

ICCG News

Numismatic News

A Division of :- INDIAN COINS & CURRENCY GROUP

India's Largest Numismatic Community

Monthly Newspaper for Coins, Currencies, Collectibles & Events

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EXPT coins continue to rain through the dark clouds of doubts



Anyone with a manufacturing background can attest to the need for prototypes. Before producing a large quantity of anything, it's always important to produce a test sample. Coins are no different.

Experimental (EXPT) coin is a coin which is not been approved for release, produced for the purpose of evaluating a proposed coin design. These 'EXPT' or 'Pattern' coins allow Mint Officials to see how the proposed designs would look, to test for any problems in producing the coins, and to try out new metal alloys. Transitional 'EXPT' coins are dated before newly-designed coins officially come into circulation. If any design gets rejected, then these coins are not put into circulation.

EXPT coin is been created as an example, and is not meant for circulation. Many numismatists refer to 'EXPT' coins as tokens. The key difference between a token and a coin is that a coin is issued by a governmental local or national authority and is freely exchangeable for goods, while a token is not a legal tender and has a much more limited use.

Mint-produced modern 'EXPT' coins are very rare, some unique, and others unknown outside of numismatic books. Presently, Indian numismatics has been witnessing a flood of 'EXPT' & 'Pattern' coins, coming out in almost every denomination from 50 paise to 10 rupees. Few are also seen with massive 'off center (error) strikes'.

These 'EXPT' coins are never meant to get into circulation even through mistake, but still such coins continue to surface every often, booms at social media forums, sells with huge price tags, displayed with lots of pride and considered as prized collectibles. Further it's not clear if these are indeed actual pattern coins or mere fiction. Surprisingly, these coins are also being graded by PCGS (Professional Coin Grading service) and NGC (Numismatic Guarantee Corporation). The grading services assess collections, seal the coins in clear plastic holders, then register and publish the results. This can lead to very high prices as dedicated collectors compete for the very best specimens. Though RBI has denied minting most of these 'EXPT' coins, and even to the few that the mint accepted, they clearly mentioned in a RTI that: "these were minted ONLY for experimental purpose and there is no provision of saving for coin collectors."

Cont on 2nd Page....

Numismatic Hub: Where Coins Break Their Silence

As it's not only about selling coins but also about educating every piece of history behind and also the way to preserve it.

The 54-year-old proprietor of Bangalore-based 'Falcon Coins gallery', Shri Kirti Parekh, has been collecting coins since his childhood. From a small stationery business to building a coin gallery and educating & promoting the hobby to more than 15000 students can only be seen as a major contribution to Indian Numismatics. 'My aim from the beginning has been to generate new collectors and experts in numismatics', says Mr. Parekh. Excerpts from the interview:

How did you develop interest in Numismatics? Was there someone or something of significance that played a role? And what are the areas of your interest?

My interest for Numismatics developed since I was a 16 year old boy and now I am 54 so it's almost been 38 years and when I recollect myself 38 years back I used to be a small kid going to school and helping my dad with his business, during those time nobody knew what Numismatics is. So it was all together a new thing of selling old coins.

My father was a small stationery dealer and he used to keep small tray with Indian and foreign coins mixed but slowly after I join business we saw that once people got to know that we are selling old coins and also buying them they got more and more coins and it was a good business I would like to say that because of my dad I join this business and he played a major role.

At the beginning when my dad and I started we use to get lots of ancient and mediaeval South Indian coins because of the geographical location I got to study more and more South Indian coins and they are also quite interesting,. So yes, my interest and specialization is in South Indian gold Coins.

So you are also a coin collector as well as a dealer?

Yes, initially I started as a collector where I collected South Indian gold coins and later the coins started coming in huge quantities and hence I used to keep one for myself and sell the rest of the lot.

But when I see myself now we have a Coins showroom in one of the major location in Bangalore and every type of coin is of interest to us, we have a exclusive coins showroom in majestic since 40 years and we have customers of all the type so we try to keep each and every type of coin in our inventory.

Cont on 5th Page.... Subject to Mumbai jurisdiction



Shri Kirti Parekh

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NEWS

Cont of 1st page...

For long the 'EXPT Coins' has been a topic of debate among many a collectors and dealers. Few numismatists don't suggest EXPTs to be termed as good collectibles, as they were never a legal tender nor were they anyways supposed to exit the mint and so such EXPTs could only be termed as 'tokens'. Many questions have also been raised on the buying and selling of such coins. In the first issue of ICCG News, Shri Farokh Todywalla suggested that, "there is nothing wrong in buying or selling 'EXPT' coins. As far as the source is not wrong, it's completely legal to sell or buy such coins. But only point that should be noted is that, 'EXPT' coin cannot be considered as legal tender as they were never minted or issued as legal tender."

Indian EXPT coins may also get produced in foreign mints. The Heaton mint has produced few Indian EXPTs and not surprisingly these coins had been auctioned for lakhs of rupees at January 2012 New York International Numismatic Convention (NYINC) auction.



Image Courtesy : Internet

One of the coin in the auction was the coin with the theme 'IX Asian Games'. Identical to the commemorative circulation issued; however two horizontal lines with 'EXP' and 'COIN' between them for 'EXPERIMENTAL COIN' had been added to both obverse and reverse dies prior to striking. The 1982 commemorative 2 Rupees were minted only at Mumbai (Bombay) and Kolkata (Calcutta). No commemorative coin has been struck outside India. This example was produced by the Heaton mint as a 'sample' or 'experimental coin' in order to gain approval.

The other coin was the 1 rupee coin of 1983. The design is identical to the regular circulation issue; however two horizontal lines were added to both obverse and reverse dies prior to striking. The Heaton Mint at Birmingham produced the 1 Rupee coins for circulation in 1984, with the 'H' mint mark. Although not clearly marked with a mint mark, this example was produced by the Heaton mint as a 'sample' or 'experimental coin', in order to gain approval.

