

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4078

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2015

TAX EVASION

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Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of tax arrears of the major corporate houses in India as on December 31, 2014;
- (b) whether Government is aware of the increasing incidents of evasion of direct and indirect taxes indulged in by various companies including communities in connivance with Chartered Accountants;
- (c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and current year;
- (d) whether Government has noticed that the cases registered against such companies / Trading Communities are not pursued diligently and honestly by the concerned department;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the action taken against the Department along with other preventive steps taken to curb tax evasion?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (JAYANT SINHA)

(a): The total demand pending for collection under the head Corporate Tax under direct taxes upto the month of December, 2014 was Rs.3,11,080 crore. However, the total tax arrears in respect of indirect taxes as on 31.01.2015 was Rs.1,54,702.36 crore. Corporate house-wise details of tax arrears are not centrally maintained.

(b) & (c): Action against tax evaders of direct and indirect taxes is an on going process whether it is in connivance with Chartered Accountants or otherwise. Separate details of incidents of evasion of taxes by companies including communities in connivance with Chartered Accountants are not maintained centrally. However, as and when professional misconduct of a Chartered Accountant is detected by the Tax Authorities, the same is brought to the notice of the Institute of Chartered Accounts of India for taking appropriate action.

(d) & (e): The Department pursues all cases diligently and honestly. However, whenever any dereliction of duty or misconduct on the part of a Government official is noticed, appropriate action is taken accordance with law. Data of such cases is not maintained centrally.

(f) To curb tax/duty evasion, the field formations of the Central Board of Excise & Customs and Central Board of Direct Taxes (spread throughout the country) take all preventive steps such as conducting extensive surveys for identification of potential tax evaders, gathering information from various sources including extensive use of information technology, regular scrutiny, audit, joining the global efforts to combat cross-border tax evasion and tax fraud and to promote international tax compliance, etc.