

Cylinder numbers on modern Indian adhesives

There has been little if any published material on these marginal markings, which have been found on definitive stamps issued since 1967. Gupta, in his Specialised Catalogue of Modern India Stamps, states that the printer imprint and the number of the cylinder, were inscribed in the sheet margin as a result of a recommendation of the Working Group of the Philatelic Seminar of 1967. The India Study Circle has no record of any involvement in this probably very interesting forum. The decision much enlarges the scope for study of these plentiful and interesting issues.

Gupta does tentatively record ranges of cylinder numbers but his work is not supplemented beyond 1985. The current very handy stamp catalogue from Phila India includes an interesting chapter on the subject of marginal markings as a whole area of study on the modern issues, and The Silver Key to the Golden Treasure of Indian Philately, from Manik Jain and S.B. Kothari, Calcutta, 1986 has a chapter on marginal markings for the period before 1947. Gupta positions the varieties that he lists, identifying the cylinder, so from him we have some idea of the expected range for an issue.

It has fallen to Ray Green, an energetic philatelist in these issues, to offer a personal list of cylinder numbers seen and recorded to date. In preparing this table, I have not attempted to date the issues; this can easily be done from the usual sources. The denomination is recorded exactly as inscribed on the stamp. Varieties of positioning of the 'Govt of India' watermark are ignored.

I list here findings from Ray Green that enlarge the notes Gupta makes below his listing of each issue. He lists up to 1988.

Bolded entries have been checked against Gupta, *italicised* are definitely recorded by him. A list from Ray Green for later issues was in *India Post* 156.

Value	design	variety	prefix	cylinder	perf of long edge	watermark	direction	Value	design	variety	prefix	cylinder	perf of long edge	watermark	direction
5p	family		A	A74	14	none		5	family	small	A	A23	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A79	14	none		5	family	die	A	A24	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A80	14	GOI		5	family	small	A	A26	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A85	14	GOI		5	family	die	A	A29	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A86	14	GOI		5	family	small	A	A32	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A88	14	GOI		5	family	die	A	A38	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A91	14	GOI		5	family	small	A	A39	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A95	14	GOI		5	family	die	A	A40	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A98	14	GOI		5	family	small	A	A48	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A102	14	GOI		5	family	die	A	A50	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A103	14	GOI		5	family	small	A	A52	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A106	14	GOI		5	family	die	A	A53	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A111	14	GOI		5	family	small	A	A54	14	GOI	
5p	family		A	A112	14	GOI		5	family	die	A	A55	14	GOI	
5p	family	small die	A	A113	14	GOI		10p	loco		B	B4	14	caps	up
5p	family		A	A116	14	GOI		10p	loco		B	B21	14	caps	up
5p	family		A	A120	14	GOI		10p	loco		B	B32	14	caps	up
5p	family		A	A132	14	GOI		10p	loco		B	B33	14	caps	up
5p	family		A	A185	14	GOI		10p	loco		B	B40	14	caps	up
5p	family	small die	A	A2	14	GOI		10p	loco		B	B45	14	caps	up
5	family	small die	A	A1	14	GOI		10p	loco		B	B50	14	caps	up
5	family	small die	A	A9	14	GOI		10p	loco		B	B53	14	caps	up
5	family	small die	A	A10	14	GOI		10p	loco		B	B54	14	caps	up
5	family	small die	A	A12	14	GOI									
5	family	small die	A	A16	14	GOI									
5	family	small die	A	A21	14	GOI									
5	family	small die	A	A22	14	GOI									

