


Decimal series

The move towards decimalisation was afoot for over a century. However, it was in September, 1955 that the Indian Coinage Act was amended for the country to adopt a metric system for coinage. The Act came into force with effect from 1st April, 1957. The rupee remained unchanged in value and nomenclature. It, however, was now divided into 100 'Paisa' instead of 16 Annas or 64 Pice. For public recognition, the new decimal Paisa was termed 'Naya Paisa' till 1st June, 1964. To start with, new coins in the denomination of 1 naya paisa, 2 naya paise, 5 naya paise and 10 naya paise were put into circulation on 1st April, 1957. The 25 naya paise coin was issued later in 1957 and the 50 naya paise coin was issued later in October, 1960. The Rupee coin was added to the series on 2nd July, 1962. The earlier Anna series coins were gradually withdrawn from circulation. The Copper-Nickel half Anna, One Anna and Two Anna coins were demonetized with effect from 1st October, 1960. In the coins, the side where lion capital is present is called 'OBSERVE' and the other side where denomination is present is called as 'REVERSE'. In the discussion below they are quoted as Obv & Rev respectively. The coin issues marked in RED are rare coins and in BLUE are Extremely rare.

1 NAYA PAISA COPPER NICKLE ISSUE

Minting of this coin started in 1957 only from Bombay, Calcutta & Hyderabad mints up to 1961. This coin was never minted from Noida mint. Hyderabad mint has mint mark 'split diamond' .

| Denomination | Specification | Image | | |
|--------------|--|---|-----------|-------|
| 1 NAYA PAISA | Metal- Copper 97% Zinc 2.5% Tin 0.5% Weight-1.5 gms Shape-Circular Diameter-16 mm |  | | |
| Year | Bombay | Calcutta | Hyderabad | Noida |
| 1957 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1958 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1959 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1960 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1961 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |

Description :


Obv – At the center of the coin, Lion capital of Ashoka, with 'INDIA' in English and 'Bharat' in Hindi appearing on either side of the Lion.

Rev – The value of the coin 1 is in English numerals at the center, "Naya Paisa" in Hindi just below it and the year of issue at the bottom with mint mark below year. The fractional relation of the coin to the rupee (Rupaye ka souwa Bhag) is indicated in Hindi around the top half corner of the coin.

1 PAISA NICKLE-BRASS ISSUE

Minting of this coin started in 1961 only from Bombay and Calcutta & Hyderabad mints up to 1964. This coin was never minted from Noida mint. Hyderabad mint has mint mark 'star' below year of issue .

| Denomination | Specification | Image |
|--------------|---------------|-------|
|--------------|---------------|-------|


| | | | | |
|--------------|--|----------|---|-------|
| 1 NAYA PAISA | Metal- Copper 79% Zinc 20% Nickel 1% | |  | |
| | Weight-1.5 gms Shape-Circular Diameter-16 mm | | | |
| Year | Bombay | Calcutta | Hyderabad | Noida |
| 1962 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1963 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1964 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |

Description :

Obv & Rev - : In the Reverse, 'Naya paisa' was replaced by 'Ek paisa' in hindi. All other features are same as previous issue.

1 PAISA ALUMINIUM MAGNESIUM ISSUE

In 1965, the Government decided to issue 1 paisa coins in Aluminium-magnesium with lesser weight. This issue continued up to 1972 and were never minted from Noida mint.

| | | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---|---|-------|
| 1 PAISE | Specification | | Image | |
| | Metal- Aluminium 96% Magnesium 4% | |  | |
| | | Weight-1 gms Shape-Scalloped Across scallop-20 mm | | |
| Year | Bombay | Calcutta | Hyderabad | Noida |
| 1965 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1966 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1967 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1968 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1969 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1970 | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1971 | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1972 | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ |


Description :

Obv – The center bears the Lion capital of Ashoka pillar, with 'INDIA' in English and 'Bharat' in Hindi appearing on either side.

Reverse - A large denominational value 1 at the center. 'PAISA' in Hindi in the left and 'PAISA' in English in the right to the denominational value are present and the year of issue at the bottom

2 NAYE PAISE COPPER NICKLE ISSUE

Minting of this coin started in 1957 only from Bombay and Calcutta mints up to 1963. This coin was never minted from Hyderabad & Noida mint.

