## Celebrating Childhood: Exploring the Spectrum of Children in India

Children are the future custodians of our world, embodying the hopes and dreams of generations past and present. Their innocence, curiosity, and boundless energy are the building blocks of society's progress and development.

Children's Day holds a special place in the hearts of people worldwide, symbolizing a time to cherish and honor the innocence, joy, and potential embodied by children. While celebrated on various dates across different regions, the concept of a Universal Children's Day originated from a noble vision proposed by Mr. V.K. Krishna Menon and endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1954. This marked the inception of a global observance aimed at fostering fraternity and understanding among children everywhere.

Children's Day in India is celebrated on November 14th every year. It marks the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, who was the first Prime Minister of India and was fondly called "Chacha Nehru" (Uncle Nehru) by children. Nehru was known for his love and affection for children, and hence, his birthday is celebrated as Children's Day to honor his memory and recognize the importance of children in society.

On this day, schools and educational institutions across the country organize various activities, events, and programs to celebrate the spirit of childhood. Cultural programs, competitions, games, and distribution of sweets are common features of Children's Day celebrations. It's a day dedicated to children, allowing them to enjoy themselves and feel special.

In addition to Children's Day festivities, India has undertaken various initiatives to safeguard and promote the rights of children. Programs such as "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" (Save the daughter, Educate the daughter) aim to address gender inequality and promote the education of girls. Efforts to combat child labor are evident through initiatives like "Stop Child Labour," which strive to eliminate exploitative child labor practices and ensure children's access to education and a safe environment.

Furthermore, partnerships with organizations like UNICEF, Rotary Club underscore India's commitment to children's welfare. Through collaborative programs and initiatives, such as immunization campaigns, education initiatives, and child protection programs, India works towards ensuring every child's right to health, education, and protection.

Since 1957, the Department of Posts in India has released numerous special stamps to commemorate Children's Day, observed annually on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Many of these stamps are designed by school children themselves, showcasing their creativity and imagination while capturing the essence of childhood.

In addition to Children's Day stamps, the Department of Posts has issued stamps on various occasions dedicated to the well-being and development of children, symbolizing the nation's investment in its future generations. These stamps touch upon themes that resonate with children's lives and interests, highlighting the importance of education, health, and protection. Through these stamps, India celebrates the resilience, potential, and aspirations of its children, affirming their rightful place as the nation's future.

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# Childrens Day Stamps and Miniature Sheets

In 1957 first set of three stamps were issued by India Posts on children's Day showcasing the importance of nutrition, education, and recreation in a child's life.







In 1958 Children's Day stamp depicted a "Nurse exercising Polio afflicted child" showcasing the importance of polio, and all vaccination for a child.



"Boys awaiting admission to Children's home" stamp was issued in 1959.



In 1960 stamp indicated the equal importance to Education and recreation.



In 1961 the importance was given to "Vocational training", it is a program that prepares students for a specific job, trade, or craft. It can include classroom instruction, hands-on training, or both. Focuses on teaching practical skills, so students can gain the knowledge and skills needed to perform specific tasks in an occupation. Vocational training can cover a wide range of well-paying jobs, such as for technicians, artisans, or tradespeople.



In 1962 children's day theme was "Passing the flag to youth" indicating the process of transfer of responsibilities from generation to next and upcoming future generation.





In 1963 stamp depicted "School Meals" advertising the government schemes like 'Mid-Day Meal scheme'. These programs encourage more students to enroll and pursue education. Research shows that receiving free or reduced-price school lunches reduces food insecurity, obesity rates, and poor health.



In 1964 a stamp with the "Obverse of 1 Re. coin of Jawaharlal Nehru" depicting the love of 'Chacha Nehru'



Stamp has 3 variants, 2 variants with Overprint.





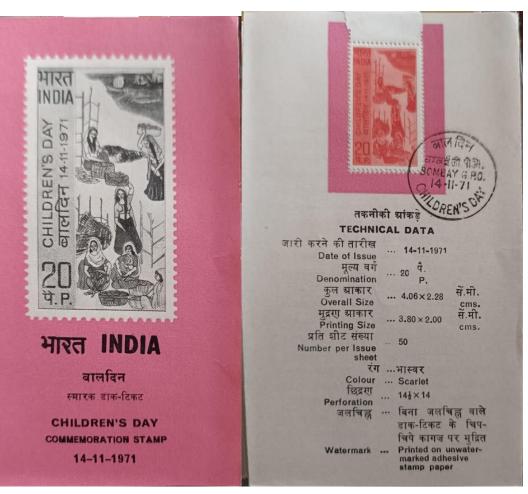


In 1966 a stamp with the theme "Infant & Dove Emblem", indicating the child and its hopes & dreams are a part of India's plan activities.



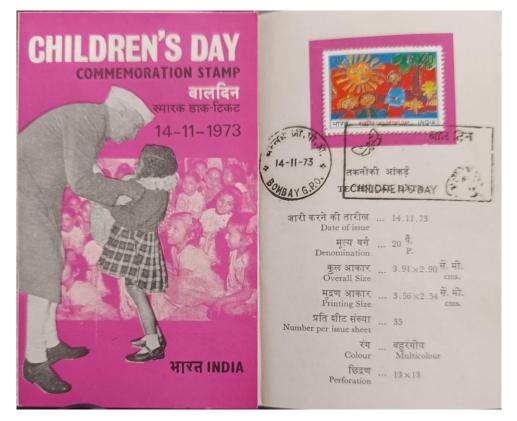
In 1971 children's day stamp showed "Women at work", it indicated the importance of a mother, their equality and respect.





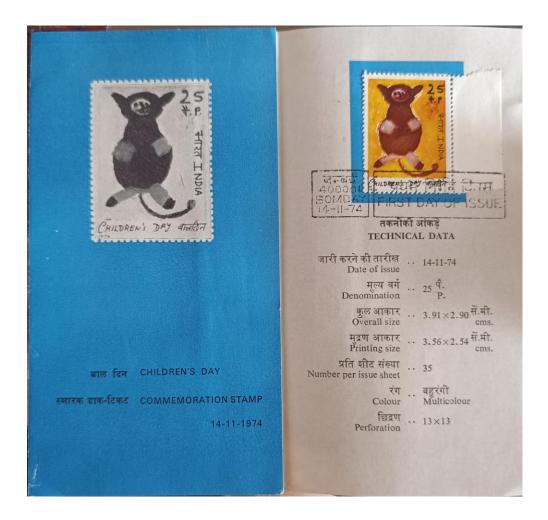
In 1973 stamp showed the "Children at Play" showcasing the importance of games. Playing is a natural and enjoyable way for children to keep active, stay well and be happy. Freely chosen play helps children and young people's healthy development. To have good physical and mental health and to learn life skills, they need various unstructured play opportunities from birth until they're teenagers.



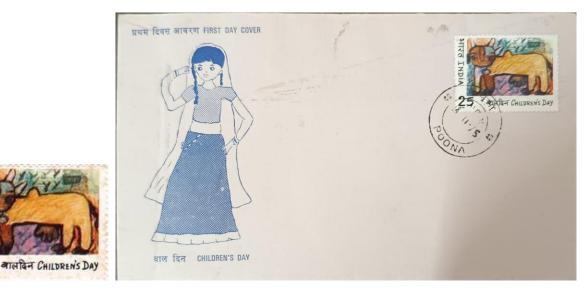


In 1974, the "Cat" stamp was issued based on the painting done by a child, represents the common loyal pet, friend children's have in homes.





In 1975, the "Cow" stamp was issued, one of the most common farm animals. Considered religious in multiple religions, also provides various healthy and nutritious products for consumption.



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In 1976 "Loyal Mongoose" stamp based on the Panchatantra story 'The Loyal Mongoose'. The Loyal Mongoose is a story with a strong moral lesson, 'Don't perform hasty actions. Think before you act.' This story teaches the children to think before acting and treat all animals with love and respect.

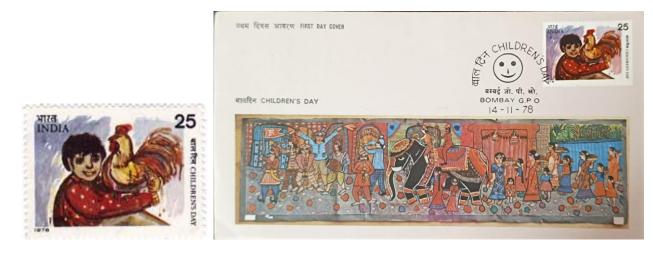


In 1977 "Cats" stamps was issued based on the 'cats' painting by 5years old Nikur Dilipbhai Mody of Ahmedabad, in the Shankar's International children's competition held in 1976. Another stamp was issued on topic of 'Friends'. Friendships also help children develop important life skills like getting along with other people and sorting out conflicts and problems. Friendships help children develop emotionally and morally.