FOR THE RECORD

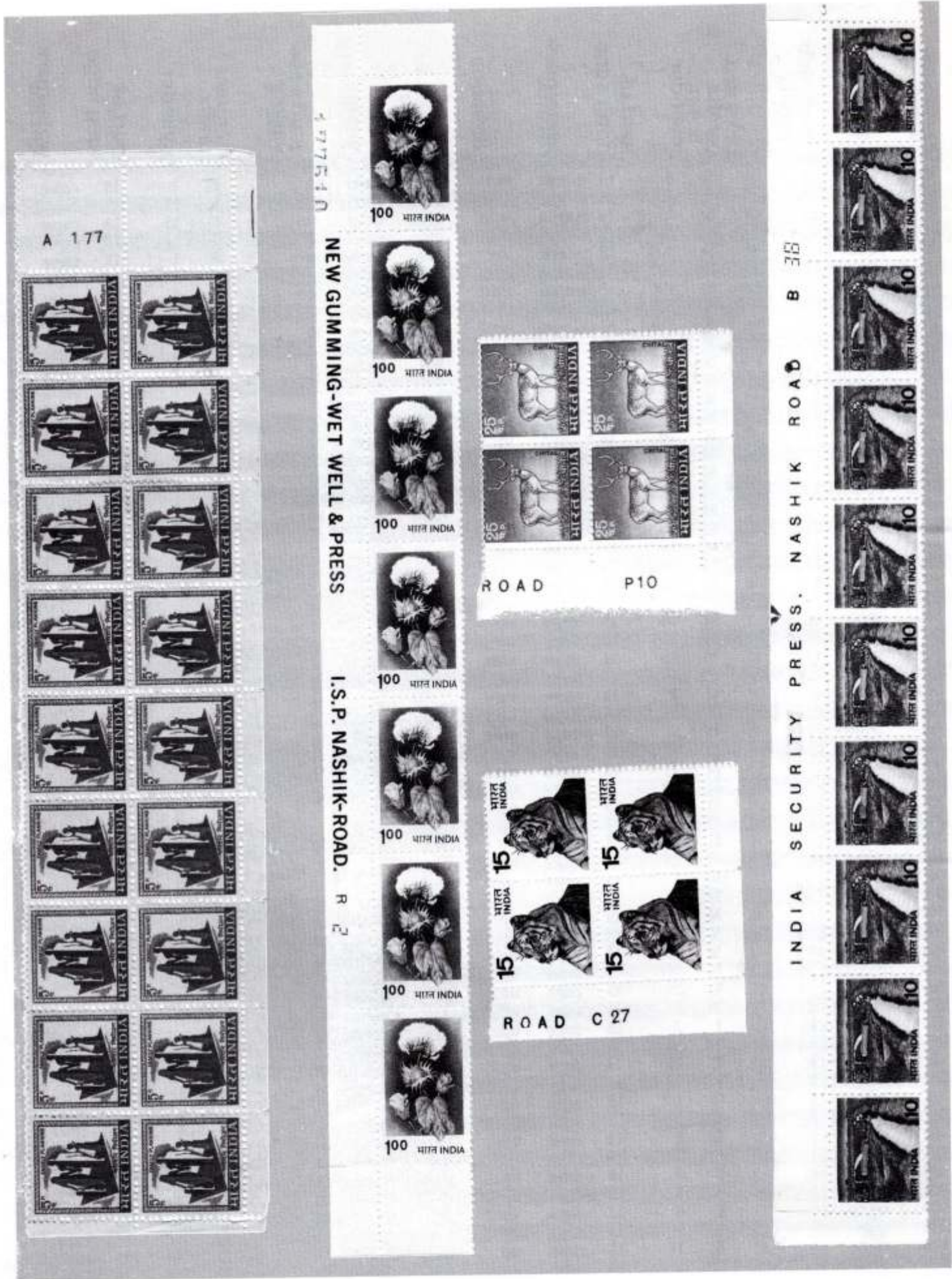
Value	design	variety	prefix	cylinder	perf of long edge	watermark	direction	Value	design	variety	prefix	cylinder	perf of long edge	watermark	direction
10p	loco		B	B55	14	caps	up	Re 1	sculpture		K	19		caps	up
10p	loco		B	B57	14	caps	up	Re 1	sculpture		K	24		caps	up
10p	loco		B	B58	14	caps	up	Re 1	sculpture		K	25		caps	up
10p	loco		B	B59	14	caps	up	Re 1	sculpture		K	26		caps	up
10p	loco		B	B61	14	caps	up	Re 1	sculpture		K	27		caps	up
10p	loco		B	B62	14	caps	up	Rs 2	Dal		L	3		caps	side
10p	loco		B	B63	14	caps	up	Rs 5	Bhakra		M	4		caps	side
10	loco		B	B2	14	caps	up	500	Bhakra		M	3		caps	side
10	loco		B	B4	14	caps	up	500	Bhakra		M	4		caps	side
10	loco		B	B5	14	caps	up	Rs 10	Trombay		N	2		caps	side
10	loco		B	B6	14	caps	up	1000	Trombay		N	2		caps	side
10	loco		B	B7	14	caps	up	15p	tiger		C	1	14	caps	side
10	loco		B	B9	14	caps	up	15p	tiger		C	2	14	caps	side
10	loco		B	B10	14	GOI		15p	tiger	dark back ground	C	5	14	caps	side
10	loco		B	B12	14	GOI				no back ground					
10	loco		B	B13	14	GOI		15	tiger	back ground	C	1	14	caps	side
10	loco		B	B15	14	GOI									
10	loco		B	B16	14	GOI									
10	loco		B	B22	14	GOI		15	tiger	ground	C	3	14	caps	side
10	loco		B	B24	14	GOI		15	tiger		C	4	14	caps	side
10	loco		B	B25	14	GOI		15	tiger		C	7	14	caps	side
10	loco		B	B26	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	8	14	caps	side
10	loco		B	B29	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	9	14	caps	side
10	loco		B	B30	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	10	14	caps	side
10	loco		B	B31	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	12	14	caps	side
15p	tea		C	C2	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	19	14	caps	side
15p	tea		C	C5	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	23	14	caps	side
15p	tea		C	C13	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	24	14	caps	side
15p	tea		C	C14	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	27	14	caps	side
15p	tea		C	C17	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	28	14	caps	side