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 2 NAYE PAISE | Specification | | Image | |
| | Metal- Copper 75% Nickel 25% | |  | |
| | | Weight-3 gms Shape-Scalloped Across scallop-18 mm | | |

| Year | Bombay | Calcutta | Hyderabad | Noida |
|------|--------|----------|-----------|-------|
| 1957 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1958 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1959 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1960 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1961 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1962 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1963 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |


Description :

Obv – At the center of the coin, Lion capital of Ashoka, with ‘INDIA’ in English and ‘Bharat’ in Hindi appearing on either side of the Lion.

Rev – The value of the coin 2 is in english numerals at the center, “Naye Paise” in Hindi just below it and the year of issue at the bottom with mint mark bellow year. The fractional relation of the coin to the rupee (Rupaye ka pachashwan Bhag) is indicated in Hindi around the top half corner of the coin.

2 PAISE COPPER NICKLE ISSUE

Minting of this coin done only in the year 1964 only from Bombay and Calcutta mints . This coin was never minted from Hyderabad & Noida mint.


| Denomination | Specification | Image | | |
|--------------|--|---|-----------|-------|
| 2 PAISE | Metal- Copper 75% Nickel 25% Weight-1 gms Shape-Scalloped Across scallop-20 mm |  | | |
| Year | Bombay | Calcutta | Hyderabad | Noida |
| 1964 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |

Description :

Obv & Rev - : In the Reverse, ‘Naye paise’ was replaced by ‘Do paise’ in hindi. All other features are same as previous issue.

2 PAISE ALUMINIUM MAGNESIUM ISSUE

In 1965, the Government decided to issue 2 paise coins in Aluminium-magnesium with lesser weight. This issue continued up to 1979 and were never minted from Noida mint.

| Denomination | Specification | Image | | |
|--------------|---|---|-----------|-------|
| 2 PAISE | Metal- Aluminium 96% Magnesium 4% Weight-1 gms Shape-Scalloped Across scallop-20 mm |  | | |
| Year | Bombay | Calcutta | Hyderabad | Noida |
| 1965 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1966 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1967 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1968 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |

| | | | | |
|------|---|---|---|---|
| 1969 | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1970 | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1971 | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1972 | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1973 | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1974 | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1975 | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1976 | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1977 | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1978 | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1979 | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ |


Description :

Obv – The center bears the Lion capital of Ashoka pillar, with 'INDIA' in English and 'Bharat' in Hindi appearing on either side.

Reverse - A large denominational value 2 at the center. 'Paise' in Hindi in the left and 'PAISE' in English in the right to the denominational value are present and the year of issue at the bottom

3 PAISE ALUMINIUM MAGNESIUM ISSUE

In 1967, the Government decided to issue 5 paise coins in Aluminium-magnesium with lesser weight. This issue continued up to 1971 and were never minted from Noida mint.

| Denomination | Specification | | Image | |
|--------------|---|----------|---|-------|
| 3 PAISE | Metal- Aluminium 96% Magnesium 4% Weight-1.25 gms Shape-Hexagonal 2 sides-19.5 mm Opposite corner-21mm | |  | |
| Year | Bombay | Calcutta | Hyderabad | Noida |
| 1964 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1965 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1966 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1967 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1968 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1969 | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1970 | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1971 | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |


Description :

Obv – The center bears the Lion capital of Ashoka pillar, with 'INDIA' in English and 'Bharat' in Hindi appearing on either side.

Reverse - A large denominational value 3 with two flower twigs on its either side. 'Teen Paise' in Hindi is inscribed on the top of '3' and the year of issue at the bottom

5 NAYE PAISE COPPER NICKLE ISSUE

Minting of this coin started in 1957 from Bombay and Calcutta mints up to 1959. In 1960 its minted also from Hyderabad mint up to 1963. This coin was never minted from Noida mint.


| Denomination | Specification | | Image | |
|--------------|---|----------|--|-------|
| 5 NAYE PAISE | Metal- Copper 75% Nickel 25% Weight-4 gms Shape-Square across sides-19 mm Across corners-22 mm | |  | |
| Year | Bombay | Calcutta | Hyderabad | Noida |
| 1957 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1958 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1959 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ |
| 1960 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1961 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1962 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1963 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |

Description :

Obv – At the center of the coin, Lion capital of Ashoka, with 'INDIA' in English and 'Bharat' in Hindi appearing on either side of the Lion.

