

Subsequently, *vide* notification No. 105/2019 [G.S.R. 960(E)] dated 30th December, 2019, rule 119AA was inserted in the Income-tax Rules, 1962 to prescribe the following as electronic modes of payment for this purpose:-

- (i) Debit Card powered by RuPay;
- (ii) Unified Payments Interface (UPI) (BHIM-UPI); and
- (iii) Unified Payments Interface Quick Response Code (UPI QR Code) (BHIM-UPI QR Code).

(c) to (f) As per the available records, there is no communication received by Financial Inclusion (FI) Section of Department of Financial Services (DFS) from Government of Rajasthan in respect of waiving off Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) charges on digital transactions.

Tax payers in the country

‡1314. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons having annual income exceeding rupees one crore in India, the details thereof for the last five years;

(b) the number of professional tax payers out of such people, the details thereof for the last five years; and

(c) the details of efforts being made by Government to increase the number of tax payers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AFFAIRS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR): (a) The total number of individual taxpayers declaring annual income exceeding rupees one crore for the last five assessment years is as follows:

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|----------|
| AY 2015-16 | : | 59,225 |
| AY 2016-17 | : | 65,641 |
| AY 2017-18 | : | 78,545 |
| AY 2018-19 | : | 94,740 |
| AY 2019-20 (up to 15.02.2020) | : | 1,05,314 |

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The number of individuals who are professionals out of such taxpayers is as follows:

| | | |
|------------|---|--------------------------|
| AY 2015-16 | : | 2,193 |
| AY 2016-17 | : | 2,666 |
| AY 2017-18 | : | 3,611 |
| AY 2018-19 | : | 2,052 |
| AY 2019-20 | : | 2,224 (up to 15.02.2020) |

Note:

- (i) ITR-1, ITR-2, ITR-2A and ITR-3 (up to AY 2016-17) did not have option for specifying 'Nature of business' of the taxpayer.
- (ii) The figures exclude professions not separately specified in the Income Tax Return form.
- (iii) Annual income threshold used for identifying these taxpayers includes income from business and profession only.

(c) The Government has taken several measures to increase the number of taxpayers, including the following:

- (i) The Income Tax Department has implemented the Non- Filer Monitoring System (NMS) which assimilates and analyses in-house information as well as transactional data received from third-parties, including Statement of Financial Transaction (SFT), Tax Deduction at Source (TDS) and Tax Collection at Source (TCS) statements, Intelligence and Criminal Investigation (I&CI) data etc. to identify such persons/entities who have undertaken high value financial transactions but have not filed their returns.
- (ii) The Income-tax Department has launched 'Project Insight' to strengthen the non-intensive information driven approach to increasing tax compliance. Project Insights focus on three goals namely:
 - (a) Promote voluntary compliance and deter non-compliance.
 - (b) To impart confidence that all eligible persons pay appropriate tax.
 - (c) To promote fair and judicious tax administration.

- (iii) The mechanism for collection and verification of financial information has been broadened to include data in respect of various types of high-value transactions received from banks and financial institutions and high-value expenditure received from commercial establishments in the form of Statements of Financial Transaction (SFT).
- (iv) Quoting of Permanent Account Number (PAN) has been made mandatory for specified transactions in respect of property, shares, bonds, insurance, foreign travel and, demat account, etc.
- (v) E-mails and SMS reminders are issued to taxpayers to file their return and pay their due taxes.
- (vi) The Department has set up Taxpayers' Lounges at various events/ trade fairs/ exhibitions to generate tax awareness among the general public. Apart from generating awareness, tax payers services like information of PAN and other services are provided to facilitate ease of tax compliance.
- (vii) The Income-tax Department has launched publicity campaigns on TV Channels, Radio, Print Media, Cinema Halls and on Social Media to spread awareness among citizens regarding due dates for filing Returns, TDS Return, Payment of taxes and PAN-Aadhar linkage. Brochures have also been distributed to the general public through the Department's Aayakar Sewa Kendras (ASK) all over India to spread awareness and increase compliance.

Terror financing and money laundering risk from Pakistan

1315. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the reason for Pakistan remaining on the "Grey List" of the Financial Action Task Force as of January, 2020, and details thereof;
- (b) whether the government has recognised any efforts by Pakistan to reduce its terror financing risks, and details thereof;
- (c) whether other Governments internationally have recognised such efforts of Pakistan, and details, thereof; and
- (d) the details of efforts made by the Union Government to reduce terror financing and money laundering risks emanating from Pakistan?