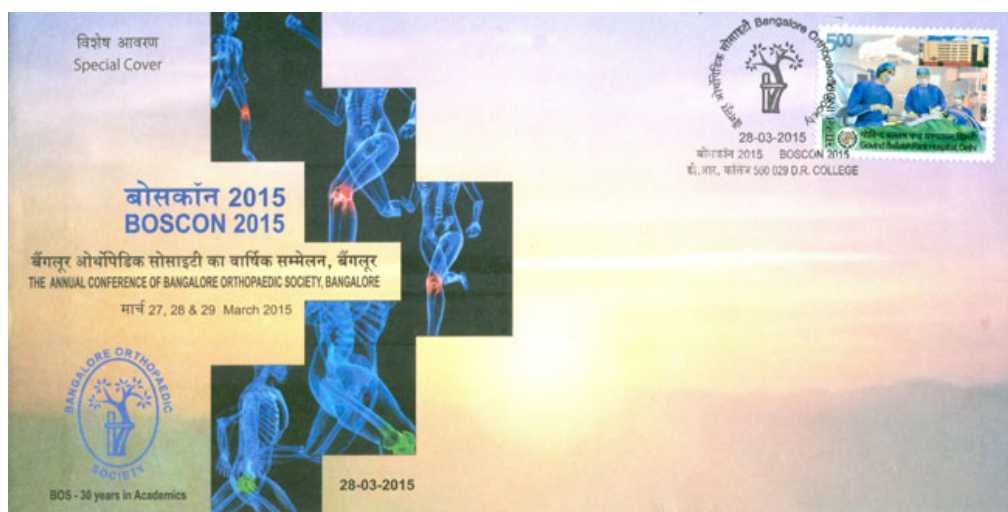


**Issue No. 27 : March 2015**

**Special Cover on BOSCON 2015, the Annual Conference of Bangalore Orthopaedic Society - 28th March 2015.**

The Bangalore Orthopaedic Society is a professional association for Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgeons in Bangalore and for those who are outside Bangalore, but continue to show interest in the affairs of the Association. Apart from academics, its traditional focus is on research and on promotion of the highest clinical and ethical standards.

The Bangalore Orthopaedic Society organized BOSCON 2015, the Annual Conference from 27th to 29th March 2015 at NIMHANS Convention Center, Bangalore. On the occasion a Special Cover was released by Karnataka Postal Circle (Special Cover approval no. KTK/35/2015) on 28th March 2015.



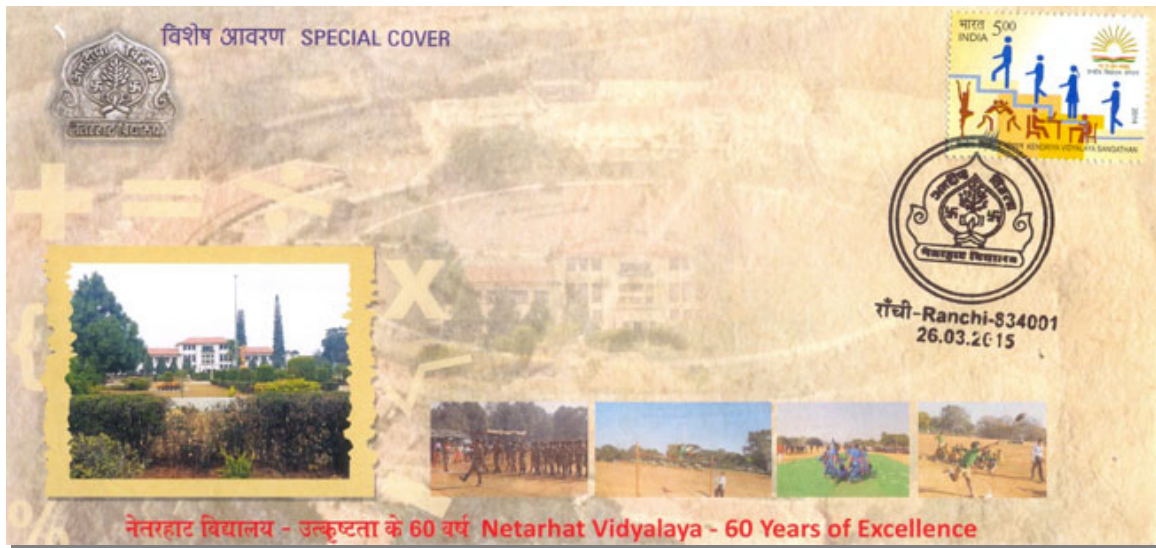
*Courtesy: Suresh Rao, Bengaluru*

**Ranchi Stamp Fest 2015 – 26th – 27th March 2015.**

Ranchi Stamp Fest 2015, the two-day district level philatelic exhibition was organised by the Ranchi Postal Division at Milan Palace, Club Road, Ranchi on 26th and 27th March 2015. Exhibition was inaugurated by State Principal Secretary (IT) Shri N.N. Sinha. Two special covers on Netarhat Vidyalaya (Special Cover approval no. JH/06/2015) and Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church (Special Cover approval no. JH/08/2015) were released on the occasion by Chief Postmaster General Sujata Chaudhary.

**Special Cover on Netarhat Vidyalaya - 60Years of Excellence – 26th March 2015.**

Netarhat Residential School was opened on 15th November, 1954 at Netarhat (156 kilometres west of Ranchi), with Shri Charles Napier as its First Principal. The School admitted the first batch of students numbering 60 in 1954 for a six-year course. The school has a record of producing toppers of the Bihar School Examination Board year after year. After the creation of the state of Jharkhand in 2000, it came under the purview of Jharkhand Board. The students have dominated the Regional Mathematics Olympiad and NTSE (National Talent Search Examination) conducted by NCERT. Students participate in inter-house and inter-set competitions and inter-school competitions.



**Special Cover on 170 years of Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church – 26th March 2015.**

The Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church with its headquarters located in Ranchi, Jharkhand is one of the largest and widespread Lutheran Churches in India. Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam (GELC) is a major Christian Protestant denomination in India. It has hundreds of thousands of members. It was established on 2 November 1845. It belongs to National Council of Churches in India, United Evangelical Lutheran Church in India, Lutheran World Federation and World Council of Churches.



**Special Cover on Swachh Bharat - Bapu Ka Sapna – 27th March 2015.**

On the second day a special cover on Swachh Bharat - Bapu Ka Sapna was released (Special Cover approval no. JH/07/2015). Mahatma Gandhi made cleanliness and sanitation an integral part of the Gandhian way of living. His dream was total sanitation for all. Cleanliness is most important for physical well-being and a healthy environment. It has bearing on public and personal hygiene. It is essential for everyone to learn about cleanliness, hygiene, sanitation and the various diseases that are caused due to poor hygienic conditions. He firmly believed in the dictum 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness'.





Philatelists from Bihar and Jharkhand and students in large numbers witnessed the stamp festival. Various cultural programmes, painting, letter writing and debate competitions were organised for school children. Mr. Sayed Hafizuddin, the noted philatelist of Jamshedpur was the member of jury and Mr. Anil Saxena, (philatelist from Gaya) and Mr. Arun Kumar from Jamshedpur were apprentice jury members.

*Courtesy: Anil K. Saxena, Gaya*

#### Commemorative stamp on Engineers India Limited (EIL) - 27th March 2015.



Engineers India Limited (EIL) is a public-sector undertaking of the Government of India under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. It was set up in 1965 to provide engineering and related consultancy and technical services principally focused on the oil and gas and petrochemical industries. EIL has two wholly owned subsidiaries, EIL Asia Pacific Sdn Bhd in Malaysia, and Certification Engineers International Ltd, to undertake independent certification, and third party inspection assignments. Engineers India Limited is celebrating its Golden Jubilee in 2015. 50 years of its existence, EIL has contributed immensely to the cause of nation building.

On the occasion of Golden Jubilee celebration, a commemorative stamp on Engineers India Limited (EIL) has been released by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi during the Urja Sangam- 2015 organized by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 27th March 2015.



