

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:464  
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2001  
SHORTAGE OF CURRENCY NOTE OF SMALLER DENOMINATION  
DHANI RAM SHANDIL

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the acute shortage of currency notes of smaller denominations;
- (b) if so, the step being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government propose to introduce plastic currency notes on account of durability; and
- (d) if so, by when the plastic currency notes are likely to be introduced?

**Answer**

Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance(Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil)

(a)&(b): Currency notes in the denominations of rupee one, rupees two and rupees five are no longer printed and the notes already in circulation will get replaced by coins. The Government Mints are being modernised to increase their production capacity. As a short-term measure, Government is importing coins to improve the availability of coins to the public.

(c)&(d): A Committee constituted by the Government on increasing life of Indian Bank Notes is examining all aspects including change in substrate from paper to plastic.