Third coin was a 2 rupees coin of 1984. The obverse displays the traditional Asoka lion pedestal and the countries name encircled by an ornate design. The reverse feature the denomination encircled by the same ornate design as the obverse. Both obverse and reverse dies have two sets of horizontal lines with 'EXP' and 'COIN' between them for 'EXPERIMENTAL COIN' which has been added to the dies prior to striking. This example was produced by the Heaton mint as a 'sample' or 'experimental coin' in order to gain approval and is similar in nature to a pattern.

Many other republic India EXPTs gets auctioned regularly in India, US and The Netherlands, though RBI has clearly mentioned in a RTI that: "there was No Chance/possibility of reaching experimental coins to United States of America from I.G.mint" and that "they were minted ONLY for experimental purpose and NOT for coin collectors."

One more strange fact seen is that, none of the EXPT coins bear the issued design except the 5 rupees '75 Years of Dandi March' coin. All the EXPT coins are found with non-issued designs. The reason to which is not known. The Ferritic Stainless Steel (FSS) of Rs 5 coinage was introduced in September 2007, with the 'Unity in Diversity' theme in definitive series. In commemorative, the first coin to be released was the '75 Years of Dandi March', in July 2008. (Although the Shastri Birth Centenary was in 2004, the coin was put into circulation only in late 2008.) There were quite a few commemorative coins minted and released in both Cupro-Nickel and Ferritic Stainless Steel in the second half of 2008. With this background it is possible that an EXPT coin of 75 Years of Dandi March was minted to check the die pressure and strike quality required to mint the coins. However information on this is very low.

If RBI strongly denies the exit gates to any of the EXPT coins they ever mint, then on what basis PCGS & NGC guarantee of grading accuracy and authenticity of each and every EXPT they grade?

Anyways, EXPT coins or tokens as one may like to term, continue to grade & auction while the RBI continue to deny any of their lapse or negligence.

Collectors continue to treasure them for their uniqueness and dealers continue with their profits.

Its just about a few questions and doubts that remains unanswered in between.



Image Courtesy : Internet

Heaton Mint Expt Coins

S.M. Zakir Hassan

Professional Numismatist & Philatelist

PCGS Coin Information

PCGS #	E540110
Date, mintmark	2010(C)
Denomination	P Rupee
Variety	Experimental Pattern EXPT Backwards
Mint Error	Struck 60% Off Center
Country	India-Republic
Grade	SP64
Holder Type	Standard

PCGS Coin Information

PCGS #	540110
Date, mintmark	2010(C)
Denomination	P Rupee
Variety	Experimental Pattern EXPT Backwards
Country	India-Republic
Grade	Genuine UNC Details (98 - Damage)
Holder Type	Standard

PCGS Coin Information

PCGS #	598413
Date, mintmark	2002(C)
Denomination	P2 Rup
Variety	Experimental Pattern
Country	India-Republic
Grade	Genuine UNC Details (98 - Damage)
Holder Type	Standard

PCGS Coin Information

PCGS #	598411
Date, mintmark	2010(H)
Denomination	P50 Paise
Variety	Experimental Pattern EXPT Backwards Obv
Country	India-Republic
Grade	SP65
Holder Type	Standard
Population	1



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The Numismatic Society of India (BHU)



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NEWS

Distribution of ICCG Year Planner 2016-2017

ICCG की वार्षिक दैनन्दिनी २०१६-२०१७ का वितरण

With tremendous response in 2015-2016, ICCG recently released and distributed copies of ICCG Year Planner 2016-2017.

The numismatic year planner from ICCG provides many quotes and amazing facts apart from various numismatic articles. This one-year planner would help many a way, like creating a purposeful content plan for business, ideal reader survey, monthly theme planning, and standard monthly calendar. Further the year planner is also added with a glance of all the republic India commemorative coins of every freedom fighter and others for their contribution towards the nation.



Invitation



ICCG is pleased to invite you all on the occasion of its 1st anniversary; ICCG News would be distributing Mementos to its readers as an acknowledgement for their thought and time shared.

The felicitation would take place on 16th July at 17:00 hrs by Shri Rezwan Razack at Nanyadarshini K.N.S Exhibition

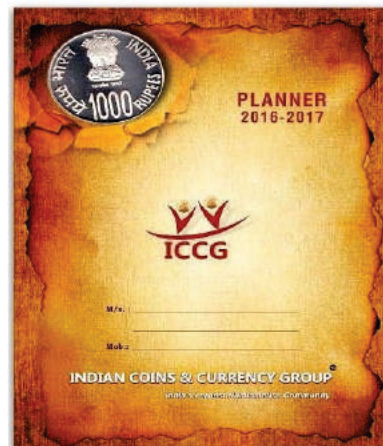
Venue :- Shikshakara Sadan, K.G Road, Bangalore, Karnataka.

Your presence would be highly appreciated.

Warm Regards. Siddharth N.S

ICCG News Team

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4th COINEX MUMBAI 2016

18, 19 & 20 November



VENUE : SUNDERBAI A/C HALL

**NEAR INCOME TAX OFFICE,
CHURCHGATE STATION (EAST), MUMBAI .**

6th National Stamp Fair - New Delhi

With more than thousands of stamps, first day covers, also coins and bank notes with over hundreds of philately and numismatic enthusiasts from all over India could be seen relishing wide range of collectibles during the 6th National Stamp Fair, which was held between 17th to 19th June, 2016 in New Delhi. The exhibition was organized by Philatelic Dealers Association (PDA). Co-organizer Mukesh Verma

With every passing year, these exhibitions are growing further in terms of international outreach among dealers, mints and visitors.

Shri Rajender Maru, Prof. V. K. Gupta and others were seen behind the exhibition counters which was attended by Shri Ravi Shankar Sharma, Shri, Girish Veera, Shri Goga Jain and many collectors from Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Kolkata.



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Fake Coin Alert

Presently, unauthorized replicas of Subhas Chandra Bose Birth Centenary 1996 coins are being offered online and on social media (Facebook & WhatsApp). This 'Fake coin' looks perfectly identical to the original except for the round dot below the year, suggesting this to be a Nodia mint produce.

In the year 1996, Kolkata mint released the commemorative coin of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Birth Centenary, until they realized that they did so a year in advance. The actual centenary year was 1997. Hence the Kolkata mint withdrew this issue and termed this a human error. The coin was commemorated and released in 1997. This is the first occurrence of withdrawing a coin in Republic India coinage. But in 1996 this coin was NOT minted in any other mint.

