

that the moment calamity is declared by the concerned District Authorities, they are automatically set in motion without any intervention, thus saving precious time. The benchmark for initiating relief measures by banks has also been reduced to 33% crop loss in line with the National Disaster Management Framework.

Recovery of black money post demonetisation

†1835. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has received very less amount of black money than expected in wake of demonetisation, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) if not, the quantum of black money recovered after demonetisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) With a view to curbing financing of terrorism through the proceeds of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) and use of such funds for subversive activities such as espionage, smuggling of arms, drugs and other contrabands into India, and for eliminating black money which casts a long shadow of parallel economy on the real economy, the Government decided to cancel the legal tender character of the high denomination bank notes of ₹ 500 and ₹ 1000 issued by the Reserve Bank of India till 8th November, 2016.

There was no official estimation of quantum of black money in India. However, post demonetization, the Income Tax Department (ITD) conducted searches in 900 groups of persons during November 2016 to March, 2017 leading to seizure of ₹ 900 crores and admission of undisclosed income of ₹ 7961 crores. During the same period, 8239 surveys were conducted leading to detection of undisclosed income of ₹ 6745 crores. Information of various kinds of wrong-doings by about 400 persons was also shared with other law enforcement agencies such as Enforcement Directorate and Central Bureau of Investigation for appropriate action.

Further, during the current Financial year (01.04.2017 to 30.06.2017) the ITD has conducted searches in 102 groups, seizing assets worth ₹ 103 crore. The persons searched have admitted undisclosed income of ₹ 2670 crore. During the same period

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

surveys conducted in 202 cases (01.04.2017 to 31.05.2017) led to detection of ₹ 150 crore as undisclosed income.

The Department has also launched 'Operation Clean Money' on 31st January, 2017 with the mission to "create a tax compliant society through a fair, transparent and non-intrusive tax administration where every Indian takes pride in paying taxes". Broad outcome of the operation so far is as under:—

- (i) About 18 lakh persons whose cash transactions did not appear in line with their tax profile were identified and approached through email/sms.
- (ii) More than 9.27 lakh responses were received giving information on 13.33 lakh accounts involving cash deposits of around ₹2.89 lakh crore. Out of this record number of 5.27 lakh responses were received in the first 12 days of the operation.
- (iii) Advance data analytics tools were deployed which further identified 5.56 lakhs new cases and about 1 lakh those cases in which either partial or no response was received in the earlier phase. Besides, about 200 high risk clusters of persons were identified for appropriate action.

Number of income tax payers after demonetisation

†1836. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of income tax payers has increased after demonetisation, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the real objective of demonetisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The number of income tax payers has increased after demonetisation. During the period of 09.11.2016 to 31.03.2017, 1.96 crore returns were filed as compared to 1.63 crore returns filed during corresponding period of FY 2015-16 and 1.23 crore returns filed during corresponding period of FY 2014-15.

- (b) Does not arise in view of reply to point (a) above.

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