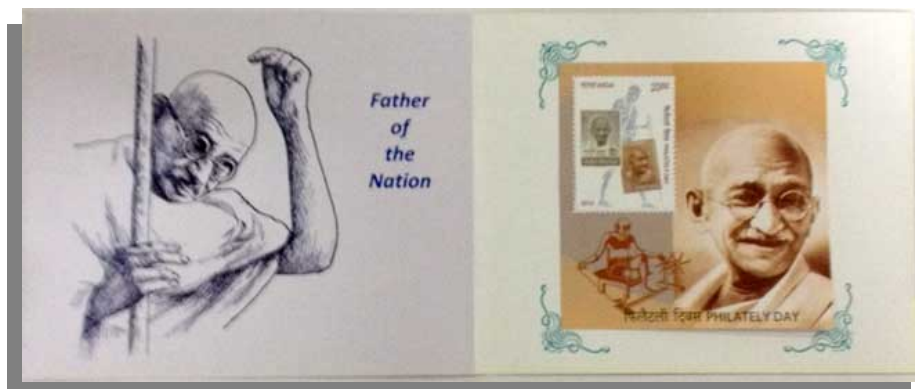
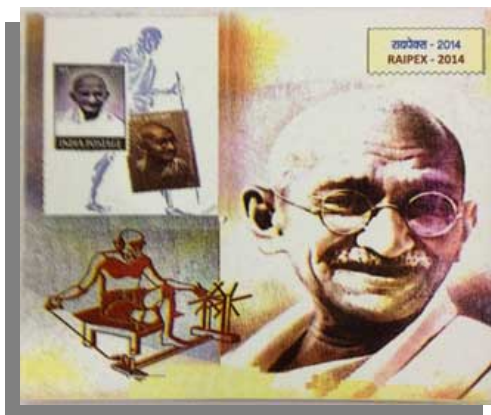
*Photo Courtesy: PIB*

#### **Raipex - 2014, Divisional Level Philatelic Exhibition at Raipur - 31st January - 2nd February 2014**

Raipex - 2014, Divisional Level Philatelic exhibition was organised by Senior Supdt. of Post Offices, Raipur from 31st January to 2nd February 2014 at Town Hall, Raipur. Closing ceremony was held at Town Hall, Raipur in the presence of Chief Guest Sri S K Pandey, Vice Chancellor of Ravishankar University, and Special Guest CPMG of Chhatisgarh Postal Circle Sri Y P Rai. Prizes were distributed to award winners of Junior and Senior category. Mementos were presented to Jury Members Sri H. L. Daga, Dr. Pradeep Jain and Sri Atul Jain and also to all Senior Philatelists for their participation in Invitee class. During the exhibition a Special Cover on Laxman Temple Sirpur and a Booklet on Gandhi were released on 31st January 2014.







*Courtesy: [Rainbow Stamp Club](#)*

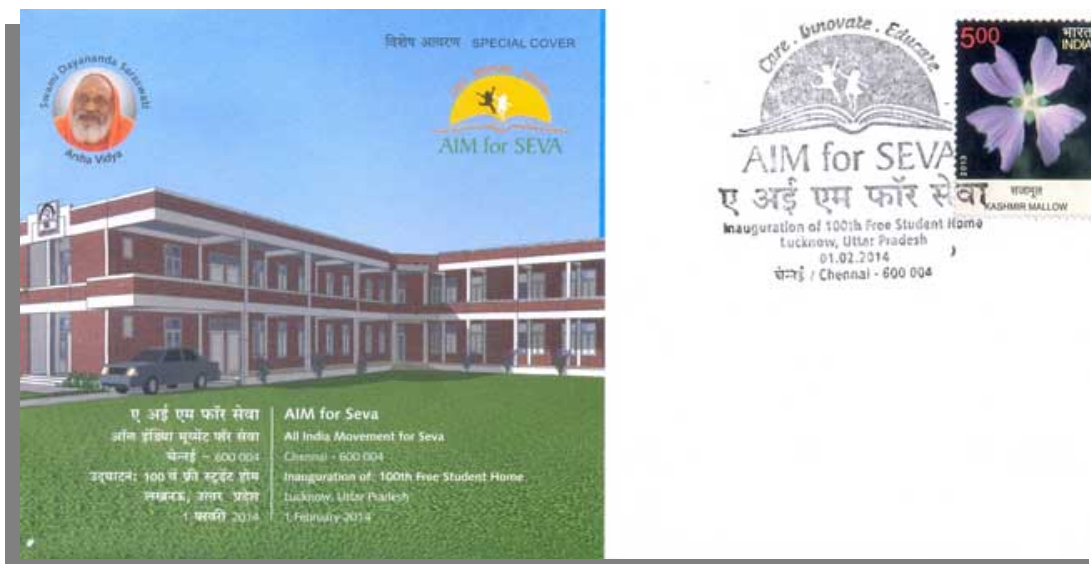
#### **Special Cover issued on AIM for SEVA at Chennai - 1st February 2014.**

