

(d) if so, the names of those countries with whom Government has already signed such Agreement?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) India has concluded negotiations of Tax Information Exchange Agreements (TIEAs) with British Virgin Islands and Isle of Man. These TIEAs have also been approved by the Cabinet. The Government is taking active steps for signing of these TIEAs at an early date. Once these TIEAs enter into force, India would be able to exchange information (including banking information) with British Virgin Islands and Isle of Man for tax purposes in specific cases. This will be an important step in getting information, in specific cases, about black money parked in foreign banks located in these two jurisdictions.

India has so far concluded negotiations of TIEAs with nine countries/jurisdictions namely, Bahamas, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Isle of Man, Jersey, Monaco, Cayman Islands, Argentina and Saint Kitts & Nevis. India has already signed TIEA with Bermuda.

Participation of States in the implementation of GST

†*295. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the demand of Maharashtra's Finance Minister to implement Goods and Service Tax (GST) by Centre and States jointly and ensuring participation of all the States in this process; and

(b) if so, the details of the action being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers (EC), including Maharashtra's Finance Minister, has proposed a dual GST model for the country. Under this model, Centre will levy one component of the GST, namely the Central GST and States will levy the other component, namely the State GST. The Central Government has agreed to the proposal for introduction of dual GST model in the country. The introduction of this dual GST model requires certain amendments in the Constitution. A draft of the Constitutional Amendment Bill was sent to the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers for their comments. Following their suggestions, the draft Constitutional Amendment Bill has been

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

revised and sent to the EC for obtaining the views of the States. The EC has not reverted back with any clear view on the proposed revised draft of the Constitutional Amendment Bill. Central Government has in the meantime set up three Sub-working Groups comprising officers of Central and State Governments to work on drafting the processes to be followed in the GST regime, Central and model State GST legislations and for determining the appropriate IT infrastructure required for smooth operation of the GST.

Delay in execution of PMGSY projects in Orissa

*296. SHRI KISHORE KUMAR MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) which were not completed within the stipulated time during the last three years in Orissa;

(b) whether the authorities concerned have imposed penalty for the defaults in the execution of such projects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the number of projects along with the funds sanctioned for them during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) Rural Roads is a State subject and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a one time special intervention of Central Government to improve the Rural Infrastructure through construction of roads. The rural roads under PMGSY are constructed, maintained and owned by the respective State Governments. As such, the responsibility to ensure timely completion of these roads lies with the State Governments. As reported by the State Government 1871 road works sanctioned during last three years under PMGSY have not been completed in Orissa though the stipulated period for completion is over.

(b) Yes, Sir, the State has informed having imposed liquidated damage when the delay is attributed to the contractor, as per contract conditions.

(c) As reported by the State Government so far a total liquidated damage of Rs.206.71 lakhs has been imposed for the delay in completion of road works by the Contractors.