15p	tea		C	C19	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	31	14	caps	side
15p	tea		C	C21	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	34	14	caps	side
20p	gnat		D	2	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	36	14	caps	side
20p	gnat		D	16	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	40	14	caps	side
20p	gnat		D	18	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	41	14	caps	side
20p	gnat		D	21	14	caps	up	15	tiger		C	44	14	caps	side
20p	gnat		D	22	14	caps	up			no back ground					
20p	gnat		D	31	14	caps	up								
20p	gnat		D	37	14	caps	up	25p	chital		P	4	14	caps	side
20p	gnat		D	39	14	caps	up	25p	chital		P	5	14	caps	side
20p	gnat		D	40	14	caps	up	25p	chital		P	6	14	caps	side
20p	gnat		D	42	14	caps	up	25p	chital		P	7	14	caps	side
20p	gnat		D	43	14	caps	up	25p	chital		P	8	14	caps	side
20p	gnat		D	44	14	caps	up	25p	chital		P	9	14	caps	side
20p	gnat		D	46	14	caps	up	25p	chital		P	10	14	caps	side
30p	dolls		E	2	14	caps	side	25p	chital		P	12	14	caps	side
30p	dolls			3	14	caps	side	25p	chital		P	13	14	caps	side
30p	dolls			4	14	caps	side	Re 1	instrument		K	1		caps	side
40p	G.P.O.		F	1	14	caps	up	100	instrument		K	2		caps	side
40p	G.P.O.		F	3	14	caps	up	100	instrument		K	3		caps	side
40p	G.P.O.		F	4	14	caps	up	100	instrument		K	6		caps	side
50p	mangoes		G	1	14	caps	side	100	instrument		K	7		caps	side
50p	mangoes		G	6	14	caps	side	100	instrument		K	12		caps	side
50p	mangoes		G	7	14	caps	side	100	instrument		K	13		caps	side
50p	mangoes		G	8	14	caps	side	100	instrument		K	16		caps	side
50p	mangoes		G	12	14	caps	side	100	instrument		K	19		caps	side
50p	mangoes		G	13	14	caps	side	100	instrument		K	21		caps	side
50p	mangoes		G	14	14	caps	side	100	instrument		K	24		caps	side
60p	Somnath		H	1	14	caps	side	100	instrument		K	26		caps	side
60p	Somnath		H	3	14	caps	side	100	instrument		K	29		caps	side
60	Somnath		H	1	14	caps	side	100	instrument		K	30		caps	side
70p	Hampi		J	1	14	caps	up	100	instrument		K	31		caps	side
Re 1	sculpture		K	7		caps	up	100	instrument		K	32		caps	side
Re 1	sculpture		K	15		caps	up	100	instrument		K	36		caps	side
Re 1	sculpture		K	17		caps	up								