ICCG News would like to suggest every collector to be extra alert while purchasing any collectible and please do file a report with legal authorities against any dealer or coin shop selling any fake coin or fake currency note.



Cont of 1st page...

What led you to create Falcon Coins gallery?

When I started dealing in coins people around me didn't know what coins are and why do people collect them, so my aim from the beginning has been to generate new collectors and experts in numismatics and that lead to an expansion of business because our way of dealing customers is entirely different than others, we not only sell coins to the customers, but we also educate them about Coins, give them good reference of the coin, suggest them Books, teach them how to preserve Coins and arrange them in a good way. And since a year we have started our own educational program in which we have 4 experts from different field who visit educational institutions and teach kids the importance of coins and coin collection and I feel proud to say that we have educated more than 15000 students in and around Bangalore and at least 10% of that has started coin collection already.

Your company is clearly a major retailer of coins and currency notes. Do you also have customers from outside India ?

Indian Coins is such a subject in which a lot of study is required which pulls in a lot of people from other Nations who collect Indian Coins and I can say that almost half of the best Experts in Indian Numismatics are from outside our country both of Indian and foreign origin. So yes, we do have collectors and customers from outside our country.

Any particular problem that you face while dealing in coins and currency?

I would like to thank my father Mr Manu bhai Parekh for teaching me the right ethics of doing good business, he always thought me the concept of karma and I have passed on the same ethics to my son Hardik Parekh. We kept doing the right things using the right channels and kept updating ourselves from all the aspects of business. And by God's grace we have never faced any problem relating to dealing in our business.

How do you see the market for world coins in India?

The market for World coins in India is slowly picking up especially in the coastal area of the southern India.

Are there particular coins series or coins of specific country or theme that tend to sell better than others?

Most of the collectors start collecting from either World Coins or Republic India Coins and later they discover their interest. We at our showroom have coins in ancient, mediaeval, Sultanas, Mughal, Princely State and independent kingdoms, British India and Republic India in copper silver and gold and we also sell currency notes of British and republic India. We also have collectors specialized in various fields so I believe that all the type of coins and Bank notes can be sold in equally if you have the right collectors.

Are there any coins or series that you recommend to collectors because of a combination of solid demand limited supply?

My recommendation to collectors is that they should start collecting coins in which very less study is done because I believe the joy of finding a new variety or a new series or a new king or a new mint is just priceless But when you ask about specific subject I believe that there is no subject like South Indian gold coins they've been hardly studied and there is always scope of finding a new variety.

Your company permits to View or handle some of the rarest coins in existence. Is it possible to choose your favorite piece?

We have handled various coins from various dynasty which are rare in nature. In particular we have sold coins of Rashtrakuta and Hoysala dynasty, they had only commemorative coins issues but in a peculiar way the coins never had the name of the ruler, it always had the title given to the king, for example :- one coin of Hoysala Empire said Nolamba wadi gonda in kannada which means the king who captured the Nolambas (that would be Vishnuvardhana). Another beautiful coin that I came across is in Imperial Auctions. It is sure rare and of a great historical significance: It's the Coins of Imperial Cholas, Raja Raja Chola I with legends punch-marked Sri Raja Raja around the central punch-mark depicting a seated chola tiger with a long tail. Rajaraja Chola gave his daughter Kundavai in marriage to Vimaladitya, the younger of the two princes of chalukya dynasty, This was the beginning of series of diplomatic marriages between these two chola and chalukya Thus coin is probably is minted as a commemorative coin on occasion of the marriage alliance. The coin is minted in the format of Eastern Chalukya Pagoda with several punches in the circular form with a center punch of tiger. The centre punch in this coin is a seated tiger with long tail as seen in Chola uniface fanams. By this We get to know that how much our coins help in shaping history and how important they are.

Do you feel any change to Indian Numismatics industry in past 10 years?

In the past 10 years there has been a lot of change in numismatic industry , we have more and more Numismatic clubs coming up in many of the towns there has also been an increase in the number of exhibitions that are held by which the local people who has no knowledge about numismatics can visit the exhibition and get the opportunity to see one of the rarest of the rare coins. Schools and colleges recognize Numismatics as a hobby and Numismatics is a part of the hobby class in which they get to meet new friends and exchange coins. I feel social media has also had a great impact on our field after 'Facebook' and 'WhatsApp' came into existence, more and more people got aware of the Coins and also got in touch with many like minded people with just a single touch on the phone. Almost 10 years back there were no auction houses but now there are over 5 auction houses in our country which also adds on.

How do you see Indian Numismatics evolving over the next 10 years?

Indian Numismatics has a great scope and I feel that in next 10 years, the hobby will be as matured as in the USA and United Kingdom. I also believe that there are going to be more and more auction houses and also more and more people who will get involved in the hobby and hence Indian Numismatics has a great future.

Do you have any advice for young collectors looking to prosper in the industry?

I feel that young collectors should choose their mentor wisely so that they can make a great collection of coins and bank notes with the right support.

How do you see our newspaper contribute to Numismatics?

I feel that your newspaper is doing a great job. It covers each and every thing about our field for example it covers the upcoming exhibition, newest of the newest forgeries in the market and also covers articles by great authors and researchers So it's an A to Z package for anyone who needs to be updated with Indian numismatic field.

Rashtrakuta Dynasty Govinda IV



Favourite coin of Shri Kirti Parekh

The ICCG News thanked Mr. Kirti Parekh for his time and thoughts which he shared with us and also wished him a lots of success for his company and also for his collection.



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@ 11:30 am in conjunction with
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SBI Chief Arundhati Bhattacharya likely to replace R Rajan as RBI Governor



New Delhi: Since Raghuram Rajan revealed that he wouldn't seek reappointment to the governorship of the Reserve Bank, when his term ended in September, speculation has been rife about his likely successor. Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has said that an official announcement will be forthcoming, and government sources have reportedly said that the Centre is considering a number of candidates - including SBI chief Arundhati Bhattacharya, Deputy RBI Governor Urijit Patel, former Deputy RBI governors Subir Gokarn and Rakesh Mohan, Economic Affairs Secretary Shaktikanta Das and Chief Economic Advisor Arvind Subramanian.

