

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1800
TO BE ANSWERED ON
MONDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY, 2023**

MAGHA 24, 1944 (SAKA)

SEIZURE OF BLACK MONEY

1800: SHRI RAMALINGAM S.:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of black money seized by the central agencies during each of the last five years, State/UT-wise;**
- (b) the number of cases registered and conviction secured under the Black Money (undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015, State/UT-wise;**
- (c) whether the Government has recently signed any memorandum of cooperation and collaborated with any external agency/Government to curb the menace of black money in the country and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the appropriate methodology used by the Government in defining/measuring the black money in the country?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)**

(a): The word 'black money' is not defined under the Income Tax Act, 1961, Customs Act, 1962, CGST Act, 2017, Central Excise Act, 1944 and erstwhile Chapter V of Finance Act, 2017 (related to Service Tax).

As far as Income Tax Department (ITD) is concerned, whenever any credible information of 'direct-tax' evasion comes to its notice, it takes suitable action(s), including the search & seizure operations, to bring to tax, undisclosed income. The details of assets seized during the search & seizure operations is provided in the Annexure.

Further, the details of cash seizures made by the field formations of Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC), including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), are provided in the Annexure.

The details of actions taken by ED are included in Part (b) of the reply.

(b): The Government enacted a comprehensive and a stringent new law, namely, the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015 (BMA, 2015) that has come into force w.e.f. 01.07.2015. The offence of willful attempt to evade tax, etc. in relation to undisclosed foreign income/assets is a Scheduled Offence under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA), regarding which suitable action is taken by Directorate of Enforcement (ED) for identification of proceeds of crime generated, provisional attachments and filing of prosecution complaints in suitable cases.

The details of actions taken by ITD under BMA, 2015 are as under:

- 648 disclosures involving undisclosed foreign assets worth Rs. 4164 crores were made in the one-time three months compliance window, under BMA, 2015, which closed on 30th September 2015. The amount collected by way of tax and penalty in such cases was about Rs. 2476 crore.
- As on 30.11.2022, assessments under BMA, 2015 have been completed in 394 cases, raising tax demand of over Rs. 15,570 crores. Further, 125 prosecution complaints have been filed under the provisions of BMA, 2015. The State/UT-Wise details are not maintained separately.

The details of actions taken by ED in relation to cases involving violations related to BMA, 2015 are as under:

- During investigation in 13 PMLA cases in relation to predicate offences involving violations related to BMA, 2015, proceeds of crime amounting to Rs. 42.57 crore have been attached/seized and 03 Prosecution complaints have been filed.
- Further, assets amounting to Rs. 93.07 crores have been seized under section 37A of FEMA in 05 cases.

(c): The Government of India has entered into Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements /Tax Information Exchange Agreements /Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters/SAARC Multilateral Agreement (“tax treaties”) with other countries which provide for exchange of information, which is foreseeably relevant for administration and enforcement of domestic laws concerning taxes. India has been proactively engaging with foreign governments, for exchange of information under these tax treaties.

FIU-India is a member of the Egmont Group, an international organization for exchange of information and Co-operation amongst Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs). The group comprises 167 members as on date. As members to the Egmont Group, FIUs can exchange freely information on real time basis through a highly secured network - Egmont Secured Web (ESW) - on various matters as per their roles and functions. FIU-India has also entered into Memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with 48 countries to strengthen bilateral relationships with its foreign counterparts since 2008 upto 2022 for exchange of intelligence.

(d): There is no official estimation or methodology to define/measure the amount of black money in the country. However, the Government had commissioned a study, inter alia, on estimation of unaccounted income and wealth inside and outside the country, through National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP), National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) and National Institute of Financial Management (NIFM). The reports and a detailed Government's response on them were forwarded to the Lok Sabha Secretariat for placing them before the Standing Committee on Finance. The Standing Committee on Finance, after due deliberations and taking necessary oral evidences, presented a preliminary report on the matter (i.e. 73rd Report of Standing Committee on Finance) to Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha on 28.03.2019 and this report has observed that "*the unaccounted income and wealth inside and outside the country do not appear amenable to credible estimation in the context of India.*"

ANNEXURE

1. Details of assets seized during the search & seizure operations by the Income Tax Department from the FY 2017-18 to FY 2022-23 (upto November, 2022):

