

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

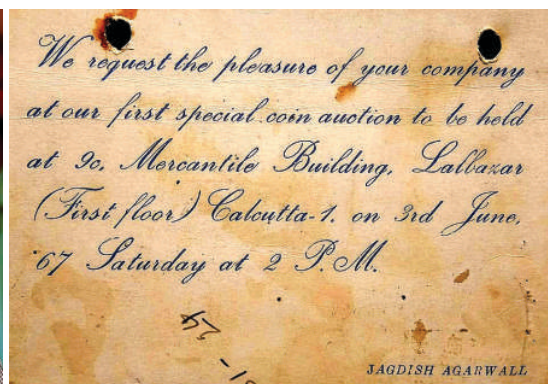
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Nagpur Exhibition

World Stamp
Championship in Jerusalem

Philatelic
Exhibition in Trichy

Golden Jubilee Year of Indian Coin Auctions



Coin auctions are the ideal way to buy coins and sell coins – whether it's a single coin valued at 100 rupees or an entire coin collection that's worth lakhs. Rare coins can be acquired through private deals between collectors, but auctions are emerging as a safest route. And rightly so, today we have several successful auction houses and we see thousands of coins being auctioned through these auction houses during the three day numismatic exhibitions round the year.

But this month is very special in itself for Indian Coin Auctions as we mark the Golden Jubilee of Indian Coin Auctions. **The first ever coin auction was organized by one of India's senior numismatist Shri. Jagdish Agarwal, on the 03rd of June 1967 at Calcutta and this is the 50th year of Indian Coin Auctions.** Shri. Jagdish Agarwal, a pioneer in the field, is very much a prominent part of the global Indian numismatic scenario and is actively involved with many national associations. [Cont on Page 4th](#)

Celebrating 3rd Anniversary of ICCG News

Editor's Note



Not too long ago, I set out to establish a publication unlike any other in the field of Numismatics. Fast-forward to today: it's our third anniversary and I couldn't be more thrilled! In three short years, we — yes, you and I — have accomplished a lot.

I am Siddharth N S, editor of ICCG News, which has published more than 500 news and hobby related expert written articles full of tips and advice on numismatics, notaphily & philately. These three years have gifted us our parts of challenges in coming up with stories which were not going to be pleasant for some of the senior members of our numismatic fraternity,

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Co-editor's Note



Being a part of something that's creative can mean involving within some special elements that no one else gets to see but you and the other people involved. Behind the scene ideas, suggestions – emerging and vanishing.

I am Tejas Shah, co-editor of ICCG News. To many, ICCG News is the numismatic digital they read, a neat little site with a monthly collection of voices and words. And that's great — that's what we strive for, the successful presentation of all the hard work, of a streamlined creative process that produces results. At least that is how I believe.

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Nidhi 2018 – International Seminar on South Indian Numismatics

A lesson in Indian history, a tour around the South Indian Coinage – all this and more are on offer as all hobby lovers are in for a numismatic treat, with a one day seminar at Bengaluru on 13th July 2018. The international seminar on South Indian Numismatics titled 'Nidhi 2018' is organized by Falcon Coins Gallery. The event will take place at West Fort Hotel Bengaluru and the seminar would be co-hosted by 'Oriental Numismatic Society' and 'Archaeological Survey of India' Bangalore circle.

The numismatic event will cover an overview on Pre-Satavahana Coins from Central India as well as Vidarbha and their linkage with Satavahana Coins by Dr. Amiteshwar Jha.

Further Mr. Mohit Kapoor, Mr. Pundalik Baliga and Mr. Raman Sankaran would address a topic on 'tracing the origin and subsequent depiction of Gandabherunda coins'.

The seminar would also cover lectures on South Indian Coins by Shri. Prashant Kulkarni (Mughal Coinage of South India) & Shri. K Ganesh (Challenges in the study of South Indian Coins).

Mr. Jan Lingen will share his part on 'Arkat Rupee with a Latin D', Danish or French?



Nidhi-2018
International Seminar on
South Indian Numismatics
on July 13th, 2018
at West Fort Hotel, # 19/6, Next to Minerva Mill,
Rajajinagar, Magadi Road, Bengaluru - 560 023. Tel : 080-22003300

REGISTER yourself by sending your Name and Contact number to nidhi2018seminar@gmail.com

Organizer: Falcon Coins Gallery
Co-Host: Oriental Numismatic Society (UK) and Archaeological Survey of India Bangalore Circle

The event will also have a numismatic display by the Archaeological Survey of India.

The full day Numismatic Event would start at 09:30 up to 17:30 hours

Nagpur Exhibition: Collector's Paradise

NAGPUR: It was a collectors' paradise out there at Raman Science Centre (RSC) in Gandhisagar on 18th May 2018. The centre beamed with activities as many numismatic and other collectors from the city turned up with their personal collections, making the unique exhibition titled 'Collection Make Connections' a huge success. The exhibition was followed by a lecture which was given by BR Andhare, head of History department at Mohta Science College.

The exhibition saw participants in numbers, one of which was Lakshman Lokhande, a collector of autographs of film stars and other celebrities. Lokhande started collecting the autographs at the age of 20 and has been following his passion for almost 40 years now. He met many yesteryear actors from Bollywood and took their autographs. Besides film actors the hobbyist has autographs of politicians and wrestlers for which he has been mentioned in the India Book of Records, for three years-in-a-row.

"Museums are a melody for life and those who are involved in such acts tend to have a higher and happier lifespan," said Andhare in his speech. Andhare also encouraged the fellow collectors to pursue their hobby and expand their collection. Entailing the details of history of museum, N Ramdas Iyer, project coordinator of RSC, said, "The word museum is named after the Greek god Muses who was the god of literature, science and arts. Besides higher-ups like priests and kings, collecting things for common man was not possible until 16th century, when Medici Family stood as first private collectors."

He also mentioned the start of museum and collections in India where he spoke about the Indian Museum of Kolkata and Salarjung Museum of Hyderabad. "Collection of Collections could be considered as Museums where the collection needs to have a theme," added Iyer.

Young Origami enthusiast Prajyot Palimkar, showed up with collection of origami sculptures made by him. Palimkar has made around 500 types of origami models in 10 years.



Numismatics Gaining Popularity in Odisha

Two Day Numismatic Workshop Organized at State Museum Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar: A two-day workshop on numismatic organized by the Odisha State Museum opened in the city on 17th May 2018.

Numismatic specialist Shri. Mahesh Kalra from Mumbai was the chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of the workshop. In his address, Kalra said, "It's a great pleasure to see so many students and scholars participating in the workshop as numismatic is only 150 years old in India. It is also a pleasure to give the audience a clear knowledge about it from my own research".

State Museum superintendent Jayanti Ratha said, "Indian coins have a long and varied history that offers a clear insight of numismatic in the country. It's our pleasure to have a reputed master like Kalra amidst us today".

