Editor: Siddharth N.S Co - Editor: Tejas Shah

# Numismatic News Paper of India

A Division of :- INDIAN COINS & CURRENCY GROUP

**India's Largest Numismatic Community** 

Monthly Newspaper for Coins, Currencies, Collectibles & Events

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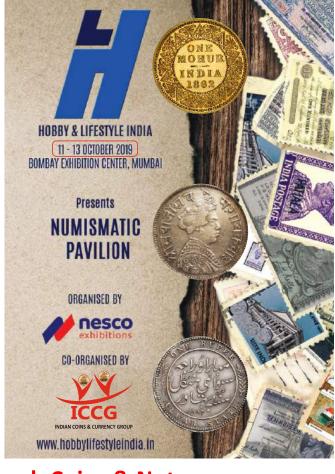
## 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issue of ICCG News Paper ICCG joins HLI to promote Indian Numismatics

ntroducing India's foremost hobby, recreation and lifestyle exhibition bringing enthusiasts from around the sub-continent under one roof. Hobby & Lifestyle India (HLI) show will facilitate the introduction and promotion of new and established innovations & technologies in this field, along with fueling the passion to pursue your hobbies. The focused segments on the show will display the new trends across hobby, recreation, health & wellness and lifestyle genres making its way now to India.

With indoor and outdoor exhibition area, hobby and lifestyle ideas from across the globe will make its way over three days to the increasing trade and consumer segment in this part of the world. The maiden edition will see over a hundred of exhibitors from this domain showcasing their offerings to the growing enthusiasts to improve their activities and explore the vast universe this field has to offer.

Indian Coins & Currency Group (ICCG) is proud to join hands with HLI in promoting Indian Numismatics with exhibitions and workshops on numismatics, notaphily & philately.

India's premier exhibition for hobby, recreation & lifestyle will be held from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019, Bombay Exhibition Center NESCO Goregaon East, Mumbai, India.



#### Living with the Passion through Coins & Notes

ne may start up with any hobby simply because it's a fun thing to do. But with time it grows into a lot of passion. He got attracted with the hobby since his childhood and his passion for rare collectibles grew quite naturally within for Mr. Tanay Desai. Today Mr. Desai's collection itself speaks about all the efforts and passion put behind it. But further his thoughts shared were a lot motivating....

#### Excerpts from the interview:

#### Please tell us something about your collection and how did you start with it?

As a Numismatist, I love to study & collect all possible coins & bank notes. I started with republic India coins and slowly bank notes as well. As time progressed I started collecting coins & notes through different themes. I started collecting at the age of 14 years as I was fascinated by some coins that were given to me by my grandfather.

Cont on Page 3rd....



Mr. Tanay Desai

#### **Editor's Note**



Mr. Siddharth Shah

ust past our fourth-year anniversary, ICCG News has a lot to be excited about. We've grown from being just a monthly news magazine – somewhat by being truly honest, unbiased and always searching and publishing more numismatic, philatelic and hobby related stories every month, into a comprehensive, one-stop Indian numismatic source with also running the latest Indian & international news articles as they break. Along the way, our independent, courageous coverage has earned us the trust of thousands of readers every month, a gift we treat with the responsibility it deserves.

Four years isn't really very long, off course, as we are still putting every effort to make our news magazine that is, we hope, surprising, inclusive, and engaging. But as swiftly as the time has passed, we can imagine many more rousing years to come.

At ICCG News, we are in interminable competition with our own self, and are always open to ideas where we feel or see any space of improvement. The process and the way of writing haven't changed till date and this is ensured by the spur we get from our readers as they completely enjoy positive engagement with us. Hobby related news,

historical articles, interviews and a complete guide to every numismatic / philatelic event is a part of our every monthly.

However, it has never been a one-way process. This congruent relationship between us and our readers is such that both of them are a driving force behind each others' success. From the very bottom of my heart, I thank you for being a dedicated reader. These four years would not have been possible without you. I'm truly excited about the future of ICCG News and I believe the best is yet to come.

Today I congratulate the entire team of ICCG News and its readers' collective well-being and looking ahead in the betterment of Indian Numismatics together!

