

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) Climate Change negotiations are conducted at global level under the auspices of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). At the recent Climate Change Conference held in Durban where Seventeenth Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC (COP 17) took place, several decisions were taken to address international actions aimed at addressing climate change. The Conference decided to establish the second commitment period of developed country Parties under the Kyoto Protocol, and also agreed to operationalise the institutions, namely the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Committee and the Technology Mechanism.

The Durban Conference also decided to launch a process to develop a protocol, another instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties. The process under the Durban Platform will be completed by 2015 with a view to enable the agreed arrangements to be implemented from 2020.

(b) and (c) India is willing to play a constructive role in negotiations and advance international actions on the basis of the principles of equity and Common but Differentiated Responsibility (CBDR) as enshrined in the UNFCCC.

Stashing of Black Money Abroad

†3445. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has received the details regarding 9900 persons who have deposited the black money in foreign banks and whether Government is investigating about those persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has prepared any scheme to stop the accumulation of black money in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount of black money confiscated/or traced during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) The Government has received a number of cases of information relating to remittances, payments and money held in foreign bank accounts etc. under the provisions of the DTAAs/TIEAs. Every reliable information, including information received from outside the country, is verified according to the provision of Direct Tax laws and action is taken to bring undisclosed amounts to taxation. Penalties are levied in cases of concealment. In appropriate cases prosecution proceedings are initiated.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) No, Sir. No scheme is presently under consideration of the Government. However, the Income Tax Department takes constant action against tax evasion including tax scrutiny, surveys, search and seizure under the Direct Tax laws.

(d) The value of assets seized in searches conducted by the Income Tax Department in the last two financial years are as follows:

Financial Year	Value of Assets Seized (Rs. Crores)
2010-11	774.98
2011-12	905.61

Outsourcing of Infotech function by IT Department

3446. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that a large scale outsourcing of infotech functions by the Income Tax (IT) Department is posing risk of refund frauds and leakage of confidential data;

(b) if so, whether Government has studied indepth the adverse impact of outsourcing such infotech functions of IT Department;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE : (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) The outsourcing of infotech functions by the Income Tax (IT) Department has emerged after extensive discussions, rigorous evaluation and comprehensive examination by various authorities. Till now no instance has come to light of involvement of Vendor Personnel of Service Providers of Centralised Processing Center (CPC) and E-filing in data leak and refund frauds.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Department constantly evaluates the functioning of the Service Provider and a third party audit is conducted. Compliance with Service Level Agreements (SLAs), including Security SLAs is also to be certified by a third party auditor.

(d) Does not arise in view of the reply given in (a) above.

Establishment of Bank branches in Tamil Nadu

3447. SHRI A.A. JINNAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of banks opened in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu in last three years; and