At the workshop, Kalra presented an insight into the inception of numismatic and how it is actually helping us to value our past. Students of Utkal University and Ravenshaw University along with many other scholars attended the workshop.

Jeevan Patnaik of state Archaeological Department, Susant Pradhan, Sarat Rath and Anam Behera were among the prominent personalities present at the event. Bharati Pal was the curator of the event.

A two-day workshop on paper filigree was also inaugurated at the museum. Eighty-five students from various schools participated in the workshop to learn this amazing art. Subha Kumari Pati organised the workshop where children were tained in making cards, hair-bands, backside hair clips, wall hangings, 3D miniatures, dolls and much more.

Interacting with Orissa POST, Pati said, "This craft was introduced by Likan Patra and Sujit Bose and as a student of Patra it is my duty to popularise this craft. My solo moto is to make children stay away from gadgets like mobile phones, computers and TV and to help them become creative. This art form involves the use of strips of paper that are rolled, shaped and glued together to create decorative designs".

On the eve of International Museum Day on 18th May 2018, five top collectors will showcase their collection at the Odisha State Museum. These philatelists are Arabinda Ray (British India coin collection), Shasanka Sekhar Das (newspaper collection), Tarinisen Patnaik (matchbox collection), Bibhuti Bhusan Patnaik (railway ticket collection) and Rajkishore Mohanty (compilation of Sachin Tendulkar's century date and notes on it).

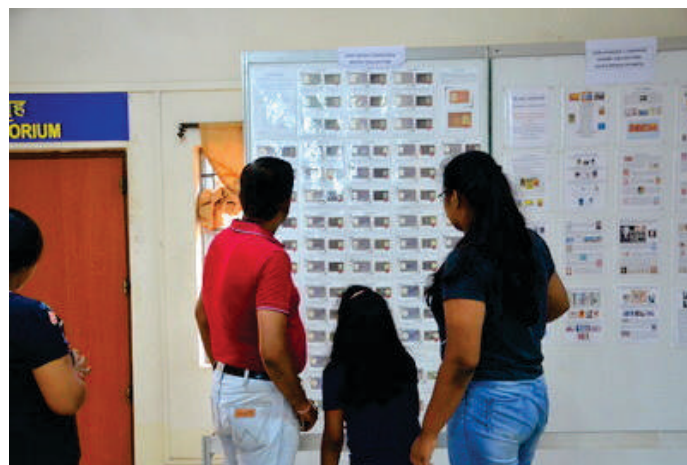
The theme for 2018 International Museum Day is 'Hyper connected museums: New approaches, new publics'.



Enthusiasts Display Their Collections at the Goa Science Centre & Planetarium

Goa: The Goa Philatelic and Numismatic Society, upon the invitation of the Goa Science Centre & Planetarium, organized an event called My Own Collection at the Goa Science Centre & Planetarium to commemorate International Museum Day 2018. The exhibition, held from 18th May to 20th May 2018, invited all Goemkars to put their personal collections, such as stamps, coins, currency notes and envelopes - from different countries and different historical periods in India - on display. Among the collections were also old mobile handsets and mini toy vehicles. "This was an open invitation for everybody to come rever heritage" said Sheikh Samruddin, a member of the Goa Philatelic and Numismatic Society, at the event.

The event was concluded with a valedictory programme and prize distribution.



Cont of Page 1st

In the first ever coin auction, 46 lots were auctioned and approximately rupees Four thousand realized. The minimum bid was 50rs. As Coins were cheaper that time, the coins were in lot. Such as William IV set with East India Co. Copper Coins. Victoria Complete Set, 20 different Native State Rupee, 10 Different Mughal Rupee, Rupee Coins of the World, German East Africa Rupee and 2 Rupee, Foreign Crown Size Coins, Foreign coin collection etc.



ICCG team thanks Shri. Jagdish Agarwal and further salutes him for his commendable work in popularizing Indian Numismatics among collectors and students.

How did you organize the first ever coin exhibition?

1967, is the most memorable year in my life. I used to read in foreign Coin papers about Coin Exhibition in their countries. So I thought, when Stamp Exhibitions are held in India, then why not Coin Exhibition? So I began to organize monthly coin exhibitions, every month on different subject, to educate the collectors. For ex. January - Ancient India, Feb-Mughal, March-British india, April-Native States, May-Foreign Coins. My experiment was successful, and decided to continue with it.



And how did you come up with the first ever coin exhibition?

I also read in foreign papers about Coin Auction. So I also decided to try it as well. My main motto was to create awareness among collectors about the value and what to collect.

According to me the period of 1962 - 1969 was the Golden Period in Indian Coin World. Coins were available in quantity, and also cheapest. But still collectors were complaining about price.

Mostly collectors were collecting foreign coins like Coins of the World, Coins of Great Britain, Rupee Coin of the World (Mauritius, Mombasa, German East Africa, Seychelles, Italian Somalia, Afghanistan, Nepal etc). Crown Size coins of the World.

So when I decided to organize, many collectors told me start the bid from rupees 5 with a gap of rs. 1. But I rejected the proposal.

I suggested the sellers, to make thae lot as mini collection, like 10 Different Native States, 10 different Mughal Ruler, I helped them in deciphering. I kept my commission just 2 percent. On that time dealers were working on 5 to 10 percent.

50 lots were auctioned, 4 were unsold. Approximately 4000/- was realised. About 35 people attended.

Mr. Rakesh Jain from Delhi, Mr. Rupani from Rajkot, Mr. R. D. Shah from Kutch, G. D. Agarwal from Kalimpong were the outstation visitors.

Professor B. N. Mukherjee (the great author and scholar) inaugurated the Coin Exhibition and gave his good wishes for the auction.

On that time, there were no Coin Catalogs. Only some museum catalogs were available. The most popular was the 4 volume of Indian Museum. Vol. 1 Ancient, Volume -2 sultan coins, Volume --3 Mughal, Volume - 4 Native States. But it was costly and was available for 1000/-

So most of the collectors were missing it. We're dependent on Scholars for deciphering. So I helped them in deciphering, they got confidence in collecting Indian Coins.

Gradually, collectors began to shift from foreign coins to Indian Coins.



1967 Coin Auction time A Group Photograph

ICCG team thanks Shri. Jagdish Agarwal and further salutes him for his commendable work in popularizing Indian Numismatics among collectors and students.

Cont of Page 1st ... Editor's Note Siddharth N S

but our main objective is to provide truthful and objective information to our readers, which at times may result painful to some. Though most of our news articles were appreciated but at the same time our few news voices were labeled with negative remarks as they narrated the naked truth which exposed the other face of the coin. We started our journey with reporting fake numismatic news article in one of India's leading news paper and shared the impact of negative journalism on the entire Indian Numismatic Community. Further we also shared the irresponsible acts of few of our Governors and Finance Secretary who did not hesitate in rubbing the Clean Note Policy appeals and went on signing autographs on currency notes. We threw light on possible shill biddings in numismatic auctions and also how the MA course in Numismatics and Archeology was forced to go behind closed doors due to the clash between two auction giants. Apart of this we regularly alerted our readers of the counterfeit/replica coins and fake dealers.