FOR THE RECORD

Value	design	variety	prefix	cylinder	perf of long edge	watermark	direction	Value	design	variety	prefix	cylinder	perf of long edge	watermark	direction
20	toy		D	2	14	caps	up	15	farmer		C	13	14	caps	side
20	toy		D	3	14	caps	up	15	farmer		C	16	14	caps	side
20	toy		D	4	14	caps	up	15	farmer		C	19	14	caps	side
20	toy		D	8	14	caps	up	15	farmer		C	20	13	caps	up
20	toy		D	13	14	caps	up	15	farmer		C	45	13	caps	up
20	toy		D	23	14	caps	up	15	farmer		C	46	13	caps	up
20	toy		D	25	14	caps	up	15	farmer		C	52	13	caps	up
20	toy		D	32	14	caps	up	15	farmer		C	53	13	caps	up
20	toy		D	33	14	caps	up	10	irrigation		B	2	14	caps	up
20	toy		D	36	14	caps	up	10	irrigation		B	22	13	caps	up
20	toy		D	37	14	caps	up	10	irrigation		B	25	13	caps	up
20	toy		D	38	14	caps	up	10	irrigation		B	73	13	caps	side
20	toy		D	39	14	caps	up	10	irrigation		B	75	13	caps	side
20	toy		D	42	14	caps	up	10	irrigation		B	76	13	caps	side
20	toy		D	46	14	caps	up	10	irrigation		B	77	13	caps	side
30	dolls		P	1	14	caps	side	10	irrigation		B	79	13	caps	side
50	bird	die I	G	2	14	caps	up	10	irrigation		B	83	13	caps	side
50	bird	die I	G	3	14	caps	up	20	mother		D	13	14	caps	side
50	bird	die I	G	5	14	caps	up	20	mother		D	22	14	caps	side
50	bird	die II	G	11	14	caps	up	20	mother		D	25	14	caps	side
50	bird	die II	G	13	14	caps	up	20	mother		D	61	13	caps	side
50	bird	die II	G	14	14	caps	up	25	chick		J	2	14	caps	up
50	bird	die II	G	15	14	caps	up	25	chick		J	4	14	caps	up
50	bird	die II	G	16	14	caps	up	25	chick		J	6	14	caps	up
50	bird	die II	G	17	14	caps	up	25	chick		J	12	14	caps	up
50	bird	die II	G	18	14	caps	up	25	chick		J	13	14	caps	up
50	bird	die II	G	19	14	caps	up	25	chick		J	15	14	caps	up
50	bird	die II	G	20	14	caps	up	25	chick		J	16	14	caps	up
50	bird	die II	G	21	14	caps	up	25	chick		J	17	14	caps	up
50	bird	die II	G	22	14	caps	up	25	chick		J	25	13	caps	up
50	bird	die II	G	23	14	caps	up	25	chick		J	26	13	caps	up
50	bird	die II	G	24	14	caps	up	25	tractor		J	11	13	caps	side
50	bird	die II	G	27	14	caps	up	25	tractor		J	54	13	caps	side
50	bird	die II	G	30	14	caps	up	25	tractor		J	69	13	caps	side
50	bird	die II	G	31	14	caps	up	25	tractor		J	70	13	caps	side
200	Himalayas	die II	L	12		caps	side	25	tractor		J	71	13	caps	side
200	Himalayas	die II	L	14		caps	side	30	harvest		P	1	14	caps	up
200	Himalayas	die II	L	17		caps	side	30	harvest		P	2	14	caps	up
200	Himalayas	die II	L	21		caps	side	30	harvest		P	4	14	caps	up
200	Himalayas	die II	L	22		caps	side	30	harvest		P	7	14	caps	up
2	literacy		X	1	14	GOI		30	harvest		P	23	13	caps	up
2	literacy		X	7	14	GOI		30	harvest		P	46	13	caps	up
5	fish		A	1	14	GOI		30	harvest		P	50	13	caps	up
5	fish		A	3	14	GOI		35	family		K	1	14	caps	side
5	fish		A	7	14	GOI		35	family		K	9	13	caps	side
5	fish		A	11	14	GOI		50	dairy		G	22	13	caps	side
5	fish		A	16	14	GOI		50	dairy		G	92	13	caps	side
5	fish		A	20	14	GOI		50	dairy		G	95	13	caps	side
5	fish		A	28	14	GOI		50	dairy		G	100	13	caps	side
5	fish		A	30	14	caps	up	50	dairy		G	101	13	caps	side
5	fish		A	31	14	caps	up	50	dairy		G	102	13	caps	side
5	fish		A	33	14	caps	up	50	dairy		G	106	13	caps	side
5	fish		A	35	14	caps	up	50	dairy		G	110	13	caps	side
5	fish		A	54	13	caps	up	50	dairy		G	113	13	caps	side
5	fish		A	63	13	caps	up	100	cotton		R	3	14	caps	side
5	fish		A	80	13	caps	up	100	cotton		R	5	14	caps	side
15	farmer		C	1	14	GOI		100	cotton		R	10	14	caps	side
15	farmer		C	2	14	GOI		100	cotton		R	17	14	caps	side
15	farmer		C	3	14	GOI		100	cotton		R	18	14	caps	side
15	farmer		C	4	14	GOI		100	cotton		R	24	14	caps	side
15	farmer		C	5	14	GOI		100	cotton		R	37	14	caps	side
15	farmer		C	6	14	GOI		100	cotton		R	39	14	caps	side
15	farmer		C	9	14	GOI		200	loom		S	1	14	caps	side
15	farmer		C	13	14	GOI		200	loom		S	2	14	caps	side