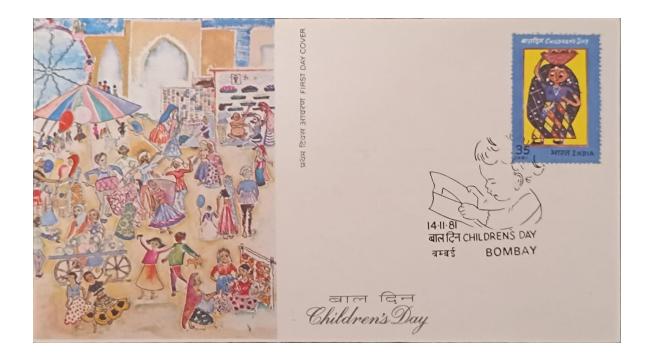
In 1978 children's day stamp issued on topic of "Two Friends" depicting the friendship between a child and pets. Developing positive feelings about pets can contribute to a child's self-esteem and selfconfidence. Positive relationships with pets can aid in the development of trusting relationships with others.



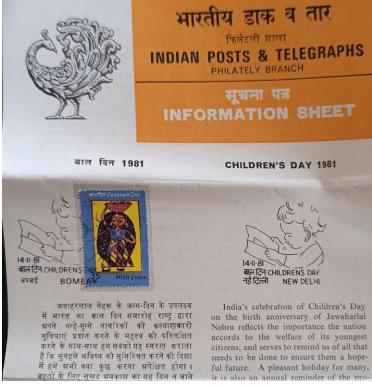
In 1980 children's day gives importance to girl child, speaks importance of girl education and their health.



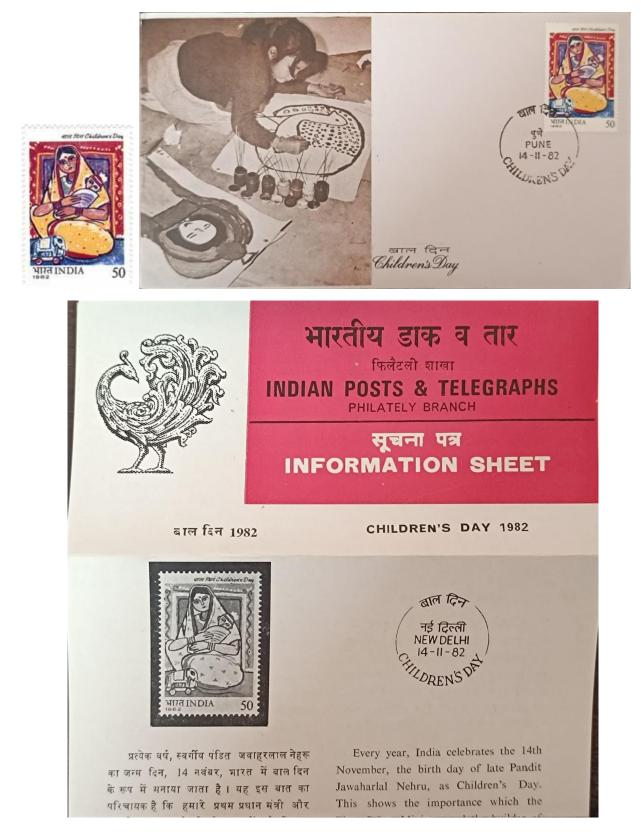
1981 Stamp depicted a toy seller, showcasing the importance of toys in a child life. It contributes to the development of cognitive, motor, psychosocial, emotional, and linguistic skills. It also plays a key role in raising self-confident, creative, and happy children.



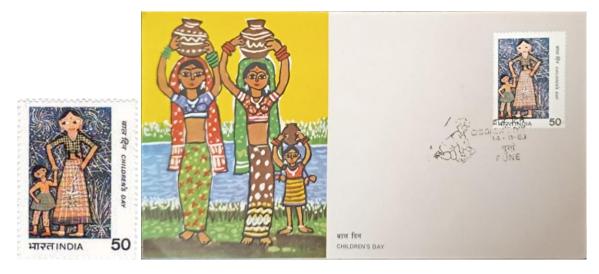




1982 stamps showcase a mother and child relationship. Mother not only gives birth, is also the 1<sup>st</sup> teacher to the child.



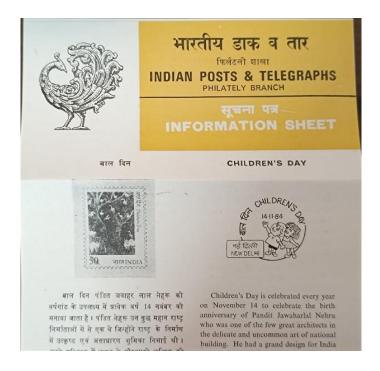
1983 shows stamp with 'Women & child at festival'. Festivals in India for kids provide an opportunity to explore different cultures and history. Festive activities can help children learn about various aspects of their culture, such as traditional music, dances, customs, festivals, and other rituals.



1984 stamp reflects children's love for environment, was painted by Hanif Kassam of Mumbai.



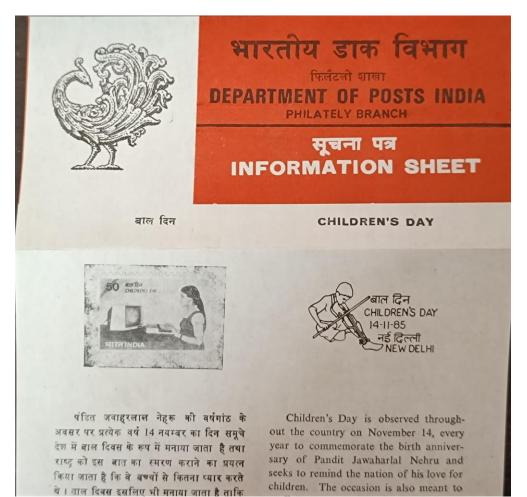




1985 stamp shows a 'School Girl using computer'. Computers are pivotal in equipping students with essential skills for the modern world. Proficiency in using computers and digital tools is not just an advantage but a necessity. It opens doors to various career opportunities and empowers students to thrive in an increasingly digital workforce.







In 1986 stamp is on 'Girl Rock Climber'. These kinds of activities engage multiple parts of the brain and helps kids develop skills like spatial awareness, hand-eye coordination and even working memory.





An enriching and stimulating home environment foster healthy growth and brain development by providing a child with love, emotional support, and opportunities for learning and exploration. This idea was depicted in the 1987 children's day stamp.



1990 children's day "Doll and Cat" stamp. A celebration of nature's colours come through this vibrant postage stamp.



Multitudes inhabit a child's life and mind, this is happily reflected in the crowded stamp, issued in 1991 on topic 'Happy Children in Colorful Dress'.



Sunshine and light a child's inherent delight bursts forth like the rays of the sun as shown in the 1992 stamp.



In 1993 stamp was on the event National Children's Day & 8th International Film Festival for Children & Young People (I'CYP), Udaipur. Stamp shows event mascot Gajju & Children.



Togetherness and harmony form the basis of the 1994 "Me & My Pals" stamp with its depiction of flowers and birds with children.



1995 "Children in Circle" stamp



1996 stamp focused on "Environmental consciousness", it refers to psychological factors that determine consumer propensity for eco-friendly behavior. It is the willingness to become aware of environmental problems, to support efforts to solve environmental problems, and to personally commit and act to solve these problems.



1997 Chacha Nehru with child stamp



**1998** children's day stamp depicted the concept of "Empowered Girl Empowered Society", it spreads message of girl child, their education and empowerment.



1999 stamp is on the Theme "India 2000: Vision of the future", it seeks a tomorrow of safety eco-friendly and peace. It was drawn by a 9year old Rishikesh Gohain stating 'Let Us Live Tomorrow'.



2000 stamp drawn by Phuhar Uppal's "My Best Friend" shows a child hugging an Elephant, a symbol of nature and its beauty.



2001 stamp depicts the Role of Technology in development of children.



The stamp issued in 2002 from a painting by Aakash Anand, which captures the spirit of Holi, India 's most colorful festival. Holi celebrates the arrival of spring and is symbolic of the victory of good over evil. It is also a celebration of joy and hope.