Siddharth Shah Chief Editor ICCG News





#### How did you fell in love with coins?

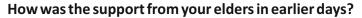
As a child I was fascinated by the type of coins that were given to me by my grandfather, he had some coins & bank notes that he used to bring from his friends for me to play. This was the time I started developing my love for numismatics.

As I grew I started researching on the Internet about different countries and their currencies (coins & bank notes).

### How long have you been collecting coins and is it everything related to coins or do you collect something else as well?

I have been collecting coins & paper money since more than a decade now. My collection is not limited only to coins but also includes paper money &

coins from across the globe. Error coins, error notes, commemorative sets, definitive sets, signature sets, fancy number bank notes as well as birthday notes for my entire family.



Initially my relatives felt it was a waste of time as the information and knowledge on Numismatics was very limited and not known to many as compared today. I as a collector did sometime feel demotivated at certain time but that did not stop me from doing what I wanted to do.

#### How it feels to you see your collectibles today as this hobby has been a part of your life?

Whenever I am stressed I pull out my collection and go through it, I feel proud & happy with my collection as it always refreshes me.

#### Anything particular or any particular coin that has been more close to you among your collections?

My most priced possession is my entire collection & for me it is very difficult to define what is more close to me.

#### What makes error coin collectible different from other collectible coins?

The most important factor that makes error coin collection different is the ability to imagine and brain storm the reason behind a specific coin getting minted. It is easy to define how a normal coin is minted but it takes a lot of thinking behind how a specific error coin got minted (as discussed in the book INDIAN MINT ERRORS). I am proud to be a part of the book that is now spreading the knowledge on the technicalities behind the error coins.

#### You have also co-written a book on Indian Mint Errors by ICCG with Siddharth Shah. How was the experience?

As I mentioned earlier the brain storming behind the technicalities of error coins being minted is difficult but when the same was put as pen to paper I am sure it has cleared a lot of doubts and opened the way for new collectors to understand the reason behind the errors. I am grateful to my mentor Mr. Siddharth Shah who gave me this opportunity to share my knowledge with the rest of the fraternity & new collectors.

#### Where do you see the numismatic industry going in the future?

There has been a tremendous growth in the Numismatic fraternity as a whole but we need to focus more on bringing new talent & collectors to expand the base and make the hobby grow. The fraternity should also look at international exposure & investments for the Indian Numismatic to rise more & more.

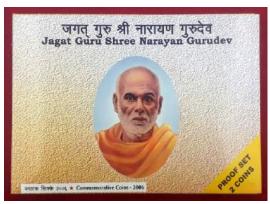
#### Any particular problem that you face, while doing your collections?

I feel the trading of the collection needs to have a capping in terms of cost of a coin or paper money. The amount demanded should be logical & acceptable by the buyer, as a collector I have faced this issue the most while collecting.

#### What kind of coins should one start with? Should one start with a particular theme?

As an individual I would recommend a collector should first understand the basics of collection, a workshop for the same is available with ICCG. Once you understand the details it would be easy for a new collector to start a collection and decide whether to follow a theme immediately or think about it later.

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#### Cont of Page 3rd..

#### How can one grow with his hobby?

Due to advancement in technology there are multiple source of information available to new collectors. If an individual is genuinely interested in the subject there is no right or wrong age to initiate and grow exponentially. By dedicating some time & focusing on the interest will help in the growth.

## Do you display your collectibles to your friends and relatives, what reactions do you often get?

I am a working professional and travel a lot so I do not get much time to display it to my friends or relatives but when I do I see a lot of shocking reactions & mixed reactions.

#### How do you see young kids getting involved with this hobby?

The fact here is that there is not much involvement of young kids in this hobby; I feel the reason behind this is the limited knowledge & people associated with this field. I come across a lot of young talent for whom "Numismatics" is a completely new word.

#### PREFACE



Almost anyone can become a collector, and one can start collecting almost anything and at any time in his/her life. No one is born collector and one need not be an expert or spend large amount of time and money to start. What is needed is true passion and good study of the subject that is what I believe today after being

bear ments, in the bear to entering and subgrouping error connicts and including for late one decide. My possion for error corns started just like any young collector during my college days; it was just a couple of error coins that I had a so good addition at I started wisting coin exhibitions with I made a good addition at I started wisting coin exhibitions with Infends. That was the time when I had so mere or coins but of do not know how to name them as I had not theory for their existence. I started learning more about error coins and the study helped me in growing as more mature coinsignificants follows; have able to find more error coins from directations like bank planched, die rotations, lamination, cust, die cracks and even insaligned die (MAO) errors.

