# **CHAPTER 1: MONEY**

MONEY - S.Y.B.COM

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#### **DEFINITION**

Money has been defined differently by different economists.

- 1. Descriptive Definitions
- 2. Legal Definitions
- 3. General Acceptability Definitions

#### **DEFINITIONS**

# (1) <u>Descriptive definitions</u>

- "Anything that is generally acceptable as a means of exchange and that at the same time acts as a measure and store of value." – Crowther in his book: An outline of money
- "Money may be defined as a means of valuation and of payment" Coulborn
- "Money is anything that is widely used as a mean of payment and is generally acceptable in settlement of debts." Cole

# **DEFINITIONS**

# (2) <u>Legal Definitions</u>:

- "Anything which is defined by the state as money is money" Professor Knap
- Professor Hartley believes that money should be legal tender.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

# (3) General Acceptability Definitions:

- "Money is anything which is commonly used and generally accepted as a medium of exchange or as a standard of value." – Kents
- Money is described as "anything which is widely accepted in payment of goods or in discharge of other kinds of business obligations," by D.H. Robertson.
- "Money is anything that is generally accepted in payment of goods and services or in the repayment of debts." – E. Mishkin

"MONEY IS ANYTHING THAT IS REGULARLY USED IN ECONOMIC TRANSACTIONS AND SERVES AS A MEDIUM OF EXCHANGE, A UNIT OF ACCOUNT AND A STORE OF VALUE."

**DEFINITION OF MONEY** 

Money has evolved through five different stages during history:

- 1. Commodity money
- 2. Metallic money
- 3. Paper money
- 4. Credit money
- 5. Electronic money

## 1. Commodity money:

- Commodity money has a value apart from its use of money.
- A large number of items such as cows, goats, sheep, rice, grains, etc were used
- However they lacked storage capability, durability transportability, divisibility, and homogeneity.

# 2. Metallic money:

- Coinage: gold and silver were used as coins, stamped by a competent authority.
- As time passed, transportation and storage of coins became inconvenient and dangerous

## 3. Paper Currency:

- Paper currency is made of paper and functions as a medium of exchange
- Initially paper currency carried a promise that it was convertible into a fixed quantity of precious metallic gold and silver
- This promise was eliminated in 1914 in England and in 1933 in America.
- **Fiat money**: this newspaper money which is considered legal tender because the government says it is money. It has no backing of gold, silver or government securities

## 4. Credit money or bank money:

- Bank money is the use of cheques as the medium of exchange.
- Cheques have made it possible an easier to make transactions for large amounts. They are easier to transport.
- They are safe and provide receipts
- Checks are not legal tender. They cannot be enforced in payments of debts

## 5. Electronic banking stage:

- This is a modern system of transferring funds using Electronic Communications.
- Payments are now made through magnetic strip cards such as bank debit cards, credit cards, telephone cards etc.
- This form of banking has reduced processing costs, lead times for payments and increasing flexibility.
- These are also not considered legal tender

## **FUNCTIONS OF MONEY**

**Primary Functions of Money** Secondary Functions of Money Contingent Functions of Money

- Money as a medium of Exchange
- Money as a unit of account
- Money as a standard of deferred payments
- Money as a store of value
- Aid to specialization, production and trade
- Influence on income & consumption
- Money is an instrument of making loans
- Money as tool of monetary management
- Instrument of economic policy
- Distribution of national income
- Basis of credit system
- Measure of marginal productivity
- Liquidity of property

# PRIMARY FUNCTIONS OF MONEY

#### 1. Money as a medium of Exchange

- Used to pay for goods and services
- Overcame double coincidence of barter system
- Introduced time efficiency of exchanging goods and services
- Encouraged division of labour. People are now specializing due to easier payment of services rendered..

# 2. Money as a unit of account

- Common measure of money.
- Used to compare goods in terms money

# CONTINUE...

# 3. Money as a standard of deferred payments

Money is useful in the purchasing goods on credit as it is easy to borrow-and lend

# 4. Money as a store of value

Does not deteriorate and stores value

#### SECONDARY FUNCTIONS OF MONEY

Money has the potential to influence an economy, by influencing interest rates, price levels, resources, etc.

- 1. Aid to specialization, production and trade
- 2. Influence on income & consumption
- 3. Money is an instrument of making loans
- 4. Money as tool of monetary management
- 5. Instrument of economic policy

#### CONTINGENT FUNCTIONS OF MONEY

Contingent functions are derived from primary & secondary functions

- Distribution of national income
- Basis of credit system in banks
- Measure of marginal productivity
- Liquidity of property

#### **EVILS OF MONEY**

- 1. It creates economic instability
- 2. It leads to over capitalization and over production
- 3. Money strengthens capitalism
- 4. Money causes trade cycle
- 5. Money creates inequality of income and wealth
- 6. Money is the main cause of corruption
- 7. Money just mobilizes the resources but does not creates it.

# THANK YOU