



NMCS - 08

Newsletter of Mumbai Coin Society

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Coins Displayed on Monday 25th Feb 2019 and a lecture on Numismatics given on 27th Feb at Sir C J High School both by MCS Life Member Shri Anand Kothari.

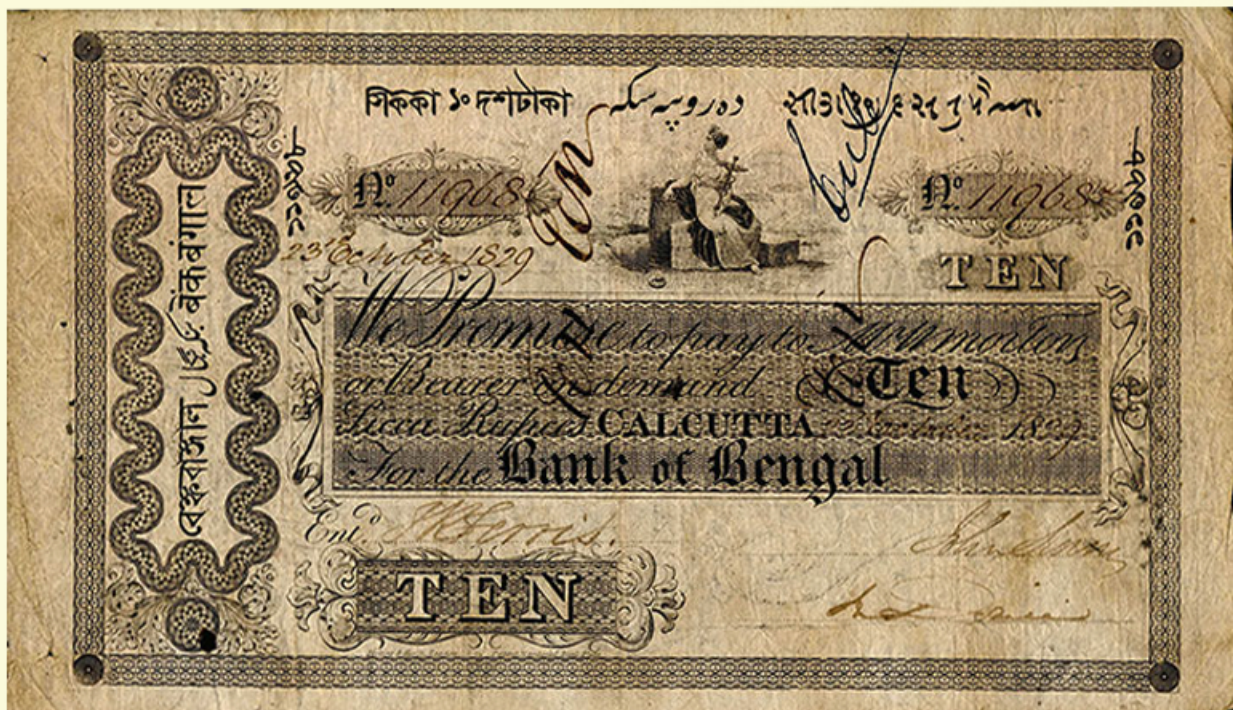


Evolution and Transformation of Rupees Ten notes in India after Independence - (Part-I)

- Rezwan Razack

During the early part of the 18th Century the Provinces of the Bengal Presidency saw the emergence of several Joint Stock Banks. The Bank of Hindostan was amongst the first Banks to have issued banknotes. The Bank of Calcutta started in June 1806, which almost immediately became the Bank of Bengal. The Asiatic Bank was established in 1804 and the Madras Government Bank in 1806. These two banks were Private Banks who merged in 1843 to form the Bank of Madras. The Bank of Bengal was one among the three Presidency Banks. The other two were the Bank of Bombay and the Bank of Madras. All these three banks were established under Charters from the British East India Company. The other Private Banks to issue banknotes were the Commercial Bank, the Calcutta Bank, the Union Bank, the Bank of Western India, the Oriental Bank and the Commercial Bank of India. These Private Banks as well as the three Semi-Governmental Presidency Banks issued their own notes based on their English precedents. All banknotes of the Early and Presidency Banks had the denomination of Rupees Ten. This denomination has been in existence since the inception of Indian Paper Money in 1812.

