

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 02.03.2010**

**ANSWERED ON**

**ILLEGAL WEALTH OF COUNTRY .**

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Shri Amar Singh

Will the Minister of COAL, HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE, INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND FINANCE be pleased to state :-

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement made by ex- Revenue Secretary in the Government of India, while speaking at a seminar on Tax Havens and illegal wealth of India to the effect that 15 years ago Government had information about individuals and institutions hiding billions of dollars in Swiss Banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the factual position in this regard, at present?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(SURI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) The Government is aware of the newspaper report which has been published in the Deccan Chronicle of 20 August, 2009 stating that Shri M.R.Sivaraman, former Revenue Secretary, while speaking at a seminar on Tax Havens and Illegal Wealth of India has stated that the Government 15 years ago held information about individuals and institutions hiding billions of dollars in Swiss banks.

(b) & (c) : Shri M.R.Sivaraman has denied having made such statement and had requested the newspaper to publish the denial.