Amounts due to undisclosed tax defaulter

†991. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any effort to find out the figures of arrears pertaining to undisclosed tax defaulters of the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this issue was discussed in the conference of Income Tax Commissioners and Director Generals recently held in Delhi; and
 - (d) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) There is no information as regards undisclosed tax defaulters of the country. However, several tax defaulters (assessees) are not traceable and, as on 31.3.2011, the amount of tax arrears due from such persons was Rs. 10,116 crore.

(c) and (d) The issue of tax arrears was discussed in the Conference. A Committee has been constituted by the CBDT to suggest modalities for recovery of outstanding tax arrears from the tax defaulters (assessees) who are not traceable.

Financing of disputed projects by PSBs

992. SHRIT.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government had asked the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) not to finance the disputed projects;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the banks both in private sector and public sector were reluctant to advance loans to real estate sector; and
 - (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA):
(a) to (d) As part of financial sector liberalization, all the credit related matters of banks have been deregulated by the RBI and are governed by the banks' own lending policies. Banks have to consider different loan proposals as per their commercial judgement and merits of each case keeping in view the loan policies approved by their Board of Directors.

Withdrawal of IT exemption given to Co-operative Societies

†993. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.