The British India governance began in 1857-58. The first British India banknote whose payments were guaranteed by the Government of India were introduced into circulation through the Paper Currency Bill which was passed in 1861 as Act XIX. This Act came into effect in July 1861. The Paper Currency Act of 1861 bestowed the Government of India the monopoly of Note Issue in India thereby bringing an end to the Note Issues of the Private and Presidency Banks.



Bank of Bengal – Rupees Ten



The Reserve Bank of India became the sole authority to issue Indian banknotes under the Reserve Bank of India Act of 1935 and issued notes of British India printed at Nasik. Presently, the Banknotes of Republic India are being printed at four printing plants situated at Nashik (Maharashtra), Dewas (Madhya Pradesh), Mysore (Karnataka) and Salboni (West Bengal). The Government printing plants at Nashik and Dewas were established in the years 1928 and 1975 respectively. The printing plants at Salboni and Mysore were established in 1995 and are fully owned by Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Ltd., a fully owned subsidiary of The Reserve Bank of India.

The Reserve Bank of India has the rights to print notes from denominations of Rupees Two upto Rupees Ten Thousand. However, the Government of India did not entrust The Reserve Bank of India to print and issue the One Rupee note as it is treated at par as a coin.

India became independent on 15th August 1947. The notes of British India were in circulation and were accepted as Legal Tender in India until the release of new notes in India after Indian Independence.

The Reserve Bank of India released the first Ten Rupees note in December 1949. The first Rupees Ten note is purple, brown, green and multicoloured. The watermark in this note is the 'Asoka Pillar'. The denomination in words 'Ten Rupees' and 'Reserve Bank of India' is also seen in the watermark. The Security Thread is on the right side of this note. The obverse of the note has the watermark window on the left side and motif of the Asoka Pillar on the right side. The entire text on the obverse of the note is in English. The serial number is printed on the obverse. Sir C. D. Deshmukh, Governor, Reserve Bank of India has signed this note. The dimensions of this note are 14.7 x 8.3 cm.



*Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees – obverse
Signed by Sir C. D. Deshmukh*

The reverse of the Rupees Ten note has the motif of the 'Sailing Boat' or 'Sailing Dhow'. This motif used on the reverse of the Rupees Ten note has been the longest surviving motif for over 40 years from these initially designed notes. The seal of the Reserve Bank of India is below the motif. The language panel on the reverse has eight regional languages Urdu, Hindi, Bangla, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Gujarati, Oriya arranged randomly. The denomination in numerals was on either side above and in words on either side below.



*Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees – reverse
'Sailing Dhow' motif; eight languages in panel*

On 26th January 1950, the first Republic Day of India, a Rupees Ten note was released along with notes of other denominations. The Rupees Ten note was signed by Sir B. Rama Rau, Governor, Reserve Bank of India.



*Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees – obverse
Signed by Sir B. Rama Rau*

Watermarks are amongst the most popular security feature of the Indian Paper Money. The watermark in the first Rupees Ten note had the **‘Asoka Pillar’** image on the left side, denomination **‘Ten Rupees’** in words written above and below **‘Reserve Bank of India’** in the centre. The watermark with the **‘Ashoka Pillar’**, **‘Reserve Bank of India’** later replaced with **‘RBI’** and the denomination in words **‘Ten Rupees’** replaced with **‘10’** continued in different forms until June 1996.

The Rupees Ten notes issued from August 1951 have the serial number printed on either side on the obverse. From these notes onwards, bi-lingual text has been introduced for the denomination on the obverse and reverse. On the obverse, the denomination in incorrect Hindi ‘Dus Rupaya’ was included along with English.



*Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees – obverse
Serial Number on either side; Denomination in bi-lingual text - incorrect Hindi*

On the reverse, Hindi was removed from the language panel and the denomination was printed in incorrect Hindi below the watermark window on the right. The language panel on the reverse has seven regional languages.



*Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees – reverse
Denomination in seven regional languages in panel; incorrect Hindi*

In the Rupees Ten notes issued in August 1953, the denomination in words in Hindi was corrected to 'Dus Rupaye'. Insets in the serial number panel commenced from these notes.



*Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees – obverse
Denomination in words in corrected Hindi*

On the reverse, the denomination in regional languages in the language panel were corrected and the number of languages increased to thirteen regional languages arranged alphabetically commencing with Assamese and ending with Urdu.



*Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees – reverse
Thirteen languages arranged alphabetically in panel*

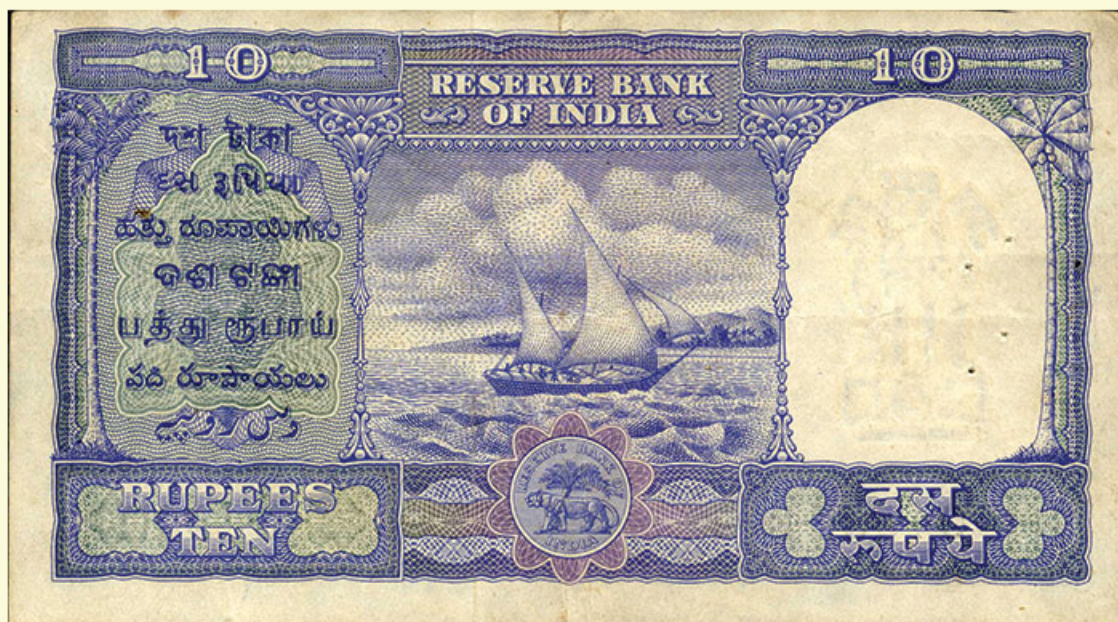
Notes of Rupees Ten of the pattern issued in 1953 signed by H. V. R. Iengar were printed in distinctive prominent colours for use by the Haj pilgrims and in the Persian Gulf in 1959. This was to distinguish them from the existing Rupees Ten notes that were in circulation within India at that time. The Promise Text in these notes was modified to **'payable at the office of issue in Bombay'**.

In 1959, Rupees Ten and Rupees One Hundred notes of the pattern issued in 1953 signed by H. V. R. Iengar with inset **'A'** were printed in marine blue colour for use by Indian Haj Pilgrims in Saudi Arabia. The Pilgrims exchanged these notes for local currency in Saudi Arabia. **'HAJ'** was inscribed on either side on this note. These notes have only prefix **KA** before the serial number on the obverse. The Promise Text in these notes was changed to **'payable at the office of issue in Bombay'**.



Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees note for 'Haj' Pilgrims

Other than the marine blue colour, the reverse of this Haj note is identical to the Rupees Ten note of 1953.