From time, I have been able to learn from various collectors, different sites, blogs as there was no study material on Indian error coins in any library and soon light an opportunity from my mentor Siddharth N. S in assisting and writing down my piece of knowledge and sharing it in this book as I would like to believe this is the first book on erratum in coins of Republic ledie.

Whether you are a causal collector or a serious student of the hobby of someone in between, I'm certain you will find the content of the book to

Regards Tanay R. Desai

I feel the government should come up with different kind of workshops & courses to encourage and educate the young kids regarding the same.

#### What would you advice to young coin collectors?

Indian Numismatic is rising & now is the time to learn, earn & grow simultaneously. Always consult & take guidance from a numismatist who has considerable experience & knowledge.

Do you feel that numismatics as a subject, should be encouraged among students? Maybe through few numismatic exhibitions and similar activities like vacation camps?

Definitely yes, it will help them understand the history of the country & also get a chance to meet & discuss regarding the subject with people who are well experienced & knowledgeable in the Numismatic field.

Today there are many fake coins (collectible commemoratives, errors and scarce) being seen in the local market, in almost every city. So how can we see an end to this, as just reporting the matter hardly helps. (Your views on Fake coins)

It is very disturbing to hear all this, as it is a curse for the hobby as well as new collectors. It basically demotivates new collector since if cheated by people dealing in fake coins it will kill the interest & enthusiasm of this new collectors. There should be some strong action taken against the people dealing with such things considering legal aspect with some rigorous punishments & heavy fines with monetary perspective.

#### How do you see our newspaper contributing to numismatics?

ICCG is definitely contributing in a very big way by connecting people, sharing information about Numismatics, new bookings and also uncovering some deep dark secrets of the Numismatic fraternity.

Apart of the above questions anything more that you would like to share from your collection or from your experiences from the Indian Numismatic world.

I would only like to give a message to the new & fellow collectors; getting proper guidance from fellow collectors and dealers is a must for serious collectors. You should never stretch beyond the limit to buy the collection. Just be patient as sooner or later it will surface again probably with low value.

#### Any message for ICCG News?

Please keep up the good work; the hardcopy of the newspaper might not be reaching a lot of people but the soft copy definitely is making a lot of difference and educating the people about Numismatics. I think other than newspaper ICCG should also come up with other form of media to educate & update people regarding Numismatics.

ICCG News thanked Shri. Tanay Desai for his valuable time, thoughts and collectibles shared. We believe his thoughts and collection is sure to inspire the young generation in a very positive way.



#### Fake Coin Minting Factories Busted - Coins worth more than 10 Lakh Seized

Police said another 50,000 coins were seized based on information provided by the accused in the subsequent days.

ew Delhi / Haryana: Faridabad Police have busted a gang involved in making and supplying fake Rs 5 coins to several toll plazas in NCR and other states in the country, with the arrest of five gang members over the last few days. Coins with face value of Rs 10 lakh have also been seized from the accused.

Several fake coin minting factories have been busted by police and intelligence agencies in the past few months with latest raids carried out in an industrial belt near Faridabad.

"The gang supplied these fake coins to the toll plazas across the national capital. Although the investigation is in initial process but we suspect influx of fake currency coins worth more than a crore by the gang," said Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Commissioner of Police, Faridabad as per the reports with ICCG News.

In the past as well the national capital and its outskirts have been a breeding ground for such cases where fake currency manufacturers pumped in fake coins of Rs 5 and 10 denominations through local markets and toll booths on the national highways.

Back in 2016, the Delhi Police had busted a similar racket where in the month of October, a case of manufacturing and circulation of counterfeit coins was busted and two men namely Gulshan and Sachin were arrested from Shiv Vihar, Nilothi Extension.

Counterfeit coins manufacturing unit along with fake coins worth more than Rs five lakh in the denomination of Rs 5 and Rs 10 were recovered from their possession. The accused had till then infused more than Rs 10 lakh worth of coins in the market.