FOR THE RECORD

Value	design	variety	prefix	cylinder	perf of long edge	watermark	direction	Value	design	variety	prefix	cylinder	perf of long edge	watermark	direction
200	loom		S	6	14	caps	side	200	Patel		J	3	13	caps	up
200	loom		S	8	14	caps	side	200	Patel		J	7	13	caps	up
200	loom		S	9	14	caps	side	200	Patel		J	11	13	caps	up
200	loom		S	11	14	caps	side	200	Patel		J	15	13	caps	up
200	loom		S	14	14	caps	side	200	Patel		J	16	13	caps	up
200	loom		S	100	13	caps	up	300	Ambedkar		A	1	13	caps	up
200	loom		S	102	13	caps	up	300	otter		D	1	13	caps	side
200	loom		S	106	13	caps	up	300	otter		D	6	13	caps	side
200	loom		S	109	13	caps	up	400	stork		P	3	13	caps	side
200	loom		S	119	13	caps	up	400	stork		P	4	13	caps	side
200	loom		S	120	13	caps	up	500	leopard		M	4	13	caps	up
200	loom		S	132	13	caps	up	500	leopard		M	5	13	caps	up
280	apples		Q	1		caps	side	500	leopard		G	1	13	caps	up
1000	forest		N	14	13	caps	up	500	leopard		G	2	13	caps	up
1000	forest		N	15	13	caps	up	1000	tiger		N	1	13	caps	up
1000	forest		N	20	13	caps	up	1000	tiger		N	8	13	caps	up
500	solar		M	9	13	caps	side	1500	butterfly		X	1	13	caps	up
500	solar		M	10	13	caps	side	2000	amalttas		Y	1	13	caps	side
500	solar		M	11	13	caps	side	5000	flycatcher		Z	1	13	caps	side
500	solar		M	13	13	caps	side	25	Nehru, large	Type I	J	1		caps	up
500	solar		M	17	13	caps	side	25	Nehru, large	Type III	J	1		caps	up
500	solar		M	18	13	caps	up	25	Nehru, large		J	8		caps	up
500	solar		M	19	13	caps	up	25	Nehru, large		J	27		caps	up
500	solar		M	20	13	caps	up	25	Nehru, large		J	32		caps	up
500	solar		M	21	13	caps	up	25	Nehru, large		E	20		caps	up
500	solar		M	23	13	caps	up	25	Nehru, large		E	27		caps	up
500	solar		M	24	13	caps	up	25	Nehru, large		J	27		caps	up
500	solar		M	28	13	caps	side	25	Nehru, large		J	32		caps	up
2000	bio		V	1	13	caps	up	25	Nehru, large		J	32		caps	up
2000	bio		V	2	13	caps	up	25	Nehru, large		J	32		caps	up
75	family		W	3	13	caps	up	25	Nehru, large		J	32		caps	up
75	family		W	9	13	caps	side	25	Nehru, large		J	32		caps	up
300	polio		D	4	13	caps	up	25	Gandhi, large		E	20		caps	up
300	polio		D	7	13	caps	up	25	Gandhi, large		E	27		caps	up
