

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2547  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2005  
CURRENCY LOSSES DURING FLOOD IN MUMBAI  
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether over Rs. 1,000 crore in currency notes have gone down the drain during recent floods in Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the details of currency notes damaged from currency chests of various commercial banks with the names of banks and value of damaged notes; and
- (c) the steps Government proposes to take for the safety of currency notes in future in the event of floods?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM)

(a)&(b): During recent floods in Mumbai, around 78.5 million pieces of banknotes of various denominations amounting to Rs.781.09 crores were damaged in some of the currency chests under the jurisdiction of Mumbai & Belapur Issue Circles. Details of currency notes damaged from currency chests of various commercial banks with the names of banks and value of damaged notes is given at Annexure.

(c): RBI restricts opening of new currency chests in flood prone-areas. It is being stipulated that Banks should submit a certificate from the qualified architect that the chests/strong room area is free from dampness/seepage and that a diesel pump should be installed to pump out water in case of emergency in the cases of opening of currency chests in the basements.