Explaining their modus operandi, the police said that the accused on occasions posed as employees of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) or of some other bank. This helped them sell off the fake coins and on sometimes even helped them escape the authorities.

"In 2016 when the prime accused of the fake currency racket was arrested he had tried to use the same trick by claiming that he was an employee of Punjab National Bank, but on further questioning he gave up and accepted his involvement," a senior police officer said.

As earlier reported in ICCG News in 2017 another fake coin racket was busted where the gang, working across north India, was behind minting and circulating fake coins with the face value of around Rs 50 crore in the past few years. The kingpin of the racket Upkar Luthra was also allegedly involved in the murder of his business partner and had a reward of Rs 1 lakh on his head.

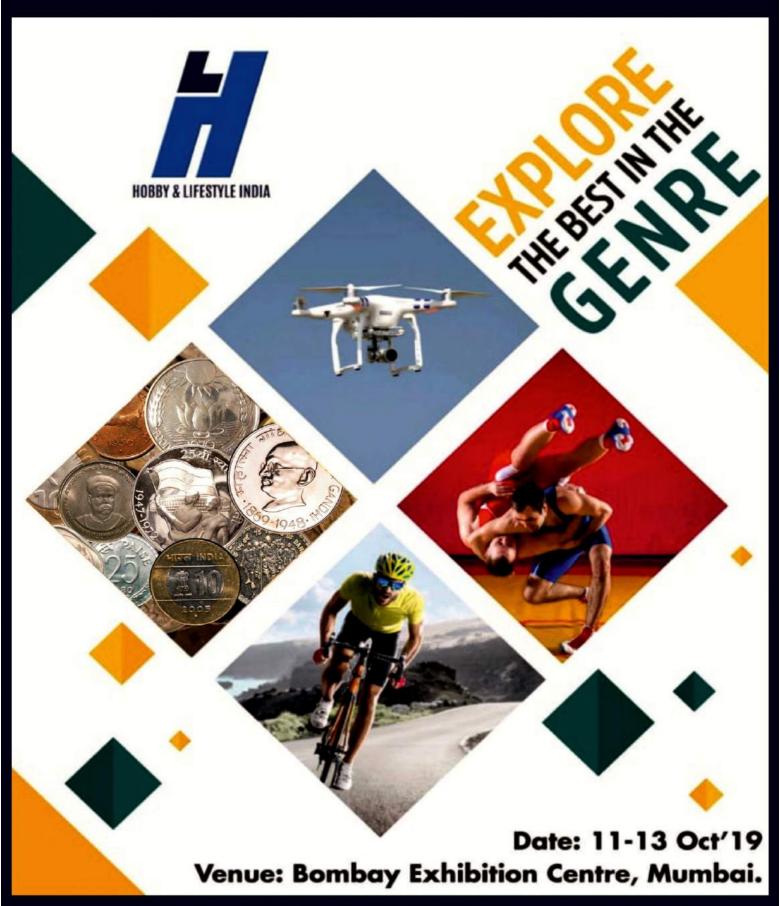
India has had many fake currency gangs but majority of them worked from the neighboring countries, however since the past few years factories manufacturing fake currency within the national capital have increased many fold. Police officials in the capital believe that the industrial townships in the capital city have been a reason for the same.

These industries easily get camouflaged in the industrial areas like Bawana, Nodia, Ghaziabad and many others. The movement of manufacturing items like dye, hydraulic press and polishing equipment becomes easy as these are normal things in an industrial setup.

"It becomes easy for the accused to bring in raw material and other equipment to their makeshift factories without raising any doubts in the locality. Industrial setups in the neighborhood help them camouflage their illegal rackets," a senior police officer said.

Though faking currency is an offence that can invite a maximum of life imprisonment, rackets like these are running rampant in the national capital.

As per laws, only the Reserve Bank of India can issue coins for circulation. Coins are minted at four government mints in Mumbai, Kolkata, Noida and in Saifabad and Cherlapally in Hyderabad.



ICCG Numismatic & Philatelic Trade Show
11, 12 & 13 October 2019

\*\*NEW Venue\*\*

#### Coin of the month

#### **Massive Double Struck Coin**

**Error:** When a coin is struck twice before the coin could leave the coining chamber, a double strike coin is created. Such coins are often eye catchy mint errors. This month we have selected a massive double struck error that we encountered in 5 rupees ferritic stainless steel coin.

EURE EURE



**Occurrence:** In this type of error coins, a coin is first

struck as a well-centered coin. After being struck, the anvil die moves upward, raising the coin. But if the coin does not eject properly and falls partially inside the collar, it is struck again. Thus it results as a Double Struck coin. In such coins the second strike is totally at random.

**USE:** UNC **Mint:** Kolkata **Metal:** Ferritic Stainless Steel (83% Iron + 17% Chromium)

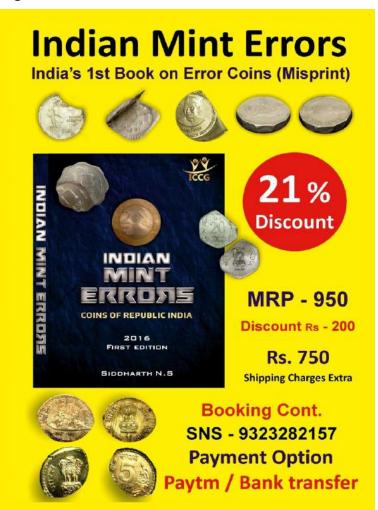
Year: 2007 Shape: Circular Weight: 6 gms Diameter: 23 mm Edge: Security

**Obverse side:** The face of the coin is divided into three portions with two horizontal lines. The center portion bears the

"Lion Capitol" of Ashoka Pillar with the legend "Satyameva Jayate" inscribed below. The top portion contains word

"Bharat" in Hindi and "INDIA" in English and bottom portion contains the Year of issue in International Numerals.

**Reverse side:** The lower periphery of the face of this coin contains the two visual metaphors which depicts the smooth fluid mass representing the ceaseless flow of data/information in the ether. In the center, denominational Value "5" in International Numerals and in upper periphery the word "Rupaye" in Hindi and the word "RUPEES" in English are inscribed.



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## ICCG Numismatic News Paper of India A Division of :- INDIAN COINS & CURRENCY GROUP

#### **Numismatic Exhibition Vows School Students in Varanasi**

The school gets to educate its students with first ever display of rare & collectible coins in the city

aranasi: In a world flooded by the electronic media, inculcating hobbies is an uphill task. However, Mr. Mayank Agrawal from Varanasi believes that everyone should have at least one hobby – one passion in life to make it interesting and worthwhile. Keeping this in view, Mr. Agrawal organized a Numismatic Exhibition at Sunbeam School Bhagwanpur (Hostel) and introduced the art of Numismatics to more than 500 school children. The coin exhibition which got under way at this school was put up especially for the students of class VIII to XII as Mr. Agrawal was invited by the school hostel superintendent Mr. Ehtesham Husain.

Such an exhibition was indeed a new experience for the students of Varanasi as this numismatic exhibition was being held for the first time in the city. Apart from introducing the hobby, the children got a look and feel of the ancient coins - some of which they had only read or seen about in their text books. To facilitate more insight into the history around the coins and to share about the art of Numismatics, the renowned numismatist Mr. Mayank Agrawal interacted with the children and shared his experiences of over a period of 15 years. He also gave some valuable tips to the children to develop the hobby of numismatics. "However sustaining the interest of young minds is not easy," Mr. Agrawal believes. "Many questions were asked by the students that were answered. This was the first time I took the challenge to display my coins





infront of the younger generation. It was education for both – me and the students who were explained in a very simple way without theory. I was very happy to see the reaction of the students and felt nice that at least few of them interacted in a positive manner to handle the relics of the past", added Mr. Agrawal.

Lots of information on coin anatomy, mint marks and commemorative coins of India and other countries were shared with students. Students also made good use of various collectibles that were on display and took notes of them as well.

#### Mr. Mayank Agrawal further shared his experience on his first numismatic display with ICCG News:

"It's been quite a while since I started collecting coins and conducting a coin exhibition for schools was one of my dreams as a collector and recently my dream came true when school teacher Mr. Ehtesham Husain offered me to conduct Varanasi's first coin exhibition in Sunbeam School Bhagwanpur for some 600 students from every stream. It was hard to select few of thousands coins to be displayed it took me one month to prepare this project with complete information about each coin. It took me around 30 minutes to make all the arrangements. After all arrangements were done students were allowed to enter the hall class wise from class VIII to class XII. There were a number interesting questions popping every minute and it was hard to provide students with a satisfying answer. Students were really curious to know about coins which are not in circular shape and how I got these coins etc." Altogether it was a great experience and the school has already requested me to conduct similar exhibition in its other branches as well, added Mr. Agrawal.