AIM for Seva is a NGO founded by Swami Dayananda Saraswati in year 2000 to transform the Tribal & Rural Children of India through education, healthcare and lifeskills. Present across 14 States, with 96 student homes and nearly 3000 students. AIM for Seva is not just a 'schooling' initiative.

A Free Student Home (FSH) is a living ecosystem, an activity center, a classroom and a learning institute, all rolled into one. Essentially, FSH empowers rural children to learn by providing a place to live close to schools; with a clean environment, nutritious food, value-based education, extracurricular activities and much more. So they don't just keep up with the rest, but lead a childhood that enables them to contribute to their family, society and the country as a whole.

Aim for Seva announced the launch of its 100th free student home at a function held in Chennai on 1st February 2014. Indu Gupta, Chief Postmaster General of Tamil Nadu Postal Circle, released a special cover to mark the occasion on 1st February 2014. (Approval No. TN/02/2014)



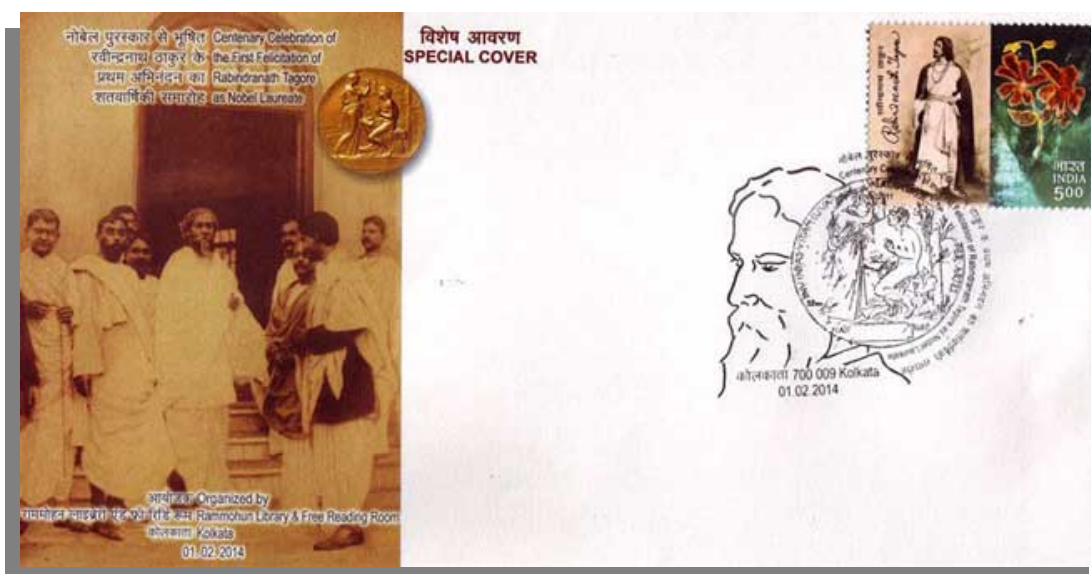


*Cover Courtesy: Sreejesh Krishnan, Thiruvananthapuram*

### **Special Cover on Centenary Celebration of First Felicitation of Rabindranath Tagore as Nobel Laureate - 1st February 2014.**

13 November 2013 marked the centenary of Rabindranath Tagore's Nobel Prize in Literature. Almost 100 years back, the writer, educationist and philosopher was informed of being conferred with the prestigious award. Stating the reasons, the Swedish Academy said that "because of his profoundly sensitive, fresh and beautiful verse, by which, with consummate skill, he has made his poetic thought, expressed in his own English words, a part of the literature of the West". Born on May 7, 1861, Tagore in 1913 became not just the first Asian Nobel laureate but the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize for literature.

