

(ii) Rankings based on LPI are released biennially. India has been ranked 44 out of 160 countries in the report titled, "Connecting to Compete 2018- Trade Logistics in the Global Economy", released in July, 2018.

The Government has taken note of the above.

Standard deduction for salaried employees

2916. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans to introduce standard deduction for salaried employees with respect to the Income-Tax Act, 1961;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Ministry has received any suggestions regarding standard deduction for salaried employees; and

(d) the details and the share of taxes received from salaried employees in the country out of the entire direct tax collection in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA): (a) to (c) Section 16 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (the Act), *inter alia*, provides for certain deductions in computing income chargeable under the head "Salaries". Finance Act, 2018 amended Section 16 of the Act to allow a standard deduction up to ₹ 40,000 or the amount of salary received, whichever is less.

(d) Data regarding tax paid by salaried individuals is not separately maintained. Moreover, since "salaried employees" is not a separate category of taxpayer under the Act (as an individual may have income from sources other than salaries also), it is not feasible to compile such information.

Long term capital gains on equity shares

2917. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of taxes collected by Government in the form of long term capital gains on equity shares and equity oriented mutual funds since the introduction of the provision; and

(b) whether the levy of Securities Transaction Tax and long term capital gains on the equity shares amounts to double taxation?