GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:122 ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014 FILING OF ANNUAL RETURNS BY NGOS Dubey Shri Nishikant

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of Non- Governmental Organisations (NGOs) receiving foreign funds under the Foreign Contri- butions Regulation Act, 2010 (FCRA) have not filed annual returns of account and if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether instances of filing of returns beyond the stipulated time has also came to notice of the Government and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.122 FOR 2.12.2014

It has been found that a number of NGOs receiving foreign funds have not filed annual returns of accounts. Recently 10343 notices have been issued to defaulting NGOs/Associations for non filing of returns. The State-wise details of the Associations registered under the FCRA, 2010 who have not filed Annual Returns for the years 2009-12 is available at Annexure I and for 2012-13 and 2013-14 (filed online till date) is available at Annexure-II.

The organizations receiving foreign contribution are required to submit Annual Returns for each financial year within a period of nine months from closure of the year i.e. by 31st December of each year. Such Annual Accounts are to be submitted in the prescribed format duly audited by a Chartered Accountant.

The Ministry of Home Affairs have introduced penalty (fine) for late filing of Annual Returns vide Gazette Notification No. S.O. 1070 (E) (Annexure III) dated 26.04.2013 in which the Government have specified the amount of penalty for not furnishing the Annual Returns by the prescribed date of 31st December of every year, in three different stages. Thus Associations who default in filing the return or do not file the returns would face penal action.