

ICCG News

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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Spink Helps People Delve Deep for Charity Banknote Auction

The recent Spink auction was a great success, a white glove sale at that, selling every single item for above the estimated price. In total the auction realised £203,820. This money was to be divided amongst the three charities chosen by the staff at the Bank of England each of which is dedicated to the support around young children. These are the Myotubular Trust, The Lilly Foundation and Bliss, the UK's leading charity for prematurely born babies. Spink was thrilled with the results and the enthusiasm in the room was palpable, everyone wanted to get their hands on the lowest serial number possible!

It was an honor to be involved, and the auctioneer, Barnaby Faull commented; "It is always a very special type of excitement when compassion is combined with a collector's zeal to drive an auction, Spink very much looks forward to the next".

Spink is the world's leading auctioneer of stamps, coins, banknotes, medals, bonds & shares, autographs, books and wine. Since its foundation in 1666, the Spink name has become synonymous with tradition, experience and integrity. Holder of royal warrants and numerous records for prices achieved at auction, Spink offers an unparalleled range of services to collectors worldwide. Headquartered in London, with offices in New York, Hong Kong, Singapore and Switzerland, Spink holds over 70 auctions a year.

The auction started with the Chief Cashier of the Bank of England, Victoria Cleland, auctioneering the first lot. The lot was the lowest serial number of the new Bank of England polymer notes, the £5 ND (2016) AA01 000017 bearing the iconic image of Winston Churchill on the reverse. The lot attracted much attention with an excited flurry of bidding. The first lot of the sale set the tone for the rest of the auction by exceeding its estimate significantly at £4,150.

SPINK

WHERE HISTORY IS VALUED

CHARITY AUCTION OF BANK OF ENGLAND NOTES



8 APRIL 2020 | LONDON

Combating COVID-19 Pandemic

SPMCIL Contributes 4 Crores to PM Cares Fund and 2 Crores for Ventilators

Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd. (SPMCIL), under Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives contributed Rs.4 Crore on 04.04.2020 to Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund (PM CARES Fund) for combating the Covid-19 pandemic.

Keeping in view the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis across the country the Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd (SPMCIL) under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives contributed Rs. 1,98,67,680/- (One Crore 98 Lakh 67 Thousand and Six Hundred & Eighty) to AIIMS New Delhi for procurement of 45 Ventilators, most needed equipment to Combat COVID-19.



Employees Contribute Towards PM CARES Fund to Combat COVID-19 Outbreak

S. Sri. Gorakhnath Yadav technical manager at the Mumbai mint recently shared with ICCG News that "not only the mint but around 8,500 employees of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd (SPMCIL) contributed to fighting COVID-19 outbreak by volunteering one-day salary donation from March 2020 towards the Prime Minister CARES FUND in this hour of distress."

NGC Special Labels for 2020 Basketball Commemorative Coins

On April 4, the wait is over for the highly anticipated US Mint Basketball Hall of Fame Commemorative Coins. Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGCcoin.com) is ready with an all-star line up of special labels and holders to create an unrivaled presentation of the coin, the sport and the people behind both.

The US Mint 2020 Basketball Hall of Fame Commemorative Coin program combines two great American pastimes - basketball and coin collecting - loved across ages and demographics, from kids shooting hoops and filling boards with State Quarters to professional players and advanced collectors.

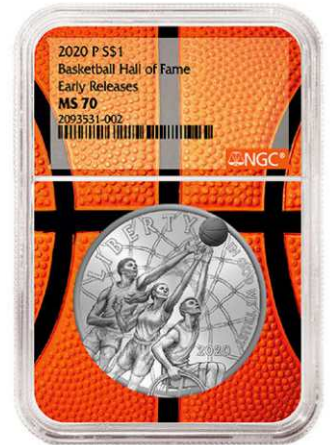
The 2020 Basketball Hall of Fame Commemorative Coins will be dome-shaped, like the immensely popular 2014 Baseball Hall of Fame Coins and 2019 Apollo 11 50th Anniversary Coins. In just a few weeks, the US Mint sold out of its maximum mintage of 400,000 baseball silver dollars and 50,000 baseball gold five dollars.

