Year of the Rat

On December 2, 2019 the State Committee of Information Technology and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic puts into circulation a Kyrgyz Express Post postage stamp: “Year of the Rat”.

According to the Chinese calendar, the new year will be the Year of the White Metal Rat, it will begin on January 25, 2020.

The rat is the first zodiac animal of the Chinese horoscope, which begins a new 12-year cycle, that’s why the Year of the Rat is considered important for all signs of both Eastern and Western zodiacs.

In the Eastern world and particularly in China, the rat is a sacred animal that symbolizes courage, cunning and the ability to achieve goals by any means. Rats are smart, resourceful and versatile. They are strong and independent animals. Therefore, astrologers consider that the Year of the White Metal Rat will be a very successful year for ambitious and purposeful people.

For this stamp, KEP also issues a postcard, which is used to realize a maximum card.

Stamp description

No. 147. 100 KGS.
White Metal Rat - the first zodiac animal of the Chinese horoscope.

Technical specifications

Paper: coated, gummed, 105 g/m².
Printing method: full-color offset lithography.
Stamp perforation: comb 13 syncopated.
Stamp size: 34.00 x 34.00 mm.
Stamps are issued in minisheet of 5 stamps and 1 label. On the sheet borders there is a text: “Happy New Year!” in Kyrgyz, Russian, English and Chinese languages.
Minisheet size: 134.00 x 100.00 mm.
Quantity issued: 8 000 pieces.
Designer: Maxim Cerevcov.
Printer House: “Nova Imprim” (Chișinău, Moldova).
A special cancellation on FDC will be carried out at the Bishkek KEP Office (729001) on the stamp issuing day.

The first day cover and special postmark are designed by Maxim Cerevcov.
Cover size: C6 (162 x 114 mm).
Printing method: full-color offset.
Quantity issued: 450 pieces.
Endorsing ink color: black.

Postal card for maximum card designed by Maxim Cerevcov.
Printing method – digital;
Quantity issued – 400 pieces.