300	polio		D	10	13	caps	up	25	Gandhi, large		E	27		caps	up
300	polio		D	13	13	caps	up	25	Gandhi, large		E	27		caps	up
300	polio		D	14	13	caps	up	25	Gandhi, large		E	27		caps	up
300	polio		D	19	13	caps	up	25	Gandhi, large	Type I	P	1	14	caps	side
300	polio		D	29	13	caps	up	25	Gandhi, large	Type II	E	2	14	caps	side
500	Sanchi		M	1	13	caps	side	25	Gandhi, large	Type II	E	2	14	caps	side
500	Sanchi		M	16	13	caps	up	30	Gandhi, large		E	1	14	caps	side
500	Sanchi		M	19	13	caps	up	30	Gandhi, large		E	1	14	caps	side
500	Sanchi		M	21	13	caps	up	30	Nehru, large		F	1	14	caps	side
500	Sanchi		M	26	13	caps	up	35	Nehru, large		F	1	14	caps	side
500	Sanchi		M	27	13	caps	up	35	Nehru, large		F	2	14	caps	side
500	Sanchi		M	29	13	caps	up	35	Nehru, large		F	6	14	caps	side
25	blackbuck		T	1	13	caps	up	35	Nehru, large		F	9	14	caps	side
25	blackbuck		T	2	13	caps	up	35	Nehru, large		F	10	14	caps	side
25	blackbuck		T	14	13	caps	up	35	Nehru, large		F	13	13	caps	side
25	blackbuck		T	15	13	caps	up	35	Nehru, large		F	13	13	caps	side
25	blackbuck		T	17	13	caps	up	35	Nehru, large		F	13	13	caps	side
50	tahr		G	1	13	caps	up	35	Gandhi, large		E	1	14	caps	side
50	tahr		G	2	13	caps	up	35	Gandhi, large		E	3	14	caps	side
100	crane		E	1	13	caps	up	35	Gandhi, large		E	3	14	caps	side
100	crane		E	2	13	caps	up	50	Gandhi, large		E	1	13	caps	side
100	crane		E	3	13	caps	up	50	Nehru, large		F	2	13	caps	side
100	crane		E	5	13	caps	up	100	Gandhi, large		E	243	13	caps	up
100	crane		E	8	13	caps	up	100	Gandhi, large		E	245	13	caps	up
100	crane		E	9	13	caps	up	100	Gandhi, large		E	250	13	caps	up
100	crane		E	11	13	caps	up	100	Gandhi, large		E	256	13	caps	up
100	Bose		F	2	13	caps	up	100	Gandhi, large		E	257	13	caps	up
100	Bose		F	3	13	caps	up	100	Gandhi, large		E	257	13	caps	up
200	Patel		J	1	13	caps	up	100	Gandhi, large		E	260	13	caps	up
200	Patel		J	2	13	caps	up	100	Gandhi, large		E	264	13	caps	up
								100	Gandhi, large		E	264	13	caps	up
								100	Gandhi, large		E	269	13	caps	up
								100	Gandhi, large		E	272	13	caps	up
								100	Gandhi, large		E	283	13	caps	up
								100	Gandhi, large		E	283	13	caps	up



Examples of cylinder markings on sheet margins listed above