Combating Covid thru Philately

The novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, caused by the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), originated from Wuhan, China. As of 5th May 2020, COVID-19 has spread to 215 countries, areas and territories, with confirmed cases at 35,17,345 and a reported death toll of 2,43,401.

First, in October 2020, Austrian Post issued 300,000 three-ply toilet paper souvenir sheet stamps, in recognition of the peculiar hoarding behavior that resulted in global shortages of toilet paper rolls. These self-adhesive stamps, printed with the theme of "Distanz, Die Uns Verbindet" (translation: Distance That Brings Us Together), The animal depictions include a metallic baby elephant, an image widely used in the country during the pandemic, to suggest appropriate physical separation between people for "social distancing."

In September 2021, Austrian Post issued 150,000 miniature face mask-shaped stamps, which were made out of filtering material of the European FFP2 standard, which filters at least 94% of airborne particles. The mask stamps came complete with cloth ear loops, but at only 6 cm x 4.1 cm would be a better fit for a doll than a human.

Most recently, bandages with the message Tut gar nicht weh! (translation: It doesn't hurt at all!) were the March 2022 issue in the Austrian Post pandemic series, designed to encourage vaccination. These bandage stamps, had a central absorbent pad and an adhesive strip that can be peeled off.

China payed tribute to the heroes fighting against corona virus COVID-19, issued stamps as depicting images of People's Liberation Army commanders, medics, scientific researchers, community workers, police and volunteers.