GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FINANCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3935 ANSWERED ON:03.12.2010 TAX RAIDS Ju Dev Shri Dilip Singh

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of raids conducted by the Central Excise and Income Tax Department during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 alongwith the details of persons and commercial and industrial establishments;
- (b) the movable and immovable property and cash seized every year in the said raids;
- (c) the details of seized movable and immovable property returned to the accused during the period from 2004-05 to 2009-10; and
- (d) the details of movable and immovable property and money deposited in the exchequer of the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHR! S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) & (b): The persons and commercial and industrial establishments searched include Individuals, Hindu Undivided Families, Firms, Companies, Association of Persons, Body of Individuals, Local Authorities, Artificial Juridical Person who are in possession of any money, bullion, jewellery or any other valuable article or thing which represents wholly or partly income or property which has not been or would not be disclosed for the purpose of Income Tax and related Acts. The details of the number of warrants executed by the Income Tax Department during the Financial Years 2008-09 and 2009-10 and the value of assets seized during the same are as under;

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(Rs. In crores)
Financial Year No. of warrants executed Value of assets seized
2008-09 3379 550.23
2009-10 3454 963.50
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(c) & (d); Search proceedings are followed by quasi-judicial post-search proceedings which involve detailed examination of the seized material, post-search enquiries and giving proper opportunity to individuals/entities searched to explain their income in accordance with the principles of natural justice and equity. The evidences gathered during the search and post search proceedings are used in assessment and reassessment proceedings of such individuals/entities. Such assessments/ reassessments become final only when all appeals before CIT(Appeals), ITAT, High Courts or Supreme Court are finalised.

As per the Income tax Act and related Acts, an individual/entity can be accused of being guilty after the proceedings become final and conviction order by the Courts is passed in case prosecution proceedings are initiated. The movable and immovable property and money to be deposited in the exchequer becomes final only after all the quasi-judicial and judicial proceedings attain finality.

Information in respect of reply to part (a) to (d) relating to raids conducted by Central Excise and outcome thereof is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the House.