

Guidelines on Reproduction of Sri Lanka Currency Notes

1) Introduction

Section 58 (d) of the Monetary Law Act No.58 of 1949 (MLA) states that “Any person who without the authority of the Monetary Board, reproduces in any form whatsoever, or makes a facsimile of, any currency note shall be guilty of an offence.”

Therefore, these guidelines provide the criteria for reproduction of Sri Lanka currency notes and the procedures for obtaining the permission of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL).

2) Definition of Reproduction

- a) Reproduction means copying, replicating, imitating and designing any part or the whole of the visual image, contents or appearance of currency notes.
- b) Reproduction could be done through illustrations, paintings, photographs, pictures, electronic images, print or electronic media, internet, television and films.

3) Conditions on Reproduction

- a) Permitted purposes are educational, research, news reporting, judicial trial, archival, tourist information, numismatic and commercial purposes.
- b) The reproduction of any note shall not be the same size as the actual currency note. If it is to be smaller, it shall be less than two-thirds of the note. If it is to be larger, it shall be at least one and a half times the original size of the actual note. Any reproduction of a part of a note shall meet the same conditions.
- c) The reproduction shall not be made on water mark paper or other substrates. This is to avoid giving the impression that the reproduced note is a genuine note.
- d) The reproduction shall include the word “SPECIMEN” which shall be boldly and visibly printed on note.

- e) The reproduced notes shall include the words “The reproduction is approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka”.
- f) The reproduction shall be only of one side of the note. The note shall not be printed on both sides concurrently to resemble a note.
- g) The reproduction shall not distort the shape, colour, design, and emblem of currency notes in any manner.
- h) The permission shall be effective only for the specific period requested not exceeding one year and for a specific purpose. Renewals of the permission may be considered.
- i) Once approval has been granted, the relevant applicant making reproduction must ensure that all items/equipment used to scan, photocopy and make images are stored securely and not misused or used for purposes other than for which permission has been granted.
- j) Negatives, photographs, blocks, plates, compact disks, films, microfilms, videotapes, slides or any other material used to reproduce or store the reproduction of currency notes must be destroyed, deleted or erased within 14 days of expiry of the period of permission granted by the CBSL. A statement referring to this action should be sent to the Superintendent of Currency of CBSL with a copy to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of the Police for their record.

4) Approval Procedure

- a) Any person who wishes to reproduce any Sri Lanka currency note is required to submit an application as given in Annex I to the Superintendent of Currency of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka at least before 30 days of the proposed date of reproduction.
- b) The Superintendent of Currency will communicate the decision of the CBSL to the applicant within the given period.
- c) A proof of approved reproductions should be submitted by the applicant to the Superintendent of Currency for final clearance.

d) Correspondence about the reproduction of currency notes should be addressed to:
Superintendent of Currency
Currency Department
Central Bank of Sri Lanka
30, JanadhipathiMawatha
Colombo 01.

e) For further details : Telephone : - 0112477587
0112398736
Fax : - 0112477726

E-mail : currency@cbsl.lk

Website : www.cbsl.gov.lk

5) Non Compliance

Failure to observe conditions and procedures given above may amount to an offence under Section 58 of MLA and under Sections 478 A(1), 478(B), 478(C) or 478 (D) of the Penal Code and may be punishable with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to twenty years and also be liable to a fine (Annex II to the Guidelines).

APPLICATION FORM
REPRODUCTION OF SRI LANKA CURRENCY NOTES

1. Name:..... National ID number:.....
2. Designation:.....
3. Name of Organization & Address:.....
4. Business Registration Number :.....(copy to be attached)
5. Email:.....
Website if any:.....
6. Telephone (fixed line and mobile):.....
7. Denomination of the note/s to be reproduced:.....
8. Nature of reproduction (complete where relevant):
 - a) Material (specifications of the paper):
 - b) Media which will be used:.....
 - c) No. of copies (each denomination separately):.....
9. Purpose of Reproduction:.....
10. Brief description of the purpose:.....
11. Proposed duration of reproduction:-.....
12. Declaration: -
 - i. I am aware of and understand my obligations in respect of reproduction of currency notes.
 - ii. I am aware of the provisions of the Monetary Law Act and the Penal Code with regard to offence of counterfeiting notes (see Annex II).
 - iii. The information I have provided are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Date:.....

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Signature of Applicant

Seal of Company/Entity

Legal Provisions – Reproduction of Currency Notes

- a) Section 58 (d) of Monetary Law Act No.58 of 1949 states that “Any person who without authority of the Monetary Board reproduces in any form whatsoever, or makes a facsimile of, any currency note shall be guilty of an offence”
- b) Section 478A to 478D of the Penal Code states:
 - 478A.(1) Whoever forges or counterfeits, or knowingly performs any part of the process of forging or counterfeiting, any currency note or bank note shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to twenty years and shall also be liable to fine.
 - 478 B. Whoever sells to, or buys or receives from any other person or otherwise traffics in or uses as genuine, any forged or counterfeit currency note or bank note, knowing or having reason to believe the same to be forged or counterfeit, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to twenty years and shall also be liable to fine.
 - 478 C. Whoever has in his possession any forged or counterfeit currency note or bank note, knowing or having reason to believe the same to be forged or counterfeit bank notes, and intending to use the same as genuine, or that it may be used as genuine, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to twenty years or with fine or with both.
 - 478 D. Whoever makes, or performs any part of the process of making, or buys or sells, or disposes of, or has in his possession, any machinery, instrument or material for the purpose of being used, or knowing or having reason to believe that it is intended to be used, for forging or counterfeiting any currency note or bank note, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to twenty years and shall also be liable to fine.