## Gujpex-2015, 13th Gujarat State Level Philatelic Exhibition – 24th – 27th March 2015.

### 24th March 2015 - Day : 1

Gujpex-2015, 13th Gujarat State Level Philatelic Exhibition organized by Gujarat Postal Circle inaugurated by Hon. Governor of Gujarat Shri O.P. Kohli at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Memorial, Ahmedabad. Ms. Meenaxiben Patel, Hon'ble Mayor, Ahmedabad city, Dr. Kirit Solanki, Member of Parliament (LS) and Dr. Jagdish Bhavsar, Chairman, Ahmedabad Municipal School Board and Brigadier Sanjeev Thapar, Chief Postmaster General, Gujarat Postal Circle were present on the dais at the inaugural function. Large number of philatelists, stamp dealers and officers and staff members of Department of Posts witnessed the inaugural ceremony.



On the occasion as Special Cover on 'Sabarmati River Front' was released by Hon. Governor.

Sabarmati River has been an integral part in the life of Ahmedabad since the time the city was founded in 1411 along the river banks. Besides being an important source of water, it provided a backdrop to cultural and recreational activities. Sabarmati Riverfront is a waterfront developed along banks of Sabarmati River. It is being developed by Sabarmati River Front Development Corporation Limited (SRFDCL). The project aims to provide Ahmedabad with a meaningful waterfront environment along the banks of the Sabarmati River and to redefine an identity of Ahmedabad around the river. The project looks to reconnect the city with the river and positively transform the neglected aspects of the riverfront.

The objectives of this multidimensional project can be categorised under three topics viz. Environmental Improvement: for reduction in erosion and flood to safeguard the city; sewage diversion to clean the river; water retention and recharge, Social Infrastructure: for rehabilitation and resettlement of riverbed dwellers and activities; creation of parks and public spaces; provision of socio-cultural amenities for the city and Sustainable Development: for generation of resources, revitalisation of neighbourhoods.





Hon. Governor also released a book titled 'Collector's Guide to British India Bazar Postcards' written by philatelist Shri Prafful Thakkar. 240 fully coloured pages presents present more than 1700 Bazar Postcards with value along with pictures in different varieties of British Royalty, Indian Princely State Rulers, Ravi Varma paintings-oleographs and Other Themes with further classification of color, creativity, calligraphy and design.



248 exhibits in competitive class and others in invitee class have been showcased at the exhibition. Besides the display of philatelic exhibits stalls of stamps and coins dealers is an attraction for the visitors at exhibition. Gujpex-2015 will be open for all from 24th to 27th March 2015. For the first time in India philatelic exhibits displayed at [Gujpex-2015](#), philatelic exhibition can be viewed online.



**25.03.2015: Day: 2**

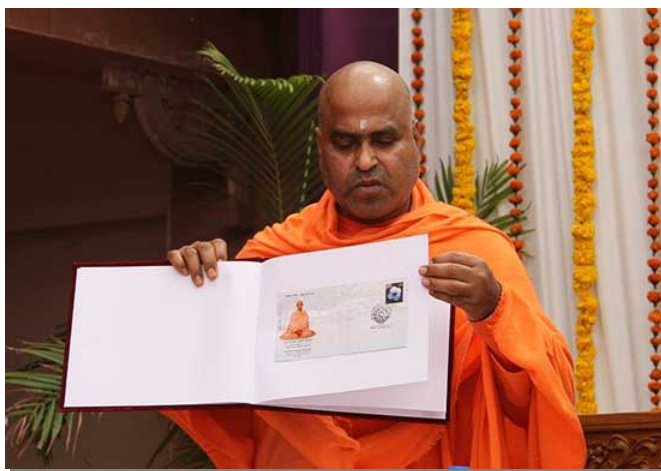
### **Special Cover on Swami Chidananda Saraswati – 25th March 2015.**

On the second day of Exhibition a Special Cover on Swami Chidananda Saraswati was released by Shri Swami Padmanadhanandaji, Gen. Secretary, the Divine Life Society, Rishikesh, Uttarakhand in presence of Brigadier Sanjeev Thapar, Chief Postmaster General, Gujarat Postal Circle and Shri Ambesh Upmanyu, Postmaster General (BD), Gujarat Postal Circle and Shri Swami Advaitanandaji, Chairman of Swami Chidananda Birth Centenary Celebration Committee, Rishikesh, Uttarakhand.

Swami Chidananda Saraswati (b. September 24, 1916 – d. August 28, 2008) was President of the Divine Life Society, Rishikesh, India. He is well known in India as a yogi, jnani and spiritual leader. He succeeded as President of the Divine Life Society in 1963, after the death of his predecessor, Sivananda Saraswati, who founded the Society.

Chidananda's birth name was Sridhar Rao. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Loyola College, Chennai. He took to a life of renunciation in 1936, and joined the Sivananda Ashram run by Sivananda Saraswati in Rishikesh in 1943.

He was appointed General Secretary of the Divine Life Society in 1948. He was initiated into the Sannyas order by his guru, Sivananda, on Guru Purnima day, July 10, 1949. It was then that he received his monastic name "Chidananda", which means "one who is consciousness and bliss". He was elected President of the Divine Life Society in August 1963, upon the death of Sivananda. Chidananda Saraswati died on August 28, 2008.





26.03.2015: Day: 3

### Special Cover on Martyrs of Adas - 26th March 2015.

On the third day of exhibition a Special Cover on Immortal Martyrs of Adas was released by Shri Ambesh Upmanyu, Postmaster General (BD), Gujarat Postal Circle.

The Quit India Movement was the next major milestone after the Salt Satyagraha in the history of Indian independence struggle. It was a civil disobedience movement launched on 8th August 1942 with Gandhiji's call for immediate independence.

Some incidents at Kaira took place after the passing of the 'Quit India' resolution by the Congress on August 8, 1942. The District Magistrate of Kaira issued an order on the next day under Section 56(1) of the Defence of India Rules, 1939, prohibiting formation of processions within the limits of his district. A batch of students, in disobedience of the order, took out a procession within the prohibited area on August 18, 1942 and distributed leaflets about 'azadi' (freedom). Police party armed with rifles and lathis was set out in search of the students and found them in a field near Adas railway station (near Anand). A lathi charge was made on the students; and when they sat on the ground in a group, the police party fired seven rounds of ball ammunition killing five innocent students and wounding many of the students.

A Martyr memorial has been erected at the place in Adas by Kheda District National Congregation Committee in the memory of those five martyrs viz. Ratilal Gordhanbhai Patel of Bhadran, Ramanlal Purshottamdas Patel of Dharmaj, Mohanlal Maganlal Patel of Dahegam, Tulsidas Sakalchand Modi of Balasinor, Manilal Purshottamdas of Chansma who were killed on 18th August 1942. Special cancellation depicts line drawing of Martyr memorial of Adas.







Philatelic workshop and on the spot painting competition for students was also organized on 26th March 2015. Philatelic workshop was conducted by Shri Vijay Navlakha.

#### 27.03.2015: Day: 4

There was no release of Special Cover on 4th day of exhibition. Closing ceremony and prize distribution function was held on 27th March 2015 evening. Dr. M. N. Patel, Vice Chancellor, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad was the Chief Guest of function. A Souvenir was released during the closing ceremony function.



#### Sapex-2015, District Level Philatelic Exhibition - 24th - 25th March 2015.



Sapex-2015, District level philatelic exhibition of Bareilly region was held on 24th and 25 March 2015 at Postal Training Centre, Saharanpur. The exhibition was inaugurated by Ms. Sarita Singh, Chief Postmaster General, UP Postal Circle. Overall 50 frames were put on display. The jury consisted of Shri Abhishek Singh, Shri Abhai Mishra and Shri S. C. Kalra. Two gold, two silver and nine bronze medals were awarded in the competitive class. A philatelic workshop was organized on the second day. My stamp facility was also provided during the exhibition for the visitors.

A special cover on "Wood carving City, Saharanpur" was released on the first day. The release function was graced by Ms. Sarita Singh, Dr. Ashok Raghav, DIG Saharanpur, Mr. Indraveer Singh Yadav, DM Saharanpur, Sh. Abhishek Singh, Director PTC and Sh. Prateek Jhajharia SSPO Saharanpur.