The basketball coins include a clad half dollar, a silver dollar and a gold five dollars, struck in Uncirculated and Proof finishes. The silver dollar and gold five dollars will have the same mintage limits as the sold-out baseball coins, and the clad half dollar will have a maximum mintage of 750,000 coins. Adding to the excitement, a portion of the basketball half dollars and silver dollars (to be released at a later date) will be colorized - a first for the US Mint.

For months, NGC has worked to create the most attractive, interesting and innovative certification options for these must-have coins. First up, the vibrant NGC Basketball Hall of Fame Special Label creates a distinctive display for the 2020 basketball coins, and it is available for free to all submitters.

To ensure the fastest availability to collectors and fans, basketball coins encapsulated with NGC's Donna Weaver and James P. Naismith Authentic Hand-Signed Labels and the NGC Basketball Core will be available exclusively from select retailers immediately after the coins' release.

Celebrate the US Mint 2020 Basketball Hall of Fame Commemorative Coins and honor a game that's changed the lives of millions of people around the world with NGC's all-star lineup of certification labels and holders.



Rescheduled to 25th, 26th & 27th June 2020

Shukla Day Coin Fair

India's longest
running,
largest and most
popular
HOBBY show

17th to 19th April 2020, 10 am to 7 pm
The Expo Center, World Trade Center, Mumbai

81-Year-Old Turns Home into Museum after Visiting All Indian Lighthouses



Chennai: 81-year-old architect Hemachandra Rao is perhaps the only person who has visited all the lighthouses in India, numbering more than two hundred. It took three years for this lighthouse enthusiast to say hello to all these landmarks, undertaking thousands of miles on the road, travelling in his Ford Eco Sport when he was 76.

With hundreds of his photographs of these vintage value landmarks, he has set up a Maritime Heritage Museum at his Chennai home, displaying pictures of these real beauties state-wise.

Hemachandra Rao, who's now fondly called "The Lighthouse Man of India", recollected his love for stamps on ships during childhood, which later shifted to lighthouses that guide ships. Over the years as he grew up and became an architect, he felt India did not adequately showcase its lighthouse treasure in philately and thus started his mission to "offset" in 2015, a year after his wife Puspha passed away. He says: "I'd click the photograph of the lighthouse then go to the nearest post office, get a cover cancelled and later I'd superimpose the lighthouse photograph of that, that's how I got almost all the lighthouse picture cards or picture covers with me cancelled. The passion is still alive".

Mr Rao says, as an architect, the shape and geometrics of lighthouses inspire him, be it circle, square, octagon or a twelve-sided lighthouse in Kerala. He compliments the British for their "wonderful eye for beauty and function" in building these structures as early as the 1850s with limited equipment.

When asked to handpick three best lighthouses, he ranks the Jaffrabad lighthouse in Gujarat as number one, for its square base, octagonal middle and a circular top. The lighthouse at Muttam in Tamilnadu's Kanniyakumari too shares the top slot. Tuticorin's black fluted and spiral lighthouse and the one at Honnavar in Karnataka with a peculiar shape get the second and third spots respectively. Famous Journalist Vincent D Souza has been his travel companion for these trips.

Encouraging people to discover the joy of visiting lighthouses, Mr Rao adds, "When you travel along India's 7000 kilometre coast I am sure you wouldn't want to travel to Switzerland or Singapore. This gives you lots of natural beauty... just travel leisurely. Take your car or any other mode of transport".

Reaching the beautiful Coringa lighthouse at Kakinada, he says it gave him the most challenging experience as the derelict structure had to be reached by boat after passing through thorny bushes and bats.

Mr Rao believes the age-old lighthouse hasn't lost its relevance in this age of satellite technology. He says, "the small light, coming from distance, still navigates the humble fishermen... even today we hear stories of fishermen coming to the shores safe led by the small light". The Department of Lighthouses has acknowledged Rao's feat of visiting all lighthouses on the Indian mainland with a citation.

He is now working on his dream to visit lighthouses in the islands of Andaman and Lakshadweep after which he wants to bring out a coffee table book featuring all lighthouses of India.

