

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2773

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 23RD DECEMBER, 2015/PAUSHA 2,1937 (SAKA)

PROBLEM OF FAKE CURRENCY

2773. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is facing the fake currency problem;
- (b) if so, the status of this menace;
- (c) whether India has not been able to control this crime;
- (d) whether India proposes to seek help of other countries to tackle this issue; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): As per available information, counterfeit currency recovered and seized and the face value thereof, during the last three years i.e. 2012, 2013, 2014 and the current year (upto September, 2015) is as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Total Number of Notes (seized & recovered)	Face value of FICN (seized & recovered)
1.	2012	927789	45.24 crores
2.	2013	846966	42.90 crores
3.	2014	709551	36.11 crores
4.	2015 (upto September, 2015)	466657	22.90 crores

The high quality fake Indian currency notes (FICN) are printed in sophisticated presses located in Pakistan. High quality fake Indian currency notes seized in India and abroad, originate mainly from Pakistan, which has created a self sustaining criminal network in South and South East Asian Region for infusing FICN into India via. Nepal, Bangladesh, Thailand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and the United Arab Emirates. The matter has been taken up by the Government of India with Pakistan at Foreign Secretary level talks and Home Secretary level talks.

(c) to (e): In order to curb the menace of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN), several Ministries / Agencies / Institutions such as the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Security and Intelligence Agencies of the Centre and States are working in tandem to thwart the illegal activities related to FICNs. One special FICN Co-ordination (FCORD) Group has been formed by the MHA to share intelligence/information among the different Security Agencies of State/Centre to counter the problem of circulation of Fake Currency Notes in the country. The CBI and National Investigation Agency (NIA) are the Central Agencies for investigation of FICN cases. The Government has also constituted a Terror Funding & Fake Currency Cell (TFFC) in NIA to investigate Terror Funding and Fake Currency cases.

The legal regime has been strengthened by amendments in the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967(UAPA) wherein damage to the monetary stability of India by way of production or smuggling or circulation of High Quality Fake Indian Paper currency, coin or any other material has been declared as a "terrorist" act.

The RBI conducts awareness programmes to make the public aware of the features of Indian bank notes and to identify genuine Indian bank notes. The RBI regularly conducts training programmes on detection of counterfeit notes for employees / officers of banks and other organizations handling large amounts of cash.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between India and Bangladesh to prevent and counter smuggling and circulation of Fake Currency Notes. The objective of this MoU is to promote bilateral cooperation in the field of preventing and combating, production, smuggling and circulation of fake currency notes, taking into account the applicable laws and legal provisions of the two countries.