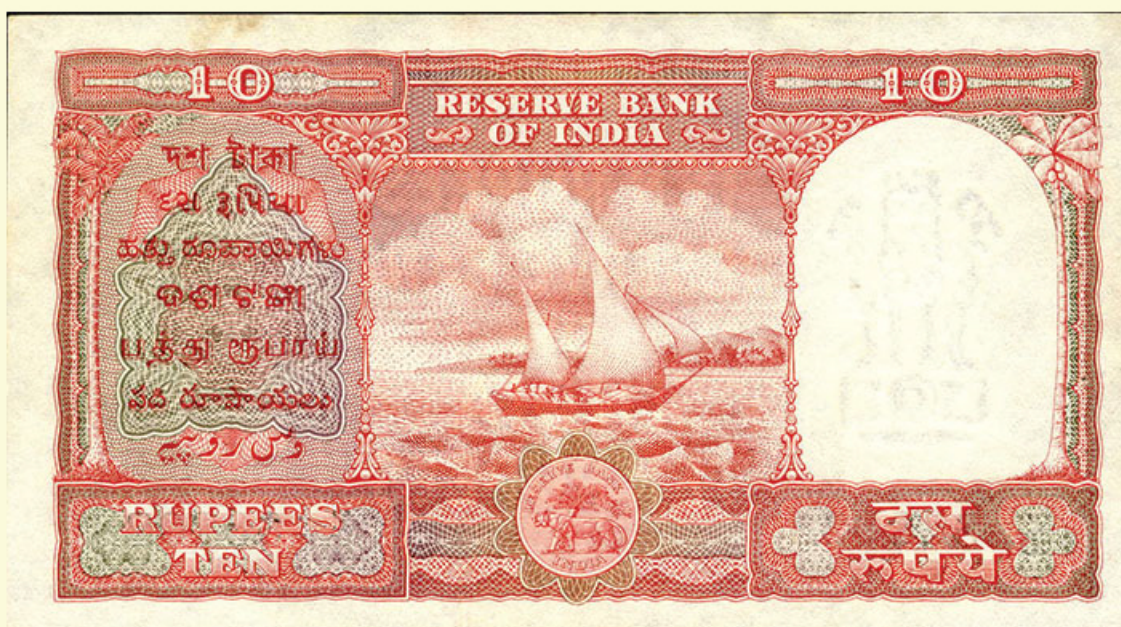
Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees note for 'Haj' Pilgrims - reverse

In 1959 the Government of India issued distinctive currency notes for circulation in the Persian Gulf. These special notes known as 'Gulf Rupees' were in denominations of One Rupee, Five, Ten and One Hundred Rupees. The Rupees Ten notes of the pattern issued in 1953 signed by H.V. R. Iyengar and with inset 'A' were printed in orange in colour. The serial numbers of these notes had the prefix 'Z'. The Promise Text in these notes was modified to **'payable at the office of issue in Bombay'**.



Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees note for circulation in Persian Gulf - obverse

Apart from the prominent orange colour, the reverse of the Gulf Rupees Ten note is identical to the Rupees Ten note of 1953.



Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees note for circulation in Persian Gulf - reverse

In April 1967, the design of the Rupees Ten notes was changed. The size of the note was reduced substantially in this new pattern. In the watermark of this note the '**Ashoka Pillar**' was smaller in size, and had '**RBI**' and the denomination '**10**'. The watermark of this pattern continued to be used in the Rupees Ten notes until 1996. A metallic security thread was introduced in the right half in this note. The promise text on the obverse had the denomination in English in words and figures. '**Dus Rupaye**' in Hindi was shifted above the Ashoka Pillar on the right side.



Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees - smaller sized note of 1967 – obverse

On the reverse, the 'Sailing Boat' motif was in an oval shaped panel at the centre. The denomination in Hindi was to the left below the language panel and the denomination in words in English was shifted to the right below the watermark window.



Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees - smaller sized note of 1967 – reverse

In 1968 the Rupees Ten notes in blackish brown colour were issued. On the obverse, the title **‘Reserve Bank of India’**, **‘Guaranteed by the Central Government’**, the Promise Text, the designation of the Governor and his signature were printed in Hindi along with English from these notes onwards. The words **‘On Demand’** and **‘at any office of issue’** in the promise text and **‘FOR THE RESERVE BANK OF INDIA’** near the signature were removed. The serial number on the right side of the note was above the Ashoka Pillar and the denomination in Hindi below it.



Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees – issued in 1968 – obverse

On the reverse of this note, **‘Bharatiya Reserve Bank’** in Hindi was printed below the title **‘Reserve Bank of India’**.



Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees – issued in 1968 – reverse

On 2nd October 1969, the Reserve Bank of India issued the commemorative note of Rupees Ten along with other denominations to mark the Birth Centenary of Mahatma Gandhi. The obverse of these notes was identical to the 1968 issue.



*Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees – obverse
Mahatma Gandhi Birth Centenary Commemorative note*

The reverse of the commemorative notes had the vignette of Mahatma Gandhi sitting down reading a book at the Sabarmati Ashram. The title **‘Reserve Bank of India’** in English on the reverse was removed and only **‘Bharatiya Reserve Bank’** in Hindi was printed on this note.



*Reserve Bank of India – Ten Rupees – reverse
Mahatma Gandhi Birth Centenary Commemorative note*



British India Uniform Coinage - George VI 1943 One Rupee - Sighting of a New Reverse for Business Strikes

- By ARASH ILAVIA (Jan 2019 - Udaipur, RJ)

Not much has been written or published about the George VI Rupee varieties, even though there is a lot of scope that can be covered. I will attempt to shed some light on one of the scarce dates in the George VI Rupee series, the 1943 and its Reverse that has Large 3 in date and without the Six-Leaf (Star) Lotus.

Ever since I saw the 1943 Rupee Proof examples in the Diana sale (Baldwins) back in May of 2008, it has intrigued me more than the other series of the Uniform Coinage. I have always been fascinated by the font style of the numerals in the original and restrike proofs of the 1943 Rupee. One look at it and it is clear beyond doubt that, for whatever reason, the same fonts of the big and robust '3' specifically, were not used for the business/circulation strikes. The motive for that is still unknown, but which I shall try my best to uncover in the near future.

As a result, I started collecting varieties in George VI Rupees, which has turned out to be much more challenging than one can imagine. I came across a number of varieties in 1943 Rupee, mostly which have already been listed. However, I would like to point out one variety (obverse/reverse combination) that has not been listed in any of the older or recent books that have been published or for that matter sold in any of the public auctions here in India or abroad. Hence, it can undoubtedly be classified by the rather infamous and more often than not, wrongly used term, "unlisted variety", if you grant me the liberty, that is!

For the sake of simplicity, I will start by referring to the widely available and popular book among the Indian numismatists, the GK book, which has a 1943 Rupee variety listed as GK # 1271, i.e. Obverse C with Reverse II and large 3, which itself is seldom encountered. I bought a 1943 Rupee variety, mentioned as the same, from one of the seasoned dealers of British India in Mumbai last year. The thing with studying varieties and being a variety fanatic is that one starts to notice even the miniscule differences that usually go unnoticed by the masses and in this case, dare I say by the specialist as well. Therefore, as soon as I laid my eyes on this example shown to me, I knew something was different. For the first few minutes, I could not tell what eluded me. However, the memory of the Diana sale soon came to mind almost like the light bulb moment if you would, and at that very moment, the cherry-picker in me knew just what had to be done!

So without further ado, please have a look at the business strike of 1943 Rupee with Obverse C and Reverse that is only encountered in proof strikings*, let's call this Reverse V as it is a 'new' reverse for business strikes and does not have a classification of its own. The two primary differences between Reverse II with Large 3 and Reverse V is the font style of '3' in date and the dot/bead within the 6 scalloped arcs in the open lotus flower below. See exhibits as under:

1. The top and bottom strokes of '3' in Reverse II are almost aligned, which is unlike Reverse V, where the bottom stroke of '3' reaches further out than the top stroke, i.e. almost like an extended 3.



Date (1943 Large 3 - almost aligned) in Reverse II



Date (1943 'Different' Large 3 - extended bottom-stroke) in Reverse V

2. Reverse II has an almost perfect round and raised dot/bead within the 6 scalloped arcs and the Reverse V has a hexagonal shaped frame to the raised dot/bead within the 6 scalloped arcs.