Most Valuable Ever Coin

Unveiled by Royal Mint - and it has James Bond's Car on it

The Royal Mint has unveiled a seven-kilo gold coin with a face value of £7,000 as part of its new James Bond collection.

The one-of-a-kind piece features an engraving of an Aston Martin DB5 with its famous BMT 216A number plate, surrounded by a gun barrel.

Measuring 185mm in diameter, it is the largest coin with the highest face value ever produced by the Royal Mint in its 1,100-year history.

The piece, which was created using engraving machines before being hand-polished, is part of a commemorative coin and gold bar collection launched ahead of the 25th James Bond film, No Time To Die.

It includes a smaller two-kilo gold coin with a denomination of £2,000, which has a recommended retail price of £129,990.

The world's first James Bond precious metal bars, which are available in gold and silver, are also included in the new collection.

They feature all 25 Bond film titles and will be available to purchase from mid-March.

Laura Clancy, who designed the seven-kilo coin, said: "When the opportunity to design a Bond coin came along, I had to take on the challenge. I've found it an incredible privilege - my career high to date and my most successful project."

As well as the larger coins, the Bond collection also features three additional designs in gold and silver which, when placed together, reveal the famous 007 motif.

The first coin from the series has the profile of the classic Bond car, the Aston Martin DB5.

The two remaining coins feature the submarine car from The Spy Who Loved Me and James Bond's iconic jacket and bow tie.

The cheapest coin from the collection, which has a face value of £5 and is made from cupronickel, has a retail price of £13.



Venue - Bombay Exhibition Centre, Goregaon, Mumbai

Coin Show

October - 9, 10 & 11
Venue - Bombay Exhibition Centre, NESCO, Goregaon East Mumbai

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In Hindi

Numismatic Music Album न्यूमिज़मेटिक म्यूज़िक एल्बम

Save Coins Heritage

By ICCG

Indian Collectors Share Their Best Error Coins on a Competition

Facebook Forum Gets Flooded by Massive Error Coins

'Facebook' forum 'Error Coins of India (Knowledge Sharing)'



Amid the COVID-19 lockdown, in the time of social distancing Indian Coins & Currency Group "ICCG" along with a facebook forum hosted its Second Error Coin Competition in March – April 2020. Coin collectors from all over world participated in the competition to share their best error coins.

In total, more than 100 collectors participated in the competition. We'd like to thank everyone who took part by sharing their mint error coins which were displayed in various themes. It's proven to us that there are many unique error coins to be found in any destination.

The competition was organized on a 'facebook' forum 'Error Coins of India (Knowledge Sharing)' by admin team of the forum in association with Indian Coins & Currency Group "ICCG".

Winners of this error coin competition would be awarded with trophies during the Indian Coins & Currency Group 'ICCG' Coin Show Event in association with "Hobby and Life Style India" HLI at Bombay Exhibition Center NESCO Grounds Goregaon, Mumbai, India in October 2020.

Postponed or Cancelled

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April 2020

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Contacts:
Shivam Verma : 9811262408
Mukesh Kumar Verma : 011 45042320
9717517872

Delhi Coin Society (Regd.)
organizing
Delhi Mudra Utsav 2020
on
1st, 2nd & 3rd May 2020
(Friday - Saturday - Sunday)

Venue: NSIC Exhibition Hall,
Near Govind Puri Metro Station,
Okhla, Delhi - 110020.

For booking, contact:
V. K. Jain, President (9818846088)
Parvesh Gupta, V.P. (9810628387)
E: delhicoinociety2019@gmail.com

Postal Museum: Postcard from the Past

For the millennials, postal service is a thing of distant past. Many wouldn't have a clue about several communication devices used a few decades back, or even the red letter box that's still around. For them, a visit to Sandesh Museum of Communication in Bengaluru, which recently opened its doors to the public, would be an education of sorts. For the older generation, a visit will conjure the days when they would wait for the postman to come by and hand them the letters they had been awaiting. Housed in a 2000-plus square feet building that dates back to 1804 on the Museum Road, the heritage space was once occupied by the British. It housed Madras Bank at one point of time, and the Government Museum at another.

