GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FINANCE LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:263 ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011 DTAA AND TIEA Ajmal Shri Badruddin;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAA) and Tax Information Exchange Agreements (Til: As) w ith a number of countries:

(b) if so, the details thereoi'including the salient features, dale of enforcement of agreements and their present status;

(c) whether it is proposed to hu\e Mich agreements with sonic more countries, particularly with Bahamas. Republic of Colombia, Monaco and Taiwan;

(d) if so. the details thereof including its basic features; and

(e) the manner and the extent to which signing of Mich agreements help in the How of investment and technology and also in countering the menace of tax evasion imd bring back black money stashed in foreign countries to India?

Answer

MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 263 regarding `DTAA and TIEA`, raised by Shri Nityananda Pradhan and Shri Badruddin Ajmal, Hon`ble M.P.s, for answer on J9lh August, 2011.

Part(a) Yes, Sir.

Part(b) Details of Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAAs) and Tax Information Exchange Agreements (TIEAs) which have been signed by India and which have entered into force are annexed with this statement. India has also signed following agreements, which have not yet entered into force.

New DTAAs: Columbia, Ethiopia, Lithuania, Taiwan and Tanzania.

Renegotiated DTAAs: Italy, Norway, Singapore and Switzerland.

TIEAs: Cayman Islands.

The DTAAs contain provisions for allocation of taxing rights between source country and resident country; for avoidance of double taxation and for prevention of fiscal evasion. DTAAs also contain provisions for exchange of information for tax purpose. TIEAs arc agreements for exchange of information for tax purpose.

Part (c) & (d) Yes Sir. India has negotiated a number of DTAAs and TIEAs. In last two years, India has negotiated 16 TIEAs, 18 new DTAAs and has also renegotiated 21 existing DTAAs. TIEA with Bahamas has been signed and has also entered into force. TIEA with Monaco has been negotiated. DTAAs with Republic of Columbia and Taiwan have been signed and are waiting to be entered into force. The basic features of these DTAAs and TIEAs are same as stated in part (b)above.

Part (e) The DTAAs help in the flow of investment and technology as it seeks to avoid double taxation. DTAAs & TIEAs help in countering the menace of tax evasion and black money stashed in foreign banks by helping in collection of information regarding tax evasion and foreign bank accounts. DTAAs also sometimes help in collection of taxes from assets located abroad. 27 out of 80 DTAAs contain such a provision for assistance in collection of taxes.