If Bhattacharya is named to the position, she will be the first woman to head India's central bank.

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Announcement of booking for following **COMMEMORATIVE COIN SETS** :-

SL. No.	Name of Coin Set	Denominations of Coin Set	Price Per Set	
			Proof Coin Set	Uncirculated Coin Set
1	125 th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF Dr. S. RADHAKRISHNAN (2015)	2 Coin Set (₹ 125 & ₹ 10)	₹ 3013	₹ 2557
2	3RD INDIA-AFRICA FORUM SUMMIT (2015)	2 Coin Set (₹ 500 & ₹ 10)	₹ 3013	₹ 2557
3	150 th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF LALA LAJPAT RAI (1865 -2015)	2 Coin Set (₹ 150 & ₹ 5)	₹ 3013	₹ 2557
4	BIRTH CENTENARY OF RANI GAIDINLIU (1915 -2015)	2 Coin Set (₹ 100 & ₹ 5)	₹ 3012	₹ 2556

Members of public are invited to book their orders for above Commemorative Coins between 13-06-2016 to 13-08-2016 by visiting our website : <http://igmkolkata.spmcil.com> online or by submitting filled in prescribed application form (available on website) along with Demand Draft / Banker's Cheque in favour of "India Government Mint, Kolkata-A Unit of SPMCIL", payable at Kolkata.

Delivery of Coin Sets : After closure of booking. May take upto Six Months.
 For other details please visit our website: <http://igmkolkata.spmcil.com>

Sd/-
GENERAL MANAGER

Karnataka Numismatic Society: Encouraging Numismatics for Four Decades

Every city has its coin clubs, numismatic exhibits and treasured libraries. But how many numismatic societies arrange distribution of current coins and currencies at face value, conduct regular lectures and encourage people to get in touch with this hobby? There's one place named Karnataka Numismatic Society (KNS).

The Karnataka Numismatics Society (KNS) was the brain child of an Englishman Mr. Brian Hannon who started it on 06th August, 1974 in Bangalore. Its members include some stalwarts from the field of numismatics and people from different walks of life.

The society was formed with 17 Members with numismatic interest. The first meetings were conducted under a tree. Their enthusiasm and zeal laid the very foundation of what it is today. They organize lectures from some of their most experienced members on various topics.

Apart of this: They give out new issues from RBI at face value. Take bookings for proof sets/UNC sets and get them on behalf of their members. Members are allowed to auction their coins/notes at the end of the meetings.

They also have a decent library and lend numismatic books to their members. KNS welcomes numismatists of all ages, beginner and expert alike to join the growing community of members. KNS members are benefitted of its various programs and initiatives to become more knowledgeable and confident collectors.

The society has till date conducted several highly successful exhibitions since its inception in 1974, with kind patronage from Canara Bank, Vijaya Bank, RBI, Amanath Co-op Bank, SBI etc. Currently the society members are involved in extensive study on the numismatic history of Karnataka Rulers such as Hoysalas, Kadambas, Chalukyas, Wodeyars, Alupas, Hyder Ali & Tipu Sultan. The main objective of conducting such exhibitions is to bring in awareness among general public about the history of Coins & currencies, with emphasis on Karnataka Coinage, it's influence over the economy of various kingdoms & countries, and more importantly to see through them history of the world unfold.



ICCG News applauds Karnataka Numismatic Society's contribution towards Indian numismatics and appreciate their efforts and the value that they bring to their members.

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Nabakalebara coin controversy: Dharmendra writes to Odisha CM

BHUBANESWAR: Minister of state for petroleum and natural gas Dharmendra Pradhan on Thursday blamed the state government for the delay in issuance of a commemorative coin of Lord Jagannath to mark the Nabakalebara festival celebrated last year.

This brings a new twist to the controversy surrounding release of the commemorative coins of Rs 10 and Rs 1000 denomination agreed to by the Centre. It was initially slated for release during the festival, celebrated once every 12 to 19 years, in July 2015.

In a letter addressed to Odisha chief minister Naveen Patnaik, Pradhan wrote that the Ministry of Culture has been requesting the Jagannath temple management to furnish a few designs of the Lord. However, the management committee has sought time. The culture ministry had sent letters to the temple management pursuing the matter on February 11, February 24 and April 7 as per the reports with ICCG News.

"In the interest of Odia sentiments on Lord Jagannath, I shall be grateful if you could kindly look into the matter and issue necessary advice the temple management committee to furnish a few designs/photos of Lord Jagannath expeditiously. This will enable them (culture ministry) to take further action on the matter to release the commemorative coin," Pradhan wrote to Naveen.

An expert committee had earlier submitted a design, which was rejected by the Union finance ministry on the grounds that it had feet of the trinity (Lord Jagannath and his siblings Balabhadra and Subhadra) which is contrary to the limbless idols being worshiped in Puri. The state government had earlier distanced itself from the move citing that the expert panel was selected by the Centre.

Fun Way for Kids with Traditional Dolls

The International Dolls Museum is a large Collection of dolls in Delhi, India. It was set up by K. Shankar Pillai, a political cartoonist.

K. Shankar Pillai (1902–1989), noted cartoonist, set up Children's Book Trust, a pioneering work in the field of children's literature in India, in 1957. Later, a gift of a doll from a Hungarian diplomat gave Shankar the idea of collecting dolls from countries he visited. He often held exhibitions for poor children, and at one exhibition in Delhi, among the hundreds of visitors were the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru accompanied by his daughter Indira Gandhi. Indira was inspired and together with Shankar set up an international museum for dolls, eventually materializing one November 30, in 1965.

The principal collection consists of gifts from Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, and many subsequent Prime Ministers, including Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi. Also several embassies and diplomatic missions in Delhi gifted dolls to the museum. Visiting dignitaries like Madame Tito, Queen Frederika of Greece, the Queen of Thailand, the sister of Shah of Iran, the wives of Presidents of Mexico and Indonesia and many others gifted dolls representing their respective nations.

