

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:863
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2013
SHORTAGE OF COINS
Singh Shri Bhupendra

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a shortage of coins of various denominations in the country, State/UT-wise including Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, denomination-wise and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a & b) : The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has informed that a number of complaints have been received by them from across the country, including the state of Madhya Pradesh, indicating that there is shortage of coins. The complaints of shortage of coins is mainly in Rs. 1 and Rs. 5 segment. It has been further informed that the demand forecast for coins is done for the country as a whole using statistical models and no separate assessment of coin shortages in individual States is done.

(c) : The Reserve Bank of India has taken the following measures/steps to address the problem :

- i) More remittances of coins were sent to the Currency Chests (CCs) in the areas where shortage of coins was reported.
- ii) Withdrawal of coins from CCs is monitored by Issue Offices online through Integrated Computerized Currency Operations and Management System (ICCOMS) and incognito visits.
- iii) Shop keepers and other business establishments, tollgate agencies, etc. have been attached to the nearest CCs for their requirement of coins subject to availability.
- iv) Banks have been encouraged to install Coin Vending Machines (CVMs) for issue of coins by providing them capital subsidy.
- v) Banks have been advised to organize coin melas for issue of coins to members of public.
- vi) Issue Offices have been advised to keep minimum balances in their vaults and in CCs to ensure availability of coins to bank branches/ members of public.
- vii) A higher indent for coins in all the denominations has been placed.