GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2957 TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND DECEMBER 2016/11TH AGRAHAYANA SAKA, 1938

CURRENCY IN ATMs/BANKS

2957. SHRIMATI P.K. SREEMATHI TEACHER:

SHRI SUMAN BALKA:
SHRIMATI V. SATHYA BAMA:
PROF. SAUGATA ROY:
SHRI ANTO ANTONY:
SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM:

QUESTION

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of insufficient funds available in banks and ATM's after demonetisation drive and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to deploy money exchange vans/centres in public places to exchange the currencies particularly in rural areas and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up public support camp to help people with formalities of filling forms related to money exchange especially to illiterate people, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to deal with the chaos/inconvenience outside the banks/ATMs due to non-availability of new currency and to provide new currency notes in rural/remote tribal and hilly areas across the country; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to recalibrate the ATMs all over the country to dispense new currencies?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY FOR FINANCE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

- (a) to (d) There is sufficient cash available with RBI and Banks. They have been advised to step up the supply of cash to the public. The availability of cash and issuance of cash to bank branches and Post Offices on a daily basis is being constantly monitored and necessary rebalancing being done for more efficient allocation of banknotes of requisite denominations between different areas. To cater to the requirement of rural areas, banks have been advised to supply notes of smaller denominations. All banks have been advised to arrange mobile banking vans to the extent possible at major hospitals to carry out emergency banking transaction for patients, deploy their Micro ATMs (Bala Mitras, etc) near village Panchayat Offices, in a camp mode, open accounts for Tea/coffee and other plantation workers, employees of Sugar cooperatives, dairy farms and such other worker groups with concentrated payment locations so that they may be better served in terms of deposit into accounts and withdrawal therefrom. Further, they have also been advised for separate queues for senior citizens and Divyang persons. Separate queues will also be arranged for exchange of cash to cash and transactions against Bank accounts.
- (e) A Task Force has been set up for providing guidance for expeditious recalibration of ATMs across the country for dispensation of new design banknotes.