2003 stamp on Prasen R Modi's painting takes children's education as a theme and focuses on the girl child's right to education.





2004 Childrens Day stamp was about the topic "My Villa".



The memories of childhood are drawn from the sounds & colours of a child's surrounding's in the 2005 stamp festivities of "Durga Puja".



In 2006 1<sup>st</sup> children's day Miniature sheet was issued on the theme of "My Mythological Heroes". Sheet shows stamp of Krishna on the Kalinga snake and another stamp of Karna in the battlefield, both from the Mythological story 'Mahabharat'.

Sun, Moon, Stars, Fishermen on a moonlight lake and an imagination that takes flight, these are the ingredients of a child's heart as depicted in the 2007s children's day stamps.



2008 "India of My dream" Childrens Day Miniature sheet

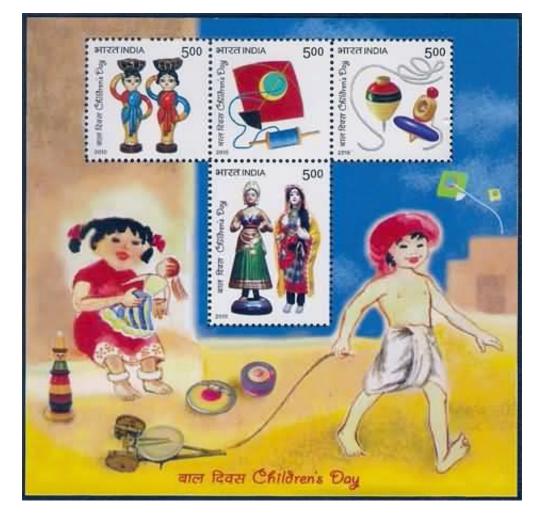


In 2009 2 stamps was issued on children's day for "preservation of Wildlife".





2010 MS consisted of 4 stamps depicting the various toys, games played by the children.



In the 2011 the stamps were based on the theme "The Tiger", Each stamps is a message in itself with plea to all of us that saving the tiger will save our ecosystem for the future generations to come. A miniature sheet with 2 stamps was issued.



The theme for the year 2012 was 'Post Office 2050'. This year's stamp is based on a painting made by 'Jai Surya P.'. The First Day Cover and Information Brochure is based on the paintings made by 'U. Bhavya' and 'Bhavya Mithra T.S' respectively.



The theme for this year 2013 was 'A Holiday'. Children have used their imagination and creativity to depict enchanting holiday moments which remain embossed in their minds as precious memories.





For 2015 children's day stamps the designs on the stamps and miniature sheet are based on the prizewinning entries of Stamp Design Competition. Yamini K., Student of St. Joseph Secondary School, Thalassery. Kimaya Gupta and Rohit Gupta have been selected for two stamps and miniature sheet. Designs of V. Hemchandran and Binita Vishwajita have been selected for First Day Cover and Brochure respectively.

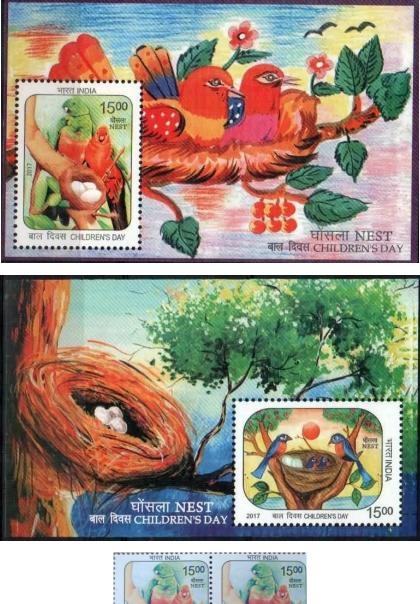


A set of 2 stamp and a miniature sheet was released on 14th November 2016 as part of Children's Day with the theme "Picnic".





2017 theme for children's day was "Nest". Two separate miniature sheets with 1 stamp each were issued.







In 2018 theme chosen was "Communal Harmony". The theme was chosen to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth anniversary of the Father of our nation Mahatma Gandhi, for whom communal harmony was a matter very close to his heart.







In 2019 the department of Posts and UNICEF joined hands to issue stamps based on the theme "Child Rights". 2019 marked the year of 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Nations Convention of Rights of the Child (CRC) and 70 years of UNICEF's presence in India.

The Convention classifies the fundamental rights that should be afforded to children into four broad categories: 'Right to Survival', Right to Protection', 'Right to Participation', and 'Right to Development'.

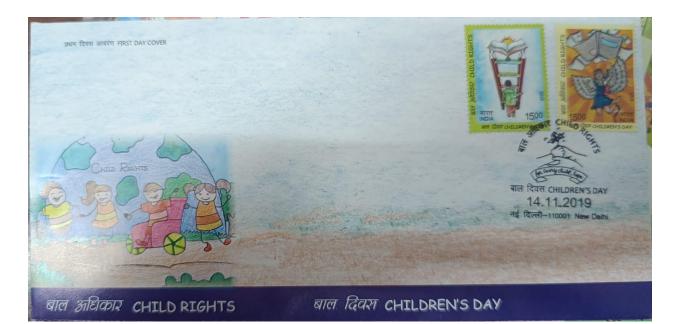


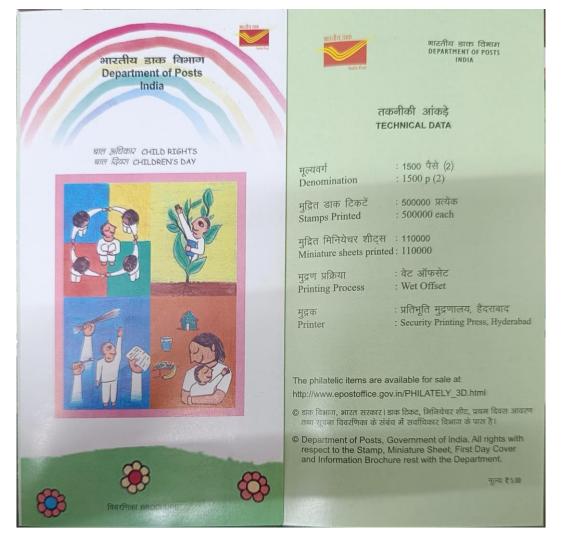
बाल आहीकार CHILD RIGHTS

बाल दिवस CHILDREN'S DAY









## Indian Stamps Advocating Children's Causes

### UNICEF

UNICEF, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, has been a driving force in advocating for children's rights and well-being worldwide since its establishment in 1946. In India, UNICEF's journey began with a shared vision to ensure every child's right to survival, development, protection, and participation.

India, home to one of the largest child populations globally, has been a key focus area for UNICEF's efforts. Over the years, UNICEF has partnered closely with the Indian government, civil society organizations, and communities to address critical challenges facing children, such as malnutrition, access to education, healthcare, sanitation, and protection from exploitation and violence.

In recognition of UNICEF's significant contributions to children's welfare, India has honored the organization through commemorative postage stamps. The first such stamp was issued in 1960, marking the beginning of UNICEF's partnership with India in addressing children's needs. Subsequently, in 1974, India released a stamp to commemorate 25 years of UNICEF's presence and work in the country, highlighting the enduring partnership and impact achieved over the years. Then, in 1986, India issued two stamps to celebrate UNICEF's 40th anniversary, underscoring the longstanding collaboration and shared commitment to children's rights and well-being.





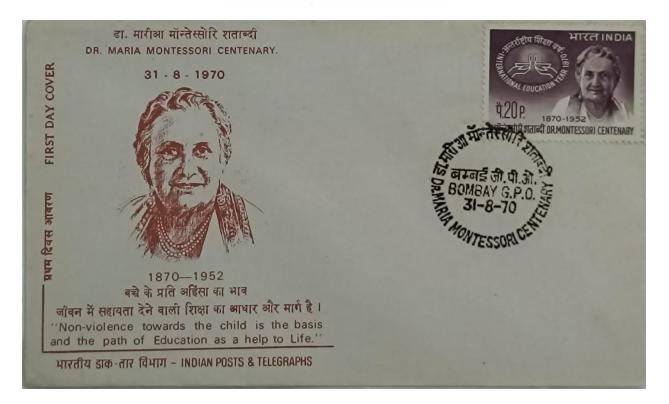




# Dr. Maria Montessori Centenary

Dr. Maria Montessori, a pioneering educator, and innovator is renowned for her revolutionary approach to child-centered education. Her profound belief in the innate potential of every child led her to develop the Montessori method, emphasizing hands-on learning, independence, and respect for each child's individuality. In 1939, Montessori's journey brought her to India, where she conducted training courses for educators and established the first Montessori training center outside of Europe in Adyar, Chennai. Her impactful work resonated deeply with Indian educators and parents, leading to the widespread adoption of her educational philosophy across the country. In recognition of her contributions, India Post released a commemorative cover in 1970, bearing Montessori's words: "Non-violence towards the child is the basis and path of education as a help to life," encapsulating her enduring legacy of nurturing children with compassion and respect.