The museum has six rooms, each of which has a name and a display to match. The first room, Sandesh, traces the history of stamps under three themes — Birth of the Nation (1857 to 1947), Indian Culture and Mysore Anche (1701 to 1889). Anche, incidentally, means local post in Kannada and Chikka Devaraja Wodeyar of Mysore state is credited with establishing a modern postal system in Mysore. This room has a display of stamps dedicated to Indian festivals, Indian literature, Hindustani & Carnatic music, Indian cinema and the Panchatantra. The second room, Samparka, has several communication instruments like the hand cradle telephone, AL (adding and listing) machine, morse transmitter, mail bomb detector, petromax light, Army postal uniforms and the quadrant scale — it was used to measure the thickness of paper. The third room, Samputa, has a display of old order books, bags and sorting cases as well as images of a floating post office on Dal Lake and the world's highest post office at Hikkim, located at an altitude of 14,567 feet above sea level.

The fourth room, Samvahana, has the VSAT apparatus that was used in the past for transmitting money orders. The fifth room, Sangathi, has a display of brass weights, raincoats and differently coloured bags used to collect mail. The last room, Sangraha, has a variety of philately frames. It doubles up as an activity room for children. In this room, you will see Philascope, a postage stamp viewer that magnifies the stamp. You will also find Signascope. It's a machine that reveals many aspects of the stamp like its watermarks, grills, paper irregularities, etc. It is used by experts to verify the authenticity of the stamp. There is an interactive station where children can attempt a quiz and win special covers. Step out from this room and you will find large post box models as well as vehicles (cycles and a bike) used by postmen to deliver letters. Do not miss the Caixa Postal box, used during the Portuguese times.

Among some other interesting things here is a book by Paul Fernandes, which has several colourful portraits. The museum also has a small book of postcards called 'Bangalore Swinging' in the 1970s. The museum also has a paid service which allows you get a stamp done with your image on it as a keepsake. When you are here, do take time out to see special documentary films on various aspects of postal services across the country. This museum is a must visit when you are in Bengaluru. It's after all a great way to connect with one of the earliest forms of communication.



BE HOME BE SAFE

ERROR COINS

DISPLAY COMPETITION

Error Coins of India

21 Days Challenge
From 25th March To 14th April

@ Error Coins of India Knowledge Sharing Group
On Face Book

Supported By Admin Team

Award felicitation Ceremony will be hold during "ICCG Coin Show Pavilion"
9, 10 & 11 October 2020 with "Hobby & Life Style India"
@ Nesco, Bombay Exhibition Center, Goregoan East Mumbai, India.

Organised By
Indian Coins & Currency Group "ICCG"

Mumbai: Crime Branch Raids Fake Currency Note Manufacturing Unit in Tamil Nadu; Fakes Worth over Rs 8.83 Lakh Recovered

Mumbai: In a swift operation that has interstate ramifications, the Mumbai police crime branch raided a location in Tamil Nadu and busted a Fake Indian Currency Note (FICN) manufacturing unit, on 02nd March 2020. Fake currency notes worth over Rs 8.83 lakh have been recovered so far.

Senior Inspector Ninad Sawant of the Unit 4 crime branch, which carried out the operation, told Mirror Online that the kingpin of the racket, identified as Sarvanan Waniar (45 years old), was arrested from his hideout in Tamil Nadu and he is being brought to Mumbai on a transit remand issued by a court in that state. He has been booked under Sections 489 (b) (k) (sing as genuine, forged or counterfeit currency-notes or bank-notes) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Sawant said that the lead suspect in the case was obtained when the crime branch sleuths nabbed one 43-year-old Bhaskar Murugan Natar, from near the Bank of Baroda at Sion Circle on March 3 this year. That was on the basis of information that Natar was carrying fake currency notes.



Fake Indian Currency Note Racket Busted In Bargarh, 3 Held

Bargarh: The Special Task Force (STF) of Odisha Crime Branch on 06th March 2020 busted a racket of Fake Indian Currency Note (FICN) with the arrest of three persons in Bargarh district.