Rev – The value of the coin 5 is in English numerals at the center, "Naye Paise" in Hindi just below it and the year of issue at the bottom with mint mark below year. The fractional relation of the coin to the rupee (Rupaye ka biswa Bhag) is indicated in Hindi around the top half corner of the coin.

5 PAISE COPPER NICKLE ISSUE

| Denomination | Specification | Image | | | |
|--------------|---|--|-----------|-------|--|
| 5 PAISE | Metal- Copper 75% Nickel 25% Weight-5 gms Shape-Square across sides-19 mm Across corners-22 mm |  | | | |
| Year | Bombay | Calcutta | Hyderabad | Noida | |
| 1964 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | |
| 1965 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | |
| 1966 | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | |


Description :

Obv – Same as previous issue.

Rev – The inscription “Naye Paise” in Hindi below the numeral “5” dropped and is replaced by “Panch Paise” in Hindi. All other features are same as previous issue.

5 PAISE ALUMINIUM MAGNESIUM ISSUE (BIG LION)

In 1967, the Government decided to issue 5 paise coins in Aluminium-magnesium with lesser weight. This issue continued up to 1971 and were never minted from Noida mint.


| Denomination | Specification | Image | | | |
|--------------|--|---|-----------|-------|--|
| 5 PAISE | Metal- Aluminium 96% Magnesium 4% Weight-1.5 gms Shape-Square across sides-19 mm Across corners-22 mm |  | | | |
| Year | Bombay | Calcutta | Hyderabad | Noida | |
| 1967 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | |
| 1968 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | |
| 1969 | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | |
| 1970 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | |
| 1971 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | |

Description :

Obv & Rev – Same as previous issue.

5 PAISE ALUMINIUM MAGNESIUM ISSUE (BIG LION)

In 1972, the Government decided to issue 5 paise coins in Aluminium-magnesium. Size of denomination increased and word 'Panch paise' in hindi dropped. This issue continued up to 1983 and were never minted from Noida mint.

| Denomination | Specification | | Image | |
|--------------|--|----------|--|-------|
| 5 PAISE | Metal- Aluminium 96% Magnesium 4% Weight-1.5 gms Shape-Square across sides-19 mm Across corners-22 mm | |  | |
| Year | Bombay | Calcutta | Hyderabad | Noida |
| 1972 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1973 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1974 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1975 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1976 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1977 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1978 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1979 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1980 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1981 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1982 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |
| 1983 | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ |


Description :

Obv – Same as previous issue.

Reverse - A large 5 with the word 'panch paise' below the denomination dropped and 'PAISE' in English, and in Hindi on its either side of denomination, and the year of issue at the bottom.

5 PAISE ALUMINIUM MAGNESIUM ISSUE (SMALL LION)

In 1984, the Government decided to issue 5 paise coins in Aluminium-magnesium with lesser weight. And thinner than the previous issue. This issue continued up to 1994 and were never minted from Noida mint.

| Denomination | Specification | | Image | |
|--------------|---|----------|--|-------|
| 5 PAISE | Metal- Aluminium 96% Magnesium 4% Weight-1gms Shape-Square across sides-19 mm Across corners-22 mm | |  | |
| Year | Bombay | Calcutta | Hyderabad | Noida |
| 1984 | x | ✓ | ✓ | x |
| 1985 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | x |
| 1986 | x | ✓ | ✓ | x |
| 1987 | x | ✓ | ✓ | x |
| 1988 | x | ✓ | ✓ | x |
| 1989 | x | ✓ | ✓ | x |
| 1990 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | x |
| 1991 | x | ✓ | ✓ | x |
| 1992 | ✓ | x | ✓ | x |
| 1993 | x | ✓ | ✓ | x |
| 1994 | x | x | ✓ | x |

Description :

Obv – Lion size reduced and the legend 'satyameba jayate' in hindi appeared just bellow the Lion capital of Ashoka pillar.

Reverse – Same as previous issue.