

Nations, International Monetary Fund, Asian Development Bank, World Bank and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). India has been a member of APG almost since its inception. The primary role of APG is to monitor the implementation of the 49 recommendations of the FATF.

(c) Australia is the permanent co-chair and one Member country assumes the charge of co-chair for two years period on rotating basis. Presently, India is the co-chair till July, 2012.

CAG report on financial irregularities in Bihar

†2236. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has exposed financial irregularities in Bihar in its recent report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount involved in the irregularities as per the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA):

(a) The Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) in respect of Government of Bihar for the year ended 31st March, 2010 have been placed in the Legislative Assembly.

(b) and (c) The audit report in respect of 'Revenue Receipts' contains 26 paragraphs including two reviews on 'Levy and Collection of State Excise Revenue' and 'Levy and Collection of Stamp Duty and Registration Fee' relating to non/short levy of tax, interest and penalty etc., involving monetary impact of ` 977.82 crore and in respect of 'Civil', contains 18 audit paragraphs indicating instances of financial irregularities, one information technology audit of General Provident Fund system and an integrated audit report on the Environment and Forest Department. The total amount involved in the transaction audit included in this report was ` 45.10 crore.

Staff crunch at investigative units in CBDT

2237. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that five investigative units created in the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) to combat black money generation are facing staff crunch;

(b) whether a proposal to recruit more investigators to man additional assignments in the newly created investigative agencies was submitted and it is waiting sanction by DoPT;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, whether the delay on the part of DoPT to accord sanction is hampering investigations by the CBDT units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The branches in the Investigation Division of CBDT have been increased from 2 to 5 in view of the increased workload relating to tax evasion and black money generation. A Directorate of Income Tax (Criminal Investigation) has also been notified to tackle tax evasion relating to criminal activities. The new branches/Directorate have commenced work.

(b) No such proposal has been submitted.

(c) and (d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

Rebate on interest on the loans re-paid in time

†2238. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of interest on short term and long term loans taken by farmers for farming work in the country at present;

(b) whether farmers are given rebate on interest for timely payment of farming loans; and

(c) if so, the extent of rebate given and if not, whether it would be contemplated to give rebate on interest to the farmers for the payment made on time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The interest Subvention Scheme is being implemented by the Government of India since 2006-07 to make short-term crop loans upto Rs. 3 lakh for a period of one year available to farmers at the interest rate of 7 per cent per annum. The Government of India has since 2009-10 been providing additional interest subvention to prompt payees farmers, *i.e.* those who repay their loan in time. The additional subvention was 1% in 2009-10 and 2% in 2010-11. This is being increased to 3% in 2011-12.

Indian account holders in HSBC, Geneva

2239. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Government has received details of 700 Indian account holders in HSBC, Geneva;

(b) if so, the details and names of account holders thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.