# XV International Congress of Pediatrics 1977

The XV International Congress of Pediatrics held in 1977 was a significant event in the field of pediatric medicine. Hosted in Mexico City, this congress brought together pediatricians, researchers, and healthcare professionals from around the world to discuss the latest advancements, research findings, and best practices in pediatric healthcare. The congress provided a platform for exchanging knowledge, fostering collaborations, and addressing pressing issues related to child health and well-being. Topics covered during the congress likely included pediatric diseases, preventive care, neonatology, child development, and other relevant areas of pediatric medicine. This congress played a crucial role in advancing the field of pediatrics and improving healthcare outcomes for children globally. Indian delegates contributed to various sessions, presenting papers on topics ranging from child nutrition and infectious diseases to advancements in pediatric surgery and neonatology.





# International Year of the Child 1979

The International Year of the Child (IYC) in 1979 was a significant global initiative aimed at raising awareness about children's rights and well-being. Led by the United Nations, the IYC served as a platform to advocate for the rights, needs, and aspirations of children worldwide. The importance of the International Year of the Child lay in its recognition of children as integral members of society deserving of care, protection, and opportunities for growth and development.

In India, the International Year of the Child was observed with enthusiasm and dedication, reflecting the nation's commitment to the well-being of its youngest citizens. Various initiatives and programs were implemented to promote children's rights, education, healthcare, and overall welfare.

As part of the commemoration, India issued two postage stamps to mark the occasion. The first stamp, titled "Child and Gandhi," depicted the iconic figure of Mahatma Gandhi alongside a child, symbolizing the nation's dedication to the principles of peace, justice, and equality for all, including children. The second stamp, titled "Indian Symbol of I.Y.C.," represented India's unique contribution to the International Year of the Child, showcasing the country's cultural heritage and commitment to nurturing its children.

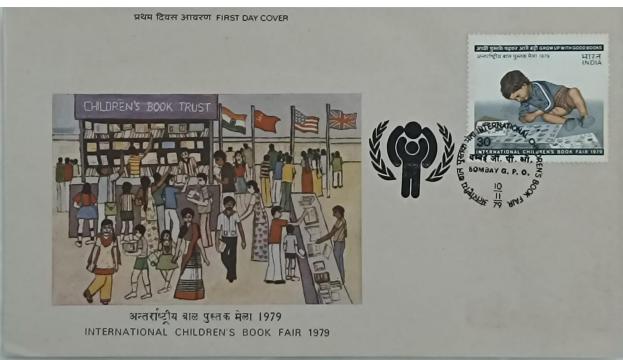




# International Childrens Book Fair 1979

The International Children's Book Fair held in India in 1979 marked a significant celebration of literature and the importance of nurturing young minds through quality reading material. The accompanying postage stamp, adorned with the slogan "Grow Up with Good Books," served as a poignant reminder of the vital role literature plays in shaping the imagination and intellect of children. This event not only showcased diverse literary works but also emphasized the need to provide children with access to enriching books that inspire creativity, critical thinking, and a lifelong love for reading.





#### International Literacy Year (ILY) 1990

The International Literacy Year (ILY) 1990 was a global initiative aimed at raising awareness about the importance of literacy and promoting efforts to improve literacy rates worldwide. Recognizing literacy as a fundamental human right and a key factor in socio-economic development, the United Nations designated 1990 as the International Literacy Year, mobilizing countries to address the challenges of illiteracy and expand access to education.

India played a significant role in the International Literacy Year by actively participating in various programs and initiatives to enhance literacy rates across the country. The Indian government, along with non-governmental organizations and community groups, implemented targeted interventions to promote literacy, especially among marginalized and disadvantaged populations. These efforts included the establishment of literacy centers, adult education programs, and campaigns to raise awareness about the importance of literacy in empowering individuals and communities.

To commemorate the International Literacy Year 1990, India issued a postage stamp that symbolized the nation's commitment to promoting literacy and education. The stamp served as a visual representation of India's dedication to eradicating illiteracy and fostering a culture of lifelong learning. By highlighting

the significance of literacy through initiatives like the International Literacy Year, India reaffirmed its commitment to building a more inclusive and equitable society where every individual could acquire essential literacy skills and fulfill their potential.



## Care for the Girl Child 1990

The "Care for the Girl Child" program, launched in India, holds immense significance in addressing the pressing issues related to gender inequality, discrimination, and the neglect of girls' rights and wellbeing. Through this initiative, the Indian government and various organizations strive to raise awareness, advocate for policies, and implement programs aimed at empowering and protecting girl children. The issuance of a commemorative stamp in 1990 further underscored the importance of this program, serving as a symbolic gesture of the nation's commitment to ensuring a brighter and more equitable future for girls. This stamp not only celebrated the progress made in advancing the rights of the girl child but also reminded society of the continued need to prioritize their welfare, education, and empowerment.





## International Conference on Autism 2003

The International Conference on Autism held in 2003 served as a pivotal gathering for experts, researchers, practitioners, and advocates to discuss the latest developments in understanding, diagnosing, and supporting individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The conference provided a platform for sharing research findings, best practices, and innovative interventions aimed at improving the lives of individuals with autism and their families worldwide.

In addition to advancing scientific understanding and professional practice, the conference also played a crucial role in raising public awareness and advocating for the rights and inclusion of individuals with autism in society. The issuance of a commemorative Indian stamp with the slogan "Our World of Special Children" further underscored the importance of recognizing and embracing the unique talents and potential of individuals with autism, while also highlighting the need for greater acceptance, understanding, and support for this community.





# Indian Academy of Pediatrics

Indian Academy of Pediatrics was established in the year 1963, with amalgamation of two organizations, namely Association of Pediatricians and Indian Pediatric Society. It was Registered as a society on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1963, and as a trust on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1964.

IAP has been represented at international organizations like International Pediatric Association, Asian Region Asia Pacific Pediatric Association, etc. through its eminent members. It has successfully collaborated with the Government of India, State Governments, UNICEF, WHO etc for various programs of National importance.

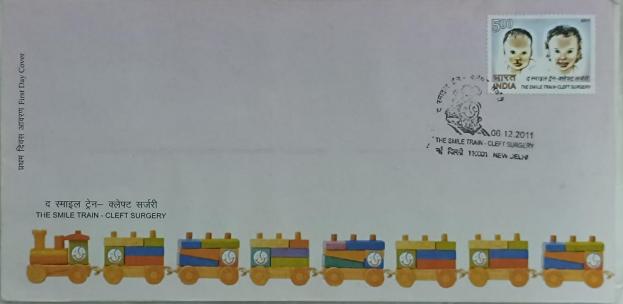


# The Smile Train-Cleft Surgery

The Smile Train is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing cleft lip and palate surgeries to children in need around the world. Founded in 1999, it has since become the largest cleft-focused organization globally. The Smile Train partners with local medical professionals and hospitals in over 90 countries to provide free cleft surgeries and comprehensive cleft care to children from underserved communities. Through its sustainable model, the organization trains local healthcare providers to perform safe and quality cleft surgeries, ensuring long-term access to care for children in need. The Smile Train's mission goes beyond providing surgeries; it also focuses on empowering individuals with cleft conditions by improving their quality of life and helping them integrate into their communities. By transforming the lives of children and families affected by clefts, the Smile Train strives to create a world where every child has the opportunity to smile.

In 2011, India Post honored the impactful work of the Smile Train by issuing a commemorative stamp, recognizing its dedication to providing smiles and renewed hope to countless children and families across the globe.





# New Born Health in India 2005

In 2005, newborn health in India was a pressing concern, with high rates of neonatal mortality and morbidity posing significant challenges to the well-being of infants. This critical issue prompted concerted efforts by the Indian government, healthcare professionals, and various stakeholders to address the factors contributing to poor newborn health outcomes.

Initiatives aimed at improving newborn health in India in 2005 focused on several key areas, including increasing access to quality maternal and neonatal healthcare services, promoting essential newborn care practices, enhancing maternal nutrition and antenatal care, and strengthening the healthcare infrastructure in rural and underserved areas.