Saharanpur was founded by Sah Ranveer Singh, an Agrawal Jain, who was the Mughal treasurer; he laid the foundations of the present day city on the site of an army cantonment. The physical features of the Saharanpur district have proved that Saharanpur region was fit for human habitation. Saharanpur is internationally famous for its wood carving work. Dating back to about 400 years ago in Mughal period, some craftsman came from Kashmir and settled down in Saharanpur and took this work to earn their bread and butter. Gradually this art got extended amongst common men in Saharanpur and now wooden handicraft work is famed all over the world. About one lack artists, craftsmen and labourers are involved in this industry. Carving done on sheesham, ebony, neem, sal wood for use in furniture; jaali, fret worked lattice screens and panels and wood inlaid with different coloured woods. Today Saharanpur is the biggest wood carving location in India.



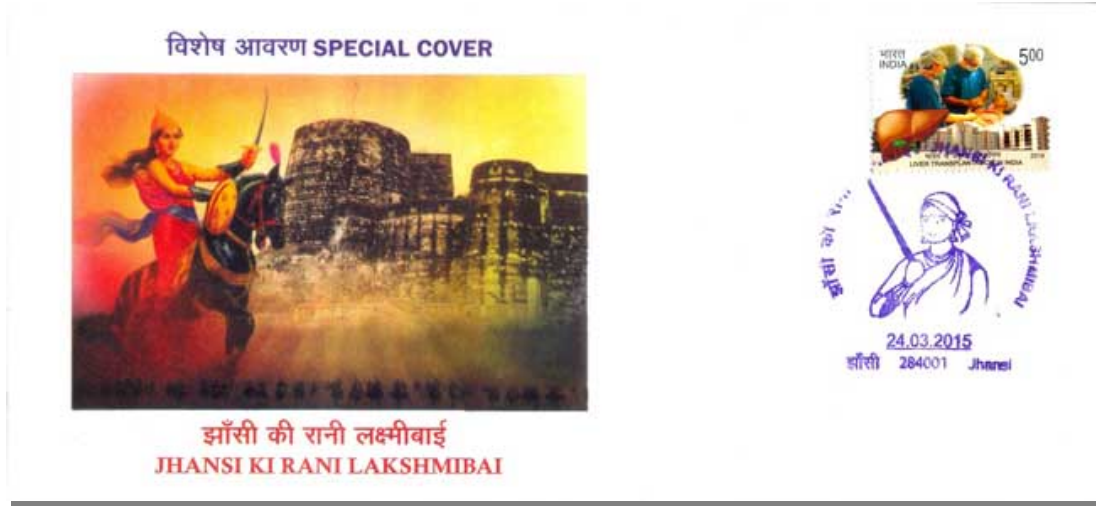
*Courtesy: Abhai Mishra, Dehradun*

### Special Cover on Jhansi Kir Rani Lakshmibai – 24th March 2015.

A special cover was released on Jhansi Ki Rani Lakshmibai during Jhansipex-2015 organised by Jhansi Postal Division at Jhansi from 24th to 26th March 2015. (Special Cover approval no. UP/09/2015).

The Rani of Jhansi (b. 19 November 1828 – d. 17 June 1858), also called Lakshmibai, born as Manikarnika Tambe, was the queen of the Maratha-ruled Jhansi State, located in the north-central part of India. She was one of the leading figures of the Indian Rebellion of 1857 and became for Indian nationalists a symbol of resistance to the rule of the British East India Company in the subcontinent.

Manikarnika was married to the Maharaja of Jhansi, Raja Gangadhar Rao Newalkar, in 1842 and was afterwards called Lakshmibai in honour of the Hindu goddess Lakshmi.



*Courtesy: Sreejesh Krishnan, Thiruvananthapuram*

### Special Cover on 10th Centenary of Shri Hemchandracharya Ji – 23rd March 2015.

To commemorate the 10th Centenary of Jain Acharya Kalikal Sarvagya Shri Hemchandracharya Ji Maharaj, a special cover was issued on 23rd March 2015 at Ahmedabad.

The cover was released by Shri Ambesh Upmanyu, Postmaster General (BD), Gujarat Postal Circle at the function held at Shasansamrat Bhavan, Sheth Hathisingh Wadi, Ahmedabad in the holy presence of Acharya Shri Vijayshilchandrasuriji Maharaj.

Acharya Hemachandra was a Jain scholar, poet, and polymath who wrote on grammar, philosophy, prosody, and contemporary history. Noted as a prodigy by his contemporaries, he gained the title Kalikāl Sarvagya, "all-knowing of the Kali Yuga". He was born in Dhandhuka, Gujarat. At the age of 21, he was ordained Acharya of a Svetambara sect of Jainism at Nagaur in Rajasthan and was named Acharya Hemachandra Suri.



*Courtesy: Sudhir Jain, Satna*



## Special Cover on 150 Years of Forestry in India – 21st March 2015.

A Special Cover was released at Seoni on the occasion of 150 years of forestry in India and in the memory of "Father of Indian Forestry" Dr. Dietrich Brandis on 21st March 2015.

Forestry in India is a significant rural industry and a major environmental resource. India is one of the ten most forest-rich countries of the world along with the Russian Federation, Brazil, Canada, United States of America, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Australia, Indonesia and Sudan.

The period between 1856 and 1864 was one of intense activity in the organisation of Forest Department. Foundations of 'scientific forestry' in India were firmly laid with the appointment of Dr. Dietrich Brandis as the First Inspector General of Forests (IGF), Government of India on 1st April, 1864. The Imperial Forest Department was established in India in 1864. British state's monopoly over Indian forests was first asserted through the Indian Forest Act of 1865.

Sir Dietrich Brandis, KCIE, FRS (b. March 31, 1824 – d. May 28, 1907) was a German forester who worked with the British Imperial Forestry Service in colonial India. He is considered the father of tropical forestry. His major concern was to prevent further degradation of forests in the country, for which, he formulated the Forest Act, 1865, which was later amended in 1878 and 1927. He served as IGF for 20 years, during which time he successfully laid foundations for putting the country's forest resources under scientific management under an independent forest administration. Appreciating the need for forestry research and training, he took positive actions by setting up research and training facilities at Dehra Dun. He was officially recognised as Companion of the Indian Empire in 1878.



*Cover and Photo Courtesy: Sanjay Shukla, CCFO, Seoni*

## Special Cover on Dr. K. V. Rao, founder of Dr. K.V. Rao Scientific Society – 21st March 2015.

Dr. K. V. Rao was born on 21st March 1920. He had his earlier education at Rajahmundry and Hyderabad. He did his post graduation in Chemistry and research for his D.Sc. degree at the Banaras Hindu University under Prof. S. S. Joshi on "Active Nitrogen" an intermediary in the synthesis of Ammonia. He worked in the Department of Mines in the erstwhile Nizam state (1947 - 1952) and in the Geological Survey of India (1952 - 1978). Dr. Rao retired as Superintendent Chemist, Geological Survey of India. After retirement he joined Birla and established the Birla Archeological and Cultural Research Institute, a research institute for study of Archeological Monuments.

The passion of Dr. Rao by taking part actively in promotion and encouragement of young scientists in pursuit of their research activities became instrumental in establishment of Dr. K.V. Rao Scientific Society which was founded in 2001 by forming a corpus from the donations from friends and family of Dr. Rao. This organization is a non-profit one with the only interest in promoting science in whatever way it is possible. Towards this the Society was started in a small way in 2001 by awarding one young scientist for research the award. Over the years the number of awards as well as the number of activities of the society has increased so as to address more and more students at various levels of education right from schools to universities.

A special cover was released to mark the establishment of 15 years of Dr. K. V. Rao Scientific Society and the 95th birth anniversary of Dr. K. V. Rao. Special cover was released by Col. M. Eleesha, Postmaster General (HQ), A. P. Postal Circle, at a function held on 21st March 2015 at Bhaskara Auditorium, B. M. Birla Science Centre, Hyderabad. The function was graced by Shri G. M. N. Sastry, DDG (Chemistry), Geological Survey of India, Hyderabad, Prof. Amitabha Chattopadhyay, Outstanding Scientist (Director Level), Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology, Hyderabad.