Reverse II Open Lotus - almost perfect round and raised dot/bead within the 6 scalloped arcs - Above picture is of a Business Strike example



Reverse V Open Lotus - hexagonal shaped frame to round and raised dot/bead within the 6 scalloped arcs - Above picture is of a Proof Strike



*Above is the new discovery of 1943 B Rupee in business/circulation strike with Reverse V and Obverse C**

*From personal collection

- By ARASH ILAVIA (Jan 2019 - Udaipur, RJ)

Acknowledgements:

1. COINS OF BRITISH INDIA - 1835-1947 - By Gev Kias & Dilip Rajgor

Picture References:

- 1943 B Mint Rupee - Proof Restrike:

<https://www.numisbids.com/n.php?p=lot&sid=482&lot=837>

- 1943 B Mint Rupee - Business Strike

<https://www.eBay.com>



Events - Exhibitions & Auctions

Events List 2019 (as reported by Prem Peus Kumar)

Mudra Utsav - 2019

Date : Apr - 12, 13 & 14th

Venue : Patiala, Punjab

Contact: Inderjeet - 9914618056

Shukla Diwas

Date : Apr - 19, 20 & 21st

Venue : World Trade Center, Mumbai, Maharashtra

Contact: Kaizad Todywalla - 9820032468

2nd National Level Coin & Stamp Expo - 2019

Date : July - 5, 6 & 7th

Venue : SRT Hall, 2nd Cross, Thillai Nagar, Main Road, Trichy - 18, Tamil Nadu

Contact: Abay - 9894871110; 9894694698; 9976103576

Kolkata Coin Exhibition - 2019

Date : July - 12, 13 & 14th

Venue : Haldiram Banquet Hall, Kolkata, West Bengal

Contact: Ravi Shankar Sharma - 9051070786; Manish - 7059434383

Kudanthai Archaeology & Numismatic Society Exhibition - 2019

Date : Aug - 10, 11 & 12th

Venue : M. S. R. Mahal 55/645, Nageswaran South St, Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu.

Contact: 9443668635; 9445238635

Mudra Utsav - 2019 & Numismatic Society of India Jt. Exb.

Date : Dec - 20, 21 & 22nd

Venue : Kolkata, West Bengal

Contact: Ravi Shankar Sharma - 9051070786; Manish - 7059434383

ERO PEX - 2019

Date : Apr - 16, 17 & 18th

Venue : Erode, Tamil Nadu

Contact: 9443944845

Untitled

Date : June - 19, 20 & 21st

Venue : Ranchi, Jharkhand

Contact: Prem - 9029057890

Kumaripex - 2019

Date : July - 12, 13 & 14th

Venue : Dharamin Kalyana Mandapam, Meenakshipuram, Nagarcoil, Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu

Contact: Jacob - 9894484993; 7010649496

Kovaipex 2019

Date : July - 26, 27 & 28th

Venue : Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

Contact: H. Jambu Kumar - 9443039704

17th Annual Coin, Banknote & Philately Fair Organized by Mumbai Coin Society

Date : 20th-22nd Sept 2019

Venue : World Trade Center, Mumbai, Maharashtra

Contact: Ambrish:9833668819, Amit:9819381833
Kaizad: 9820032468



FAQs

- **Which articles are accepted and published in the newsletter?**
 - Articles on Coins, Banknotes, Stamps, Medals, Tokens,
 - News about launch of new books, bookings of Republic India UNC & Proof sets,
 - Forgeries,
 - Lost or robbed coins, stamps, banknotes,
 - News about Events: Exhibitions & Auctions in India.
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 - Email us at NewsLetterOfMCS@gmail.com
 - cc to antiqueeee@gmail.com & bcc to parthsolutions@gmail.com
 - Subject of the email should be Article for NMCS
 - and please dont forget to mention Authors name right below the heading of the article.
 - images for the article should be in .jpg format only and should not exceed 5MB in size.

For any more queries you can whats app our Admin editor Amit Surana on 9819381833.

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Admin Editor: Amit Surana

Newsletter Designed By: Upendra Salvi, Parth Solutions