

Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Economic Affairs

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1663
TO BE ANSWERED ON
Tuesday, March 9, 2021/ 18 Phalguna, 1942 (Saka)

NON-SPENDING OF COLLECTED CESS

1663 # SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE (वित्त मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the amount received from cess can be spent only on the objective for which it has been levied for;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government received an amount of ₹ 2,74,592 crore from 35 types of cess in the year 2018-19, but over one lakh crore rupees remained unspent in the Consolidated Fund; and
- (c) if so, the details of rationale behind the same?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

- (a) The sums so collected are applied to achieve the objectives envisaged in the Finance Acts at the time of levy of such cesses;
- (b)&(c) Report No. 4 of 2020 of the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) of India on Union Governments Accounts for the year 2018-19 observes that an amount of ₹ 2,74,592 crore has been collected from 35 Cesses, ₹ 1,64,322 crore had been transferred to various reserve funds/boards. Certain amounts of cess collection were retained in CFI due to various reasons such as non-establishment of dedicated reserve funds in Public Account, limited capacity of Ministries/Departments to spend in a year and variations between estimated collection and actual realization.

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