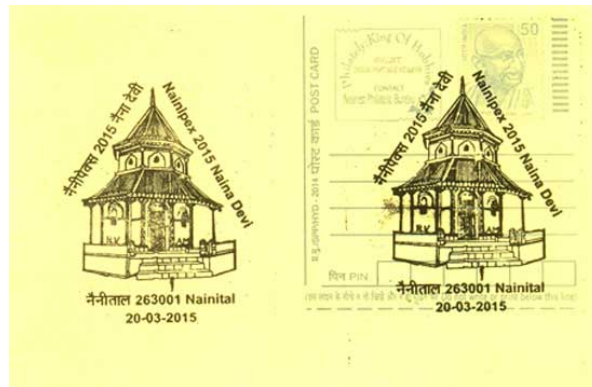
*Cover Courtesy: Sagi Srinivas Raju, Hyderabad*

## Nainipex-2015, Philatelic Exhibition at Nainital - 20th - 21st March 2015.

A two day philatelic exhibition 'Nainipex-2015' was held from 20th to 21st March 2015 at the historical Shelley Hall of State Guest House, Nainital. Exhibition was inaugurated by Prof. HS Dhami, Vice Chancellor of Kumaon University. The exhibition was witnessed by large number of school children. A philatelic workshop was conducted by Sr. Philatelist, Shri Abhai Mishra for the school children.

On the occasion a special cancellation on "Naina Devi Temple" designed by Sr. Philatelist, Shri Rajesh Verma was released on 20th March 2015. Naina Devi temple in Nainital is located on the northern shore of Naini lake. The presiding deity of the temple is Maa Naina Devi represented by two Netras or eyes. Nainital is one of the 64 Shaktipeeths, where one of the body parts of Goddess Sati fell, when Lord Shiva carried her body. In Nainital, the (eyes) naina of the Goddess are said to have fallen.





*Courtesy: Abhai Mishra, Dehradun*

#### **Special Cover on Pench Tiger Reserve, Seoni – 20th March 2015.**

A Special Cover on Pench Tiger Reserve, Seoni, Madhya Pradesh was released on 20th March 2015 by Madhya Pradesh Postal Circle at the function held at Turia Gate of Pench Tiger Reserve, Seoni. This event was held as a part of World Forestry Day celebrations.

Pench National park, nestling in the lower southern reaches of the satpuda hills is named after Pench river, meandering through the park from north to south. It is located on the southern boundary of Madhya Pradesh, bordering Maharashtra, in the districts of Seoni and Chhindwara. Pench National Park, comprising of 758 SQ Kms, out of which a core area of 299 sq km of Indira Priyadarshini Pench National Park and the Mowgli Pench Sanctuary and remaining 464 sq km of pench national park is the buffer area. The area of the present tiger reserve has a glorious history. A description of its natural wealth and richness occurs in Ain-i-Akbari. Pench Tiger Reserve and its neighbourhood is the original setting of Rudyard Kipling's most famous work, The Jungle Book.





*Cover and Photo Courtesy: Sanjay Shukla, CCFO, Seoni*

### **Special Cover on 100 years of Urs Celebrations of Muhammad Anwarullah Farooqi 'Fazilat Jung' - 20th March 2015.**

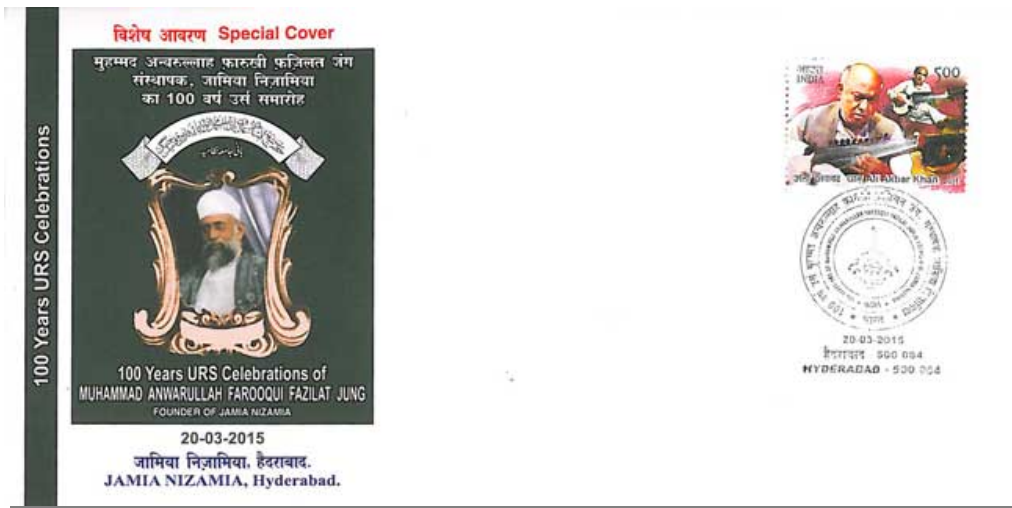
Imam Muhammad Anwaarullah Farooqui was born on 4th Rab'ee Thani 1265 Hijri in Nanded. His mother said that in the course of her pregnancy, she saw the Holy Prophet reciting the Quran in a dream. When he was 7 years of age, his father handed over the Imam to Hafiz Amjad Ali, who was blind, to memorize the Quran. The Imam completed the memorization of the Quran at 11 years of age. Imam Muhammad Anwaarullah Farooqui was a prolific writer. He wrote many books on Islam.

Jamia Nizamia is one of the oldest Islamic seminaries of higher learning of Sunnis in India. It was founded by Imam Muhammad Anwarullah Khan Farooqi, honorifically known as Fadilat Jung (the title was bestowed upon him by the Nizam), in Hyderabad in 1876. It flourished under the patronage of the Nizam VII of Hyderabad, Mir Osman Ali Khan. Jamia Nizamia, organized 3 day centenary Urs celebrations of the founder of Jamia Nizamia, Maulana Anwarullah Farooqui from 20th to 22nd March 2015 at Jamia Nizamia, Hyderabad.

A special cover was released on 100 Years Urs Celebrations of Muhammad Anwarullah Farooqi Fazilat Jung by Chief Minister of Telangana, Shri K. Chandrashekar Rao at Jamia Nizamia, Hyderabad.







*Cover Courtesy: Sagi Srinivas Raju, Hyderabad*

### **Commemorative Stamp on Indian Ocean and Rajendra Chola I - 20th March 2015.**

The three days International Conference titled "India & the Indian Ocean: Renewing the Maritime Trade & Civilisational Linkages", was inaugurated by Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Minister of External Affairs along with Chief Minister of Odisha Shri Naveen Patnaik and Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, the chief patron of the conference and Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas on 20th March 2015 at Bhubaneswar.

On the occasion an exhibition 'Indian Ocean - The Seafaring Legacy' was also organized that touched upon all the points of civilization linkages and marks the celebration of 1000 years of coronation of Rajendra Chola I. The exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Ashok Chandra Panda, Hon'ble Minister, Tourism and Culture, Government of Odisha and Sri Arindam Mukherjee, Secretary, ISCS.



Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Minister of External Affairs and Chief Minister of Odisha Shri Naveen Patnaik jointly released the commemorative stamp on 'Indian Ocean and Rajendra Chola I' during the inauguration function on 20th March 2015 at Bhubaneswar. The stamp is priced at Rs. 5 and depicts the ocean and a statue of the king who was extremely powerful and reigned most of South East Asia in the early 11th century. The stamp also commemorates the 1000th anniversary of the coronation of ancient Tamil King Rajendra Chola I.

The Indian Ocean is the third largest of the world's oceanic divisions, covering approximately 20% of the water on the Earth's surface. It is bounded by Asia on the north, on the west by Africa, on the east by Australia, and on the south by the Southern Ocean (or, depending on definition, by Antarctica). Although generally assumed to be named for India, early European writers referred to the "East Indian" Ocean, the East Indies being the name given by European travelers collectively to India, South East Asia and the Indonesian archipelago.

