

Government has advised the State Governments to take strict action against traders indulging in profiteering, hoarding and black marketing.

**Exchange of defective or mutilated currency notes from Banks**

657. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that common man is experiencing acute difficulties in exchanging defective or mutilated currency notes from banks; and

(b) if so, steps taken to streamline the process for exchanging the soiled notes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Complaints are received from the public regarding difficulties faced by them in getting their soiled/mutilated notes exchanged from some of the Bank branches.

(b) Reserve Bank of India has delegated powers for exchange of soiled and slightly mutilated notes to the branches of public sector banks. With a view to making the delegation of powers to Banks more effective and thereby enlarging and improving customer service, RBI has in June, 1985 delegated full powers as exercised in RBI to 700 selected branches of major public sector banks at District Headquarters to accept and exchange all types of soiled and mutilated notes in accordance with Note Refund Rules. It has also emphasised upon all the Chief Executives of all public sector banks to ensure that their branches extend the note exchange facility to the public to the maximum extent

News item captioned "Illicit coin trade at city RBI"

658. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government have been drawn to the report in 'The Telegraph' dated the 8th June, 1985 with the headline 'Illicit Coin Trade at City RBI';

(b) whether Government propose to conduct an enquiry into the allegation made in the report that a few unscrupulous traders in league with a few employees of the RBI, Calcutta are cornering huge quantity of small coins daily and earning black money from them; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Reserve Bank of India, which is responsible for distribution of coins have informed that the arrangement for daily issue of small coins presently in vogue at their Calcutta Office is as under :—

	Amount in Rupees
1. Calcutta State Transport Corporation.	35,000
2. Calcutta Tramways	12,000
3. Railways	6,000
4. Trading establishments (Big and Small) including restaurants and hotels.	15,000
5. Government Department, Factories etc.	35,000
6. Private and Mini Bus Operators.	20,000
7. Individual members of public.	10,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,33,500</b>

From the above statement it will be observed that the major portion of the coins issued at their Calcutta Office