

KISHANGARH

MANUSCRIPT OVERPRINTED OFFICIAL STAMPS ? 1909 - 1912 (ISC AUG. SEP 2014)



6 MAY 1912



JUNE 1910



APRIL



- NO PMK



1909



16 Nov 1909



? JULY 1910



1912

ID Num.	Denomination	Color of stamp	Color of Ovpt.	Ovpt.	Num of Copies	COLL. ADD.	TOT.
M/S O10	½ anna	Pale yell-olive	blue	O/K/S/S	7	1	8
M/S O11b	½ anna	Deep blue	red	O/K/S/D	2		2
M/S O11c	½ anna	Light blue	red	O/K/S/D	3	2	5
M/S O11ca	½ anna	Light blue	purple	O/K/S/D	1		1
M/S O11cb	½ anna	Light blue	blue	O/K/S/D	1		1
M/S O26a	½ anna	Light blue	red	O/K/S/D	1		1
M/S O26aa	½ anna	Light blue	blue	O/K/S/D	1	1	2
M/S O28	1 anna	Mauve	blue	O/K/S/D	1		1
M/S O29	1 anna	Brown lilac	black	O/K/S/D	2	3	5
M/S O29a	1 anna	Brown lilac	blue	O/K/S/S	1		1
	1 anna	Mauve	black			1	1
	1 anna	Brown	blue			1	1

20 10 30

CATALOGUE ENTRY FOR SIMILAR ITEMS R.H. STAMP HOWEVER ALTHOUGH BY THE SAME HAND HAS "ON" NOT "O". SEE ISC ARTICLE OPPOSITE RE. CONGRESSES REPORT

NOTE - STAMPS ABOVE ARE FULLY COMPARABLE WITH ISC ARTICLE. SAME HAND. AS A GROUP THEY CAN BE COMPARED WITH THE POSTMASTER ANNOTATED ISSUES OF SORUTH. SEE SG. CAT. 4TH ED. P. 308 "MANUSCRIPT OVERPRINTS" (£130 ea.)

Manuscript Overprinted Official Stamps

P. Congreve wrote a series of articles in the Philatelic Journal of India on Kishangarh fifty seven years ago and said the following – "...I have, however, recently obtained a copy of the ½ anna blue. Imperf. on paper No. 1 overprinted in manuscript ON/K S/D in ordinary red ink, Plate VI, and Mr. Stoney possesses a ½ Anna blue similarly overprinted and another in pale blue overprinted in blue ink. The lettering, of the overprints on these three stamps, is so alike, that I have little doubt that it was written by the same hand. All are postmarked with Type 2 cancellations from the Kishangarh post office, and dated in 1910, the earliest being 28 JA 10. The authenticity of this hand written overprint is not known, and I would be grateful if anyone can throw any light on it. The overprints on all three stamps were undoubtedly applied before use, as the post marks are over them; or do they appear to have been cancelled to order. All three are on small pieces one of which bears the last two letters "CE" of SERVICE of a proper official envelope. While this evidence is not enough to establish this issue, I list it for the present, in the hopes that by doing so, more light will be thrown upon it." The reference to Plate VI is either missing or so blurred in the copy available that it is unrecognizable.

The known copies of the manuscript official overprints have expanded from the three copies discussed by Congreve fifty-seven years ago to 20 copies. Fourteen of the copies are courtesy of Sandeep Jaiswal, three are in the collection and were part of the holdings of the Kishangarh Royal family that Sandeep Jaiswal acquired a few years back and the copy owned by Congreve in 1954 and the two copies owned by Stoney in 1954. The listing follows with the "ID Num." made up by the author :

ID Num.	Denomination	Color of stamp	Color of Ovpt.	Ovpt.	Num of Copies
M/S O10	½ anna	Pale yell-olive	blue	O/K/S/S	7
M/S O11b	½ anna	Deep blue	red	O/K/S/D	2
M/S O11c	½ anna	Light blue	red	O/K/S/D	3
M/S O11ca	½ anna	Light blue	purple	O/K/S/D	1
M/S O11cb	½ anna	Light blue	blue	O/K/S/D	1
M/S O26a	½ anna	Light blue	red	O/K/S/D	1
M/S O26aa	½ anna	Light blue	blue	O/K/S/D	1
M/S O28	1 anna	Mauve	blue	O/K/S/D	1
M/S O29	1 anna	Brown lilac	black	O/K/S/D	2
M/S O29a	1 anna	Brown lilac	blue	O/K/S/S	1

Although P. Congreve had written that his copies had the manuscript "ON" rather than "O" the author believes it was a mistake on his part.

All of the above manuscript official overprints are only known used, all are found on small piece and all have a Kish-

engarh postmark. Most seem to be used in the 1910 to 1911 period and in this philatelist's opinion all seventeen that he has seen appear to be genuinely used for official postal purposes. Shown are the half anna pale yellow olive imperforate (SG10) manuscript overprint O/K/S/S in blue (Illustration 39), a one anna brown lilac perforated (SG29) manuscript overprint O/K/S/S in blue (Illustration 40) and a one anna brown lilac perforated (SG29) manuscript overprint O/K/S/D in black (Illustration 41).



Ill. 39



Ill. 40



Ill. 41

Courtesy of Sandeep Jaiswal are 3 manuscript official overprints: half anna light blue imperforate overprinted in red (SG11c) (Illustration 42), one anna brown lilac imperforate (SG14) overprinted in black (Illustration 43) and one anna light blue perforated overprinted in blue (Illustration 44).



Ill. 42



Ill. 43



Ill. 44

The author's theory is that around the 1910 to 1911 time period Government officials in the capital of Kishangarh franked their official mail with official stamps; they received regular postage stamps and in manuscript wrote the initials O(N)/K/S/D for "On Kishangarh Service Durbar" or O/K/S/S for "On Kishangarh State Service". To help distinguish these official stamps the manuscript overprints were done in colored inks, blue the most prevalent but also red, black, purple and maybe other colors. Most of the official mail was ordinary letter so half anna and one anna stamps were used, but other denominations could have been used. The singly printed stamps were used for official purposes rather than the Perkins, Bacon & Co. issues of 1904 to 1910 because the latter issues were under the control of the state Post Office, not the state officials using the singly printed stamps for official mail. Apparently this practice of franking official mail with official manuscript stamps was discontinued after a few years, i.e. about 1911 or so, probably due to official state mailing being exempted from postal charges.