On November 24th, 2005, India issued a commemorative postage stamp to raise awareness about the importance of newborn health and highlight the ongoing efforts to improve maternal and child health outcomes in the country. This stamp served as a symbolic reminder of the nation's commitment to ensuring the health and well-being of its youngest citizens and the importance of investing in newborn health interventions.



# Stop Child Labour 2006

In 1986, India enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, based on the recommendations of the Gurupadaswamy Committee. The act prohibits the employment of children in certain hazardous occupations and processes. It also regulates working conditions in others.

It defines a child as any individual below the age of 14 years and prohibits their employment in specified hazardous occupations and processes that may endanger their health, safety, or moral development. Additionally, the Act regulates the working conditions of children employed in non-hazardous sectors, prescribing maximum working hours, provisions for rest, and other safeguards to protect their welfare.

It reflects India's dedication to ensuring the well-being and dignity of its youngest citizens and reaffirms the principle that children deserve to enjoy their childhood, pursue their dreams, and realize their full potential.



In 2006, India Post issued a set of four commemorative postage stamps to raise awareness about the issue of child labor and reaffirm the nation's commitment to eradicating this social injustice. Each stamp depicted poignant images and symbols representing the importance of stopping child labor and promoting the rights and welfare of children. These stamps served as powerful reminders of the collective responsibility to protect children from exploitation and provide them with opportunities for education, health, and a safe childhood. Through the issuance of these stamps, India Post aimed to spark conversations, inspire action, and mobilize support for efforts to eliminate child labor and create a better future for India's children.

# National Girl Child Day 2009

National Girl Child Day in India, observed on January 24th each year, holds immense significance in promoting gender equality, advocating for the rights and welfare of girl children, and addressing the challenges they face in society. Established in 2008, this day serves as a platform to raise awareness about issues such as gender discrimination, female feticide, child marriage, limited access to education and healthcare, and other forms of inequality and injustice that affect girls.



प्रथम दिवस आवरण राष्ट्रीय बालिका दिवस FIRST DAY COVER NATIONAL GIRL CHILD DAY 4 जनवरी/January य बालिव 05 02 2009 NATIONAL GIRL CHILD DAY नई दिल्ली 110001 NEW DELH

The choice of January 24th for National Girl Child Day holds historical significance as it commemorates the founding of the Women's Indian Association in 1917, an organization dedicated to advocating for women's rights and empowerment in India.

In 2009, India Post issued a commemorative postage stamp on National Girl Child Day. This stamp served as a symbolic gesture to raise awareness about the importance of promoting the rights and welfare of girl children and to highlight the government's commitment to addressing issues such as female feticide, gender discrimination, and limited access to education and healthcare.

# Beti Bachao Beti Padhao 2015

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) is a significant government initiative launched in India in 2015 with the aim of addressing the declining child sex ratio, promoting the education and welfare of girls, and empowering them to reach their full potential. The campaign was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and was initially implemented in 100 districts across the country with skewed sex ratios.

The importance of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao lies in its holistic approach to combating gender discrimination and inequality. By raising awareness about the value of girls, encouraging the enrollment and retention of girls in schools, and implementing measures to prevent female feticide and infanticide, the campaign seeks to ensure the survival, protection, and education of every girl child in India.



In 2015, India Post issued a commemorative postage stamp to mark the launch of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign. This stamp served as a symbolic representation of the government's commitment to promoting the rights and welfare of girls and addressing gender disparity in the country. It aimed to raise awareness about the importance of empowering girls through education and ensuring their equal participation and opportunities in society.

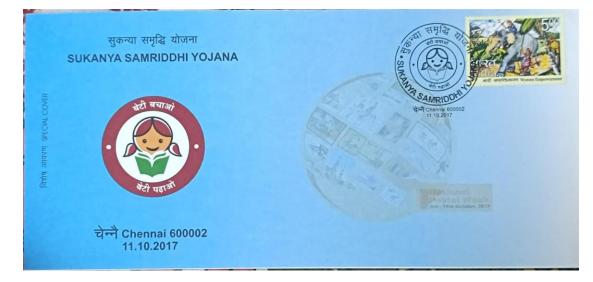
# Empowering Futures: Indian Postal Special Covers on Children's Themes and Causes

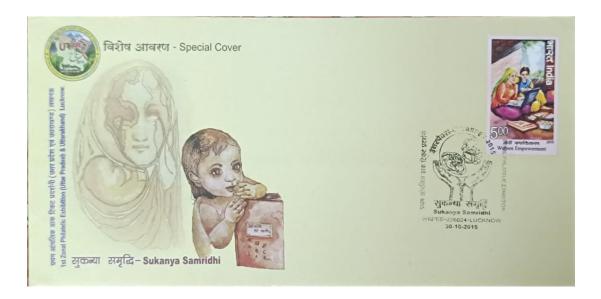
Spotlights the Indian postal service's dedication to children's welfare through specially designed covers. These covers symbolize various initiatives, from eradicating child labor to advocating for girls' education and so on. Each cover represents a commitment to building a better future for India's children, reflecting the nation's collective effort to ensure their well-being and opportunities for growth.

# Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana

The Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY) is a government-backed savings scheme aimed at empowering parents to financially plan for the future of their girl child. Launched as part of the "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" campaign, SSY offers attractive interest rates and tax benefits, encouraging long-term savings for education and marriage expenses. By fostering financial security and empowerment for girl children, SSY plays a vital role in promoting their welfare and ensuring equal opportunities for their future growth and development.

Two special postal covers were issued to commemorate the Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana, reflecting the commitment of the Indian postal service to the empowerment of girl children. The first cover, released by the Tamil Nadu Circle in Chennai on October 11, 2017, coincided with International Girl Child Day during the National Postal Week celebration, **code: TN/41/2017**. This gesture highlighted the importance of the scheme in promoting the welfare and prospects of girl children. Similarly, the second cover, unveiled by the Uttar Pradesh Circle in Lucknow on October 30, 2015, during the 1st Zonal Philatelic Exhibition for Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, **code: UP/19/2015**.





# Karnataka Postal Circle Initiatives:

On 08-03-2021 on "International Women's Day National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) in collaboration with the Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society (KSAPS) released a special cover to spread awareness on the HIV/AIDS. The main aim was to 'Create an HIV-FREE Future for Every Child' which starts from protection of fetus in the womb from HIV.

#### Code: KTK/18/2021.

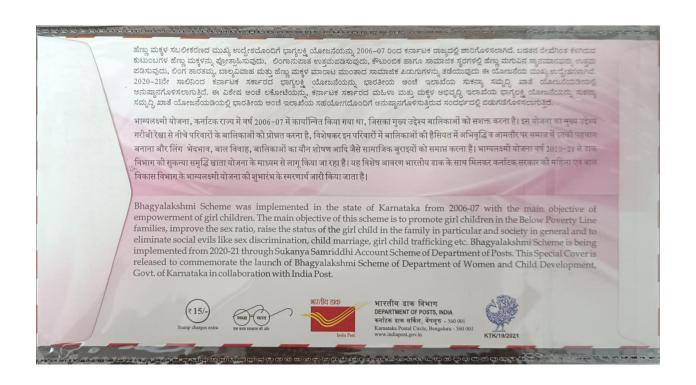




**Bhagyalakshmi – Sukanya Samruddhi Yojana:** Bhagyalakshmi scheme was implemented in Karnataka from 2006-07 with main objective of empowerment of girl children. Scheme is being implemented again from 2020-21 through Sukanya Samruddhi Yojana, to commemorate the same a special cover is released by Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Karnataka with collaboration of India post.