#### Tribute

On 04<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Indian numismatics suffered a great loss due to the sudden demise of one of the most loving and senior numismatist **Shri Vijay Kantichandra Pal.** ICCG News on behalf of entire

Indian numismatic community, conveys deepest of respects towards our most loved numismatist. Rest in peace Vijay sir!

#### **Tribute**

With profound grief we regret to inform the sad demise of **Shri. Narendra Kumar Sarkar.** He left for heavenly abode on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Mr. Sarkar was an ICCG member and had a lot of passion for coins and stamps. He had great knowledge in numismatic field and among



few in India to hold masters degree in numismatics from Mumbai University under the guidance of Shri. Dilip Rajgor and Shri. Mahesh Karla. ICCG News on behalf of entire Indian numismatic community, conveys deepest of respects towards our most loved numismatist. Rest in peace Narendra Kumar Sarkar sir!

#### Iraq holds Numismatic Exhibition to mark International Museum Day

numismatic exhibition started on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at the Iraqi National Museum in Baghdad to mark the International Museum Day.

The 30-day exhibition, held at the Assyrian Hall of the Iraqi museum, was organized by the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage.

The exhibition included the display of an ancient numismatic collection from different civilizations, such as the Roman and Greek as well as coins of the Abbasid era.

"The numismatic coins are very important records, and our exhibition includes 129 numismatic coins bearing images of prominent female and male figures," Iman al-Azzawi, director of the Numismatic Department in the Iraqi museum, told Xinhua.



Al-Azzawi hailed the exhibition a very important opportunity for the visitors to see the numismatic coins and the cultural values they hold.

She believes coins are one of the most important sources of information, from which archaeologists and historians can try to interpret the past.

#### **UAE Based Currency Collector Amasses Over 2,000 Coins**

**AE:** An 85-year-old Indian expatriate in Dubai has amassed over 2,000 foreign coins and banknotes since he fell in love with collecting money as a child growing up in Karachi.

Parshotam Mukhi started the hobby when he just 12 and has gone on to collect coins from European nations dating back to the early 1800s, as well as Indian currency issued by the colonial British Raj from as early as the 1860s. Mukhi, who moved from Indore, India, to Dubai in 1978, now has currency from around 55 countries.

As well as banknotes from Bahrain from the 1960s and the complete denominations of Indian currency used in the early 1900s – including rupee, anna, takka, paisa, dhela, and pai - he also has some of the first currency issued by the UAE and Pakistan. The collector, who founded perfume and textile shops in Dubai, said he has no plans of stopping and continues to search for special issues. At his apartment in Dubai Marina, Mukhi showed



Mr. Parshotam Mukhi

Gulf News his collection. When asked if he would consider selling his stash, Mukhi said: "I'm a buyer, not a seller. My collection is not for sale."

Mukhi did not say how much he has spent on collecting the coins and notes or how much his entire collection is worth. He did mention however that he has paid as much as 200 Indian rupees just to buy a single 25 Indian paisa. "Whatever I find that I like, I go to great lengths to collect it. Whatever country I visit, I try to find special currency. I go to the banks, foreign exchanges and other collectors. I'm fond of collecting notes that have the number 786 in the series (a number of special significance locally to some Muslims) and collecting the whole series in a special issue or edition. "I'm also gifted interesting currency by family, friends and my shops' customers because they know about my hobby," he added. "I remember how, when I was a child, whenever I was given some money, I would set some of it aside so it would become collectable later."

Mukhi moved to India after the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947 and stayed briefly in Mumbai. He then settled in Indore, a city in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh, before moving to Dubai. Mukhi said he travels a lot between Dubai and India. "The first time I visited Dubai was as a transit passenger in 1966, when I was going from Ghana to India. I remember there were only two shops in Duty Free. When I moved here in the late 1970s, there was no Meena Bazar and there was only one real road in that area. We used to call it Linking Road; it was named after a famous road in Mumbai."