Rajendra Chola I (Rajendra Chola the Great) was the son of Rajaraja Chola I and considered one of the greatest rulers and military leaders of the Indian Tamil Chola Empire. He succeeded his father in 1014 CE as the Chola emperor. During his reign, he extended the influences of the already vast Chola Empire up to the banks of the river Ganges in north India and across the ocean. Rajendra's territories extended, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and he successfully invaded the territories of Srivijaya in Malaysia, Southern Thailand and Indonesia in South East Asia with his fleet of ships. Inscriptions and historical sources assert that the Medieval Chola king Rajendra Chola I sent a naval expedition to Indochina, the Malay Peninsula and Indonesia in 1025 in order to subdue Srivijaya.



*Photo Courtesy: [Orissa Diary](#)*

#### **Manipex-2015, Philatelic Exhibition at Churachandpur (Lamka) - 17th - 20th March 2015.**

Manipex-2015, a four-day-long philatelic exhibition organized by Manipur Postal Division was held at YPA GHQ Hall, Churachandpur, Manipur from 17th to 20th March 2015. Chief Guest Shri Lunminthang Haokip, Deputy Commissioner, Churachandpur district inaugurated the exhibition on 17th March 2015. Shri T. Mangminthang, Director Postal Services, Manipur Division, Imphal and Shri R. Kumar, Supdt. of Post Offices (HQ) were among other dignitaries who were present during the inaugural function of the exhibition.

Exhibits were showcased in about 80 frames at the exhibition and philatelic workshop, essay writing and stamp design competitions were also organized to attract youth and school children during the exhibition. Closing ceremony and prize distribution function was held on 20th March 2015. Dr P Rajmani Singh, Retd. Associate Professor and Sr. Philatelist was the Chief Guest and Shri Heera Kamei, Sr. Philatelist was guest of honour of the function. Philatelists from across the State visited the exhibition.



*Courtesy: [Zogam Online](#)*

#### **Special Cover on Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Sri Venkateswara Balakuteer, Guntur - 19th March 2015.**

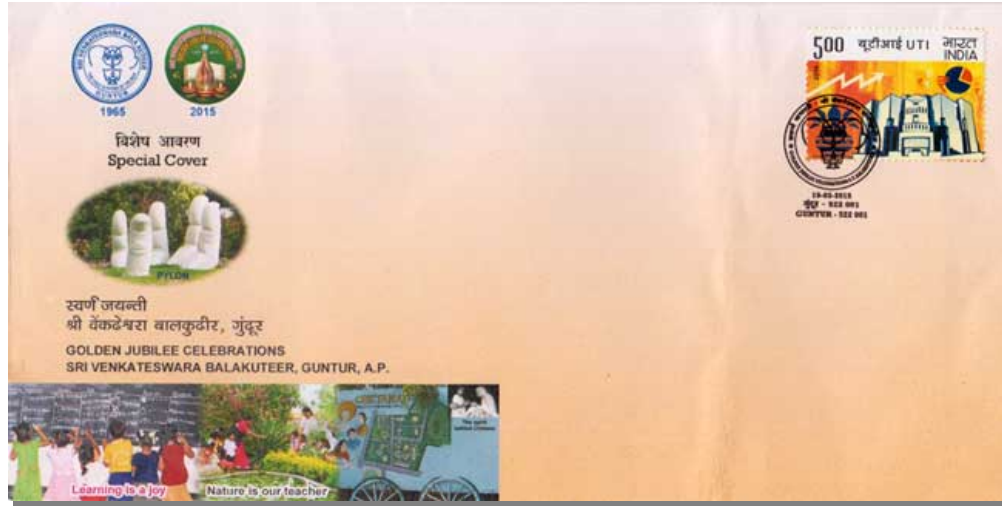
Dr. N. Manga Devi and Ms. G. Prabhavathi, with a strong belief that the child is the right instrument to change the face of the society, gave up their secured government jobs in Women Development and Child Welfare Department. They took training in an international training institute run by Mr. Justen, the personal representative of Mariya Montessori to equip themselves as full fledged Montessori Teachers. When school for threes were unheard of, in 1965 they started a "House of



children" in the name "Sri Venkateswara Bala Kuteer" with a single child on rolls.

The Sri Venkateswara Bala Kuteer located at Syamala Nagar; Guntur is a Co-educational school and offers education in English medium, running under the aegis of Sri Venkateswara Bala Kuteer (Regd).

On the occasion of Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Sri Venkateswara Balakuteer a Special Cover was released by Shri M. Sampath, Postmaster General, Vijayawada at the school premises on 19th March 2015. (Special Cover approval no. AP/07/2015)



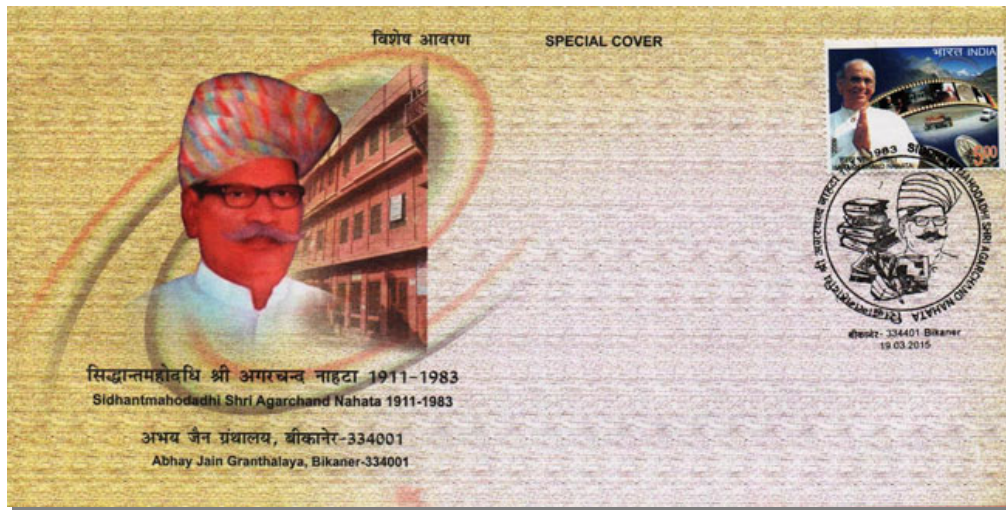
#### Special Cover on Late Shri Agar Chand Nahata – 19th March 2015.

Shri Agar Chand Nahata was born on Krishna Chaturthi of Hindu calendar month of Chaitra in Samvat 1967 (The Gregorian calendar year 1911). Son of Shri Shankar Dan Nahata and Chunni Devi Nahata, Shri Agarchand Nahata was a great scholar of Indology, thinker, a legendary writer and Rajasthan Sahitya Vachaspati. Shri Agarchand Nahta had an unmatched obsession for learning. Every day, he used to spend 10 hours in reading, meditation and thinking. He used to encourage everyone to read books. The total number of published articles of Shri Nahata is more than 5000 in over 150 magazines and periodicals.

Famous institute 'Abhay Jain Granthalaya' in Bikaner having a rare collection of over 80000 manuscripts relating to Indology, heritage, Jain philosophy, Rajasthani literature etc. was set up by Shri Agar Chand Nahata.

A special cover was issued on Late Shri Agar Chand Nahata on his 105th Anniversary on 19th March 2015 at the function held at Sampat Palce, Nokha Road, Bikaner. The special cover was released by Shri Narayan Chopra, Mayor of Bikaner in presence of Shri S. K. Sharma, Superintendent of Post Offices, Bikaner Division, Shri S. R. Chaliya, Dy. G. M. Telecom Circle and senior member of Jainism Philately Group and coordinator of the function Shri Lalit Kumar Nahata.





*Courtesy: Sudhir Jain, Satna*

### Special Cover on Save Birds – 18th March 2015.

Dainik Bhaskar Group is India's largest newspaper group with presence in 14 states, 58 editions and 4 languages. Dainik Bhaskar CSR Cell undertakes various CSR (Corporate social responsibility) initiatives with a vision to enable socio economic change.

During summers, with temperature rising to 45-47 Degree, thousands of birds die due to lack of drinking water and grains to eat. A noteworthy initiative undertaken by the Dainik Bhaskar group during summer is 'Save Birds' campaign, aimed to motivate readers to provide food and water to birds during summers.