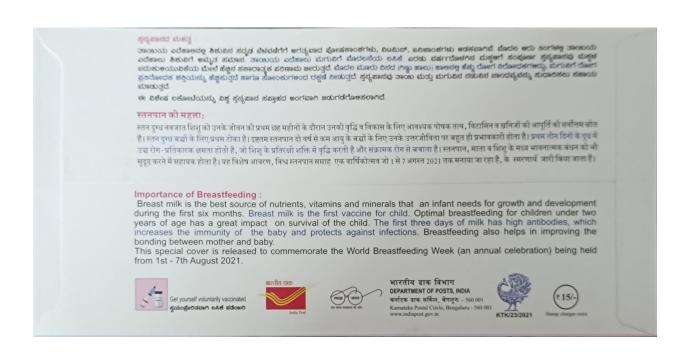
# Code: KTK/19/2021



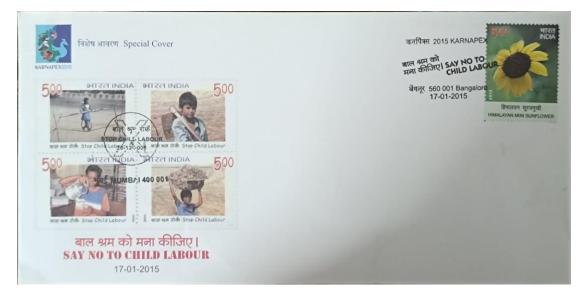


**World Breastfeeding Week:** Karnataka commemorated World Breastfeeding Week with a special postal cover, showcasing the state's commitment to promoting maternal and child health through breastfeeding advocacy. Released during the week-long campaign from August 1st to August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, this special cover served as a symbol of Karnataka's dedication to raising awareness about the importance of breastfeeding and supporting mothers in their breastfeeding journey. The cover highlighted the state's efforts to create a breastfeeding-friendly environment and empower women with the knowledge and resources needed to provide optimal nutrition and care to their infants. **Code: KTK/23/2021** 





During Karnapex 2015, the Karnataka Circle released a cover commemorating Kailash Satyarthi's Nobel Peace Prize win in 2014. Depicting the "Stop Child Labour" stamps of 2004, the cover emphasized the importance of saying no to child labor and supporting Satyarthi's tireless efforts in this regard. This initiative not only highlighted the significance of Satyarthi's Nobel Prize in advocating for children's rights but also served as a poignant reminder of the ongoing fight against child labor and the need for continued awareness and action in this critical area. **Code: KTK/06/2015.** 



During the Postpex event in December 2018, the Karnataka Circle issued a special cover with the theme "Mera Dost, India Post" and the slogan "Letters are Forever. Write Letters and Be Happy." This initiative aimed to celebrate the enduring charm of handwritten letters and the role of India Post in facilitating meaningful communication. By promoting the joy of letter writing and highlighting the timeless appeal of traditional correspondence, the special cover encouraged individuals to connect with loved ones

through the heartfelt exchange of letters. In an age dominated by digital communication, this gesture served as a nostalgic reminder of the lasting impact of handwritten letters in fostering connections, preserving memories, and spreading happiness.

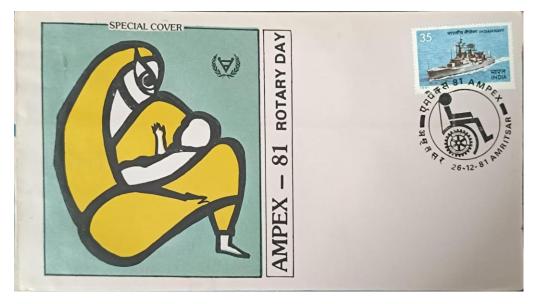
nber 2018 16-12-201 मेरा दोस्त, इन्डिया पोस्ट लहल्ब वेठहरे india poहरे

# Rotary Club Initiatives

The Rotary Club has long been dedicated to supporting children's causes worldwide, advocating for their rights, education, and well-being. With a global presence spanning over 200 countries, including India, Rotary's commitment to children's issues is evident through various initiatives and projects aimed at improving their lives. From providing access to education and healthcare to combating child labor and promoting child welfare, Rotary clubs actively engage in activities that uplift and empower children in need. To further amplify their efforts, Rotary clubs have issued numerous special covers to showcase and raise awareness about child causes.



In commemoration of the historic decision to admit women as members in 1981, Rotary Club released two special covers during the AMPHILEX 81 philatelic exhibition. The first cover depicted scouting and girl guides, symbolizing the inclusivity and diversity within Rotary clubs following the admission of women. The second cover featured women looking after a baby, highlighting the role of women in nurturing, and caring for future generations.



During the Rajpex 2004 exhibition, Rotary Club released a special cover to commemorate Rotary International's centenary and its commitment to eradicating polio worldwide. The cover featured the slogan "No Polio by 2005" as a testament to Rotary's ambitious goal of eliminating the disease by the organization's 100th anniversary. Additionally, a special seal adorned the cover, symbolizing Rotary's completion of 100 years of service and its dedication to ending polio. This initiative served as a poignant reminder of Rotary's tireless efforts in the fight against polio and expressed gratitude to Rotary for its unwavering commitment to global health.



In 2008, Rotary Club Agra spearheaded a vital polio awareness campaign in collaboration with Rotary International, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and UNICEF, aiming to contribute to India's goal of becoming polio-free. This initiative brought together key stakeholders to raise awareness about the importance of polio vaccination and encourage communities to participate in immunization programs. As part of this campaign, Rotary Club Agra released a special cover, symbolizing the collective efforts of Rotary and its partners in the global fight against polio.



# Karnapex 2024 Covers

During Karnapex 2024, a set of covers was released with a focus on children's themes, featuring ten covers representing various traditional games. These covers served as a nostalgic tribute to the cultural heritage of childhood, showcasing timeless games that have been enjoyed by generations of children.

Additionally, one cover was dedicated to the important message that "child marriage is a punishable offence," highlighting the need to raise awareness and combat the harmful practice of child marriage. The main intention was to make Karnataka, India a 'Child Marriage Free State'.

By releasing these covers, Karnapex 2024 not only celebrated the joy of childhood and traditional games but also underscored the importance of protecting the rights and well-being of children, emphasizing the collective responsibility to ensure that every child has the opportunity to grow up in a safe and nurturing environment.

#### **KUNTEBILLE:**

#### CODE: KTK/18/2024



Kuntebille also known as Hopscotch is an outdoor game which can be played alone or with several players together. All players play individually, there is no team involved. 9 rectangular pattern boxes is designed. Player tosses a small object into a numbered rectangle and hops to retrieve the object.

#### BUGURI

#### CODE: KTK/19/2024



Buguri also known as Lattu or Spinning top. In this a spinning top made of wood is made to spin using a string attached to it.

#### PAGADE

#### CODE: KTK/21/2024

₹30/-

Stamp Charges Extra



Pagade also known as Chausar, is played between 2 or 4 players using pawns and dice. It is a traditional version of the modern-day Ludo game.

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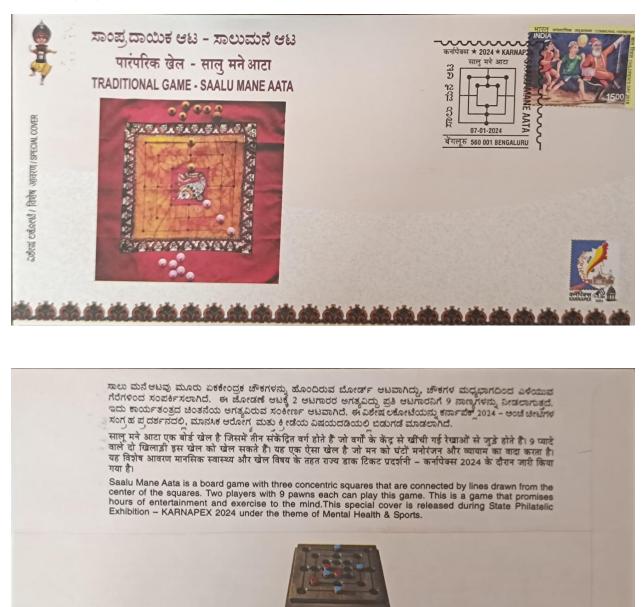
KTK/21/2024

#### SAALU MANE ATTE

#### CODE: KTK/22/2024

₹30/

Stamp Charges Extra



Saalu Mane Aata is a board game played between 2 players. Each player has 9 pawns to play with. This game requires concentration and strategies. It is a great exercise for the mind.

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KTK/22/2024

#### **ALI GULI MANE**

#### CODE: KTK/23/2024



Ali Guli Mane is a board game played with 2 parallel rows of seven holes of shells or tamarind seeds. The objective is to maximize the seeds or shells. It is also a game of strategy and concentration.

#### **CHOWKA BAARA**

#### CODE: KTK/24/2024



Chowka Baara is indoor game, played by 2 or 4 players. Cowrie shells are used as dice. The game has elements of luck combined with good judgement and strategizing skills.

#### HAVU-ENI AATA

#### CODE: KTK/25/2024



हावु-एनी आटा या सांघ और सीढ़ी एक लोकप्रिय बोर्ड गेम है जो प्यादे और पासे के साथ खेला जाता है। यह विशेष आवरण मानसिक स्वास्थ्य और खेल विषय के तहत राज्य डाक टिकट प्रदर्शनी – कर्नापेक्स 2024 के दौरान जारी किया गया है।

Havu-Eni Aata or Snakes and Ladders is a popular board game played with pawns and dice. This special cover is released during State Philatelic Exhibition – KARNAPEX 2024 under the theme of Mental Health & Sports.