As a part of Centenary Celebration of the First Felicitation of Rabindranath Tagore as Nobel Laureate organised by Rammohun Library and Free Reading Room, Kolkata a special cover was released in Kolkata on 1st February 2014. The cover is designed by Shri Babul Dey.



*Courtesy: Shri Dipok Dey, Kolkata*

**Indian Philately Digest digital newsletter is a compilation of the news published on the official website of Indian Philatelists' Forum, which is updated daily.**

Our website [www.indianphilately.net](http://www.indianphilately.net) is organized exclusively for educational purposes; more specifically, to promote and encourage the study, understanding, preservation and appreciation of the philately and postal history of India. Our aim is to provide information on as many different aspects of Indian philately through this web site. Following links are provided on our website [www.indianphilately.net](http://www.indianphilately.net) :

- Indian Philatelists' Forum: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/indianphilatelists/>
- Online Philatelists' Directory: <http://www.indianphilately.net/memdir.html>
- Listing of Philatelic Organisations in India: <http://www.indianphilately.net/porg.html>
- Philatelic Org. abroad, specialized in Indian Philately: <http://www.indianphilately.net/porgos.html>
- Philatelic dealers in India & abroad dealing: <http://www.indianphilately.net/pdealers.html>
- Philatelic Literature available on Indian Philately: <http://www.indianphilately.net/plit.html>
- Periodicals published in India: <http://www.indianphilately.net/ipperiodicals.html>
- Links related to Indian Philately: <http://www.indianphilately.net/plinks.html>
- Virtual Exhibits: <http://www.indianphilately.net/vexb.html>
- List of Philatelic Bureaux of India: <http://www.indianphilately.net/pbureau.html>
- India Post Guidelines: <http://www.indianphilately.net/ipphilrules.html>
- Proposed Stamp issue Calendar: <http://www.indianphilately.net/2014prog.html>
- Post Independence Stamps list with keyword search: <http://www.indianphilately.net/stamps.html>
- Information on Permanent Pictorial Cancellations: <http://www.indianphilately.net/ppc.html>
- Indian aspects on Foreign philatelic issues: <http://www.indianphilately.net/indtheme.html>
- Latest news on Indian Philately: <http://www.indianphilately.net/news.html>
- Forthcoming Events: <http://www.indianphilately.net/forthexhibitions.html>
- Award Lists: <http://www.indianphilately.net/awardslists.html>
- News Archives: <http://www.indianphilately.net/newsarchives.html>
- Themes & Thoughts of the day: <http://www.indianphilately.net/themeandthought.html>
- From the Philatelists' Diary: <http://www.indianphilately.net/philatelistsdiary.html>
- Forgotten Biography: <http://www.indianphilately.net/biography.html>
- Milestones of India's Postal System: <http://www.indianphilately.net/milestones.html>
- Potpourri: <http://www.indianphilately.net/potpourri.html>
- Download: <http://www.indianphilately.net/download.html>
- Postal Rates in India: <http://www.indianphilately.net/postalrates.html>
- Buy, Swap & Sell: <http://www.indianphilately.net/buyandsell.html>
- Travelogue: Stories on various aspect of philately: <http://www.indianphilately.net/travelogue.html>
- My Voice: Views of philatelists: <http://www.indianphilately.net/myvoice.html>
- Feedback: <http://www.indianphilately.net/feedback.html>
- Contact Us: <http://www.indianphilately.net/sendmail.html>

Follow us:

@ Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ipfdigest>

@ Google+: <http://google.com/+IndianphilatelyNet>

@ Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/indianphilatelydigest/>

Copyright © 2014 Indian Philatelists' Forum | All Rights Reserved | Email: [indianphilately@gmail.com](mailto:indianphilately@gmail.com)