Today, from the very bottom of my heart, I thank you for being a dedicated reader. These three years would not have been possible without you. I am also incredibly grateful to the entire ICCG News team, who work tirelessly to bring you this news monthly. I'm truly excited about the future of ICCG News, and I believe the best is yet to come.

None of our progress would have been possible without you. I'm deeply grateful — thank you.

Cont of Page 1st ... Co-editor's Note Tejas Shah

We've come a long way, but I'd like to think that we carry the seed of that initial idea in most of the things we do, in how we have created a space for other people's voices, how we have created ways for other voices to respond. Have we been open and honest? Have we kept away from being biased? We hope so. We keep trying. So this co-editor's note, and even this milestone issue, isn't meant to be a retrospective. Instead maybe what we're looking for is to present a valid point of view.

We've got 37 issues under our belt, we've met and spoken to so many new and interesting people and shared their thinking, ideas, knowledge and different mediums of expressions with thousands of our readers, thanks to our awesome contributors, supporters and team. What next?

New changes, new goals and new ideas are occurring to us and maybe better ways to work, for our writers and contributors and for the editor as well. We're taking into account the suggestions we've received from our readers and people we've worked with — regarding themes, regarding conversation & support for our readers and entire Indian Numismatic Community. Our third anniversary issue itself has grown much bigger compared to the little idea with which we started back in June 2015. And today after three years, I see our ICCG News growing up, and we don't want to get stale, but we do want to get a bit more wise.

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Buying - selling of Specimen notes & EXPT COIN - legal

MEDIA ATTACK !!! RAJKOT COINEX
13th June BLACK DAY FOR INDIAN NUMISMATICS.
Negative approach from the local media forces Indian numismatists to bear a loss of more than 50 LAKHS

India is the only country which does not encourage its own heritage and culture to get back home.

SILVER COINS RUPEE RATE:
MUMBAI ZAYEE BAZAR BUY/SELL
Qureshi Jewellers 725 825
Edward Group V Rajalalwani 660 720
Group V Rajalalwani 280 325

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TRAVANCORE EXPO 2018
NATIONAL LEVEL COIN AND STAMP EXHIBITION
6, 7, 8 JULY 2018
VENUE
BHAGYAMALA AUDITORIUM
CHANDRASEKHARAN NAIR STADIUM, PALAYAM
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

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37th Edition of Numismatic Readership

Have we reported the news accurately? Have our investigations created a response? Has the ICCG News proved to be the positive voice of Indian Numismatics? We believe we have, and we're so proud that Indian Numismatic Fraternity let us be a part of its family. With ICCG News celebrating its 3rd anniversary, its gratitude goes out to its contributors, advertisers, volunteers and all of those who have given their guidance and support. And lastly of course, the ICCG News team thanks its readers, who have always been the ultimate judge of our success. More than any other aspect of our success, you the reader is uppermost in our minds. We think of you every issue. Over the last year, the numismatic and philatelic world had no shortage of news and ICCG News was there to cover it. Here is a selection of top stories that stood out and made headlines:

We started our 25th issue with a recap of our first two years and also thanked the Govt. for revising the tax rate of numismatic items to 5% from 12% under the GST. Our further issues covered articles on various numismatic and philatelic exhibitions throughout the country in various schools and exhibition centers. ICCG also came up with numismatic exhibitions for more than 1500 students of Smt. Sulochanadevi Singhania School, SHAIS Agarwal International School, Oxford International School and KES Shroff College. We continued with regular awareness posts on tooled serial number notes and high quality fake coins and also continued to report such coins to legal authorities and as a result one of the fake coins of Maharana Pratap got vanished from an online portal 'ebay'. **Cont on Page 7th**

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25th Edition of Voicing Indian Numismatics

ICCG News is celebrating its 25th edition, and its readers, are surely the ones who kept it going. And when it comes to marking anniversaries, serial publications can sometimes mire themselves in the past. Well, while we're delighted to note and celebrate the 25th edition and the 2nd anniversary of ICCG News with some insightful reminiscences, our focus this month is, as always, squarely on current events, news and articles.

Our gratitude goes out to those who have helped us build and maintain the ICCG network: our contributors, advertisers, volunteers and all of you who have given guidance and support. And lastly, of course we thank our readers, who will be the ultimate judge of our success.

There always had been numismatic events, news, articles for us to share which came through for months after months.

Highlights of our coverage over the past two years:

First Issue:
Our first issue highlighted the negative approach of local media in Rajkot (Gujarat) due to which Indian Numismatists were forced to bear a loss of more than 50 Lakhs. Entire numismatic exhibition had to be called off after false rumors were spread in local newspapers in regards of the exhibition. Our first issue also covered the interview of Sri Farukh Todywalla who himself is the pioneer in the field and very much a promoter part of the global Indian numismatic scenario.

Cont on Page 7th

Art of Collecting, Preserving & Sharing a Part of History

The story of numismatics is compelling and the hobby has helped her to grow with it. As it comes to coin and currency collection, you just can't miss the passion of Mrs Nidhi Jain Savla, who has been a passionate hobby lover since last six years. Mrs Nidhi from Mumbai shared her pride collectibles and thoughts with ICCG News recently. Excerpts from the interview:

As a child were you fascinated towards coins or any other collectibles?
Yes, I was never fascinated towards coins rather I was very much into my studies as a child. Yes I started collecting coins just six years back. Still there is a lot to be learnt.

How and when do you start your collection?
I started collecting six years back. It all started when my dad told us that he used to collect stamps in his childhood. He used to tell us about the stamps of different countries which he had collected. Slowly and gradually I started taking interest in coins inspired from stamps which motivated me to collect.

Which is your favorite coin/collectible that you own currently & why?
Mrs Nidhi Jain Savla
I like British India banknotes as they are very eye appealing. I love the way they are printed and designed, specially their rarity. I like British India coins too specially the gold mohurs. I recently acquired Rs. 1, 5 & 10 King George VI banknotes and some extremely rare antique coins.

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ICCG Launches First e Book on Indian Mint Errors

In January, ICCG launched its much awaited book on Indian Mint Errors Coins. This, India's first error coin book was released by Shri. R Haripath, General Manager Mumbai mint. Chief Guest Shri. R Haripath quoted that though, he many times came across such minting defects but he never thought that such coins would be collected and a day would come when a book would be written on these minting defects.

Cont on Page 4th

Lord Ganesh - The Numismatic Idol

Lord Ganesh's image has been connected with numismatics for years and it continues to be the most positive part of it. As reported in our August issue, the members of Shree Sai Darshan Mitra Mandal, Malad (W), this year came up with an idol made up from more than 35,000 old coins.