Dolls Museum is one of the most renowned museums in New Delhi which has a huge collections of dolls from across the globe. The renowned political cartoonist, K. Shankar Pillai (1902–1989) founded this museum in 1965 with thousand dolls. The former President of India, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan inaugurated the Dolls Museum and at the inauguration time the number of dolls was only 500. In between 1965 and in 1987, the number of dolls has risen to 5,000, a vast majority coming as gifts. Shankar Pillai was honored with the Padma Visbhushan, India's second highest civilian award by Government of India in 1976.

Today the volume has increased to 6,500 exhibits from almost 85 countries, adding to its international character.

Inside, the Museum is divided into two equal halves. The two sections have over 160 glass cases, 1,000 ft long (300 m), mounted on the walls. One section has exhibits from Europe, the U.S., Australia, New Zealand, Commonwealth of Independent States and the other from Asian countries, the Middle East, Africa and India.

The main collections of Dolls Museum are of 150 types of Indian costume dolls created at the own workshop of the museum which is located inside the museum. The craftsmen create the dolls with utmost perfection to create a symphony of the physical features, costumes and ornaments. In the pageant are characters from India's unique classical dance, Kathakali, with its lavish costumes. Other dolls of special interest are Boys and Girls Festival dolls from Japan, replica Dolls of the Queen's collection (UK), Maypole Dance from Hungary, Kabuki and Samurai dolls from Japan, Flamenco dancers from Spain, Women's Orchestra from Thailand, and Kandy Pehara from Sri Lanka.

The dolls of Dolls Museum even was awarded first prize namely Golden Peacock Feather at the Dolls Biennale that was held in Cracow, Poland in 1980. The major attractions of this museum are Kabuki and Samurai dolls from Japan, Maypole dance replica dolls of Hungary, UK's Queen collections, Orchestra of women from Thailand, etc.

Besides, dolls representing various countries, there is also a special display of a representative collection of over 150 dolls in Indian costume dolls. There are dolls showing various Indian dances and cultures, regional costumes, pairs of bride and grooms of various states, a group of dolls showing how to wear a saree. These were made at the Dolls Workshop attached to the Museum. Indian dolls made at the workshop are exchanged for gifts received from abroad as well as sold to collectors and museums in India and abroad. Each doll is handcrafted after meticulous research into the physical attributes, dress and jewellery of individual characters. The museum also runs a "clinic" for "sick" dolls, where rare deteriorating dolls are restored.



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Coin of the Month Subhas Chandra Bose Centenary 1996



In the year 1996, the Kolkata mint released the commemorative coin of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, birth Centenary, until they realized that they did so an year in advance. The actual centenary year was 1997. Hence the Kolkata mint withdrew this issue and termed this a human error. The coin was commemorated and released in 1997. This is the first occurrence of withdrawing a coin in republic India coinage.

Year: 1996 **Metal:** Copper-Nickel **Weight:** 5.69g
Shape: Hendecagonal (11 sided) **Diameter:** 25.9 mm

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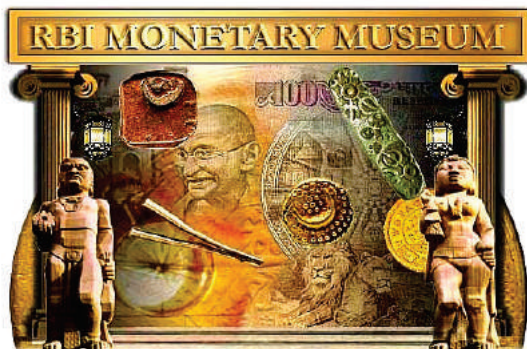
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Money on Display – RBI Monetary Museum

Ever thought of the fact that that a five rupees coin that you hand over with such nonchalance may have a story to tell? The RBI Monetary Museum at Fort Mumbai is a place where many such tales may be found

Mumbai's Fort area has been a centre of commerce for many generations now. Even now, despite the city's centre of gravity moving northward, the areas still hums with business activity, from the pigeonhole offices in its decaying brownstones to the sleek modern tower of the BSE.

The Reserve Bank of India building is one of the more modern structures in the precinct, and it has carved out a section of its older offices on Pheroza Shah Mehta Road to house the RBI Monetary Museum, which was started in 1998. It could have no better location



As you leave the clamour of the street behind, you enter a quiet space where coins tell the story of thousands of years of world economy.

The museum is primarily targeted at school children; but an occasional coin enthusiast or curious passer-by also may be found inside. When we went, we found a few policemen deeply absorbed in the coins issued by Indian princely states

The first section explains the concept of money and how it evolved from barter to coins, and later to present day abstract money. (Where displaying an actual sample is not possible — for example while explaining the barter system or the concept of banking — the museum uses simple stick drawings with humorous speech bubbles to do the trick.)

Cowry shells and beads were among the first items used as currency. On display are curiosities like Neolithic axes and bracelet money from West Africa and South East Asia. Other interesting exhibits are the smallest and biggest coins. Along with the coins themselves are related implements like a counting tray and seeds used to measure the weight of coins. Most of the 1,500 exhibits on display have been bought from collectors all over the country.

A walk-through will give you the history of money in India and the world; more fascinating is the pictures you build in your mind's eye. Like the conquering princes, now forgotten, who commissioned new coins to as a declaration of supremacy; or perhaps, as a boost their own egos. Like the crimes committed for these pieces of metal. Like the ordinary men and women who worked for these bits of metal, what necessities and comforts did they buy?

P.V. Radhakrishnan, the curator is a soft-spoken, rather reticent man who suddenly laughs and opens up when we ask him which his favorite coin is. After the mandatory "They are all my favorites", he owns up: His specialty is Roman coins and coins from South India.

He is a wealth of information on the exhibits and the general history of money in India. He says that one of the reasons why coins have always carried religious imagery was to deter forgery. Religion was also used to ensure continuity when new rulers took over. For instance, when Hyder Ali conquered the kingdom of Ikkeri Nayaks, he continued using the Shiva-Parvati Vijayanagar coin, only adding his own name at the back.

