

[12 August, 2002]

RAJYA SABHA

It is Government's constant efforts to widen the coverage of the tax net and ways and means to do so keep getting discussed at various levels in Government. The One by Six is only one of the schemes towards this end.

(c) to (e) 2581 search warrants were issued during the period 1st January, 2002 to 30th June, 2002 resulting in seizure of Rs. 85.69 crore in cash, jewellery worth Rs. 62.0 crore and other assets of Rs. 145.88 crore. Assessment of undisclosed income in these cases shall be made before the statutory time limit of two years from the end of the month in which a search was conducted.

ERNST and young report on NPAs

2136. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRIJ.CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the latest report of the ERNST and Young on NPAs in the Asia Pacific region wherein it is stated that the Non Performing Assets (NPAs) of Indian banks and financial institutions stand at 25 billion dollars as against the estimate of 16.7 billion dollars made by the RBI in its last annual report; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction to such a big variation in the two estimates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) The latest report of the ERNST and Young on NPAs in Asia-Pacific region is not yet available with the Government. However, the Government is aware of news item dated 15th July, 2002.

(b) The press report dated 15th July, 2002 stated "According to an Ernst and Young NPAs of banks and financial institutions in India are believed to be as high as \$ 23—28 billion (Rs. 1,15,000 crore to Rs. 1,40,000 crore), much higher than official estimates of \$ 16.7 billion (Rs. 83,500 crore)". Government is not aware of the basis of computation of the NPAs figures by M/s. Ernst and Young as contained in the said

news item. Effort is being made to obtain the said report and response of the Government therein would be laid on the Table of the House.

Income tax raids

†2137. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

PROF M. SANKARALINGAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "IT raid makes record haul of over Rs. 8 crores" appearing in Indian Express dated 16th April, 2002;

(b) if so, what are the details of the IT raids conducted in major cities during the last one year;

(c) whether Government have taken the help of other agencies which helped the IT to widen the scope of investigation;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) The details of persons apprehended together with those against whom action has been taken; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of searches conducted in the four metropolitan cities during the last one year (1.7.2001 to 30.6.2002) are given below:

City	Number of warrants	Seizure (Rs. in lakhs)
Mumbai	1266	16507.57
Delhi	687	5857.11
Kolkata	328	3585.28
Chennai	276	2511.49

(c) and (d) Information is exchanged among various agencies as and when required to carry out coordinated investigations.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.