Cont on Page 4th

Coins & Stamps - A Thematic Journey

An award-winning philatelist and numismatist, Sridevi N. is a busy woman. From the General Post Office to auction houses in the city, she is always on the move looking for something special to add to her large collection of stamps and coins. If thematic postal stamps and coins excite you and feed the aspiring philatelist and numismatist inside of you, then her valuable thoughts are sure to inspire you.

From when have you been collecting stamps?
I have been collecting stamps since childhood.

What made you so passionate towards stamp collection at such young age?
Since childhood, my mother would tell me and my brother to hold on to all collectibles. I started collecting stamps of post-independence, and then went on to add coins. Whichever country we travelled to, the souvenirs I would bring back were stamps and coins. I have been collecting coins, stamps, dolls and other small collectibles.

How was the support from your family?
My parents were great support and they used to encourage these hobbies.

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Fake Coin Alert: Past, Present & Future Prediction of Commemorative Coin Sets
Canada Launches Glow in the Dark Coin
Investing in Collectible Coins & Banknotes to Give Good Returns
Representing I G Mint Mumbai to Winning International Coin Design Competition

Collecting coins and currency notes can turn out to be a good investment. Initially, it may start as a hobby but as the interest grows, it may surely become an investment opportunity.

Greater the interest, better and larger would be the collection. The uniqueness of the collection often attracts more attention and higher returns. Coins and currency notes, as you know, provide 20-30% returns on a year-on-year basis.

Since their debut, coins have been one of the most popular forms of Indian investments, and their appeal extends well beyond the arena of precious metals investing. The popularity of Indian numismatics was not very strong earlier but post-republic Indian numismatics has listed a very positive growth. While majority of the coins are minted for circulation in Republic India, hundreds of these have also been certified for numismatic purposes. Most of these are part of old and uncirculated sets, and most major coin dealers have deep supplies of these coins on hand.

Cont on Page 8th

Beware of Online Fraudsters
The growth of e-commerce has led to a surge in online fraudsters. These dealers, online and off, have been honest and reputable but questionable business practices and outright fraud have long been a part of numismatics. The continued popularization of the internet is just exposing more people to numismatic fraud.

Common problems with online coin dealing include inaccurate or misleading descriptions, deceptive photography and counterfeitings being sold as authentic coins.

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ICCG Promotes Numismatics at Smt. Sulochanadevi Singhania School, Thane
Hundreds of coins from various regions and historical value drew hundreds of visitors to the three-day numismatic exhibition that concluded at the Smt. Sulochanadevi Singhania School, Thane between 22nd to 24th September. The 42nd Annual Book Exhibition along with the Numismatic Exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Chandrashekar Pusalkar. Mrs. Mrudula Pusalkar was also guest of honor. Hundreds of parents with their children from the school came and saw the coin made of copper, lead, silver, gold and nickel - some belonging to the erstwhile princely states, East India Company and the British Raj and several others from abroad. Currency notes from the British period and world notes too were on display. But it was the error coins and coins of bygone eras that attracted the students most.

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Celebrating Diwali: Numismatic Way of Worshipping Knowledge & Wealth
With time, numismatic collectibles have become more popular choices during the festival as there is a tradition of buying and gifting gold and silver coins on Diwali.

Diwali is an ancient Hindu five day 'Festival of lights'. Celebrated by millions of Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and some Buddhists around the world, it is considered one of the happiest occasions in India and Nepal. The main theme of the festival is the triumph of light over darkness, goodness over evil, knowledge over ignorance, and hope over despair.

Are you quite acquainted with the customs and traditions of Diwali? Well the festival is not only about lighting of diya and lamps, it has a lot more things to be done. Many traditions and customs are duly attached with the celebration. Different form of arrangements are needed so as to make this festival worth celebrating.

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Quenching the Thirst with Water Bottle Labels
We have all seen many collectors being connected with their various hobbies. Be it coins, stamps, railway tickets, pencils, pens, stickers or any other collectible which may knock the passion door. And similarly ICCG News got to share few words from 13 year old Master Soham Galla from Mumbai, who is an avid collector with a passion of collecting 'Water Bottle Labels'. Excerpts from the interview:

Please let us know about your collection.
I collect water bottle labels of various brands and countries.

What fascinated you the most in collecting water bottle labels?
Well, all started during my international trip to Thailand. There I happened to see many different water bottles of different brands at restaurants, markets and hotels. I purchased all of them as they attracted me and soon I came up with a thought that there should be some in Mumbai as well. That was how I started with my journey of collecting.

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35,000 Coins to Twinkle and Jingle Ganpati Bapa in Malad West - Mumbai

Continuing with the legacy of making a creative idol from last few years, this year is no different for Malad West Mumbai. The members of Shree Sai Darshan Mitra Mandal, Malad (W), are this year coming up with an idol made up from more than 35,000 coins and have from last many days worked tirelessly making this idol which is still under completion.

In the past they have made Ganesh idols of chocolates, toy cars, erasers, pencils etc. The Mandal has even won Times Best Ganesh idol award for their Ganesh 2013 - Chocolate Ganesh, 2012 - Toy Car Ganesh, 2011 - Pencil Ganesh (Winner of times of India contest) 2014 - Football eraser Ganesh (Winner of Utaravati Raja Contest) 2015 - Social media Ganesh (Winner of Utaravati Raja Contest). Last year this Mandal made Ganesh idol of spices. The Mandal came up with an eco friendly idol made up of pulp made from old newspapers and rice waste, weighing approximately 150kgs only with decoration of Indian Spices like clove (9kgs), cinnamon (20kgs), chilly (12 kgs), Cardamom (1kg) & Mustard seeds (1 kg).

Cont on Page 6th

ICCG News Felicitation Ceremony 2017 @ Bangalore

In an event to mark two successful years, on the opening day ICCG felicitated some respectable numismatists to mark two successful years of ICCG News. The felicitation was done by the hands of the Chief Guest Shri. Prashant Kulkarni and specially acknowledged the services of Karnataka Numismatic Society who have served Indian Numismatics for four decades. Special memento was presented to Shri. Kirti Pareek, president of Karnataka Numismatic Society. Guests of Honor Shri. Girish Veera, Shri. Sanjay Gosalia and Shri. Jagdish Agarwal were also present. Further ICCG News encouraged all its readers to share any numismatic or philatelic related news and articles with them.

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ICCG Promotes Numismatics at Smt. Sulochanadevi Singhania School, Thane
Hundreds of coins from various regions and historical value drew hundreds of visitors to the three-day numismatic exhibition that concluded at the Smt. Sulochanadevi Singhania School, Thane between 22nd to 24th September. The 42nd Annual Book Exhibition along with the Numismatic Exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Chandrashekar Pusalkar. Mrs. Mrudula Pusalkar was also guest of honor. Hundreds of parents with their children from the school came and saw the coin made of copper, lead, silver, gold and nickel - some belonging to the erstwhile princely states, East India Company and the British Raj and several others from abroad. Currency notes from the British period and world notes too were on display. But it was the error coins and coins of bygone eras that attracted the students most.

