

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION 1994

ANSWERED ON – 18/03/2025

RECOVERY OF BLACK MONEY

1994 **Ms. Sushmita Dev:**

Will the Minister of *Finance* be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated amount of black money currently held by individuals or entities within and outside India;
- (b) the total amount of black money that has been recovered by the Government since 2014, along with the details of its source and status of recovery;
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to curb the generation of black money and bring it into the formal economy; and
- (d) the steps being taken to trace and recover black money stashed abroad, including the status of bilateral agreements and cooperation with foreign governments for its repatriation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

- (a): There is no official estimation regarding the amount of black money held by individuals or entities within and outside India.
- (b): Details of action taken against black money since 2014 are as under:
 - (i) Since the enactment of the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015, a total of 841 assessments have been completed under the Act as on 30.09.2024, raising demand of tax and penalty of over Rs. 31,840.10 crores approximately.

- (ii) Under the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015, during the period of three months' compliance window closed on 30th Sept, 2015, 648 disclosures involving undisclosed foreign assets worth Rs. 4,164 crores were made on which total of Rs. 2,476 crores have been collected in form of tax and penalty.
- (iii) Action against black money under the Act are being taken on the basis of different sources of information and intelligence, including leaks such as ICIJ, Pandora, Panama, Swiss, HSBC, FinCEN etc. and automatic information received from different jurisdictions through Common Reporting Standards and from USA under FATCA, and spontaneous exchange of information between countries under the DTAA's and TIEAs. In addition, actions against black money are also taken on the basis of Foreign Intelligence and Foreign Suspicion Transactions Reports, received from Foreign Intelligence Unit-IND, and also on the basis of findings of search and seizure operations under the Income-tax Act, 1961. No source-wise or country-wise data is maintained, in relation to action taken under the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015.

(c) & (d): measures taken by the Government to curb the black money and to trace and recover black money stashed abroad, includes the following:

- (i) Enactment of 'The Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015' which has come into force w.e.f. 01.07.2015 to specifically and more effectively deal with the issue of black money stashed abroad.
- (ii) Constitution of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Black Money under the Chairmanship and Vice-Chairmanship of two former Judges of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
- (iii) Effective enforcement actions including expeditious investigation in foreign assets cases. Such actions include searches, surveys, enquiries, assessment of income, levy of taxes, penalties, etc. and filing of prosecution in criminal courts, wherever applicable.
- (iv) The Government has taken pro-active and effective steps whenever any credible information has been received with regard to black money abroad, whether in HSBC cases, ICIJ cases, Paradise Papers or Panama Papers. These steps include constitution of Multi-Agency Group in relevant cases, calling for definite information from foreign

jurisdictions, bringing the black money to tax under relevant law, launching prosecutions against the offenders etc.

- (v) The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 has been enacted to provide for attachment and confiscation of the proceeds of crime associated with scheduled economic offences and the properties of the fugitive economic offenders and deter them from evading the process of Indian law by remaining outside the jurisdiction of Indian Courts.
- (vi) The Government of India has been proactively engaging with foreign governments, for exchange of information, and has entered into tax treaties including Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements, Tax Information Exchange Agreements, the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters and the SAARC Multilateral Agreement, with other countries which provide for mutual administrative assistance including exchange of information concerning taxes.
- (vii) India has also joined the Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) based on the Common Reporting Standard and receives financial account information of Indian residents in other countries with which the AEOI relationship is activated. India has also entered into an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) with USA in 2015 for sharing of financial account information on automatic basis.