The accused persons were identified as Manglu Malkhar (42), Sudarsan Mohanty (36) and Prafulla Meher (56).

Acting on a tip-off about the suspicious activities being carried out in Bargarh Sadar police limits area, the STF personnel conducted a raid. During the search, the officers seized fake currency notes having face value of Rs 2.06 lakh in denomination of Rs 2000 & 500 notes from three persons.



A case (94/20) was registered against the three accused persons under Sections 489-A, 489-B, 489-C and 120 (B) of IPC.

Attention! Customers will no longer get Rs 2,000 currency notes at Indian Bank ATMs; Check details

Customers will no longer be able to withdraw Rs 2,000 currency notes from Indian Bank ATMs as the bank has decided to load more of 200 rupee notes in its machines. The bank from March 1, 2020, stopped loading and dispensation of Rs 2,000 notes in its ATMs

Indian Bank Alert! The Bank customers will no longer be able to withdraw Rs 2,000 notes from Indian Bank ATMs as the bank has decided to load more of 200 rupee notes in its machines. The bank from March 1, 2020, stopped loading and dispensation of Rs 2,000 notes in its ATMs and said that the higher denomination notes posed an inconvenience for customers, who found it hard to exchange the notes.

"After withdrawing cash from ATMs customers come into the bank branches to exchange Rs 2,000 notes for smaller denomination currency notes. In order to avoid that we have decided to stop the loading of Rs 2,000 denomination notes in ATMs with immediate effect," the Indian Bank official said.



Swiss Releases COVID-19 Semipostal Stamp

Swiss Post has issued a semipostal stamp to aid people affected by the coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak. According to the April 6 press release announcing the semipostal, "the proceeds will go to people who need help now." Called COVID-19 Solidarity, the stamp is denominated 1 franc with a surtax of 5fr, expressed in centimes as "100+500" on the stamp. However, it is sold in a pane of 10 for 50fr, not 60fr.

Swiss Post said: "Those 50 francs will go to people who are in urgent need of assistance due to the coronavirus pandemic. All proceeds will be split fifty-fifty between Swiss Solidarity and the Swiss Red Cross. Swiss Post is also covering the actual face value of the one-franc stamp. In other words: the purchaser donates 50 francs to Swiss Solidarity and the Swiss Red Cross, and in return Swiss Post gives them 10 stamps."

Founded in 1946, Swiss Solidarity is a nonprofit charity that uses funds to support "humanitarian and social projects that meet the needs of those affected by disasters and humanitarian crises both in Switzerland and abroad," according to its website.

Swiss Post reports that the semipostal was designed in six days by several graphic artists working from their home offices "joining forces, yet keeping their distance."

Their design serves as "visual symbol of solidarity during the coronavirus epidemic," according to Swiss Post.

"With Switzerland at the center, the rotated cross reveals a shining globe," Swiss Post said in its press release, adding that "Solidarity and social cohesion are core values at the moment."

While Swiss Post is accepting orders through its website, the orders cannot be delivered abroad as of April 8. Swiss Post said the orders will be retained until shipping abroad is guaranteed again.



British Antarctic Territory: New 50-pence coin released in recognition of the 220th birthday of explorer James Clark Ross

The treasury of the British Antarctic Territory has released (12th March) new commemorative coins in recognition of the 220th birthday of British explorer Sir James Clark Ross (1800–1862), who is credited with his detailed expedition to the Antarctic coastline. Fortunately, the two ships were constructed as bombs vessels, which meant they both had solid hulls designed to withstand the recoil from the mortar bombs that they fired. These strong hulls would prove invaluable in the thick ice they encountered. The seven-sided collector coins are produced by the Pobjoy Mint at their facilities in Surrey, England, on behalf of the treasury of the British Antarctic Territory. The reverse side includes a rendition of the tall explorer ship the HMS Erebus, which was initially launched in 1826 and constructed by the Royal Navy. The denomination of 50 is seen just to the upper left of the ship's image and the text HMS EREBUS is placed just under the waterline.

