

Title: Need to take steps to prevent defacing/melting of currency coins for manufacturing machinery and surgical instruments -laid.

SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA (MACHILIPATNAM): As per the guidelines of the RBI, no one in the country is allowed to deface or melt the 'currency coins.' If anybody does this, it is a punishable offence. But, melting of coins, particularly one rupee coins, has become a big business in Hyderabad. Once coins are melted the same will be sent to Bangalore, Pune, etc., for using the same as raw material in the manufacture of various parts of machinery and also surgical instruments. The reason for choosing only one rupee coins being that it contains aluminum and magnesium along with steel. The cost of aluminum and magnesium in the open market is much higher and moreover is also not pure. So, the manufacturers of machine parts found out this easy route of extracting the raw material for manufacturing parts from one rupee coins. The modus operandi is simple. People, including children, collect one rupee coins from shops by paying, say Rs. 120-150 for one hundred rupee coins. Once coins are collected, they are sent to melting units through big scrap dealers. Once the coins are melted, they take out aluminum and magnesium and then the same are used to manufacture various parts of machinery and surgical instruments. There is also a lot of demand for this mixture in the open market. So, the people found out this way.

Hence, I request the Government of India and the Finance Ministry to immediately take measures to stop misuse of currency coins and punish the culprits.