Cont on Page 2nd

Celebrating Diwali: Numismatic Way of Worshipping Knowledge & Wealth
With time, numismatic collectibles have become more popular choices during the festival as there is a tradition of buying and gifting gold and silver coins on Diwali.

Diwali is an ancient Hindu five day 'Festival of lights'. Celebrated by millions of Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and some Buddhists around the world, it is considered one of the happiest occasions in India and Nepal. The main theme of the festival is the triumph of light over darkness, goodness over evil, knowledge over ignorance, and hope over despair.

Are you quite acquainted with the customs and traditions of Diwali? Well the festival is not only about lighting of diya and lamps, it has a lot more things to be done. Many traditions and customs are duly attached with the celebration. Different form of arrangements are needed so as to make this festival worth celebrating.

Cont on Page 7th

Quenching the Thirst with Water Bottle Labels
We have all seen many collectors being connected with their various hobbies. Be it coins, stamps, railway tickets, pencils, pens, stickers or any other collectible which may knock the passion door. And similarly ICCG News got to share few words from 13 year old Master Soham Galla from Mumbai, who is an avid collector with a passion of collecting 'Water Bottle Labels'. Excerpts from the interview:

Please let us know about your collection.
I collect water bottle labels of various brands and countries.

What fascinated you the most in collecting water bottle labels?
Well, all started during my international trip to Thailand. There I happened to see many different water bottles of different brands at restaurants, markets and hotels. I purchased all of them as they attracted me and soon I came up with a thought that there should be some in Mumbai as well. That was how I started with my journey of collecting.

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Cont of Page 6th....

In our first year we came up with an article on the violation of RBI's Clean Note Policy by a few of RBI Governors as they signed autographs on circulatory currency notes which are then auctioned for thousands of rupees. In our January 2018 issue we again came up with the same story as the then Finance Secretary Shri. Shaktikanta Das signed autographs on number of one rupee notes at a private Book release function at Bangalore.

In April 2017, we shared our part of concern on the halt of the MA in numismatics at Dinesh Mody Institute of Numismatics and Archaeology (DMINA) located in the campus of Kalina University, as the doors continue to remain shut even after four years. After one year in our May 2018 issue, we again shared the story of how a clash between two auction giants could not bring out any good to Indian Numismatics and only resulted as a major loss for hundreds of budding numismatists.

Apart of our news stories and various articles on coins and stamps releases we were honored to share the rare memories, valuable thoughts and experiences of few senior numismatists as well as the passion of young budding hobby lovers in our interview section.

As we look to continue from here, we again look at our contributors and our readers. Our critics make us strong and every suggestion helps us to grow in being the voice of Indian Numismatics.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018

India Post Issues Mahabharat Stamps
Scholarship to Students Collecting Stamps
Governor Inaugurates Philatelic Festival in Jammu
Numismatic Exhibitions at Delhi & Goa

One Rupee One Hundred Years - Book Launched by Shri. Rezwan Razack

In 1914, when the First World War broke out and uncertain times led people to shun banknotes, panic spread across India. As people rushed to the banks to convert banknotes against silver coins, the Government soon realized it was short of coins and began minting more silver coins to keep pace with the public demand. As silver grew scarce and the Government of India organized more coins, it also simultaneously introduced paper banknotes of smaller denominations, most notably One Rupee, in 1917.

Hundreds of Students Explore India's History with ICCG during a 3 Day Numismatic Exhibit

In a world flooded by the electronic media, insulating hobbies is an uphill task. However, ICCG believes that everyone should have at least one hobby - one passion in life to make it interesting and worthwhile. Keeping this in view, ICCG organized a Numismatic Exhibition under the title theme 'Men Darsihar' and introduced the art of Numismatics to few school children. The three day exhibition which got under way at the Raghulela Mall in Kandivali was put up especially for the students of DasVidya to Xth but was open to all the children and even the parents.

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. On display were some rare coins dating back to the Mughal era and earlier. More than seven hundred students from SHAIS Aggarwal International School, Oxford International School and KES Shroff College visited this Numismatic Exhibition as a part of their study trip.

Attention ICCG Postponed

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Special Cover in memory of Uppendri Rai
Dish National Museum in need of a Numismatist
SRI National Numismatic Exhibition Bangalore
Rare Stamps on Women Achievers in Mangalore

Government Pays Two Times for Duplicate Sikh Coins Though Originals Available at Half Price

When the collection of original Sikh coins is available at half the price in the open market, the Punjab Government has paid twice the amount to a private firm just for minting duplicate coins. These coins were minted for building a museum in the name of the late Sikh ruler Maharaja Ranjit Singh. The decision has raised eyebrows. According to numismatists, most of the original Sikh coins in copper are available anywhere between Rs. 150 and Rs. 200 and some in silver between Rs. 1,500 and Rs. 2,000.

Collecting 'Fake Coins' - The Unknown Facet of Coin Collecting

In the world of coin collecting, we are believed to stay away from the 'Fake' & 'Counterfeit' coins. Getting any of these unknowingly leaves us in a state of dismay. Novelty coins, replica coins, copy coins... No matter what term we may use, those are fake coins! Coins that aren't 100 percent mint made has grown up into a huge collection for Mr. Rahul G. Keshwani. Excerpts from the interview...

How did you get attracted to 'fake coins' and how long have you been collecting?

As a serious coin collector I always got attracted to coins which may prove out to be a good source of study. And 'fake coins' are the negative part of the hobby which I collect for two major reasons: Study purpose and for spreading awareness as much as I can. It's an area of interest that largely grew up from coin collection and I started to add fake coins to my collection when I became more knowledgeable about how to detect them.

When did you start collecting these coins?

In general, I started collecting coins since year 1995 at the age of ten, but collection of 'fake coins' started in 2002 when I came across fake coins from circulation which was a five rupee copper-nickel coin of 1984 with a Mumbai mint mark. In some cases, there are varieties of coins that were considered to be authentic only to be later discovered as a counterfeit or fake. It was just like adding one more dish to the entire meal. One day I was just sitting with my coins at that time I observed that I had many fake coins which I had got from circulation, collectors, dealers and friends. That day I started organizing my collection of fake coins & gave equal importance to these coins as I do others.

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Is the Finance Secretary or the Governor Authorized to Autograph a Circulatory Currency Note?