Every coin or note has similar tales to tell. Here are some that caught our imagination.

Panam Coins

These tiny gold coins of 0.22 cms in diameter were used all over India around the 11th century, but mainly in South India. They were also called "Pottu Kaasu" due to their size (pottu means a bindi and kaasu is money in Tamil). These coins are still used in some parts of India during funerals or marriages. Special counting trays were used to count these. The word panam is still the word in Tamil for wealth or money.

Indo-Greek Coins

This series of coins were issued in the name of the Greek emperor, and minted in India. The Apollodotus I (2nd century BC) is a copper coin. These coins were inscribed with two different languages on either side — Greek and Brahmi. These were among the first inscribed dynastic coins. Sanskrit or Pali were also languages that were used.

Keshav Verma

Deals in Coin, Medal,
Banknotes etc



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DELHI

Malaysian government releasing a stamp honoring superstar Rajinikanth



The Rajinikanth-starrer, Kabali, is slated to hit the screens in July.

One of the most anticipated movies of this year, Kabali, made news again recently when the teaser of the film crossed the 20 million mark on YouTube. The PA Ranjith-directorial features Rajinikanth in the role of a gangster - one that seems to be a tailor-made to include some of the superstar's popular mannerisms. It is no wonder then that as a mark of respect to Rajinikanth, the Malaysian government will soon release a stamp in the star's honor.

Obviously, the craze for Kabali is huge overseas as well. Reportedly, the stamp is a sign of respect to the actor on Kabali's release.

United States releases stamps to commemorate Eid al-Fitr & Eid al-Adha



On June 10, the United States Postal Service released a new Forever stamp to commemorate two important Muslim festivals, Eid al-Fitr, and Eid al-Adha. The ceremony was held at Dearborn's Islamic Center of America. Sam Salamey, District Court Judge, Barbara McQuade, U.S. Attorney, and officials from the U.S. Postal Service were present during the ceremony. The event also saw participation from Muslim American Youth Academy students, and Boy Scouts of America Troop 1139.

Eid al-Fitr marks the end of Ramadan. Eid al-Adha, also called as Bakr-Eid, is the latter of the two Eid holidays and is considered the holiest of the two. Forever stamps are non-denominated postage stamps. They can be used to mail letters weighing one ounce or less, irrespective of the postal rate. The Detroit area is home to one of the country's largest Muslim populations. Addressing the event, McQuade said that the USPS could have issued the stamp anywhere, but they chose to issue it in Dearborn, which shows that the city has the largest population of Muslim-Americans in America and that it has the largest mosque in America. They are proud of those two facts. Also, by releasing the stamp, the U.S. government has shown their stamp of approval on religious diversity. Salamey praised the "bold" move of the Postal Service to release the stamp at a time when the political tension is so high. "It also confirms that in America, we are all Americans," Salamey said. Mohamed Zakariya, the acclaimed calligrapher residing in Arlington, Virginia, designed the stamp. It features gold-colored calligraphy. The design evokes centuries of tradition. The script on the stamp reads Eid Kum Mubarak, meaning, may your Eid be bountiful (or blessed).

Stamp on Amazon India released



Mumbai: India Post on 3rd June, released a Rs.5 stamp to mark the third anniversary of Amazon India's services in the country. Called My Stamp, it shows a delivery boy with a carton labelled Amazon.

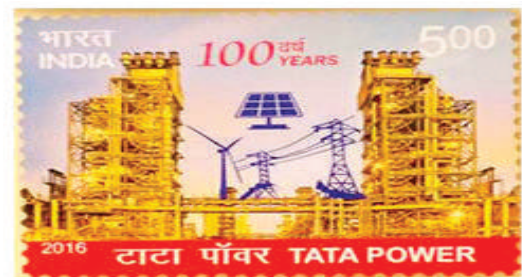
Amazon India, which launched its services in India in June 2013, serves customers in over 19,000 pin codes through a network of 155,000 post offices

"The department of post has released 'My Stamp' for the first time to commemorate a milestone with an e-commerce marketplace. The launch reinforces the Amazon-India Post relationship. We would like to say that it is a step towards the fulfilment of the aspirations of the people in rural India," said Usha Chandrashekar, chief postmaster general, Karnataka circle.

India Post is one of Amazon India's prime carriers. The marketplace uses the extensive postal network to reach its customers.

"Over the last three years, we have relentlessly focused on providing customers with massive selection, fast and reliable delivery, and a trustworthy shopping experience. India Post has been a valuable partner to us and we look forward to our continued association as we endeavor to transform the way India buys and sells," said Amit Agarwal, vice-president and country manager, Amazon India.

TATA POWER RELEASES POSTAGE STAMP TO MARK ITS CENTENARY YEAR



Tata Power recently culminated its centennial celebrations by releasing its official postage stamp that has been created as a memento to the company's 100 years contribution to India's growth story.

Commemorating the efforts and contribution by the company towards lighting up lives with Invisible Goodness, the company dedicated the stamp towards building the nation greener in the next 100 years. The stamp was unveiled by the chief post master general, LN Sharma in the presence of Anil Sardana, CEO & MD, Tata Power, as per the reports received by ICCG News.

Expressing his delight, Sardana said, "A hundred years into its operations, Tata Power today stands tall as an industry pioneer, with a vision to help fast-track India's growth story. The welfare of our employees and the communities at large has always been a core priority of Tata Power, and it would continue to be so in the coming years. The release of our official stamp symbolizes all our endeavors, achievements, and accomplishments spread over 10 decades. We are very thankful to the Minister for IT & Posts & entire team of Postal department, Government of India for agreeing to have a stamp to commemorate 100 years of Tata Power".



