

Rise in uncollected tax demand

1786. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the uncollected tax demand had risen by 18 per cent to 5.75 lakh crore in 2013-14 from 4.86 lakh crore in the previous year; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the delay at various stages is on the part of Income Tax Settlement Commission and Income Tax Department as a number of applications filed prior to June, 2007 are still pending with the Commission for disposal; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The details of outstanding taxes in FY 2013-14 and 2012-13 are as under:

(Rs in crore)				
As on	Total Tax demand outstanding	Disputed demand	Demand difficult to recover	Net collectible demand
31.03.2014	575340	443285	552538	22801
31.03.2013	486180	379570	466854	19325

(b) There are several factors causing delay in recovery of the outstanding tax dues including pendency of 130 applications filed prior to June, 2007 before Income Tax Settlement Commission (ITSC).

These 130 applications could not be disposed of during the Financial Year 2014-15 as there is a shortage of Members in the ITSC. As on 01.04.2015, there are only 6 Members in addition to the Chairman to attend to the functioning of 7 Benches, as against the sanctioned strength of 20 Members, other than the Chairman. Despite the shortage of Members, 236 applications received before June, 2007 were disposed of in FY 2014-15. Further, the Members also attend to settlement applications received from June, 2007 onwards which are required to be disposed of within prescribed time limit.

Common Identification Card to insurance policy holders

1787. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a number of insurance policies are not being claimed as the insured persons sometimes are not claiming because of their sudden death