

(c) and (d) The Government has, on 10 September, 2014, approved disinvestment in the following CPSEs:

Sl. No.	Name of CPSE	Current Government shareholding (%)	Disinvestment percentage approved (%)	Expected realization* (₹ crore)
1.	ONGC	68.94	5	11,477
2.	Coal India Ltd	89.65	10	15,740
3.	NHPC	85.96	11.36	1,976

* As per Action Plan of Disinvestment (2014-15). Actual realization may differ owing to market conditions and investor interest prevailing at the time of actual disinvestment.

Foreign debt

246. SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- the details about the total foreign debt of the country;
- the estimated per-capita foreign debt burden of the country; and
- the measures proposed to be taken by Government to alleviate this burden?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) India's external debt was USD 450.1 billion (23.2 per cent of GDP) at end-June 2014 as against USD 442.2 billion (23.4 per cent of GDP) at end-March 2014.

(b) The per capita foreign debt was estimated at ₹ 21,560 in 2013-14.

(c) The external debt management policy followed by the Government of India emphasizes monitoring of long and short term debt, raising sovereign loans on concessional terms with long term maturities, regulating external commercial borrowings through end-use and all-in-cost restrictions and rationalizing interest rates on NRI deposits. As a result, external debt has remained within manageable levels.

Improvement in tax collection

247. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that the tax collection have improved this year; and
- if so, the details of the tax collected and the percentage of tax collection to the tax revenue estimated in the Budget?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Details of revenue collected through direct and indirect taxes and the percentage of tax collection to the tax revenue estimated in the Budget 2014-15 (April-October-2014) are as under:

(₹ in crore)					
Nature of Taxes	Budget Estimates 2014-15	Actual collections 2013-14 (April-October)	Actual collections 2014-15 (April-October)	Growth in 2014-15 (April-October)	B.E. achieved upto October-2014)
Direct Taxes	736221	285293	300626	5.37%	40.83%
Indirect Taxes	624902	269909	285126	5.6%	45.6%

IT cases selected for scrutiny assessment

248. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that officers of Income Tax (IT) Department are not courteous to tax-payers whose cases are selected for scrutiny assessment;

(b) whether it is also a fact that officials and I.T. Department take more than 3 months in finalizing the scrutiny of assessment cases; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) to ensure that the officials are courteous and polite besides settling of scrutiny cases within 15 days?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) The officers of the Income Tax Department are generally courteous to the tax-payers. In addition, we have provided tax-payers with several mechanisms to bring up any complaints they might have of harassment or poor service.

(b) and (c) The time-limit for completing scrutiny assessments as prescribed under the Income Tax Act is two years from the end of the relevant Assessment Year. Assessment in each case is distinct and presents different challenges in terms of complexity of accounts, issues involved and investigation required etc. Therefore, the time taken in scrutinizing the cases is generally more than 3 months and hence it may not be feasible to ensure that the scrutiny of cases is completed within 15 days.

CBDT has been sensitizing the field authorities to ensure that the process of scrutiny assessment is not unduly prolonged and to avoid roving enquiries during assessment