Finance Secretary Shaktikanta Das Rubbishes 'Clean Note Policy' as He Autographs Number of New One Rupee Notes at a Private Function

Today, 'Swatch Bharat Abhiyan' (Modi's campaign that translates into 'Clean India') is promoted on every new currency note but RBI's 'Clean Note Policy' has been clearly violated by Governors and Finance Secretaries. Very recently, in an absolute violation of the 'Clean Note Policy' (which is being applied by the RBI over the years), Finance Secretary Shri. Shaktikanta Das recently gave autographs on many new one rupee notes to various Numismatists and Notapahils during a Book Release Function at Bangalore.

In the past, newspapers and publications have consistently highlighted this issue and even shared stories on how this practice of lending anything on currency notes negatively affects Indian economy and as a result crores of rupees are wasted every year. But so each currency note bearing autograph of Governor (or Finance Secretary) often gets auctioned for thousands of rupees on various numismatic auctions, more & more currency notes are being autographed by these higher authorities who themselves don't seem to respect the 'clean note policy'. Such notes have been displayed by few senior numismatists on their social network walls. Though the authenticity of the autographs are subject to investigation but keeping in view the reputation of the numismatists, it is most unlikely for the autographed signatures to be forged.

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New 300 Rupees Commemorative Coin
Govt. Hints Coin Production
Postal Cover on Ujjain Srisravan Mahaja
Aerogram Stamp Released with Spelling Error

Beware of Fake 100 Rupees Maharana Pratap Coins

ICCG News has reported the sales of 'fake coins' on ebay to legal authorities

One often believes that everything in numismatics has a value to someone - even counterfeit coins and currency notes though this may not always be the case.

Recently, low online shopping portals are found to be selling fake 100 rupee commemorative coins of Maharana Pratap. Interestingly these coins are yet to be released by the RBI. Earlier too the 200 rupee centenary coins of Tatyapa were being sold on various portals and it was reported on our December 2017 issue.

'ebay' - a popular online selling portal can easily be seen loaded with loads of fake coins and many complaints have been forwarded to their authorities. In the past as it still continues with many complaints being forwarded in the present. Collectors also end up paying GST on purchases of 'fake coins'. ICCG News has reported the sales of 'fake coins' on 'ebay' to the legal authorities and any positive measure to stop such activities are awaited.

Living with the History through Coins, Notes & Stamps

We have all seen many collectors being connected with their various hobbies, but this time ICCG News got to share thoughts of a retired bank employee Mr. Yogesh Overseer, who believes that every coin, currency note or postal stamp has a history behind it for which he has been passionate since his childhood.

It is a far cry from the hand struck coins of the ancient times to the present day plastic money used in transactions - the transition reflects the evolution of money. Numismatics has been generally associated with the students of history who rely on it as a source of information. For Mr. Yogesh Overseer, a retired bank cashier, interest in history developed as a natural outcome of his childhood hobby of collecting coins and stamps. Mr. Overseer has served his bank for more than 40 years and has a great piece of experience and knowledge of the subject which he sees as his hobby. Getting employed as a bank cashier at an early age of 18, it was not very difficult to learn about various Indian currencies and that was just a fancy. The collection kept growing but it was from his childhood days that Mr. Overseer was passionate of coins and stamp collecting. His progression from a mere coin and paper money collector to a genuine numismatist who learnt to use his hobby to reconstruct the history of a period is now seen as a source of inspiration for his grand children for whom Mr. Overseer wishes to gift all his collectibles as he believes that is the duty of this generation to take the hobby forward.

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ICCG News Cleanly eBay from Fake Maharana Pratap Coins

ICCG News Cleanly eBay from Fake Maharana Pratap Coins

Postal Cover to Mark Buddha Purima

Shri. Rajender Maru

How did you develop interest in numismatics? Was there someone or something of significance that played a role?

The interest in numismatics got developed with the inclination of philately, as I have always lived and seen my father Sh. Prem Rajani Maru since my childhood days collecting and dealing in this field. Yes, it was my father who played this significant role. And what was the area of your interest?

Collection to any collector means a lot because it tells the story of each coin, from where it came, how it was procured and tells us the story of our own created memories. Coins are one of the best proofs of history.

Recent BNP Arrest Signals Alert for Corruption in Indian Notaphily

New Mintage, Specimen Notes to Stand under Vigilance

Indian Notaphilists have found themselves in some state of worry with regards to their prized collectibles. Paper money collectors with a passion of collecting error or misprinted currency notes were shocked over the news of a recent arrest of a senior official possessing Rs. 50 lakh worth misprint currency notes at SBI (Bank Note Press) Division in Kolkata. The news has raised serious security concerns. The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) had arrested Mr. Manohar Verma early last month, who was employed as deputy control officer in the note verification department at the Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPINCOL) run SBI in MP. The officer had major defects in the currency notes, with minor and major defects, at his home and personal bank lockers. If the reports are to be believed, investigating officials are keeping a closer look on the quantities of the misprint notes in the new series and also on the specimen notes which are being displayed and/or offered on various online portals & Facebook.

Loss to Thousands of Budding Numismatists

MA in Numismatics continue to remain a dream as doors of Dinesh Modi Institute of Numismatics & Archaeology remain closed even after four years

Right between two auction giants could not bring out any good to Indian Numismatics. It only resulted as a major loss for hundreds of budding numismatists as the admissions to Master of Arts in numismatics and archaeology at Dinesh Modi Institute of Numismatics and Archaeology (DMINA) located in the campus of Kalina University, had just been put on hold by the Mumbai University (MU) and the doors continue to remain shut even after four years. The step was a result of a clash between two auctioneers Shri. Farook 'Todywalla' of 'Todywalla Auctions' and Shri. Shatrughan Sarangi of 'Classical Numismatic Gallery' in 2014. Shri. Dinesh Modi (MA), a senior Supreme Court lawyer and a prominent numismatist had donated 25,000 coins to the Mumbai University (MU) to set up a museum in 2005 at its Kalina campus. In 2014, Mr. Todywalla filed a plea with the Mumbai High Court claiming the sale of the coins as illegal. Cont on Page 4th....

Cashing in... with Passion

One 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. Mr. Ashish Parul is one person who goes the extra mile for his hobby. Not only does he spend time with his collectibles, he loves to share his joy with other collectors as well. A person with very pleasant smile and nature, Mr. Ashish Parul very friendly shared his collection and experience with ICCG News... Excerpts from the interview:

As a child were you fascinated towards coins or any other collectibles? Or had you ever taken coin collection as a hobby?

As a child I used to like foreign coins and that was what I used to collect. The themes and designs of foreign coins were far more stupor than Indian coins. As a child I also used to collect small scale Indian coins. I took coins and stamps as a hobby more seriously because of my interest in them.

How and when did you start your collection?

I started buying foreign coins at the age of 15 years. But soon I stopped and in few years I started with Indian coins and slowly I seriously got involved with Indian coinage. Cont on Page 3rd....

Philatelic Exhibition in Trichy

TRICHY: Tiruchy Philatelists Association, with the support of the postal department, on 18th May 2018 began a one-sheet philatelic exhibition -- OSPex -2018 - here to propagate the hobby of stamp collection among school students.

