

ICCG News

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Monthly Newspaper for Coins, Currencies, Collectibles & Events

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Cashing In: Rare Coins & Stamps – Auctioned & Displayed at MCS 2021

Mumbai: Love collecting coins, stamps or bank notes? More than 100 dealer stalls from across India were exhibiting and selling their wares at the show which no hobbyist could have missed. MCS 2021 recently organised by the Mumbai Coin Society was held at the Expo Center, World Trade Center, Mumbai between 24th to 26th September, 2021. The show was inaugurated by Respected Mayor Mrs. Kishoritai Pednekar accompanied by Respected Deputy Mayor Adv. Mr. Suhas Wadkar. Mr. Vijay Kalantri, Chairman of World Trade Centre was the Guest of Honor. Visitors were all

excited to attend this long awaited show and not surprisingly the show received great public response amidst following all Covid Protocols. Collectors from across the country displayed their collection of coins, currency notes, stamp papers and medals, some of them being theme based. Some coins, currency notes, stamp papers and medals on display were as old as first century AD while those from the medieval period and the Mughal era were also on display. The displays from the exhibition included gold, silver, copper coins from fifth century BC,



coins from Awadh, Maharashtra, Mughal rulers, hammer stroke coins, world coins and many other such coins. The collection included various rare and unique items collected by the participants over the years.

Cont on Page 3rd...

Atul Gala: A name Indian Numismatics Would Always Remember

On October 04th Indian numismatics suffered a great loss due to the sudden demise of one of the most loving and senior numismatist Shri Atul Gala from Mumbai (there were no COVID symptoms). Mr.



Gala had a lot of passion and love towards coins and notes of British India & Republic India. ICCG News on behalf of entire numismatic community conveys deepest of respects towards our most loved numismatist. Rest in peace Atul bhai!

Remembering great numismatist Shri Mukesh Dalal

On 05th October, Indian numismatics suffered a great loss due to the sudden demise of one of the most loving and senior numismatist Shri Mukesh Dalal. Mr. Mukesh had a lot of passion for collecting Coins, Currency Notes, Stamps & First Day Covers for more than 20 years. In February 2016, Mr. Mukesh Dalal



shared his valuable time, thoughts and collectibles with ICCG News in our interview column. His demise has clearly left a big gap within the Indian numismatics which can never be filled. ICCG News on behalf of entire Indian numismatic community, conveys deepest of respects towards our most loved numismatist. Rest in peace Mukesh Dalal sir!

India Post Celebrates Darbhanga Airport's Success

India Post's endeavour to release a 'special cover' on Darbhanga airport on Friday was not merely a coincidence. Rather, it turned out to be a unique opportunity to promote tourism while propagating and highlighting the potential of Darbhanga airport to provide convenient connectivity to people with the help of the regional connectivity scheme (RCS), launched by the government in 2016. These views were expressed at the inaugural ceremony of a three-day 'philatelic exhibition' organised under the banner of the Darbhanga postal division on 03rd September 2021.

"We decided to release 'special cover' on Darbhanga airport to celebrate its successful launch and provide air connectivity with ease to

people in this part of the region," said Superintendent of Post, Umesh Chandra Prasad, while explaining the reason behind the department's endeavour to hold such a programme. "With daily passenger volume flowing through Darbhanga airport consistently showing up impressive numbers in terms of flight occupancy, the airport crossed four lakh passengers footfall in less than 10 months on September 2. This happened since flight operation under UDAN scheme began on November 8, 2020," the members of the audience at Postal Training Centre were informed. The event was graced by LN Mithila University (LNMU) vice-chancellor SP Singh as



the chief guest of the ceremony. Retired postmaster general ME Haque and Darbhanga airport director Manish Kumar also attended the programme as special guests. Director, postal services (Northern Region (Muzaffarpur) Shankar Prasad appreciated diverse activities conducted by Darbhanga postal division. Braj Nandan Trivedi, assistant director, postal services proposed a vote of thanks.

India Post Releases Special Postal Cover on Andhra's Telineelapuram Bird Sanctuary

Srikakulam Lok Sabha MP Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu recently unveiled a special postal cover of Telineelapuram Bird Sanctuary in his home constituency in Andhra Pradesh. The postal cover has been released by India Post with Visakhapatnam regional postmaster general M Venkateswarlu and other officials present at the event in Tekkali. During the occasion, the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) MP lauded the postal department for its "invaluable service" to the Telineelapuram Bird Sanctuary by launching the special cover.

"I feel privileged by releasing the postal cover. Philately is the best medium to bring awareness about local history, culture and tradition to future generations," the MP was quoted as saying by The New Indian Express. "I hope this will make

Telineelapuram a popular bird sanctuary across the world," he added. A seasonal resort for migratory birds from Siberia and Eurasia, Telineelapuram welcomes thousands of birds like billed or grey pelicans which travel around 12,000 km to reach the sanctuary for nesting and breeding during September-October period every year. These birds then return to their homes in March. Telineelapuram has been identified as a tourist place with the government spending lakhs of rupees for the development of this seasonal resort. India Post, in the past, has released several special covers to commemorate places and things of importance. Recently, Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio had released India Post's special cover on the 'Naga Mircha' to mark the Independence Day. Popularly



known as Raja Mircha, it is considered the hottest chilli in the world.

It also features in the top 5 chillies on the Scoville Heat Units (SHU), and has already been certified as Geographical Indications (GI) tagged to Nagaland in 2008. Government is also promoting the 'Naga Mircha' and for the first time ever, a consignment was exported to London via Guwahati on July 28 this year.

Cont from Page 1st..

The exhibition also featured commemorative coinages that were issued by the Republic of India in the memory of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Balgangadhar Tilak and other leaders. Mudra Ratna awards were bestowed to three eminent Numismatic Mahagurus: Shri. Appasaheb Parab, Shri. Girish Veera and Shri. Subodh Pethe for their immense contribution to the field of Numismatics for over years. "Numismatics has become a widespread hobby for school and college students. In past, many coin societies had organized exhibitions of coins in various schools and colleges, both within and outside the state. The response to such exhibitions was so encouraging that to give impetus for collecting coins, the coin societies also further decided to distribute free gifts to school children who attend the exhibition" said Mr. Alok Joshi who is a history professor and also a senior coin collector. The visitors at the exhibition gained



knowledge, as they could see rare items of the early ages. Sonal Singh, a student visiting the exhibition said, "I have a note of Indonesia with an image of Lord Ganesha on which I got some good knowledge here. Also, this exhibition is motivating me to start collecting rare coins and notes."



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Ajman Tourism Organises Philatelic and Numismatic Exhibition

UAE: Ajman Tourism organises second edition of Philatelic and Numismatic Exhibition AJMAN, 15th September, 2021 (WAM) -- Coinciding with the anniversary of the assumption of power of H.H. Sheikh Humaid bin Rashid Al Nuaimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Ajman, the Ajman Tourism Development Department (ATDD), in collaboration with the Emirates Philatelic Association (EPA), has organised the 2nd edition of the Ajman Philatelic and Numismatic Exhibition from 21st to 25th September, 2021, at the City Centre Ajman mall.

Many exhibitors, dealers, and enthusiasts participated in this exhibition which showcased a wide collection of rare currencies and postage stamps that recount the history and progress of the emirates and the entire region. The recently issued commemorative silver coin bearing the image of Sheikh Humaid was also exhibited and sold at the exhibition. This rare collector's coin, considered its first since the formation of the union in 1971, was issued to highlight the notable historical role of Sheikh Humaid and his interest in preserving and supporting the cultural heritage.

With this event, the ATDD aims to highlight the cultural heritage and postal history of the UAE, by showcasing rare and distinctive collections of postage stamps and currencies from members of the Emirates Philatelic Association (EPA) and other expert associations. It provides a platform for collectors to acquire unique stamps, coins, and ornaments to expand their collection of collectibles. The EPA also held an auction during the exhibition to sell a selection of valuable and rare pieces at the highest bids. Saleh Mohamed



Al Geziry, Director-General of the ATDD, said that the exhibition constitutes an opportunity for the community, visitors, and collectors to explore rare and valuable collections of postage stamps, banknotes, and coins that form a part of the history of the UAE and the region, and which will be presented according to the highest international standards in collaboration with the EPA and several arbitrators and experts in the field. Al Geziry clarified that the concurrence of the exhibition with the anniversary day of Sheikh Humaid assuming power and the issuance of a silver commemorative coin bearing his image by the Central Bank of the UAE attests his role in

supporting the country's heritage, and that of Ajman in particular, and his desire to preserve the Arab and Emirati cultural identity and passing it on across different cultures of the world. Ahmad Saif Al Hasawi, Board Member of the EPA, stated that the exhibition contributes to Ajman's position as a leading organiser and host for exclusive events and attracts particular visitors to it.

Throughout the five days, the exhibition witnessed a great number of worldwide collectors and enthusiasts who purchased stamps and currencies or evaluate their collections and valuables, in addition to tourists and visitors wishing to discover the history of the region.



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Australia's Final Battle of Vietnam War Commemorated on New Coin

To commemorate Australia's last major action in the Vietnam War, the Royal Australian Mint has released a new commemorative coin, marking the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Nui Le. Assistant Treasurer Michael Sukkar said that this coin is an important tribute to those Australian's who took part in the battle and more broadly the sacrifices all soldiers made during our involvement in the Vietnam War. "The release of this commemorative coin in the lead up to the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Nui Le is an opportunity for Australians to reflect on the courageous troops who fought in this conflict during the Vietnam War," said Minister Sukkar. "The coin is a symbol of the service and bravery of those who fought in the Battle of Nui Le. By recognizing these brave soldiers who served and died during the battle, this coin memorializes a significant moment in Australia's military history." Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel Andrew Gee said the Battle of Nui Le was part of Operation Ivanhoe and was the last major battle Australians fought in during the

Vietnam War. "The Battle of Nui Le sought to prevent enemy forces from gaining a foothold. Launched on September 1, 1971, it was a search-and-destroy sweep that saw Australian forces engage in a series of heavy contacts with the 33rd NVA Regiment," Minister Gee said. "Five Australian lives were lost in the intense fighting, with many more wounded. This commemorative coin honors the service and sacrifice of all Australians who fought for our nation in the Battle of Nui Le, Operation Ivanhoe, and the Vietnam War." Developed in collaboration

Australian soldiers during the battle, which was part of Operation Ivanhoe. Former member of the 4RAR Greg Shannon worked with the Mint on the design of this coin, to ensure it was an accurate representation of the battle. "The intricate design of this coin captures the key aspects of the Battle of Nui Le, recognizing those who fought in the battle, and keeping alive the memory of those whose lives were lost," said Mr. Shannon. Taking place on September 21, 1971, the Battle of Nui Le was the final battle that the Australian Task Force took part in during the Vietnam War.



with members of the 4th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment/New Zealand (4RAR/NZ – the ANZAC Battalion), the coin shows a scene inspired by the elements of the Battle of Nui Le. It features the iconic Iroquois helicopter, which was used to evacuate wounded

During the Battle, five soldiers died and another 30 were wounded. The commemorative Battle of Nui Le 2021 50c Uncirculated Coin has a limited mintage of 27,500, retailing for \$10.00 AUD. They are available now from the Mint's eShop and Call Centre (1300 652 020). This coin is the second release in a series commemorating the Last Battles of the Vietnam War. The first coin in the series, the Battle of Long Khanh 2021 50c Uncirculated Coin, is also available for purchase on the eShop.

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China Issues Commemorative Coins for 70 years of Pak China Ties

China's central bank issued a set of commemorative coins on September 16, 2021 to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the diplomatic ties between China and Pakistan. The set will contain one gold coin and one silver coin, both legal tenders, according to a statement from the People's Bank of China (PBC). Both coins feature the national emblem, the country name and year of issuance on the obverse. The reverse is inscribed with combinations of different pictures, denominations, a logo for activities to mark the 70th anniversary of the diplomatic ties between China and Pakistan, "1951-2021", and a line that reads 'the 70th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan' in both

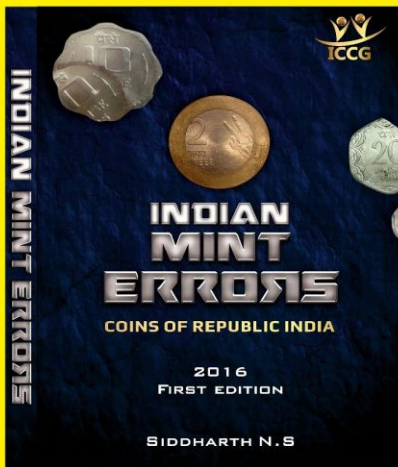


Chinese and English, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on 16th September. The gold coin, contains eight grams of pure gold and has a face value of RMB 100 (about \$15.43). The silver coin, contains 30 grams of pure silver and has a face value of RMB 10. Its reverse side features the Temple of

Heaven in China and the Lahore Castle in Pakistan. It is lined with a combination of decorative shapes such as ginkgo trees and Himalayan cedar branches and leaves. The maximum issuing limit of the gold and silver coins will be 3,000 and 10,000 respectively.

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Islamic Art Museum Hosts 'Journey of Money in Egypt through the Ages' Exhibition

The Museum of Islamic Art in Cairo, in cooperation with the Center for Calligraphy Studies at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina and the Cairo Mint Treasury, hosted an exhibition, entitled "Journey of Money in Egypt through the Ages". The exhibition was launched on 23rd September until 3rd October, 2021. The idea of the exhibition revolved around "The Journey of Money in Egypt", which is a long journey of 2500 years, extending from the first coin minted during the Achaemenid era through to the drachmas and stats issued by the Ptolemies, moving on to what the Byzantines and Romans issued in terms of gold dinars and copper money, and the Sassanids in silver dirhams, all the way to the Arabs until the modern era, which highlights the entrenchment of the idea of the succession and circulation of money in Egypt.

Egyptian coins are also considered a pictorial record of the development of the arts of calligraphy and writing. On the face of the coin, the journey of writing progressed in its development parallel to the sophistication and progress of the Egyptian calligrapher and artist each



in his field.

The exhibition was divided into two parts: the first was in cooperation with the Center for Calligraphy Studies at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, and includes photographic panels of the most important collections of currencies circulating in Egypt through the ages. The second section of the exhibition included the most important collections of newly minted cloned coins, in cooperation with the mint treasury. On the sidelines of the exhibition, a scientific symposium was held, in which a group of distinguished researchers in the field

of the history of coins and Islamic arts will lecture.

It is worth noting that this exhibition was hosted in its first session from 19 January to 24 January 2020 in the Eastern Exhibition Hall at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Conference Center in cooperation with the Museum of Islamic Art in Cairo, the Museum of Educational Archeology at the Faculty of Arts at the University of Alexandria and the Museums of Antiquities and Manuscripts at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, and in partnership with experts in Egyptian coins.

China Issues Coins Commemorating 110th Anniversary of 1911 Revolution

The People's Bank of China (PBOC), the country's central bank, issued a set of commemorative coins on 27th September, 2021 to mark the 110th anniversary of the historic 1911 Revolution.

The silver coin is legal tender, and features the national emblem, the country's name and the year of issuance on one side. The reverse

side of the coin is inscribed with the Chinese



characters for "the world is for all," "110th Anniversary of 1911 Revolution" and "1911-2021." It also features the Memorial of the Wuchang Uprising 1911 Revolution.

The coin contains 30 grams of pure silver and has a face value of 10 yuan (about \$1.54).

A maximum of 20,000 such silver coins will be issued.

Iraq Releases Stamps to Honor Pope Francis' Historic Visit

Iraq has issued a series of commemorative postage stamps to mark the first papal visit to the war-torn Muslim country. The initiative of the General Company for Post and Savings and the Iraqi Ministry for Communications celebrates Pope Francis' March 3-8 historic visit to Iraq. Presenting the series, the spokesman for the Ministry of Communications, Raad Al-Mashhadani highlighted stamps commemorating the meeting of Pope Francis with Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, Iraq's highest Shia authority; as well as the pope's visit to Ur, the city associated with Old Testament Patriarch Abraham, who is considered the father in faith for Jews, Christians and Muslims. He said the commemorative postage stamps are "a manifestation of peaceful coexistence and friendship between religions inside and outside Iraq.

"The stamps were edited on a graphic level by Iraqi artist Saad Ghazi. Printed as commemorative stamps and in several prices (500, 750 and 1000 dinars) they will be sold in post offices. One of the stamps shows a smiling pope raising his right hand, with a map of Iraq in the background, another with the pope meeting Ayatollah al-Sistani. Other stamps commemorate the pope's visit to the

city of Ur; and the Syrian-Catholic Sayedat Najat Cathedral in Baghdad where 48 Catholics were murdered during Sunday Mass in 2010 by terrorists of the Islamic State. Pope Francis was the first Bishop of Rome to visit Iraq. His predecessors Benedict XVI and John Paul II had also hoped to make visit but couldn't. Over the course of three days, Pope Francis travelled across the country as no foreign head of state has done for years. He went to several different towns and cities in full view of all.

To accomplish this unthinkable visit, the 84-year-old pope defied the advice of all the experts and some of those close to him who were convinced, until the very last minute, that it would be more reasonable to postpone the trip, due to security and COVID-19 health concerns. This is the second time in recent years that Iraq has issued Christian-themed postage stamps. The Iraqi Postal Service in September 2020 had for the first time issued a series of stamps dedicated to celebrating the



country's churches. That series included eight stamps, depicting historic churches of Iraq, located in various regions and belonging to different Christian denominations. For lack of reliable statistics, it is estimated that there are about 400,000 Christians in this country in the land of ancient Mesopotamia, the historical cradle of Christianity. Christians are estimated to currently make up only 1% or so of Iraq's 40 million people. Roughly two-thirds of these are Catholics -- mainly Chaldeans and Syrians, and to a lesser extent Latins and Armenians. The remaining one-third are Orthodox Christians.

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Special Postal Cover and Special Cancellation on Banarasi Silk Saree Released

Varanasi: In a function organised in the Commissionerate Auditorium, the Postmaster General of Varanasi region, Krishna Kumar Yadav released a special postal cover and special cancellation on Varanasi's One District One Product (ODOP) 'Banarasi Silk Saree' on 29th September 2021.

The special cover has been beautified by affixing the Varanasi Weaves stamp of the Indian fashion series with Banarasi silk saree. Joint commissioner (industries) Umesh Kumar Singh, deputy commissioner (industries) Virendra Kumar, senior superintendent of post offices, Varanasi East Division Rajan Rao and assistant superintendent of posts Pankaj Shrivastava were present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Yadav said that the special cover released on Banarasi silk saree will give it a global recognition. Through this the culture, art, heritage of Varanasi will spread across the world. The silk of Varanasi is synonymous with splendour and

regality across the world. The district offers a wide range of these GI tagged products in different looks, designs and patterns. This craft has been in practice for more than 500 years and today approximately 29,802 weavers are associated with it.

Yadav said that the ODOP products included Banarasi Silk sarees in Varanasi, Carpets in Bhadohi, Zari Zardozi in Chandauli, Jute Wall Hangings in Ghazipur, Woolen Carpets in Jaunpur and Bindi (Tikuli) in Ballia. Apart from these, there are many such products which were losing their identity and are being revived by the life of modernity and expansion, and the postal department has an important role in this. Joint Commissioner (industries) said that the aim of the ambitious 'One District One Product' program of the Government of Uttar Pradesh is to encourage these special crafts and products. The Department of Posts has given it a more unique identity by placing the Banarasi silk saree on a special cover.

In Lucknow also, the Postal



Department issued special cover and special cancellation on ODOP product of all 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh which was released by the Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath along with the Chief Postmaster General of Uttar Pradesh Circle, Kaushalendra Kumar Sinha during a program organized under 'Mission Shakti' campaign in Lucknow. These special covers and special cancellations were issued at all district headquarters in different programmes.

Union Minister Releases Commemorative Postal Stamp on Brave Soldier

Sonamarg: In the run up to the celebrations of 75th Azadi ka Amrit Mohatsav, Union Minister of State (MoS) for Communications, Devusinh Chauhan on 17th September, 2021 launched a commemorative postal stamp in the honour of Rao Jaimal Rathore on his 515th birth anniversary. Rathore was a Rajput warrior general of Chittorgarh who put up a defiant resistance against vast Mughal army during its siege in 1567-1568.

On the occasion, the Minister said that he counts himself fortunate to get the chance of releasing postage stamp commemorating such a brave

soldier. He maintained that the brave heart not only made the people of Rajasthan proud but whole nation feels pride to have him. Chauhan said that when the nation is celebrating its 75th Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, it should be our real endeavor to remember these unsung heroes of our history. He said that such national heroes deserve to be recognised and remembered for the bravery and valour they depicted in safeguarding this land and its people. The Minister appreciated the idea of releasing postal stamps in memory of such national heroes. He hoped that more such commemorations should be

organised in future. He called them as lessons to inspire our youth and make them aware about their valiant past. The Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, who participated virtually in the event said that the contribution of the warrior is such that even after passing of more than 500 years the memory is preserved in human psyche. He said that such stories as that of Rao Jaimal Rathore needs to be told to our children and youngsters. CP Joshi, MP Chittorgarh, who also participated virtually said that the great soldier fought despite receiving bullet in his foot.

Cont on Page 10th...

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He said that his laying of life in protecting his land is worth writing in golden letters. Others who spoke virtually include VP Singh, Ex-Governor Punjab; Maharaj Gaj Singh and other legislators and officers from Rajasthan.

The stamp was released in a virtual mode simultaneously from IT Centre, Chittorgarh Rajasthan. The other officers present on the occasion were Shailendra Dashora, Chief Postmaster General J&K Circle; Sanjeev Tyagi, Chief General

Manager Telecom, BSNL, J&K Circle; KC Panday, DDG (Admin) J&K LSA; RK Jaiswal, GM BSNL Srinagar and MG Mufti, GM BA BSNL Srinagar along with other officers from respective departments.

Later, Chauhan visited the under construction Zojila tunnel. He took stock of the work and progress on this prestigious project. He asked the executing agency to maintain highest standards of quality besides completing the project at the stipulated deadline. The Minister



was apprised that the tunnel is 14.15 kms long and would be completed at an estimated cost of Rs 2100 crores. It would reduce travel time between Srinagar and Leh by nearly 3 hours, as was said to the Minister.

New Archaeological Findings in Uttar Pradesh's Bilsarh: Everything you should know about the discovery

Recently there has been news of an interesting find of the remains of a 5th century CE Gupta period temple by the Archaeological survey of India during a monsoon routine cleanup activity. Bilsarh, in Etah-Uttar Pradesh, where the remains were found has been a protected site from the colonial times and is a known Gupta period settlement.

The antiquity of the Bilsarh village goes long back into history, and as Dr. Vasant Sawarkar (Superintending Archaeologist of the ASI's Agra circle) said the entire village is situated on an ancient mound. The part where the temple ruins were found is with the ASI, and the site holds four pillars. Of the four pillars two are circular, free standing, and located at two different corners; while both have inscriptions in Gupta Brahmi lipi that have been deciphered as from Kumaragupta's time and papers published on them. What interested Dr. Sawarkar were however the other two pillars standing half buried at another corner, owing to their close proximity to each other.

These two pillars were flat rectangular pillars, placed parallel and facing the same direction, and

the front faces showed images of the yakshas, ganas, and various geometrical motifs. Since these two pillars were not free standing, it appeared to Dr. Sawarkar that they could be a part some underlying architecture, which led him to start the digging. Soon stairs were found and it became clear that the two rectangular pillars, which now revealed more figures and various decorative motifs, were the pillars that once stood at the entrance of a temple. The 5th stair revealed an inscription in sankha-lipi or shell script, which after comparing with older inscriptions was found to read as Sri Mahendraditya... which was the title for King Kumaragupta I of the Gupta dynasty whose ruling period was from 415- 455 CE (ref: Radhakumud Mukherji – The Gupta Empire). Sankha lipi is an ornate spiral script popular during the 4th-8th centuries, with multiple papers on reading this lipi written by Prof. B. N. Mukherjee of Calcutta University in the 1980-81 (ref: Richard Salomon, A Recent Claim to Decipherment of the "Shell Script", 1981). Interestingly Prof. Mukherjee's deciphering of a shell



script on the back of a horse (the inscription, which has both Brahmi and sankha lipis, extends from neck of the horse to its tail and is now housed in the Lucknow Museum) from Khairigarh (Kheri district of Uttar Pradesh) in 1980 is similar to the shell script found on the temple stairs of Bilsarh, and reads Sri Mahendraditya, ie., the honorific title of Kumaragupta. This Khairigarh horse was a part of the asvamedha yagna (as derived from the Brahmi script on its neck part), which Kumaragupta was said to have performed (supported by numismatic evidences).

Currently the ASI is focusing on preserving the site and building shades to protect the new finds, in order to allow people interested in history and heritage to learn more of India's ancient past.

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

आधुनिक भारत के स्मारणीय सिक्के: वर्षवार, टक्साल्वर 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.

1994 – ILO 75th Anniversary Commemoration Issue

The International Labour Organization was established in 1919 with an aim to promote social justice and improve working and living conditions of workers throughout the world. The I.L.O. has its headquarters at Geneva (Switzerland), and has branch offices in different countries of the world. India is one of the founding-member of the I.L.O. In commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the I.L.O. India issued this 5 rupees coin on 27th October, 1994. The other coins issued in the denomination of 50 rupees and 100 rupees, were only issued as proof and uncirculated specimens. **Obverse:** The obverse of

this coin shows the Ashokan lion, 'Satyameva Jayate' in Hindi and the value '5' 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 initials of I.L.O. encircled by a cog-wheel—signifying industrial activity, all set within two olive twigs. On the top of the central design the inscriptions 'Shrama Jagat' in Hindi appear at the left and 'WORLD OF WORK' in English at the right. The 75-year span '1919–1994' is shown at the bottom of the design.

