

PENNY BLACK : WORLD'S FIRST POSTAGE STAMP

Ananya Bhattacharjee

Penny Black was the world's first stamp which was issued on 1st May, 1840 which is 182 years ago. It was issued in United Kingdom and was launched for using it in public postal system. The stamp has a picture of Queen Victoria. It was proposed by Rowland Hill so that pre-payment of postage can be done as British postal rates are high. This is the most sought after stamp for stamp collectors as it is an antique symbol of history as well as philately. It is the British cultural icon and many countries celebrated 150th anniversary of penny black stamp by releasing stamps. In 2015, the global search engine, Google released a special doodle to celebrate 175th anniversary of penny black. Some of the stamps on penny black are mentioned below.



Penny black is the starting point which led to evolution of the king of hobbies "PHILATELY". This hobby has connected this world through a global community of collectibles.