The two-day exhibition is a first-of-its-kind initiative in Tamil Nadu, according to the organizers. Though only a minimum of 16-sheet collection (considered to be one frame) is accepted as an exhibit as per common standards, the organizers came up with the one-sheet experiment for the convenience of children.

A total of 52 exhibits, by as many school students, were featured at OSPex -2018, which was held at the head post office here.

Each exhibit was based on a particular theme, some of which included 'Actress Madhubala - The Marilyn Monroe of India,' 'Indian Cricket Legends,' 'Slogan Stamps' and 'Australian Stamp Collection.'



Postmaster general (central region, Trichy) Ambesh Upmanyu inaugurated the exhibition.

World's Largest Postal Stamp: Swamiji Bags 9 Guinness World Records

Mysuru: On the occasion of Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Swamiji's 76th birthday celebrations at Avadhoota Datta Peetham in city yesterday, the world's largest special postal stamp depicting 'Vishwam' Museum was released by Sri Swamiji. The original stamp has been recently published by Indian Postal Department under My Stamp category.

In the presence of Sri Swamiji, devotees from all over the world and officials from Indian Postal Department, Guinness World Records, London office representative Swapnil Dangarikar awarded a new Guinness World Record title on the largest stamp on 27th May 2018. With this new title, Sri Swamiji has bagged a total of nine Guinness World Records within a span of three years under various categories.



Vishwam Museum

The Vishwam Museum, situated inside the nucleus of Avadhoota Datta Peetham, which houses several unique artefact and collections, was established in 2006. It houses a perplexing collection of archives from various countries as bestowed to the Ashrama by the devotees.

Stamp collections have been categorized under Philately and thematic displays such as animals, flowers, musical instruments, music and art of India, temple architecture in India, stamps collection from 162 countries and golden replicas of USA and Indian classical stamps.

Under coins collection, there are regular coins of republic of India, British India coins and post-Independence coins and Indian commemorative coins.

The remarkable stamp collection holds a special place as the association goes back to the time when Sri Swamiji in his 'Purvashrama' (when he was Satyanarayana) worked with a Post Office in Metagalli, Mysuru, back in 1960s. Even today, Sri Swamiji in the digital era continues to be a messenger conveying spiritual and moral messages to his devotees and people at large across the world through various platforms including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and SGS POSTS, an app where you can register for free and receive his spiritual and moral messages every day in various Indian and Foreign languages.

“WORD SEARCH QUIZ” (Error Coin)

Find the answer . The words may be horizontally, vertically or diagonally either forward or backward but in straight line, use the ruler to cross them as you find the words

Solution of the word search to appear in next issue

P	S	F	T	Y	O	J	S	V	B	A	C	E	D	H	Y	R	M
A	C	E	G	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	Q	E	R	T	S	V	N
T	S	E	C	H	K	S	T	N	E	M	G	A	R	F	L	P	Q
A	B	L	G	J	M	P	Z	D	Y	G	U	R	S	C	V	R	B
L	V	P	A	R	T	I	A	L	A	C	H	K	J	D	M	E	X
S	P	I	R	F	B	S	T	R	I	K	E	S	F	E	O	V	Z
V	F	T	A	R	S	P	I	O	P	B	L	N	H	V	V	E	S
R	C	L	X	T	D	L	K	G	D	Z	L	X	E	R	C	R	D
D	R	U	T	Y	G	I	E	S	X	A	I	M	S	U	D	S	H
L	A	M	I	N	A	T	I	O	N	B	P	U	N	C	H	E	D
M	C	L	I	P	P	E	D	F	Y	I	T	L	D	S	A	W	E
B	K	O	C	V	E	R	T	F	U	O	I	E	F	E	Q	G	J
N	E	R	A	D	G	H	J	C	H	U	C	X	D	V	B	S	W
O	D	O	U	B	L	E	D	E	C	P	A	I	V	I	R	A	J
J	W	T	N	S	Z	R	C	N	B	F	L	I	P	P	E	D	A
Q	Y	A	I	D	X	E	H	T	N	S	B	M	C	K	X	L	D
S	A	T	F	V	B	S	V	E	V	P	D	P	A	D	T	H	E
B	X	I	A	F	M	N	B	R	C	I	O	R	F	D	R	U	V
J	Z	O	C	B	O	N	K	G	I	H	J	O	K	P	U	T	H
F	E	N	E	Z	T	R	O	F	D	E	I	P	S	Q	S	A	G
G	J	A	Y	S	A	E	S	O	H	N	O	E	X	Y	I	F	B
H	D	E	S	A	W	T	H	L	F	P	I	R	Z	W	O	G	D
Y	W	U	R	D	E	A	R	D	T	Y	U	I	O	B	N	J	M
L	K	Y	A	O	S	I	B	E	R	D	A	C	V	U	I	R	X
X	L	T	C	P	R	N	K	D	M	N	U	E	Y	J	G	H	K
K	N	D	H	V	M	E	T	A	L	U	R	T	R	D	S	A	P
V	M	I	L	U	T	D	N	J	G	S	T	R	A	I	G	H	T
B	U	R	S	T	I	N	G	K	E	U	E	D	S	F	M	I	P

Solution of May Issue

1	QINDARKA	15	BRAZIL
2	ZAIRE	16	ORE
3	KWANZA	17	KRONER
4	GROSCHEN	18	DECIMOS
5	AZORES	19	MISR
6	TANZANIA	20	ANNO
7	INDIA	21	KORONA
8	BELIZE	22	FILS
9	CHHERTUM	23	CHAD
10	REIS	24	SEYCHELLES
11	SABAH	25	GHIRSH
12	STOTINKI	26	JERSEY
13	MYANMAR	27	KRAN
14	CANADA	28	BRUNIE

Coin of the Month

Republic India 2 Rupees Commemorative Error Coin

Denomination: 2 Rupees Year: 1998 Mint: Kolkata

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

Weight: 6 g Shape: Circular Diameter: 26 mm

Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das Commemoration Issue

Chittaranjan Das, was born on November 5, 1870, in Bikrampur, Dhaka (now in Bangladesh). He was an eminent Bengali lawyer and a leading figure in the Indian independence movement. He was popularly called “Deshbandhu” (Friend of the country), for the sacrifices he made for the freedom struggle. He breathed his last on 16 June 1925.

Double Strike with second strike off center

This coin was first struck as a well-centered coin but did not eject properly and fell partially inside the collar, and got struck again. Thus it resulted as a 'Double Struck' coin. The second strike here is totally random.

This coin of the month is chosen from the collection of senior numismatist Mr. Manish Agarwal's collection.



