

(c) the details of Indians who have deposited the money in foreign countries, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) India has concluded negotiation of the Tax Information Exchange Agreements (TIEAs) with 17 countries/jurisdictions. They are Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Congo, Costa Rica, Gibraltar, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Jersey, Liberia, Macau, Marshall Islands, Monaco and Saint Kitts and Nevis. TIEAs with Bermuda, Bahamas, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands and Isle of Man have entered into force. Under these TIEAs, India can obtain specific information on black money and tax evasion cases.

India has not signed a TIEA with Switzerland. However, India has concluded negotiation of Protocol amending the Agreement and Protocol between the Government of Republic of India and the Swiss Confederation for the Avoidance of Double Taxation with respect to Taxes on Income (Amending Protocol). This Amending Protocol was signed at New Delhi on 30th August, 2010. This Amending Protocol has entered into force on 7th October, 2011. The new provision of the exchange of information allow exchange of banking information in specific cases, that relate to fiscal year beginning on or after 1st April, 2011.

(b) and (c) India has obtained a number of information on tax evasion on account of the black money stashed abroad, from various countries. However, the information so obtained is protected under the confidentiality provision of the DTAA/TIEA under which the information has been obtained.

Shifting of LCS from Mahadipur

3477. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government is considering any proposal to shift the Land Customs Station (LCS) from Mahadipur in the district of Malda, West Bengal keeping in view the rampant air pollution caused due to plying of hundreds of goods vehicles at Indo-Bangladesh Border resulting to degradation and spoliation of the 17 Ancient Monuments of Gaur dynasty in the vicinity being maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI);

(b) if, so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to shift the Mahadipur Land Customs Station, District of Malda, West Bengal to any other location.

(b) Nil, in view of above.

(c) Archeological Survey of India, the nodal agency in this connection, has informed that there are seventeen monuments under the protection of Archeological Survey of India in Gaur, District Malda in West Bengal and that as on date, there is no definite evidence of damage to them from air pollution due to the movement of vehicular traffic.

Investigation in suspicious transaction

3478. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 10,000 pieces of information regarding suspicious transaction by Indian citizens from several countries were obtained by Government which are under different stages of processing and investigation;

(b) whether more than 30,700 suspicious domestic transactions are under investigation by different agencies; and

(c) the amount of fines and taxes levied and the amount actually collected in such suspicious domestic and foreign transactions by different Government agencies during 2011, along with details of such agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Till March, 2012, Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND) has received 60 pieces of information where foreign Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) felt that the matter might be of interest to Indian investigating agencies. In addition, FIU-IND has made 191 requests to foreign FIUs on subjects already under investigation by Indian authorities.

(b) As on March, 2012, a total of 69,224 Suspicious Transaction Reports (STRs) had been received by FIU-IND. Out of which, 53,384 STRs had been disseminated to Law Enforcement/Intelligence Agencies, after processing in the FIU-IND for further enquiry or investigations.

(c) Fines and taxes are not levied on the basis of suspicious domestic and foreign transactions. FIU-IND communicates reports on suspicious transaction to the Law Enforcement/Intelligence Agencies. These STRs only form the basis or aid in further enquiry and investigations.

Irregularities in credit delivery under KCC Scheme

3479. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that commissions are being taken in several public sector banks for sanctioning credit to