#### Commemorative Coins of Modern India: Year wise & mint wise journey with ICCG News

ommemorative 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.

#### 2004 – 150 Years Indian Post Commemoration

The first Postage Stamp of India, for use in the entire country, was issued in 1854. To commemorate the 150th anniversary of this event a 1 rupee commemorative coin was issued on 4th October, 2004. The other coin issued in this theme, in the denomination of 100 rupees, was only issued as proof and uncirculated specimens.

**Obverse:** The obverse of this coin shows the Ashokan lion and the value '1' in International numerals on the center. In English "INDIA" and "RUPEE" appear on the right periphery and in Hindi "Bharat" and "Rupaya" appear on the left. "Satyameva Jayate' in Hindi is shown just below the Ashokan Lion.

**Reverse:** The reverse of this coin shows postage stamp with the logo of India Post, the legend "INDIA POST", "150" and "YEARS" in English. It also shows '2004' -- the year of issue, and "Bharatiya Dak", and "Varsh" in Hindi.

**Specifications:** Year of issue: 2004 Weight: 4.85 grams Metal composition: FSS

Shape: Circular Diameter: 25 mm Edge: Plain Mint: Kolkata









## Yogi Adityanath Releases Special Postal Cover on Lord Ram Also Unveils a 7 Foot Statue of Lord Ram

**Uttar Pradesh:** Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on 07<sup>th</sup> June 2019 unveiled a statue of Lord Ram at Ayodhya Shodh Sansthan. The seven-foot-tall statue of Lord Ram made from a single block of rosewood and purchased from Karnataka depicts Kodand Ram- one of the five forms of Lord Ram.

Adityanath visited galleries and released books and a postal cover at the Ayodhya Shodh Sansthan museum after unveiling the statue. He also released a special cover on the Kodand statue of Lord Ram by the Postal department, 'Archaeological Report of Ayodhya', 'Ramleela journey of the Carribean countries' and two other books.



The Chief Minister presented the honor to sculptors, painters and writers at the museum and admitted a document titled 'World tours of Lord Ram' by Jitendra Kumar, principal secretary of the Culture Department.

#### **Ex-Forest Officer's Buddha-Themed Stamps set for Sydney Exhibition**

former forest officer's collection of stamps on the Buddha and socio-religious and cultural aspects Buddhism has been selected ahead of Buddha Jayanti for a philatelic and numismatic exhibition in Sydney, Australia, in June. M. Lokeswara Rao, Nagaland's former Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, has been collecting stamps with the focus on nature. This made him a collector of Buddha-themed stamps from across the world.

Mr. Rao, now based in Bengaluru, would be sending more than 1,000 stamps pasted on 16 sheets in five frames. Among his collection is the 25,000-Afghani symbolic postage stamp the UNESCO issued a year after the Taliban had destroyed the two colossal Bamiyan Buddha statues in 2001.



"There is a deep connection between the Buddha's philosophy of ahimsa and nature. As a philatelist, I have been collecting stamps on Buddha to create awareness about the protection of floral and faunal species on earth," says Mr.

Mr. Rao's collection is a virtual tour of the world of Buddhism practiced by an estimated 1.6 billion people representing about 10% of the world's total population. The former forest officer began collecting stamps on four phases of the Buddha's life – birth, enlightenment, first sermon, and death – besides his various forms 40 years ago. "The first stamp I collected was the 1-anna set of stamps on Bodhisattva, India's first on the Buddha, in 1949. One stamp has the left hand extended and the other has the right hand extended," he said.

His stamps headed for Sydney include the ten incarnations of Vishnu – the Buddha being the ninth – India released in 2009, the first stamp on Buddhism that China released in 1893, the world's largest Buddha stamp issued by Mongolia, and the monochromatic stamp on Bamiyan Buddha that Afghanistan issued in 1932.