As a part of 'Save Birds' campaign, Dainik Bhaskar in association with Department of Posts released a special cover on save birds on 18th March 2015 at the function held at Dainik Bhaskar, Bhopal Campus. Special Cover was released by Shri M.E. Haque, Chief Postmaster General, M. P. Postal Circle in presence of Ms. Sangita Saxena, State Director, WWF-Bhopal, Shri Alok Sharma, Bhopal Municipal Corporation, Shri Ramesh Chandra Agarwal, Chairman, Dainik Bhaskar Group, Shri Vinay Maheshwari, Sr. Vice President, Dainik Bhaskar Group and Shri Mohammed Dilawar of Nature forever Society, Maharashtra.

On the occasion a set of six picture postcards on sparrows was also released by Shri Alok Sharma and Shri Vinay Maheshwari.





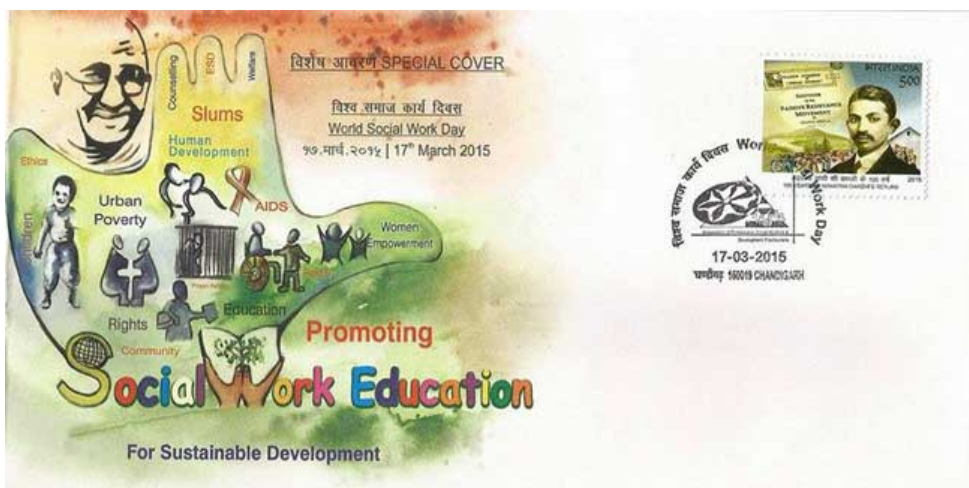


Courtesy: Sreejesh Krishnan, Thiruvananthapuram | [Dainik Bhaskar, Bhopal](#)

### Special Cover on World Social Work Day – 17th March 2015.

World Social Work Day is celebrated on third Tuesday of month March every year. IGNOU Regional Center, School of Social Work, IGNOU in association with APSWDP and RGNIYD Chandigarh organised a full week World Social Work celebration events during from 17th to 22nd March, 2015 at RGNIYD, Sec-12, Chandigarh.

On the occasion of World Social Work Day, Mrs. Achala Bhatnagar, Chief Postmaster General, Punjab Region) released a special cover for promoting education for sustainable development. The first cover was presented to H.E. Prof. Kaptan Singh Solanki, Governor Haryana, Punjab and Administrator Chandigarh at Raj Bhawan, Chandigarh on 17th March 2015. (Special Cover approval no. No. 01/2015)





*Courtesy: Sreejesh Krishnan, Thiruvananthapuram*

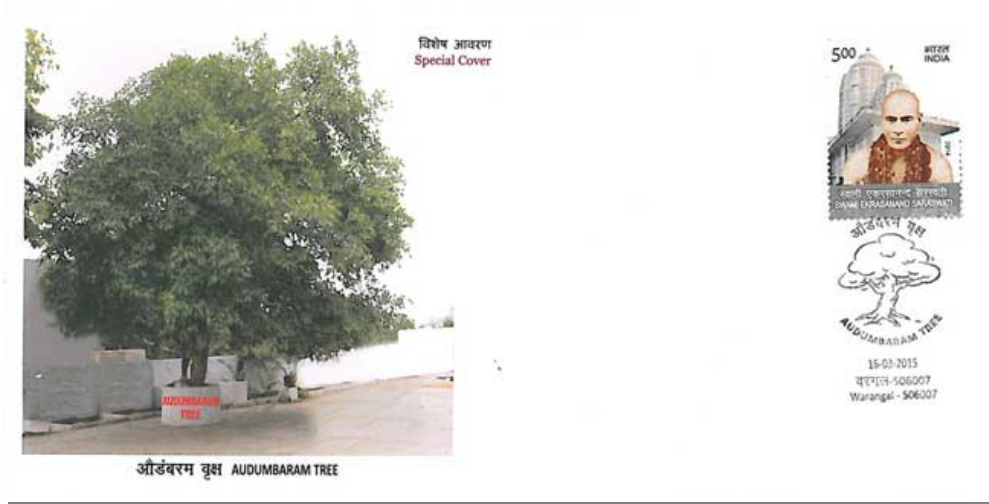
### **Special Cover on Audumbar Tree, Warangal – 16th March 2015.**

*Ficus Racemosa* Linn, commonly known in all over India as audumbara, audumbar, goolar or gular figs, refers to the fig tree with a crooked trunk and a spreading crown. Unlike the banyan, it has no aerial roots. The most distinctive aspect of this tree is the red, furry figs in short clusters, which grow directly out of the trunk of the tree. Those looking for the flower of goolar should know that the fig is actually a compartment carrying hundreds of flowers.

Audumbar is considered to be the most blessed tree by Dattatreya and said to have healing power. In the Atharva Veda, this fig tree is given prominence as a means for acquiring prosperity and vanquishing foes. Audumbar tree and Peepal tree are 24 hour oxygen generators and are trees of life, in some sense.

Audumbar has long been used in ayurveda, the ancient system of Indian medicine, for various diseases/disorders including diabetes, liver disorders, diarrhea, inflammatory conditions, hemorrhoids, respiratory, and urinary diseases. *Ficus Racemosa* is pharmacologically studied for various activities including antidiabetic, antipyretic, anti-inflammatory, antitussive, hepatoprotective, and antimicrobial activities. A wide range of phytochemical constituents have been identified and isolated from various parts of *F. racemosa*. Roots, bark skin, fruits, latex and leaves of audumbar tree have great medicinal values. Audumbar latex is applied on chronic infected wounds to alleviate edema, pain and to promote the healing. The tender leaf buds are applied on skin in form of paste to improve complexion. The decoction of its bark skin is effective gargle in stomatitis and sore throat. The decoction of its bark skin is also useful in diarrhea, dysentery and ulcerative colitis. In diabetes, the ripe fruits or bark-skin decoction is beneficial, as it works well as anti-diuretic.

A Special Cover was released by A.P. Postal Circle on Audumbar Tree, a 24 hour oxygen generator at Warangal on 16th March 2015.



*Cover Courtesy: Sagi Srinivas Raju, Hyderabad*

### **Special Cover on Beti Bachao – Beti Padhao – 14th March 2015.**

Special Outreach Programme on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao was organized by Directorate of Field Publicity, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting at Dhankya in Jaipur on 14th March 2015.

Minister of State Information and Broadcasting Shri Rajyavardhan Rathore released a special cover on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao on the occasion. Shri Rajpal Singh Shekhawat Minister of Urban Development and Housing Government of Rajasthan and Principal Director General, Directorate of Field Publicity Smt. Neelam Kapoor was also present on the occasion.

Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (Save Girl Child, Educate Girl Child) is a Government of India scheme that aims to generate awareness and improving the efficiency of delivery of welfare services meant for women. Main Objectives of this Programme are to prevent gender biased sex selective elimination, to ensure survival & protection of the Girl Child, to ensure education of the Girl Child, to improve the Nutrition Status of Girl Child and to promote a protective environment for Girl Child. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' programme on 22nd January, 2015 from Panipat, Haryana.



*Courtesy: Suresh Rao, Bangalore*

#### **Kohimapex-2015, Kohima district level philatelic exhibition at Kohima - 13th - 14th March 2015.**

Kohimapex-2015, a two-day Kohima district philatelic exhibition was organized by Nagaland Postal Division from 14th to 15th March 2015 at Little Flower Higher Secondary School, Kohima (LFHSSK). The exhibition was inaugurated by Athikho Chalai, Accountant General, Nagaland as the chief guest and Shri Som Kamei, Director of Postal Services, Kohima. On the occasion ICC World Cup-2015 Souvenir sheet was also launched.

