

Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1435
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, JULY 01, 2019
ASHADHA 10, 1941 (SAKA)

CORRUPTION CASES

1435: SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:
DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of corruption against revenue officers have been regularly reported and if so, the details thereof during the last three years;
- (b) whether there have also been cases of corruption against employees of Public Sector banks, Enforcement Directorate and other subordinate offices under the Ministry and if so, the details thereof during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government has received any communication from the Central Vigilance Commission urging strict action against such officers but no action has been taken so far and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure corruption free tax administration in the country?

**ANSWER
FINANCE MINISTER
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)**

(a) Yes Sir, The complainant against the officers under the Department of Revenue received through CVC, individuals and other sources are dealt as per the existing guidelines of CVC and DOP.

(i) The details of complaints received in Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) are as under:-

Sr. No.	F.Y.	No. of complaints received
1	2016	1715
2	2017	1508
3	2018	1441

(ii) The details of prosecution launched by Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Custom (CEIC) under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 are as under:-

Sl. No.	F.Y.	No. of prosecution cases
1.	2016	29
2.	2017	15
3.	2018	40

(iii) Vigilance Branch of Revenue Headquarters is dealing with three disciplinary cases against IRS officers.

(b) The details of prosecution cases under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 in Public Sector Banks are as under:-

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Cases
1.	2015	11
2.	2016	9
3.	2017	10

Departmental Proceedings have been initiated by Directorate of Enforcement(ED) in 6 cases.

There are 15 cases pending in Department of Economic Affairs against the officers of Securities and Exchange Board of India(SEBI), Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited(SPMCIL) under various charges.

(c) Yes, it is an ongoing process. Communication is received from Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) from time to time recommending strict action against such officers. However, there are no such cases in which no action have been taken.

(d) The following steps, inter-alia have been taken by the Government to ensure corruption free tax administration in the country:

(i) Online system for internal whistle-blower has been put in place to get the vital feedback and complaints through department's portal.

(ii) Reduction in human interface with tax payer with the introduction of higher digitization such as e-filing, e- assessment, e-appeal, e-nivaran.

(iii) Guidelines have been issued for ensuring that the assessing officers do not increase the scope of investigation in Limited Scrutiny cases without following due procedure.

(iv) Guidelines have been issued laying down specific responsibilities during conduct of surveys and in post survey operations to obviate the possibilities of any wrongdoing.

(v) All field formations have been asked to install CCTV cameras in corridors and public spaces.

(vi) Checklists and Standard Operating Procedures have been laid down for Inquiry Officers to minimize instances of defective Inquiry Reports.

(vii) System studies are being conducted by Zonal ADsG to identify potential areas of corruption and suggest systemic improvements.

Further, The government has taken a gamut of steps to comprehensively ensure corruption free tax administration in the country which includes preventive vigilance, systemic and administrative reforms, streamlining process to reduce employee trade interface and robust preventive vigilance mechanism. In order to have a corruption free tax administration, all-out effort is being made by taking regular action in the areas of Punitive, Preventive and Participative vigilance.