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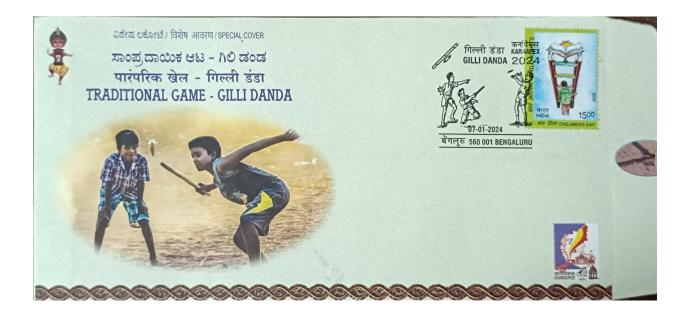
Havu-Eni is the traditional version of Snake and Ladders game, played using pawns and dice.

₹30/-

Stamp Charges Extra

#### **GILLI DANDA**

#### CODE: KTK/26/2024



ಗಿಲ್ಲಿ ಡಂಡ ಆಟವು ಕ್ರಿಕೆಟ್ ಆಟವನ್ನು ಹೋಲುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಇದರ ಪ್ರಾಚೀನತೆಯು ಸುಮಾರು 2000 ವರ್ಷಗಳಷ್ಟು ಹಳೆಯದಾಗಿದ್ದು. ಇದು ಭಾರತದಾದ್ಯಂತ ಆಡುವ ಜನಪ್ರಿಯವಾದ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕ್ರೀಡೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ವಿಶೇಷ ಲಕೋಟೆಯನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಪಕ್ಸ್ 2024 – ಅಂಚೆ ಚೀಟಿಗಳ ಸಂಗ್ರಹ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನದಲ್ಲಿ, ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ರೀಡೆಯ ವಿಷಯದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

गिल्ली डंडा क्रिकेट खेल जैसा दिखता है, लेकिन इसकी प्राचीनता 2000 साल से भी अधिक पुरानी है। यह पूरे भारत में एक लोकप्रिय ग्रामीण खेल है। यह विशेष आवरण मानसिक स्वास्थ्य और खेल विषय के तहत राज्य डाक टिकट प्रदर्शनी – कर्नापेक्स 2024 के दौरान जारी किया गया है।

Gilli Danda resembles the game of cricket, but traces its antiquity to over 2000 years. It is a popular rural sport all over India. This special cover is released during State Philatelic Exhibition – KARNAPEX 2024 under the theme of Mental Health & Sports.





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#### LAGORI

#### CODE: KTK/27/2024



ಏಳು ಕಲ್ಲುಗಳು ಎಂದು ಕರೆಯಲ್ಪಡುವ ಲಗೋರಿ ಜನಪ್ರಿಯ ಸಾಂಪ್ರದಾಯಿಕ ಆಟವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಈ ಆಟವು 2 ತಂಡಗಳನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಗೆರೆಟೆ, ಅಥವಾ ಚಿಪ್ಪಡಿ ಕಲ್ಲುಗಳನ್ನು ಒಂದರ ಮೇಲೆ ಒಂದು ಇಟ್ಟು ಒಂದು ತಂಡವು ಚೆಂಡಿನೊಂದಿಗೆ ರಾಶಿಯನ್ನು ಉರುಳಿಸುತ್ತದೆ ಮತ್ತು ರಾಶಿಯನ್ನು ಪುನ: ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಲು ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಇತರ ತಂಡವು ಎದುರಾಳಿ ತಂಡದ ಸದಸ್ಯರ ಮೇಲೆ ಚಿಂಡನ್ನು ಎಸೆಯುತ್ತದೆ. ಪ್ರತಿ ತಂಡದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಆಟಗಾರರಿದ್ದರೆ ಆಟಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮೋಜು. ಈ ವಿಶೇಷ ಲಕೋಟೆಯನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಪಕ್ಕೆ 2024 – ಅಂಚೆ ಚೀಟಿಗಳ ಸಂಗ್ರಹ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನದಲ್ಲಿ, ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ರೀಡೆಯ ವಿಷಯದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

लागोरि जिसे सेवन स्टोन्स के नाम से भी जाना जाता है, एक लोकप्रिय पारंपरिक खेल है। इस खेल में 2 टीमें आमिल होते है। सपाट पत्थयों/लकड़ी के ब्लॉकों की परतें होती हैं। एक टीम गेंद से ढेर को नीचे गिराती है और ढेर को दोबाग स्थापित करने का प्रयास करती है। दूसरी टीम विरोधी टीम के सदस्यों पर गेंद फेंकती है। प्रत्येक टीम में जितने अधिक खिलाड़ी होंगे, उतना ही अधिक मज़ा होगा। यह विशेष आवरण मानसिक स्वास्थ्य और खेल विषय के तहत राज्य डाक टिकट प्रदर्शनी – कर्नापेक्स 2024 के दौरान जारी किया गया है।

Lagori also known as seven stones is a popular traditional game. The game involves 2 teams. Flat stones/ wooden blocks are piled. One team knocks down the pile with a ball and attempts to restore the pile. The other team throws the ball at the opposing team members. The more players on each team, the greater the fun. This special cover is released during State Philatelic Exhibition – KARNAPEX 2024 under the theme of Mental Health & Sports.





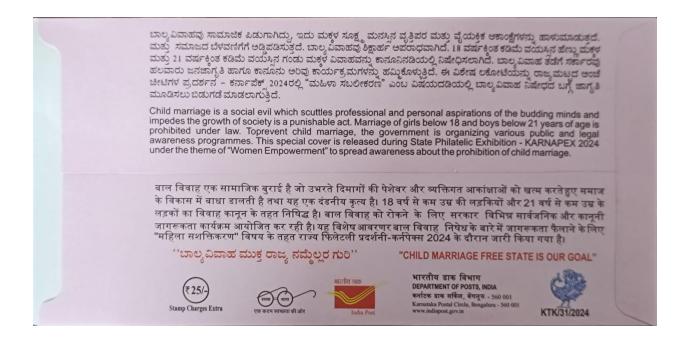
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#### CHILD MARRIAGE PUNISHABLE OFFENCE

#### CODE: KTK/31/2024





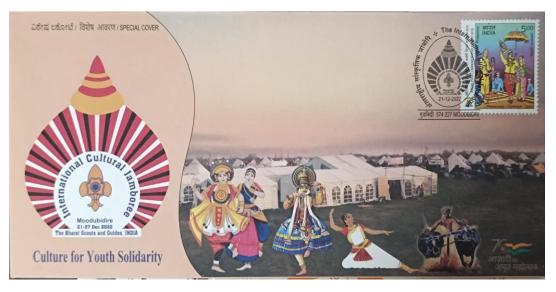
## Jamborette Bharat Scout and Guides

The Bharat Scout and Guides Jamborette is a prominent event that gathers Scouts and Guides from across India, providing a platform for youth development and cultural exchange. During the 2019 Jamborette held at the Dr. Annie Besant Scout Guide Camp and Training Center in Bangalore, a special cover was released with the theme 'Unlock the Future,' symbolizing the event's focus on empowering young people to unlock their potential and shape a brighter future. Similarly, during the 2022 International Cultural Jamborette at the Alvas Educational Foundation in Moodubidire, a cover was released with the theme 'Culture for Youth Solidarity,' emphasizing the importance of cultural diversity and unity among youth. These covers not only commemorate the Jamborette events but also highlight the significance of scouting and guiding in fostering leadership, teamwork, and global citizenship among young participants.

Code: KTK/134/2019



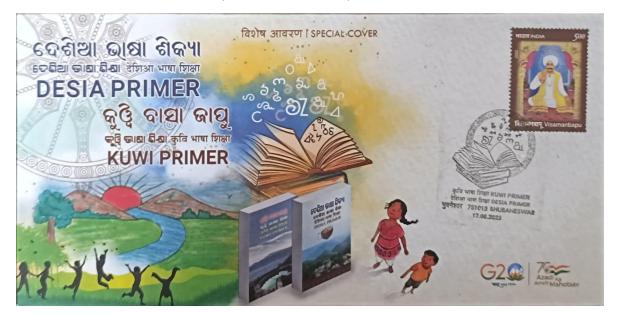
#### Code: KTK/72/2022



JCI (Junior Chamber International) is a global organization dedicated to developing young leaders and creating positive change in communities worldwide. In India, JCI clubs, or chapters, are active participants in community development initiatives and youth empowerment programs. During the Jayceepex event in 1979, a JCI club released a special cover on the child theme with the message "Indian Jaycees are dedicated to help 5 lakh in 1979." This cover symbolized the commitment of JCI members in India to supporting and empowering children, highlighting their dedication to making a difference in the lives of young people.