Specifications:

Year of issue: 1994

Weight: 9 grams

Metal composition: Cupro – Nickel alloy (75% Copper + 25% Nickel)

Shape: Circular

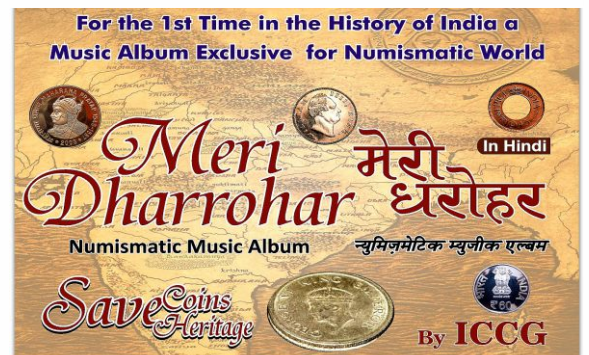
Diameter: 23 mm

Edge: Security

Mint: Mumbai, Hyderabad & Noida



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News Postal Department Releases Special Covers on GI Products

The Department of Posts has released two special covers on Geographical Indication (GI) products of the State recently.

B. Selvakumar, Chief Postmaster General, Tamil Nadu circle, released the special covers on Mamallapuram stone sculptures and Kovai Kora cotton sarees in the city and the first copies were received by Veena R. Srinivas, Postmaster General (mails and business development) and K. Somasundaram, Director of Postal Services, Chennai city region. A booklet of stamps on 'Indian perfumes' was also released on the occasion. The booklet with eight perfumed stamps is priced at INR 400. The department brought out a set of four miniature sheets on Indian perfumes in 2019 and now a booklet has been made with these perfumed



stamps.

A release said the special cover was dedicated to the art of designing and weaving and in recognition of the attractive zari work in the traditional

Kora cotton sarees. While the Kovai Kora cotton sarees gained GI status in 2014-15, the Mamallapuram stone sculptures were provided GI tag in 2017.

Beware of Frauds Posing as Coin Dealers

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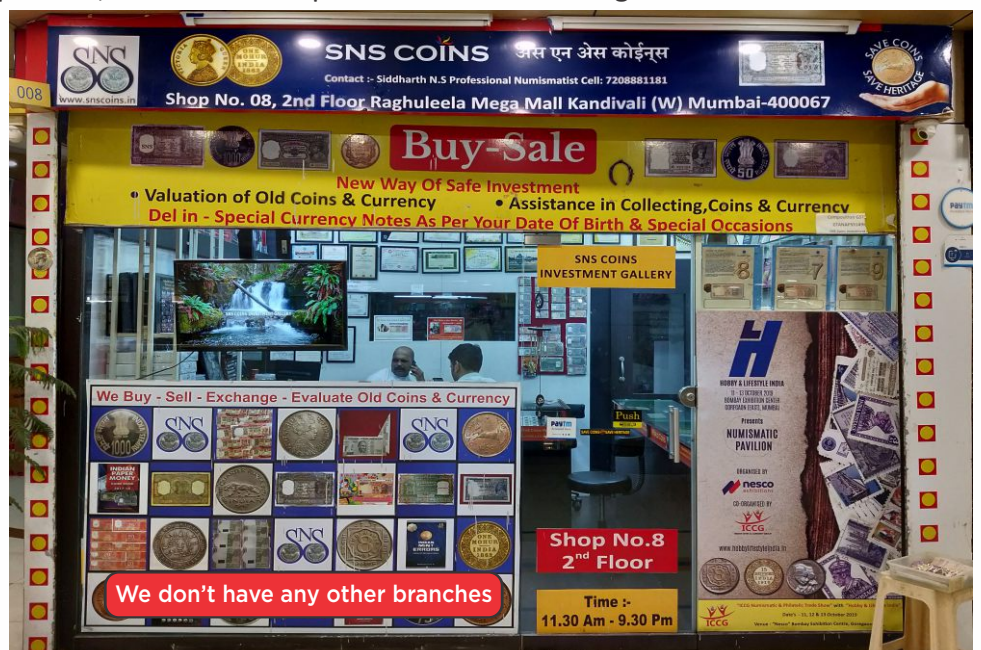
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