

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4684

TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY THE 22nd July 2019
31, ASHADHA 1941 (SAKA)

TAXPAYERS

4684. MS. MALA ROY:

SHRI RAJAN VICHARE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of people in the country who are paying tax and filing income tax returns;
- (b) whether the Government has any plan to increase the tax base and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide facilities to the honest taxpayers such as priority in school admission of children, priority check-in at the airport, free facility of VIP lounge at the airport, entry from separate lane at toll plaza so as to encourage them; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

- (a) The number of taxpayers for Assessment Year 2018-19 was 8.44 crore, which included persons who filed a return of income for Assessment Year 2018-19 as well as persons who did not file a return of income but in whose case tax has been deducted at source during Financial Year 2017-18 (relevant to Assessment Year 2018-19).
- (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has fixed a target of adding 1.3 crore new income tax return filers during the current financial year as against 1.1 crore new filer added during FY 2018-19.

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For achieving this target, various measures are being taken including identification of potential non-filers through centralized Non-filer Monitoring System (NMS), formulation of region-specific strategies for identifying potential non-filers, issue of statutory notices to enforce compliance, holding of outreach programmes to encourage voluntary compliance, use of mass media for creating awareness, simplification in income-tax returns and filing process to encourage voluntary filing, etc.

(c) &(d) The recommendations of a Committee which examined the feasibility of granting certain privileges to eligible taxpayers are under consideration of the Government.