The philatelic exhibition witnessed the participation of several students from different educational institutions in and around Kohima. Letter Writing and Stamp Design Competition were also conducted for different age categories.

The closing function took place on 14th March with Sr. Anna Molly, Principal Little Flower Higher Secondary School, Kohima as the guest of honour. Prizes to the winners in the different competitions were given away by the guest of honour Sr. Anna Molly, Sr. Superior Lydia and Som Kamei, Director of Postal Services.





Courtesy: [The Morung Express](#) | [The Morung Express](#)

#### Kolpex-2015, District Level Philatelic Exhibition at Kolkata - 11th - 13th March 2015.



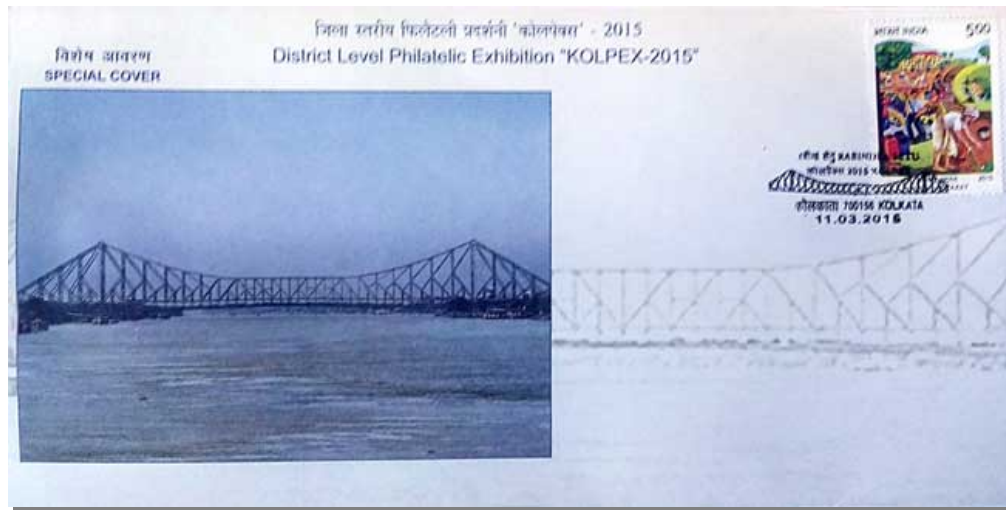
Kolpex-2015, district level philatelic exhibition was held from 11th to 13th March 2015 at Nazrul Tirtha Kendra, Rajarhat, Newtown, Kolkata. Exhibition was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Shri Debashish Sen, Principal Secretary of Department of Urban Development and Chairman of HIDCO.

A Special Cover on Rabindra Setu (Howrah Bridge) was released by Shri Sen in presence of Ms. Arundhaty Ghosh, Chief Postmaster General, West Bengal Postal Circle, Shri Subrat Das, Postmaster General, Kolkata, Shri P. M. Lal, Postmaster General, South Bengal on 11th March 2015. (Special Cover approval no. WB/02/2015)

"Rabindra Setu (Howrah Bridge), a Grate structural Marvel, is one of the oldest cantilever bridges in the world with immense heritage value. The twin cities of Kolkata and Howrah are separated by the river Hooghly and share a common historical linkage known as the Rabindra Setu, well known as Howrah Bridge". The Howrah Bridge was re-christened as Rabindra Setu in 1965, in honour of the country's first Noble laureate "Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore".







On 13th March 2015 a Special Cover on Core Banking Solution was released (Special Cover approval no. WB/03/2015). During the exhibition Philatelic quiz and drawing competitions were also organized.

"The Core Banking Solution (CBS) is an integrated solution that automates all aspects of banking operations. CBS enables customer to operate his accounts and avail account related services from any post office on CBS platform, regardless of where he maintains his accounts. The customer is no more the customer of a post office. He becomes the Post Office Savings Banking (POSB) Customer". Thus CBS is a step towards enhancing customer convenience through "Anywhere and Anytime Banking".



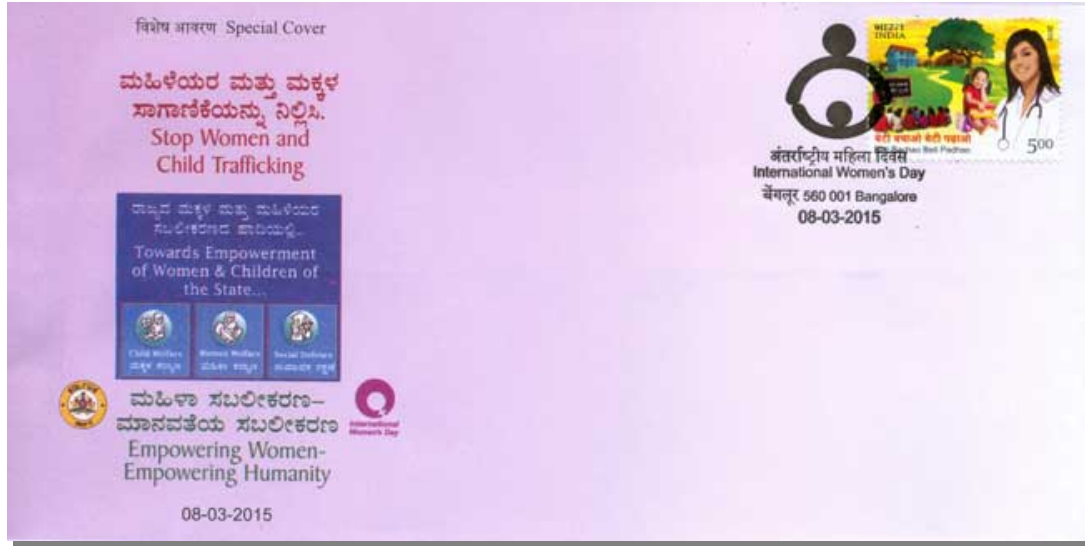
Courtesy: Soumyajit Kundu, Kolkata | [The Telegraph](#)

### Special Cover on International Women's Day - 8th March 2015.

International Women's Day (IWD), originally called International Working Women's Day, is celebrated on March 8 every year. The decision to observe an International Women's Day happened in 1910 at the second international conference of working women held in Copenhagen. In different regions the focus of the celebrations ranges from general celebration of respect, appreciation, and love towards women to a celebration for women's economic, political, and social achievements. The earliest Women's Day observance was held on February 28, 1909, in New York; it was organized by the Socialist Party of America in remembrance of the 1908 strike of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. This day is now an official holiday in many countries.

To commemorate International Women's Day, a special cover was released on 8th March 2015 by Shri Siddaramaiah, the

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka in a function organised by the Department of Women & Child Development, Govt. of Karnataka at Sree Kanteerava Indoor Stadium, Bengaluru. (Special Cover approval no. KTK/34/2015)

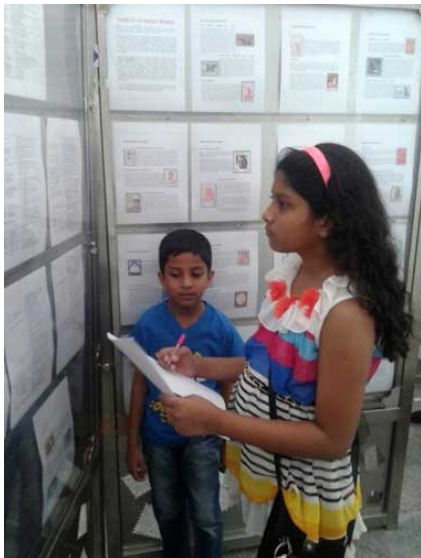


*Courtesy: Suresh Rao, Bangalore*

#### **Philatelic Exhibition to Commemorate Women's Day, Bangalore – 7th to 9th March 2015.**

As a part of Women's day celebration Karnataka Postal Circle organized Philatelic Exhibition in co-operation with Karnataka Philatelic Society on the theme of 'Women' at "Chaya" and "Belaku" halls of Rangoli Metro Art Center, MG Road Metro Station premises, Bangalore from 7th to 9th March 2015. The exhibition showcased stamps of women achievers including warrior queens, freedom fighters, social reformists, women leaders, saints, astronauts, legendary singers and actors. Indian women achievers immortalized not just in Indian stamps but in foreign stamps too were a special attraction at the exhibition.