As per the National education policy and National Education Framework, a child learns best when learning in his/her mother tongue. NCERT for 1<sup>st</sup> time prepared 'KUWI PRIMER' and 'DESIA PRIMER' for the children of Kandhas community located in the multiple districts of Odisha. Code: OD/08/2023.



# Universal Children's Day

Universal Children's Day, observed on November 20th each year, is a global initiative to promote the well-being and rights of children worldwide. On November 20, 2017, the Kerala Postal Circle commemorated this significant day by releasing a special marking to celebrate the silver jubilee of India ratifying the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

This cover not only honored the milestone achievement of India in committing to protect the rights of children but also highlighted the role of the Kerala State Commission for Protection of Child Rights in safeguarding and promoting the rights and welfare of children in the state. By acknowledging this important occasion, the Kerala Postal Circle brought attention to the ongoing efforts to ensure that every child's rights are respected, protected, and fulfilled.

#### Code: KL-31/2017



2017 भारत द्वारा बाल अधिकारों पर संयुक्त राष्ट्र सम्मलेन की पुष्टि का रजत जयंती वर्ष है । केरल राज्य ने बच्चों के हित को बढ़ावा देने के लिए पिछले दो दशकों में अत्यधिक प्रगति की है । इस उपलक्ष्य में 20 नवंबर को सार्वभौमिक बाल दिवस के अवसर पर यह विशेष लिफ़ाफ़ा जारी किया जा रहा है ।

2017 marks the Silver Jubilee Year of India ratifying the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Kerala State has made immense strides over the last two decades in promoting the best interests of children. To commemorate this landmark, this Special Cover is being released on 20<sup>th</sup> November, Universal Children's Day.

केरल डाक सर्किल Kerala Postal Circle KL-31/2017

# Children's Creativity Captured: Picture Postcards Designed by Young Artists

# All for Smiles

In a heartwarming display of creativity and compassion, the Mumbai region released a unique set of picture postcards in 2022, titled "All for Smile". This collection features ten captivating postcards containing 9 mint and 1 cancelled, which showcase beautiful artworks created by the children of commercial sex workers from Kamathipura, a bustling district in Mumbai. Each postcard depicts a poignant and thought-provoking theme, ranging from "The 'He' is a Mother" to "Innocence," offering glimpses into the lives, dreams, and emotions of these young artists. The tenth card in the set is a canceled card, symbolizing the resilience and triumph of hope over adversity. This initiative not only celebrates the artistic talents of these children but also shines a light on their resilience and the power of creativity to bring joy and healing.



The "He" is a "Mother"



Back side with special "All for Smiles" Cancellation.



Innocence

TILL FOR SMILLES

# Ball to the Soul



# Empowering



# Run Run till we Dry



A Simple life





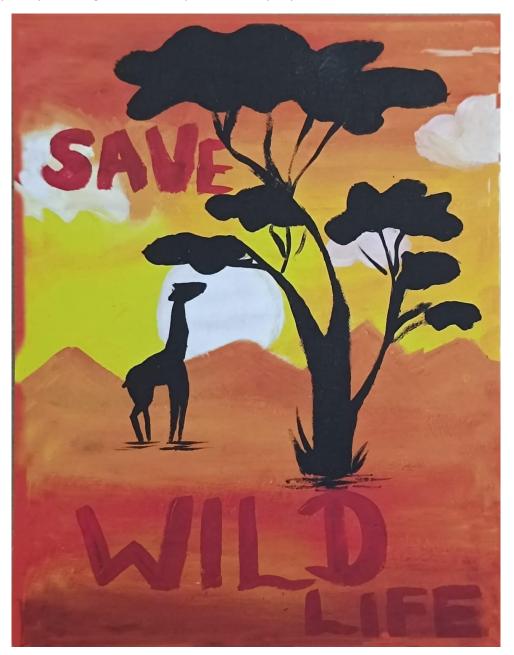




# AMRITPEX 2023 Save Wildlife

During the Amritpex 2023 a national philatelic exhibition, held to commemorate 75 years of Indian independence as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, the Delhi Circle released a set of five picture postcards. These postcards were adorned with captivating artwork created by school students, all centered around the theme of wildlife conservation. Each postcard depicted a unique aspect of India's rich biodiversity, showcasing the country's diverse flora and fauna. By involving young artists in creating these postcards, the initiative not only celebrated India's independence but also raised awareness about the importance of protecting and preserving the nation's natural heritage for future generations.

Painted by: Deepanshu Age: 18, Sarvodaya Co-ed Vidhyalaya.



# Painted by: Neetu Gautam, Age: 20



Painted by: Shrrika Gupta Age: 11 Manav Sthali Global School





Painted by: Himanshi Age: 13 Sant Nirankari Girls Senior Secondary School

Painted By: Nisha Age: 24



# Children's Advocacy through Meghdoot Postcards

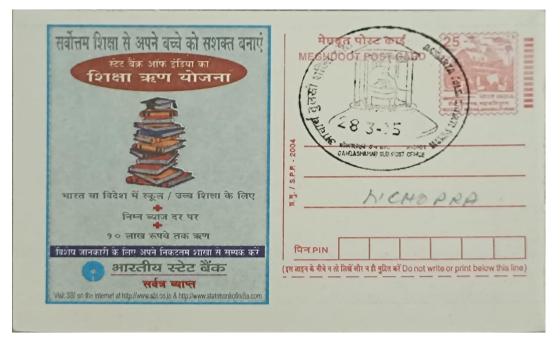
# Child Marriage Prohibition

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare released a card with theme 'Child Marriage is Prohibited'. For boys legal age is 21 and for girls age is 18.

वाल विवाह अपराध है !	Фада पोस्ट कार्ड
	MEGHDOOT POST CARD   Under the series   Under
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Government of India	(इस लाइन के नीचे न तो लिखें और न ही मुदित करें Do not write or print below this line)

# SBI Education loan scheme

SBI education loan for studying in India and Abroad, "empower your child with best education".



# Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

Education for All, irrespective of gender, cast, and age.

अस्व शिक्षा अभियान	मेघदूत मोस्ट कार्ड MEGHDOOT POST CARD
Ra tā ka ač	P002 - संसंध प्राप्त का

# Community Empowerment

It indicates a collective effort towards community empowerment, specifically aimed at benefiting the school or educational institution.

हम सब स्कूल के लिए सामुदायिक सहभागिता	मेघदूत पोस्ट कार्ड MEGHDOOT POST CARD
area utzahara anafara Hay fatet, etereauti tis, éterget	9002 - OAH' d'd S/22 "Ен Патерия Патерия
उत्तरांचल में शिक्षा की सुदृढ़ नींव के लिए प्रतिबद्व	(इस लाइन के नीचे न तो लिखें और न ही मुदित करें Do not write or print below this li
सर्व शिवा अभियान	

# Conclusion

In conclusion, "Celebrating Childhood: Exploring the Spectrum of Children in India" offers a profound glimpse into the multifaceted journey of childhood within the nation. From the jubilant observance of Children's Day to the various transformative initiatives, India manifests an unwavering dedication to nurturing and safeguarding its young population.

The stamps released by the Indian Postal Department serve as poignant symbols of this commitment, immortalizing the innocence and aspirations of children. Each stamp encapsulates a piece of the nation's collective efforts towards advocating for children's rights, education, and well-being. These stamps stand as timeless reminders of the nation's pledge to create an inclusive and nurturing environment for every child.

Through the artistic portrayal of childhood themes on stamps, covers, postcards and other postal stationaries, the Postal Department becomes a vital conduit in advocating for children's rights and education, underscoring its commitment to shaping a brighter future for generations to come.

Through these endeavors, India continues to pave the way towards a brighter future, where every child has the opportunity to thrive and flourish. As we celebrate childhood, let us reaffirm our resolve to uphold the rights and dignity of every young individual, recognizing their immense potential to shape the destiny of our nation. Together, let us strive to build a society where every child's dreams can take flight, and where their voices are heard and valued.

"Children are like buds in a garden and should be carefully and lovingly nurtured, as they are the future of the nation and the citizens of tomorrow." - Jawaharlal Nehru