

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *175
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH DECEMBER 2017/ 8TH Pausha, 1939(Saka)

New Currency Notes and Coins

*175. SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY AND PROF. SADHU SINGH:

QUESTION

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the visually impaired face hardships in identifying and using new coins and notes including Rs. 200 and Rs.50 notes due to their size and identification marks;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with the action taken by the Government to facilitate such persons;
- (c) whether the Delhi High Court has directed the Government and the Reserve Bank of India to review new currency notes and coins and submit the report by 31st January, 2018; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the response of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *175 RAISED BY SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY AND PROF. SADHU SINGH, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.12.2017 REGARDING "NEW CURRENCY NOTES AND COINS."

(a & b) In order to facilitate easy identification of new notes and coins, distinguishable identification features are available for the convenience of the visually impaired. However, new Rs. 50 Mahatma Gandhi series banknote does not have any feature for visually impaired except its distinguishable size.

(c&d) No such direction has been received. However, a Writ Petition has been filed against Reserve Bank of India and Union of India in Delhi High Court and the next date of hearing is 31.01.2018.