The BMRC Managing Director Shri Pradeep Singh Kharola who inaugurated the exhibition, also released a set of 10 picture postcards of Indian women achievers from warrior queens to legendary heroines on the occasion.





*Courtesy: Suresh Rao, Bangalore*

### **Special Cover on Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Lions Club of Mercara, Madikeri – 7th March 2015.**

Lions Clubs International (LCI) is a secular, non-political service organization founded by Melvin Jones in 1917 at Chicago, Illinois, USA. It has over 46,000 local clubs and more than 1.35 million members in over 200 countries around the world. Headquartered in Oak Brook, Illinois, United States, the organization aims to meet the needs of communities on a local and global scale. The Lions motto is "We Serve." Local Lions Club programs include sight conservation, hearing and speech conservation, diabetes awareness, youth outreach, international relations, environmental issues, and many other programs.

Lions Club of Mercara has a history of 50 golden years. It was installed in 1965 as the first Lions Club to step into the Coorg revenue district. It has spread Lionism by sponsoring 10 Lions Club in Kodagu District. It is actively involved in various community services projects like Eradication of Blindness, Diabetes and other significant social causes. To mark the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Lions Club of Mercara a Special Cover was released on 7th March 2015 at Madikeri. (Special Cover approval no. KTK/33/2015)

The Special Cover depicts the Lions Mercara Club building situated on Madikeri Mysore Road and the Lions logo. The cancellation depicts the logo of Lions Club.



*Courtesy: Viswas Menon, Madikeri*



### Special Cover on 21st Annual Conference of Indian Society of Critical Care Medicine – 6th March 2015.

The 21st Annual Conference of Indian Society of Critical Care Medicine was held at White Orchid Convention Center, Adjacent to Manyata Tech Park, Bengaluru from 4th to 8th March 2015 for critical care enthusiasts. The theme of the conference was Quality, Outreach, and Austerity - Setting new frontiers. More than 3000 delegates from all over the world participated in the event. The conference was hosted by the Indian Society of Critical Care Medicine. To mark this occasion a Special Cover was released on 6th March 2015 at Kalyannagar, Bengaluru (Special Cover approval no. KTK/32/2015)



*Courtesy: Suresh Rao, Bangalore*

### Special Cover to mark birth centenary celebrations of Anthony De Sa - 1st March 2015.

As part of birth centenary celebrations of the stalwart of Konkani tiatr stage Anthony De Sa at his native village Cuncolim, India Post released a special cover at the hands of Shri Charles Lobo, Postmaster General, Goa region, at a special function held on 1st March 2015 at the municipal hall in Cuncolim, Goa.

De Sa, whose tiatr career was launched by J P Souzalin - one of the most celebrated tiatr directors of yesteryears, has penned 17 tiatrs and directed 24 tiatrs scripted by other artistes. His tiatrs include 'Rogtachi Bhatt', 'Ghatkem Kumsar', 'Vingas', 'Maim Ti Maim', 'Soddtam Devache Nitik', 'Farikponn', 'Dotor Fotas', 'Nirbhag Axechem', 'Nores Fonddpi', 'Patok Dubavachem', 'Inam Zolmancho', 'Goemkarancheo Sonvoieo', 'Nisontton Fudarachem', 'Inam Patkacho' and 'Ayah'. A fine actor, De Sa has acted in Konkani films 'Amchem Noxib' and 'Nirmonn'. He was a regular artiste in plays produced by All India Radio (Bombay). De Sa, who ruled the tiatr stage like a colossus, died on July 10, 1969.



*Courtesy: Sreejesh Krishnan, Thiruvananthapuram*

### **Special Cover on Adarsh Vidyalaya, Mumbai – 1st March 2015.**

Rajasthani Mahila Mandal, Mumbai is a nonprofit NGO working for the upliftment of underprivileged women and children. Mandal is rendering varied facilities in the field of Education, Vocational, Support Group, Income Generation and Medical Aid, in order to uplift the weaker section of the society. The Mandal runs two BMC recognised Hindi medium primary schools viz. Adarsh Vidyalaya I (Thakurdwar) and Adarsh Vidyalaya II with strength of 500 students. One English medium school viz. RMM English School is also set up by the Mandal. A free bus service to the children is provided by Mandal to encourage them to join the School, and motivate the parents not to let them on the streets, or engage them as child labours.

To mark the Golden Jubilee a Special Cover on Adarsh Vidyalaya was released at Mumbai on 1st March 2015.



*Courtesy: Sreejesh Krishnan, Thiruvananthapuram | Kapil Gogri, Mumbai*

### **Special Cover on Diamond Jubilee Celebration of Rajasthani Mahila Mandal, Mumbai - 1st March 2015.**

Rajasthani Mahila Mandal is a nonprofit NGO working for the upliftment of underprivileged women and children, initially started as a ladies wing of 'Marwadi Sammelan'. Mandal provided livelihood to women of weaker section by giving them odd jobs and also running a Hindi medium primary school with just 56 students at Thakurdwar, Mumbai. A free homeopathic dispensary also functioned from the same premises. In 1965 the 'Mandal' became an independent organisation. Today Rajasthani Mahila Mandal is actively involved in various activities in social fields and causes like Education, Vocational, Medical, Cultural and National Calamities.

To commemorate Diamond Jubilee of Rajasthani Mahila Mandal as Special Cover was released at the Grand Anand Mela held at Parsi Gymkhana Marine Drive, Mumbai on 1st March 2015. Special Cover was jointly released by Shri H. C. Patel Senior Superintendent of Post, South city Division, Mumbai, Smt. Damyanti Pittie, Trustee Rajasthani Mahila Mandal, Shri Dhirubhai Mehta, President Philatelic Society of India, Smt. Vandana Saraf, President RMM, Smt. Lata Rungta, Secretary RMM, Smt. Uma Sekhsaria Treasurer, RMM. Special Cover and cancellation is designed by Shri Kapil Gogri who was felicitated on the occasion.



*Courtesy: Kapil Gogri, Mumbai*

## Stamp Design Competition by India Post



Department of Posts is holding a Stamp Design Competition. The theme of the competition is **Women Empowerment**.

The Terms and Conditions to participate in the competition are as follows:

i. Entries are invited for Stamp Design Competition. The participants are to make an original design on this subject (should not be copy of picture painted by someone else).

ii. Any citizen of India can participate in this contest. The design could be in ink, water colour, oil colour or any other medium (computer printed/printout will not be allowed). The design submitted should be such that can be depicted on the stamps in a visually appealing manner so as to be of interest to philatelic collectors.



iii. Participants are free to use drawing paper, art paper or any other type of white paper of A4 Size.

iv. The following particulars should be written legibly on the reverse of the design:

1. Name of the participant\*

2. Age\*

3. Gender\*

4. Nationality\*

5. Full and complete residential address with Pin code

6. Phone/Mobile Number\*

7. E-Mail ID (if available)

\* It is compulsory to provide the information.

v. An undertaking stating that 'The artwork submitted is original and no copyright issues are involved' should be sent along with the entry. In case of any legal dispute related to copyright issue, Department of Posts will not be liable for the same.

vi. The design should be sent without being folded, through "Speed Post" only, in A4 size envelope. The participants should mention "**Stamp Design Contest**" on the envelope in which the drawing is sent.

vii. The prize winning designs will be considered for use on stamps and other philatelic material. The prize money will be as follows:

First prize: Rs. 10,000/-

Second prize: Rs. 6,000/-

Third prize: Rs. 4,000/-

viii. The entries should reach on the following address by 15.04.2015. The entries received after the last date of receipt will not be entertained.

To,  
ADG (Philately)  
Room No. 108(B),  
Dak Bhawan,  
Parliament Street,  
New Delhi - 110001.

Source: [India Post](#)

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