

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1622
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27th JULY, 2018/ 5th SHRAVANA, 1940 (SAKA)

SELF-RELIANCE IN PRINTING OF CURRENCY

QUESTION

1622. SHRI ALOK SANJAR :

Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be pleased to state :

- a) Whether India has not become self-reliant in printing of currency notes and if so, the details thereof;
- b) Whether the Government is taking any step in this regard in view of fake currency supplied from across the border;
- c) Whether the Reserve Bank of India imports currency paper and security ink and if so, the details thereof;
- d) Whether the Government proposes to/ has been making efforts for maximum indigenous production of currency paper and security ink; and
- e) If so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI Pon. RADHAKRISHNAN)

- a) : As on date, India is self-reliant in printing of currency/ bank notes and the demand is fulfilled by either of the four banknote presses in India owned by Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL) and Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL).
- b) : The Government has taken various measures to check the smuggling and circulation of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) into the country, which inter-alia, include :
 - (i) The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 criminalises the production or smuggling or circulation of High Quality FICN, coin or any other material as a terrorist act.
 - (ii) FICN Coordination Group (FCORD) has been formed by the Ministry of Home Affairs to share intelligence/ information among the different security agencies of the States/ centre to counter the problem of circulation of FICN in the country. A Terror Funding and Fake Currency Cell (TFFC) has also been functioning in NIA to investigate terror funding and fake currency cases.

- (iii) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between India and Bangladesh to prevent and counter smuggling & circulation of FICN.
- (iv) Strengthening the security at the international borders by using new surveillance technology, deploying additional manpower for round the clock surveillance, establishing observations posts along the international border, erection of border fencing and intensive patrolling.
- c) : At present there are no imports of Cylinder Watermark Bank Note (CWBN) currency paper. However, a small quantity of CWBN paper, available with various overseas paper mills is being procured. Only colour Shift Intaglio ink is being imported at present.
- d) & e) : As part of effort towards indigenization of banknote raw materials, two paper lines at Bank Note Paper Mill India Pvt. Ltd. (BNPMIPL), Mysore and one paper line at Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad has been installed to manufacture bank note paper for taking care of country's requirement for CWBN paper. The capacity of these paper mill is fully utilized to meet the requirement of currency paper at present as import substitute. New ink manufacturing unit is being set up at Bank Note Press – Dewas and BRBNMPL, Mysuru to maximise the security ink production indigenously.
