



***Unique opportunity for Delhiets to see heritage of currency and coins
Mudra Exhibition starts at Dilli Haat***

New Delhi, 11 April, 2009: A two days MUDRA Exhibition, organized by Delhi Tourism, will begin at Dilli Haat, Pitampura from April 11. The former governor of Uttrakhand and Sikkim, Shri Sudarshan Aggarwal will inaugurate the exhibition. This year, it will display a fascinating set of currency and coins collected from different ages by globally known numismatist Vivek Sardana.

At an exclusive media pre-view of the exhibition, one saw the unique items that have not previously been exhibited in India before, including a series of 2 1/2 Rupees notes, a wooden note from USA dated as recent at 1936, the famous Sinkiang fabric note from China and a coin issued by the British Virgin Islands in 2006 that weighs 5 kilos! Revealing the history behind the 2-1/2 Re notes informs Vivek Sardana to exhibitor "One and two-and-half rupee notes were issued under compulsion for meeting the need of smaller denomination notes after the world war in 1917. However, these were discontinued on 1st Jan 1926 on cost benefit considerations".

Mudra exhibition also showcases Vivek's large collection of currency notes from distinct categories namely the British India period, Republic of India, Foreign and a category that is always a hit with visitors – the collection of Mint errors.

A.K Bahl and Rajesh Jain are also displaying their collection of Princely States and Mughal coins, respectively.

Mudra includes a set of charcoal pencil drawings made by his father, Late Shri Ishwar Chandra Sardana, a national award-winning charcoal artist. It includes portraits of leaders, scientists, philosophers etc. In addition, 20 portraits, autographed by top film stars of 1950's, are on display.

Vivek's passion for his work comes out when he talks about his comprehensive collection, painstakingly developed over nearly four decades. "The excitement and the fascination in the eyes of the people of all age group of 8-80 yrs after seeing the collection gives me immense pleasure and that is the source of inspiration to pursue my hobby more seriously to make my collection one of the best in the country. And most importantly to leave a legacy for the future generation to cherish and get inspired" he says. Today, his massive and fascinating collection consists of a complete compilation of Indian currency notes issued till date in denominations from Re.1 to Rs.1000, about 70% of the notes of the British India period, and notes and coins from more than 150 countries. His *Error Collection* comprises more than 1500 notes and 3000 coins.

For further information, please contact:

Jaya Ghosh Sharma

MelCole Public Relations

Ph: 9999026166; 011-29834428