

are loaded with currency based on the frequency of cash dispensation to ensure that the ATMs do not run out of cash during peak period. Cash levels are also set and monitored at intervals and when cash in the machine falls below a pre-determined level, the vendor is informed to replenish cash immediately.

All ATMs, including those in the North Eastern Region, are covered under AMC (Annual Maintenance Contracts) with hardware vendors. The vendors have been engaged to identify the issues on a real time basis using their monitoring tools and to resolve the problems within the prescribed time limit.

The Reserve Bank of India had conducted a review recently to identify major complaint-prone areas on ATMs operations of banks and steps to overcome these.

Amendment in retrospective tax rules

819. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to amend controversial retrospective tax rules that damaged investor confidence and Government was heavily criticised by the Corporate sector for introducing the tough tax rules last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the move would help settle Britain based Vodafone groups long-running two billion dollar tax dispute; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) An Expert committee had been set up by the Government to look into the issue of retrospective amendment of tax laws. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government. The report of the Committee is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) Do not arise now in view of answer to (a) and (b) above. Vodafone is engaged in discussions with the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

Unearthing of black money from the country

820. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: