

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3986
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2012
MELTING OF COINS
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Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaint of melting the coins by some unscrupulous elements for their personal gain; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government has initiated to make sufficient supplies of the coins as well as to punish those found melting the coins?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has informed that they have received complaints from members of public regarding melting of coins by unscrupulous elements for making artificial jewellery etc. They have also come across certain news items in local dailies of Bengaluru, Thiruvananthapuram and Jaipur regarding black marketing/melting of coins for manufacturing blades, artificial jewellery, bullets etc. RBI has sensitized their regional offices to take up such matters with civil/Police authorities in their region at various fora, including State Level Security Committee.

RBI has further informed that despite taking initiatives for smooth distribution and easy availability of coins to public, the demand for coins has been continuously growing. They have further informed that in their Monetary Policy Statement 2012-13, banks have been advised to strengthen their distribution systems and procedures so as to cater to the growing needs of the common man.