GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1752

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 10th MARCH, 2017 PHALGUNA, 19, 1938 (SAKA)

NRE ACCOUNTS

1752. SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- a) whether the Government is aware of increasing cases of non-resident Indians for parking funds in Non-Resident External (NRE) bank accounts and buying properties in order to evade taxes;
- b) if so, the number of cases of such tax evasion have been instituted by the Enforcement Directorate during the last three years and the current year; and
- c) the steps undertaken to combat this problem?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

- (a) to (b): Yes Madam. During the last three years, the Directorate of Enforcement has taken up investigations in 15 cases relating to Non-resident Indians for parking funds in Non-resident external (NRE) bank accounts and buying immovable properties.
- (c) The Government has taken several steps to combat tax evasion, both by way of policy initiatives as well as through more effective enforcement action on the ground, to more effectively tackle the issue of evasion of taxes. These steps include putting in place robust legislative and administrative frame works, systems and processes with due focus on capacity building and integration of information and its mining through increasing use of information technology.