Financial Year	No. of groups searched	Value of assets seized (in Rs. crores)
2017-18	582	992.52
2018-19	966	1567.07
2019-20	984	1289.47
2020-21	569	880.83
2021-22	686	1159.59
2022-23 (upto Nov 2022)*	438	1179.53

**the figures are provisional*

***Since the groups searched are usually spread across multiple states/geographies, the seizure of assets made therein cannot be attributed to any particular state(s).*

2. Details of cash seizure made in relation to evasion of GST, Central Excise or Service Tax (combined) during FY 2017-18 to FY 2022-23 (upto Jan, 2023):

Year	State	Amount of cash seizure (Rs. in crores)
2017-18	Chhattisgarh	1.17
	Gujarat	0.58
	Madhya Pradesh	0.22
	Maharashtra	4.29
	Rajasthan	0.76
	Tamil Nadu	1.01
2018-19	Chhattisgarh	1.00
	Delhi	1.57
	Gujarat	0.11
	Haryana	2.22
	Karnataka	0.09
	Maharashtra	2.01
	Punjab	1.24
	Rajasthan	1.64
West Bengal	1.60	

2019-20	Chhattisgarh	1.44
	Delhi	2.36
	Gujarat	0.08
	Karnataka	5.05
	Kerala	0.27
	Maharashtra	0.22
	Punjab	0.21
	Rajasthan	0.73
	Tamil Nadu	1.09
	Uttar Pradesh	7.02
	West Bengal	2.67
2020-21	Assam	0.39
	Chandigarh	0.38
	Chhattisgarh	0.18
	Delhi	6.32
	Gujarat	1.11
	Haryana	1.31
	Karnataka	0.43
	Kerala	0.32
	Madhya Pradesh	1.18
	Maharashtra	5.01
	Odisha	0.04
	Punjab	1.90
	Rajasthan	0.84
	Tamil Nadu	2.34
	Uttar Pradesh	3.24
	West Bengal	1.39
2021-22	Andhra Pradesh	1.78
	Assam	1.01
	Chhattisgarh	0.80
	Delhi	4.21
	Gujarat	0.64
	Haryana	2.53
	Karnataka	0.37
	Odisha	7.48

	Punjab	1.52
	Rajasthan	1.80
	Uttar Pradesh	207.13
	Uttarakhand	0.44
2022-23 (upto Jan 23)	Assam	0.78
	Chhattisgarh	0.62
	Delhi	8.45
	Gujarat	3.50
	Haryana	1.03
	Karnataka	3.47
	Maharashtra	1.57
	Meghalaya	2.90
	Punjab	0.91
	Rajasthan	3.64
	Tamil Nadu	0.84
	Uttar Pradesh	8.23
	West Bengal	3.89

3. Details of cash seizure made by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and the Customs Field Formations

Year	State	Indian Currency (in Thousands)	Foreign Currency (equivalent to INR in thousands)
2017-18	Assam	0	11.54
	Delhi	250	0
	Maharashtra	11465	184590
	Manipur	1.93	0
	Meghalaya	167.59	12.707
	Mizoram	749	162.54
	Tamil Nadu	3098	60070
	Tripura	16666	11.54
	West Bengal	27375	0
2018-19	Assam	0	0.31
	Delhi	2720	0
	Maharashtra	212	334685
	Meghalaya	0	241.73
	Mizoram	2	1.453
	Tamil Nadu	23025	85350
	Tripura	3107	25.36
	West Bengal	1916	0
2019-20	Assam	804	0
	Delhi	3300	0

	Maharashtra	0	172736
	Manipur	0	7.78
	Meghalaya	5.48	249.67
	Tamil Nadu	8521	84290
	Tripura	5610	16.309
	West Bengal	6408	0
2020-21	Maharashtra	0	32052
	Manipur	0	82
	Meghalaya	9.05	0
	Mizoram	32	0.053
	Tamil Nadu	0	30020
	Tripura	4533	6.198
	West Bengal	10566.4	0
2021-22	Assam	34	0
	Maharashtra	7709	68640
	Manipur	280	0
	Meghalaya	9.01	1307.87
	Tamil Nadu	4120	75390
	Tripura	2260	3.383
	West Bengal	8498.4	0
2022-23 (upto Jan 2023)	Assam	50	0
	Maharashtra	32	288383
	Meghalaya	3.92	35.511
	Tamil Nadu	4250	89020
	Tripura	1968	2.398
	West Bengal	13760	0