

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:548

ANSWERED ON:09.07.2004

ASADHA SAKA POLYMER CURRENCY NOTES . DR.M.JAGANNATH QUESTION

Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `why put your money on plastic` appearing in the `Indian Express`, dated the June 16,2004 highlighting the advantages and savings on the use of polymer currency notes;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) whether the Government propose to set up any committee to go through the claims of the Australian firm in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). A Committee of Experts set up to examine the aspects of printing of Indian bank notes on polymer substrate had found the proposal unsuitable. Based on their recommendations, it was decided in consultation with RBI not to pursue the matter. RBI have reiterated their earlier stand. There is no proposal presently under consideration of the Government for use of polymer notes in India.