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Month	Date	Events Name	Venue
July	1, 2, 3	Salem Coin Expo (SALEM)	Vasavi Mahal, Salem Town First Agraharam, Salem, Tamil Nadu.
July	8, 9, 10	Travancore Expo (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM)	Bhagyamala Auditorium, Chandrasekharan Nair stadium, Palayam, Thiruvananthapuram
July	15, 16, 17	Nayana Darshani 2016 (BANGALORE)	Shikara Sadan, Kaveri Bhavan, K.G. Road, Majestic, Bangalore
July	22, 23, 24	Bikaner Trade Coins & Currency Fair (BIKANER)	Suraj Bhavan, Near Rampuria Havali, Bikaner, Rajasthan
August	5, 6, 7	Ahmedabad Coins & Currency Fair (AHMEDABAD)	The President Hotel, Opp. Municipal Market, C. G. Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
August	12, 13, 14	Coin Expo - Kudanthai Archaeology Numismatic	Harithamahal, Mahamaham Tanksouth Side, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu
September	23, 24, 25	MSC Coin & Stamp Exhibition (MUMBAI)	World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai, Maharashtra
October	22, 23, 24	C.G. Gandhipex (RAIPUR)	City Mall 36, Telibandra, Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
October	21, 22, 23	Puratatva Mudra Utsav (JABALPUR)	Jalsa Hall, 4th Floor, Hotel Grend Samdariya, Jabalpur, M.P
November	4, 5, 6	Coin Festival (Indore)	
November	18, 19, 20	Coinex 2016	Sunderbhai Hall, Behind Income Tax Off, Churchgate, East Mumbai
November	19, 20	6th Coin Festival (Kota)	Rotary Club Kota Building Binani Sabhagar, Kota, Rajasthan
December	8, 9, 10, 11	Coinex (PUNE)	Sonal Hall, Karve Road, Pune, Maharashtra
December	10, 11, 12	Jharkhand Jam Coin (JAMSHEDPUR)	Tulsi Bhavan, Inner Cir Rd, Bistupur, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand
December	23, 24, 25	Mudra Utsav (Kolkata)	Haldiram Banquet Hall, Ballygunj, Kolkata
2017 January	6, 7, 8	Rare Fair (Nashik)	Indraprastha Hall, Old Gangapur Naka, Gangapur Rd, Nashik

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Special Cover on occasion of International Yoga day

Chandigarh: The Chandigarh Philatelic Club in Industrial Area, Mohali, issued special cover stamps on the occasion of International Yoga day. The club issued 200 stamp covers for Rs 20 each for a single day. "The idea behind issuing these stamp covers was to show respect. Yoga gives every individual a peace of mind and self-control, which is why we thought it was necessary to do something on this day dedicated to yoga," said Abnash Singh Luthra, president and founder of the club. The idea was supported by Abnash's passion for stamps ever since he was an eight-year-old. "All members of the club were thrilled and excited about it and that is how this idea was executed. "This stamp cover is quite unique because all the 'aasans' are present in one circle. That's not the case in other logos, people have used several pages to show all of them." said Bhasin JP, an active member of the group, as per the reports gathered by ICCG News. "The idea behind issuing these stamp covers was to show respect. Yoga gives every individual a peace of mind and self-control, which is why we thought it, was necessary to do something on this day dedicated to yoga," said BR Sharma another member of the club. The issuing of these special envelopes was a joint effort put by all thirty members of the club. "It wasn't challenging but the fact that we had only two days to implement this idea was quite challenging. Everybody was willing to participate and share their thoughts and ideas about the designing of the stamp covers, which certainly delayed the procedure," added Abnash.



History of the Indian Rupee Symbol

The Indian currency is called the Indian Rupee. If we go back to the history pages, India is known to be one of the first civilizations to issue coins during 6th century BC. Throughout the course of Indian history, coins remained the prime monetary unit. Indians coins were kept evolving as different kingdoms came and went. They were wonderful representations of changing dynamics of India's socio-political and cultural landscape. Indian coins were primarily made in gold, silver and copper.

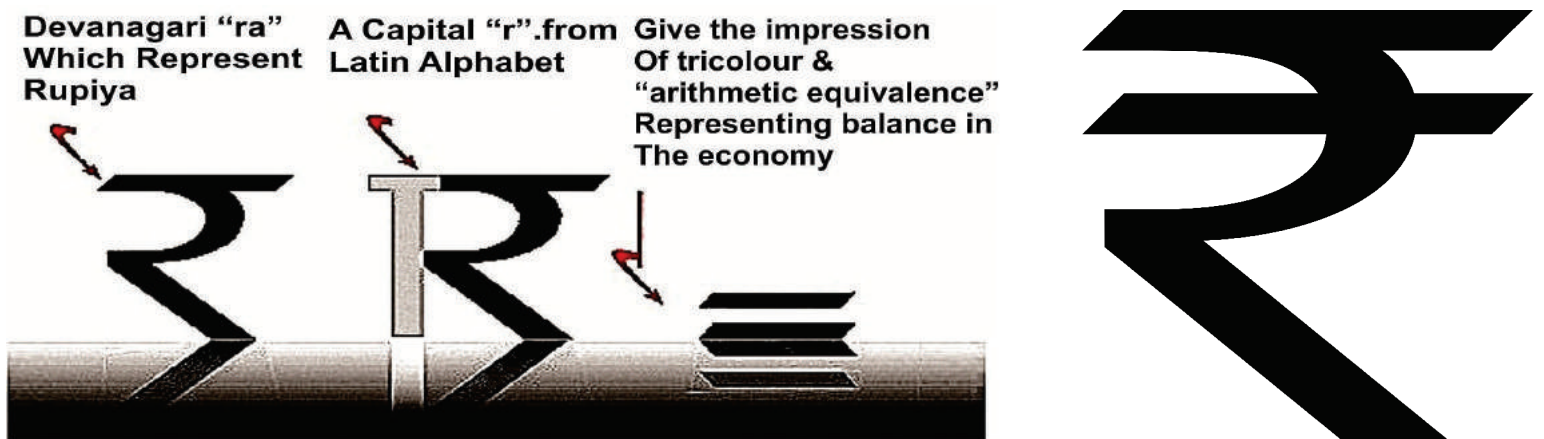
In 18th century, the concept of currency took a drastic change with the arrival of bank establishments. Banks started to print their own paper currency in different languages. Thereafter, British reign took control of paper money and symbols on it.

The Reserve Bank of India got into act with note production in 1938 by issuing rupee notes of different denominations. The current series is called Mahatma Gandhi series which began in 1996.

