

**Resource gap in Andhra Pradesh due to recommendations
of 14th Finance Commission**

1827. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the resource gap that occurred to State Government of Andhra Pradesh (AP) during the period between 2nd June, 2014 and the date of acceptance of the 14th Finance Commission (FC) recommendations by the Government, as assessed by Accountant General of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any request from Government of Andhra Pradesh to release funds under resource gap that occurred to Andhra Pradesh State, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of amount released by Government to the State of Andhra Pradesh to bridge this resource gap, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) As per provisional and unaudited accounts furnished by Accountant General (AG), Andhra Pradesh in March, 2015 (Supplementary) closed on 28.08.2015, the total revenue deficit for the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh for the period 2014-15 (2nd June, 2014 to 31st March, 2015) is estimated at ₹ 13776.72 crore. Accordingly, the State Government has requested to release funds towards reimbursement for resource gap for 2014-15 as assessed (provisionally) by AG, Andhra Pradesh.

(c) The Union Government, pending receipt of final accounts of the State from CAG (Accountant General, Andhra Pradesh) for the year 2014-2015, having regard to the requirements of the State has made ad-hoc releases of ₹ 2,803 crore to the GoAP during 2014-15 (₹ 2,303 crore) and 2015-16 (₹ 500 crore). In addition, revenue deficit grant of ₹ 7431 crore has been released during 2015-16 (₹ 6,609 crore) and 2016-17 (₹ 822 crore) till date against the total recommendation of ₹ 22,212 crore made by 14th Finance Commission for the State during its award period (2015-2020)

Circulation of fake currency

1828. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Vijayawada and Amaravati have emerged as big centres for duplicate/fake currency notes;

(b) whether middlemen and dealers in fake money are raking in a commission of ₹ 30 lakhs per ₹ 50 lakhs per ₹ one lakh of fake money put in circulation; and

(c) if so, what steps are taken to check the menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) No information about emergence of Vijayawada and Amaravati as being centres of duplicate/fake currency notes is available with the Government.

(b) Yes, Sir. The middlemen and dealers in fake currency business are raking up commission ranging from 30% to 60% which varies from time to time depending upon the initial level of supply of FICN.

(c) The Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Home Affairs, Reserve Bank of India, Security and Intelligence Agencies of the Centre and States are working in tandem to thwart the illegal activities related to Fake Indian Currency Note (FICN). An FICN Coordination Group (FCORD) has been formed in the Ministry of Home Affairs to share the intelligence/information amongst different security agencies of States/Centre to counter the menace of agencies to effect more seizures. The issue has also been raised in international multilateral fora constantly. RBI has also initiated several measures for generating public awareness, conducting training programs for employees/officers of banks and streamlining the process of reporting and detection of counterfeit notes.

Further, in order to stay ahead of the counterfeiters, Government has recently introduced revised numbering pattern in all denominations of banknotes. RBI has issued Press Release in this regard on June 25, 2015.

Government in consultation with RBI, has also initiated the process of procurement of upgraded/new security features for a new series of banknotes. RBI has issued a PQB for supply of Security Features for Indian banknotes.

Steps taken to curb white collar crimes

†1829. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether white collar crime is undermining the economy due to which money meant for poor is usurped by the rich;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.