Event's Time 10.00 Am - 7.00 Pm

Month	Dates	Events Name	Venue
July	6, 7, & 8	Travancore Expo	Bhagyamala Auditorium, Chandrasekharan Nair Stadium, Paiyayam, Thiruvananthapuram
July	13	Nidhi 2018 – International Seminar on South Indian Numismatics	West Fort Hotel, Rajajinagar, Magadi Road, Bengaluru,
July	13, 14, & 15	Global Currency Expo (Trichy)	Sreenivasa Hall, Near Central Bus Stand, Ttichy, Tamil Nadu
July	20, 21, & 22	Chennai Coin Society	Aruna Palace 20, Arunachalam Road, Saligramam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
August	10, 11 & 12	Coimbatore Coin Stampex	Dr.T.V sivananda Memorial Hall, No.7, Near Chennai Silks Gandhipuram, Coimbatore
August	10, 11 & 12	Ahmedabad Coins & Currency Fair	The President Hotel, Opp Municipal Market, C.G. Road, Navarangpura, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
August	30, 31 & 1 Sept	MCS Coins & Philately Fair	Expo Center, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai, Maharashtra
November	23 to 29	Delhi Coins & Notes Exhibition	All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society, 1 Rafi Marg, New Delhi
December	21, 22, & 23	Mudra Utsav (Kolkata)	Haldiram Banquet Hall, 24 Ballygunge park, Kolkata, WestBengal

Currencies of 100 Countries on Display in Capital

New Delhi: A seven-day exhibition on Indian civilization coins and currencies of other countries was inaugurated by Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia at the All India Fine Arts & Craft Society (AIFACS) on 14th May 2018. The exhibition displayed Indian civilization coins and currencies of 100 countries, stamps, and many other historical artifacts.

According to the Royal Numismatic Society which had organized the exhibition, the week-long exhibition invited numismatic enthusiasts to the event to take a dive into the history of India and many other countries while adding fascinating rarities to their existing numismatic collection. Exhibition conclude on May 20th.

On this occasion, Sisodia said that numismatic is a “direct source” to learn history.

“The attendees were able to witness a chronological display of Delhi from 4-6 BC to 1947 encapsulating the evolution of the capital through mindboggling works of art,” the society said in a statement.

The exhibition also featured classical numismatic gallery along with coins, notes and stamps of Republic of India and many other nations.

Other major attractions of the exhibition included sale of marvellous paintings of high historical and aesthetic significance by renowned artists and display of numismatic exhibits featuring Sachin Tendulkar's century dates, sporadic collections of copper state coins, misprinted coins, and notes and more.

Besides antique collectables and numismatics, there were free educational programmes for history enthusiasts, like-minded hobbyists and students.

These events included a workshop by Prof Gautam Jantkal, lectures and seminars on historical currencies and coins by leading numismatists and researchers.



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

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.

1992 – Rajiv Gandhi Commemoration

Rajiv Gandhi (20 August 1944 – 21 May 1991), was the elder son of Indira Gandhi. After the assassination of his mother, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the prime minister of India on 31st October, 1984, Rajiv was nominated as the 9th Prime Minister of India. He won the elections held in Dec'84 with overwhelming majority and became the youngest Prime Minister of India when he took office (at the age of 40). In 1986 He founded the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya System, created MTNL and his public call offices, better known as PCOs, helped spread telephones in rural areas.

He was assassinated by a bomb blast done by the L.T.T.E. extremists at a meeting at Sriperambudur (Tamilnadu) on 21st May 1991. India paid her homage to this departed leader by issuing this 1 rupee commemorative coin on 21st May 1992 – the first anniversary of his death. He was posthumously awarded the Highest National Award of India, Bharat Ratna.

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: Reverse shows the effigy of Rajiv Gandhi with the legend "RAJIV GANDHI" in both English and Hindi and "1944 – 1991" – his years of birth and death.

Specifications: Year of issue: 1992 Weight: 6 grams

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

Shape: Circular **Diameter:** 26 mm



Rajiv Gandhi

World Stamp Championship Held in Jerusalem

The Israel 2018 World Stamp Championship, was recently held from May 27 to May 31 and at no charge to visitors and covered over 2,000 square meters of space in the capital's International Convention Center

The 70th anniversary of Israel's independence marked in Jerusalem late this month with one of the world's most prestigious stamp exhibitions in the world.

The competition was being held under the auspices and supervision of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP) and was characterized by especially rare collections, whose owners had won large gold medals and competed for prizes. The exhibition also featured a special section – the honor wing – in which some of the world's greatest collectors presented only one item each. Marking not only the independence anniversary but also (belatedly) the 50th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem, the exhibition was organized by the Israel Philatelic Federation and the Philatelic Services of Israel.

This was the second time that Israel had hosted the World Stamp Championship, which is considered to have the highest place among the stamp exhibitions worldwide. The event included not only Israeli collectors but those from more than 50 leading countries in the world of philately, such as the US, France, Germany, Spain, Brazil, Australia and China – who exhibited some of the best collections of their country. Over 1,000 exhibition frames, including collections related to the philately of the Land of Israel, were displayed.

In the honor wing, 15 extraordinary items were presented from collections that had won the greatest prize of world exhibitions, such as an 1870 letter from Paris besieged by the Germans that was sent in a zinc ball down the Seine; a letter partially burned by the Hindenburg airship; the well-known letter sent from Mongolia to Paris in 1854; the only known letter sent from Bolivia with several halved Condor stamps; and the first stamps on letters from the East Indies of the Netherlands. In the World Championship division, all collections had previously won at least three large gold medals.

Israeli collector Itamar Karpovskii presented the stamps from France, Austria, Russia, Germany and Italy in the Ottoman Empire. From Brazil, a 1918 collection dealing with Mandatory Palestine were also shown. Collections from 1948, including improvised stamps in besieged cities of Israel, were displayed along with a collection from the Netherlands on the subject of the period of transition from the Mandate to Israel. A collector from Germany showed stamps describing the postal route from Baghdad to Haifa. A collection on the subject of post-Holocaust Theresienstadt from Austria was also shown.

Patna-based philatelist Pradip Jain has participated in the mega event. The Indian team, which has exhibited the journey of Mahatma Gandhi through stamps at the global competition, comprises Philatelic Congress of India's president Damayanti Pittie, Sunil Ranasaria, Kapil Gogri and Pradip Jain. Visitors were also able to purchase stamps and albums from Israel and abroad.

In 2012, India and Israel had released a set of postal stamps, depicting their respective festival of lights, to commemorative 20 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries.



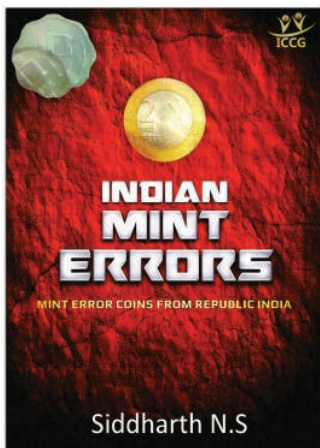


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