

**Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5586
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, APRIL 07, 2017
CHAITRA 17, 1939 (SAKA)**

OUTSTANDING TAX FROM INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYERS

†5586. SHRI SADASHIV LOKHANDE:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has to recover huge amounts of outstanding taxes from individual taxpayers;
- (b) if so, the number of defaulters along with the amount outstanding against them during the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to recover the tax from the defaulter individual taxpayer?

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

- (a) & (b): The data of outstanding taxes from individual taxpayers and data of number of defaulters along with the amount outstanding against them is not maintained centrally.

(c):

Direct Tax

Strategies and targets to collect the arrears of taxes are laid down for every financial year as part of the Central Action Plan document. Efforts of the assessing officer to collect/recover the outstanding demand are regularly reviewed/monitored by the superior authorities. Databases like Individual Transaction Statement and 360-degree profile generated by the Department and those maintained by other agencies like FIU-IND have been made available to the field units for identification of assets for recovery. Guidelines for Tax Recovery Officers for recovery and guidelines to field authorities for dealing with stay petitions have been issued. Efforts for early disposal of appeals are also undertaken. A new reward scheme for information leading to recovery of arrears has been notified. Names of confirmed defaulters are published in newspapers and put in public domain.

Indirect Tax

All efforts are taken for expeditious recovery of outstanding taxes from all categories of taxpayers. Action plan as approved by the Board was circulated to all Central Excise, Customs & Service Tax Zones for taking all necessary measures for liquidation of tax arrears to the maximum extent possible. However, more than 80% of the arrears are locked in litigation (Supreme Court / High Court / CESTAT etc) or under restrained category (BIFR / Debt Recovery Tribunal / Official Liquidators), hence the Department has no control over its disposal. The following measures have been taken by the department in this regard:

- (a) Bunching of similar cases in these fora to reduce the cases & expedite decision in these matters.
- (b) Request for early hearing in high revenue cases, especially where department has a strong case.
- (c) Increase the limit of filing appeals by department in the appellate fora and withdrawal of appeals filed already, below the limit prescribed.