The news of Rupee's new symbol first appeared in 2008 when the Indian Government talked about possible creation of Rupee's new symbol. The idea was definitely historical in nature and it had wider ramifications for Indian economy. After two years of intense speculation, competition, nationwide design submissions, finally, Indian cabinet gave its approval to new rupee symbol in July 2010. With approval of new Indian rupee symbol, India has finally joined the privileged club of currencies, which currently has the US dollar, British pound sterling, Euro and Japanese yen. This makes India rupee the 5th currency in the world to have a clear distinguishing identity.

The new rupee symbol is clearly an important step forward to recognize the increasing economic linkages between economies of India and the world. India has emerged as one of the most favored destinations for global investments and this indicates the underlying strength of the Indian economy. By launching its own currency symbol, India has also managed to distinguish itself from other similar currencies of different countries.

The new symbol is a blend of 'Ra' in Devanagri script and 'R' in Roman. It has two parallel lines crossing this 'Ra' or 'R' which actually denotes that the symbol "is equal to" one Indian rupee. A closer look at the symbol also indicates robustness of the Indian economy. The design is inspired from the tricolour, with two lines at the top and white space in between.



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Commemorative Coins of Modern India: Year wise & mint wise journey with ICCG News आधुनिक भारत के स्मरणीय सिक्के: वर्षवार, टक्साल्वार यात्रा ICCG न्यूज़ के साथ

Commemorative coins of India are usually issued to celebrate some special occasion or to mark a special event. They also have been issued as a mark of respect towards some distinguished individuals or monument. Indian commemorative coins were issued from the 1964 onwards. Such coins have a distinct design with reference to the occasion on which they were issued. Few coins of this category serve as collector's items only, although most commemorative coins are issued for regular circulation. Modern and Commemorative Indian Coins are very interesting to discuss as they cover various topics like Indian Independence Struggle, War, Peace, Wildlife, Vegetation, Great Personalities, Various Events and Organizations.

The highest valued coin is INR 1000 that was issued on the occasion of 1000 years of Brihadeeswarar Temple. In 1 set, there may be 2 to 9 coins of different denominations.

MINTS: Commemorative coins are made at various mints across India including the ones at (Bombay) Mumbai, Noida, (Calcutta) Kolkata & Hyderabad.

1976 Food & Work For All

Even until 1976, it was the India Government Mint of Bombay located in Fort being Actively striking Commemorative Coins. In 1976, they issued the Food & Work for All Coin set.

Date of Issue 15th August, 1976

Proof Sets

50 Rupees, 10 Rupees, 10 Paise & 5 Paise, (D.O.C), 1 Rupee, 50 Paise, 25 Paise, 3 Paise, 2 Paise & 1 Paise
Single Coin – 50 Rupees
Single Coin – 10 Rupees

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2 Coin Set – 50 Rupees & 10 Rupees
Single Coin – 50 Rupees
Single Coin – 10 Rupees



1976

FOOD & WORK FOR ALL

Specification:

Denomination: 10 paise

Metal: Aluminum

Weight: 2.3 gm

Diameter: 26 mm

Mints: Bombay (Mumbai),

Calcutta (Kolkata)

Shape: Scalloped

Sikh Leader Banda Bahadur Silver Coin Commemorated



New Delhi: Information and Broadcasting Minister Arun Jaitley released commemorative silver coin to mark the 300th Martyrdom Day of Banda Singh Bahadur on June 21st. Bahadur is considered to be first sovereign ruler of Punjab. Releasing the coins manufactured in association with MMT, Jaitley said there is a need to educate people about the rich history and tradition of Punjab including its leaders like Banda Singh Bahadur.

He also suggested Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee to make a documentary on the life and times of Banda Singh Bahadur.

The leader had sacrificed his life at the age of 46 to protect honour and tradition. He established his rule by defeating Mughals in 1710. Later in 1716, he was captured and executed by Mughals in Delhi.

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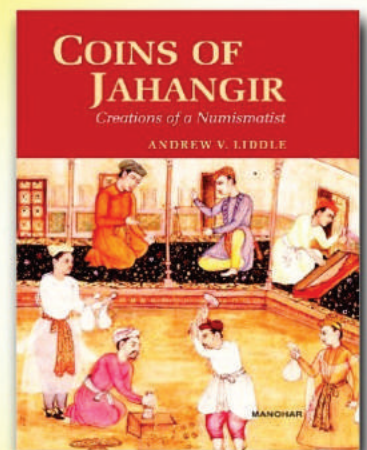
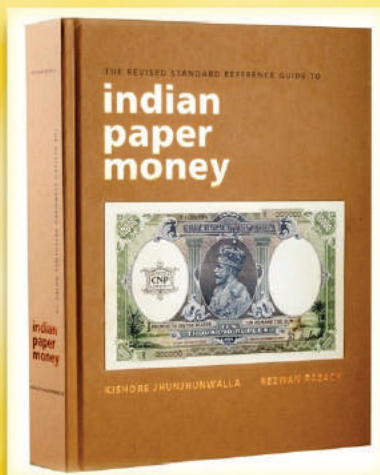
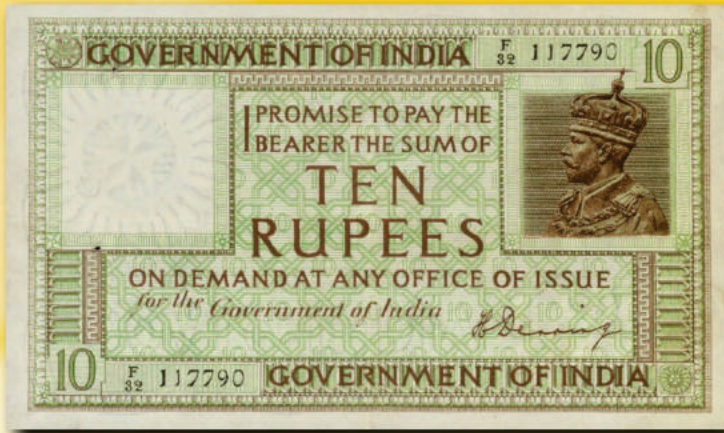
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