The obverse side includes an effigy of HM Queen Elizabeth II, which is an exclusive design of the Pobjoy Mint. The issuing authority and year of issue surround the Queen's likeness.



“Join Hands in COVID-19 Prevention and Control” Stamp Set Unveils in Vietnam

Vietnam Government has taken efforts and strong measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the community. To raise people's awareness and responsibility nationwide, Viet Nam Ministry of Information and Communication (MIC) in collaboration with Ministry of Health and Vietnam Post issued the stamp set “Join hands in COVID-19 Prevention and Control” on 31 March 2020. The stamp sets include 02 designs with symbolic images based on electron micrographs. The first stamp design with a face value of 4,000 dong shows images of medical, military and security professionals as frontline fighters of the coronavirus outbreak. They are the shields to protect the safety of the nation and the people health. Each person carries out a mission and a heart to join hands in the pandemic prevention and control. Their frontline silent sacrifices bring strength, trust and motivation for Vietnamese people to unify and overcome difficulties for a happy, safe and healthy life. The second stamp design with the face value of 15,000 dong shows the images of Vietnam doctors with their supreme mission and great efforts to study to find out the best treatment methods to cure timely infected patients and the vaccine to fight COVID-19.

The stamp set “Join hands in COVID-19 prevention and control” with stamp size of 31 x 46 (mm) was designed by designer Pham Trung Ha (Vietnam Post). This stamp set was distributed to 63 province and city posts and circulated in 192 nations and territories in the Universal Post Union (UPU). A part from this stamp set issue, Vietnam Post also introduced products with same topics, including FDC envelopes, postcards, communication stamps...

The stamp set is distributed on public postal network from 31 March 2020 to 31 December 2021.

The stamp set issued in the context of COVID-19 outbreak conveys a meaningful message in the community, it shows the responsibility and decision of Vietnam to work together with the global and regional countries to fight COVID-19. To date, three countries have initiated with stamp designs on COVID-19 prevention and control. Iran issued a new stamp on virus corona 17 March 2020, China will issue a stamp set with two designs in April 2020 and Sri Lanka will issue a stamp set with one design with symbol of the World Health Organization (WHO).



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

आधुनिक भारत के स्मरणीय सक्किः वर्षवार, टक्साल्वार यात्रा ICCG न्यूज 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.

1995 – 8th World Tamil Conference (Saint Thiruvalluvar)

The International Association of Tamil Research (IATR) was founded in 1964. The IATR has been organizing conferences and seminars of Tamil studies at an interval of 4 years in countries like India, Sri Lanka, France, Maldives, Mauritius and Malaysia which has a sizable Tamil speaking population. To commemorate the 8th international conference seminar on Tamil studies, held at Thanjuvar (Tamil Nadu) from 1st to 5th January 1995, India issued this 2 rupee commemorative coin. The other coins issued for general circulation, were in the denomination of 1 rupee in FSS and 5 rupees in cupro nickel.

Obverse: The obverse of this coin shows the Ashokan lion, 'Satyameva Jayate' in Hindi and the value '2' in International numerals under it. In English "INDIA" and "RUPEES" appear on the right periphery and in Hindi "Bharat" and "Rupaye" appear on the left.

Reverse: The reverse of this coin shows the saint poet THIRUVALLUVAR seated on a low stool in a writing position with the inscription "1995" -- the year of issue, "8TH WORLD TAMIL CONFERENCE" in English, "SAINT THIRUVALLUVAR" in both English and Hindi, "8 Wi ViswaTamil Sammelan" in Hindi.