"The Afghan government had in 1951 withdrawn this stamp after widespread protest from the conservative Ulama there," Mr. Rao said. His collection also includes stamps on the 12 deeds of the Buddha that Bhutan issued in 2014 and 20 postage stamps that Sri Lanka issued in 2017 depicting 20 major Buddhist places of worship in as many countries. Source: The Hindu



#### Event's Time 10.00 Am - 7.00 Pm

Month	Dates	Events Name	Venue	
June	7,8,&9	Kolkata -Hobby Fair	ICCR, 9A, Ho Chi Minh Sarani, 2nd Floor, Auditorium, Kolkata, West Bengal.	
June	12, 13, & 14	GLOBAL CURRENCY COIN EXPO 2019	Sreenivasa Hall, Near Central Bus Stand 8/13, Williams Road, Trichy, T.N.	
July	12, 13, & 14	Coin Fest	Haldiram Banquet Hall, 24 Ballygunge park, Kolkata, West Bengal.	
July	19, 20, & 21	Chennai Coin Society "Coin Fair"	Sri Kamatchi Mahal, Thirumurugan Nagar, Saligramam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.	
July	26, 27, & 28	Nanya Darshini 2019	Shikshak Sadan, KG Road, Bangalore.	
August	9, 10, & 11	Ahmedabad Coins and Currency Fair	The President Hotel, C.G. Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad Gujarat.	
September	6,7,&8	'Hypex' Banknote & Philately Fair	Federation House, FAPCCI Marg, Red Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana.	
September	20, 21, & 22	MCS Coin, Banknote & Philately Fair	Expo Center, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai, Maharashtra.	
October	11, 12, 13	"ICCG Numismatic & Philatelic Trade Show"  Hobby & Lifestyle India	Bombay Exhibition Centre, Goregaon East, Western express Highway, Mumbai	
October	18, 19, 20	"Oudh Coin Ex 2019"	The Hotel Golden Tulip Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.	
November	15, 16 & 17	Coinex Pune	Sonal Hall, Karve Road, Pune, Maharashtra.	
December		7th Mumbai Coinex	Shree Sunderbhai Hall, Behind Income Tax, Churchgate, Mumbai, Maharashtra.	
December	20, 21, & 22	Mudra Utsav (Kolkata)	Haldiram Banquet Hall, 24 Ballygunge park, Kolkata, WestBengal.	



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#### World's First Banknote with RollingStar LEAD

he banknote was recently selected as Regional Banknote of the Year for the EMEA region (Europe, the Middle East, and Africa) at 2018 High Security Printing Conference (HSP) in Warsaw. The note is the first in the world to feature RollingStar LEAD stripe.

With this collector's note, the oldest Christian country on earth commemorates the ship in which, according to the Old Testament, Noah's family and all the animals were saved from a biblical flood, before coming ashore on Mount Ararat.

The banknote imagery includes Mount Ararat, which appears on both the front and back of the note; the reliquary (a container for holy relics) where a fragment of the Ark, allegedly discovered in 1698, is kept; the Monastery of Etchmiadzi (where the reliquary can be found); and imagery of Noah and his family, surrounded by animals.

The reliquary provides the inspiration for the RollingStar LEAD stripe feature, which uses micro-mirrors technology already proved in RollingStar thread, but with more 'real estate' to demonstrate the technology to its full advantage.





An image of the wooden fragment sits behind a cross, which has distinct raised gems on it. The complete image slides across a translucent screen, with an inward and outward left-to-right movement. On tilting, it changes from gold to

Above and below the reliquary are delicate holographic effects, and the whole is surrounded by a window frame in intaglio.

#### How does it work?

RollingStar LEAD combines the advantages of optically variable foils with dynamic 3D effects and color shifts. The combination of micro-mirror and colour shift technology, as well as optically variable diffractive effects, enhances the holographic stripe to enable quick and easy authentication.

Typically around 4,000,000 tiny mirrors are precisely aligned on a surface area of 1cm<sup>2</sup> and individually angled to create the travelling reflection. The logic of the individual angles of the mirrors is calculated using specially developed software and then brought to life. The colour shift properties are created by thin film technology.

In addition to RollingStar LEAD, the note also incorporates Galaxy windowed thread and LaserCut<sup>™</sup> security features that are integrated into the overall layout /design and substrate to facilitate quick and unambiguous verification through their distinctive color effects.

The motif of Noah's Ark is included multiple times in the note: as a watermark; within the Lasercut window, where it can be seen in transmission (when light shines through it) and on the front of the note.

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