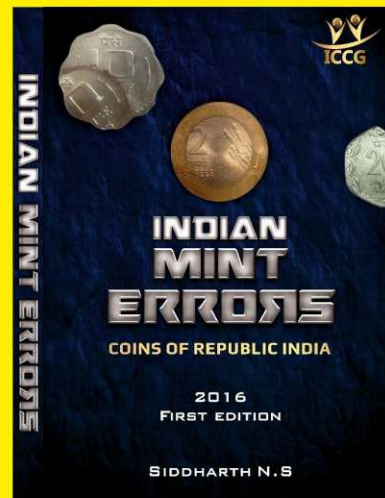
Specifications:

Year of issue: 1995	Weight: 8 grams
Edge: Security	Shape: Circular
Diameter: 28 mm	Mint: Mumbai
Metal composition: Cupro Nickel Alloy (75% Copper & 25% Nickel)	



Indian Mint Errors

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Special Stamps Worldwide for Awareness of COVID-19

The strong reaction of the entire world to the Covid pandemic has resulted in the self-isolation and self-quarantining of millions of people worldwide. While this is having a devastating effect on the economy, it has been a real boost to the stamp market. Stamp collectors around the world suddenly have many hours of time to fill since they can't go out, go to work or watch sporting events. Hence, they spend time buying stamps.

While this new may not seem particularly helpful, there is another reason for buyers to focus on stamps today. Postal services from various countries have released special stamps and special covers around the world in response to the coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak.



Fraud Alert & Disclaimer

We, SNS Coins Investment Gallery hereby bring to the notice of the public at large as well as all concerned that some unscrupulous and fraudulent persons are using our shop images with misleading information and for cheating purpose. We hereby clearly state that if any person receives any such communication offering coins, currency notes, any collectible, any coin accessory or job in our name against payment of any money or otherwise, we strongly advise not to respond to the same. Though we are taking appropriate legal recourse and steps against such fraudulent and unscrupulous persons, however, please be informed that we, SNS Coins Investment Gallery, shall not in any way whatsoever be responsible or liable for any loss that may be occasioned to any member of the public on account of their dealings with such fraudulent persons.



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United Kingdom: “Most popular poet,” William Wordsworth, honoured on new commemorative crown coins

The Royal Mint has launched (9th March) new gold and silver commemorative crown coins on the 250th anniversary of the birth of one of the country's most beloved poets and regarded the world over as one of the greatest authors to have ever written in the English language. William Wordsworth (1770–1850) grew up near the Lake District in England, which was this beautiful landscape that provided him with constant inspiration when writing poetry. Having grown up in this idyllic part of the country, this was undoubtedly Wordsworth's inspiration for his poetry which came from the beautiful scenery that he encountered every day.

Credited with beginning the English Romantic period in literature, Wordsworth's collaboration with Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *Lyrical Ballads*, published in 1798, is considered a stylistically groundbreaking collection of poems. While Wordsworth's romantic epic, *The Prelude*, is regarded as one of the greatest works in English literature. Wordsworth's love of nature was expressed in his poetry which was published during the Napoleonic Wars, known to have been a dark and frightening time. The conflict had destroyed lives, buildings, and churned up land. In response, Wordsworth shone a light on the natural world and celebrated the landscape in all its glory. He was one of the first writers to draw people's attention to nature and its raw beauty.

As part of the national celebrations marking the 250th birthday of William Wordsworth, an authentic restoration of his Lake District home is being completed, which is being coordinated with a yearlong calendar of activities to encourage a greater appreciation of his work than ever before. The official reopening of Dove Cottage will take place on the 7th April 2020, the actual anniversary of his birth, and will be followed in early autumn by the reopening of the museum. The £6.2 million transformation, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, will mark the completion of a significant capital project to transform the visitor experience across the hamlet of Town End, home to Dove Cottage. The release of these commemorative coins contributes to highlighting Wordsworth's work, not only to a nationwide audience but internationally during this special year.

Reverse: The reverse face of the coins is designed by acclaimed artist David Lawrence, who has featured lines taken from Wordsworth's celebrated poem, “Lines Written a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey,” weaving them into a design showcasing the magnificent scenery that inspired him. The inscription featured reads Nature never did betray the heart that loved her with the text 1770 WILLIAM WORDSWORTH 1850 placed above the primary design along the edge.

Obverse: The obverse face includes the fifth numismatic effigy of HM Queen Elizabeth II created by Royal Mint engraver Jody Clark that was introduced on all circulation and commemorative British coinage in 2015. The edge of both the gold and silver coins includes incused lettering which reads I WANDERED LONELY AS A CLOUD.



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