

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1967
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY THE 29th DECEMBER 2017
8 PAUSHA SAKA 1939**

MONETARY REWARD FOR HONEST TAX PAYERS

1967. SHRI JOSE K. MANI & SMT VANAROJA R:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

- (a) whether the Income Tax Department has proposed monetary rewards/incentives for honest tax payers depending on the tax paid and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the priority will be given to tax payers who are consistent in filing returns and have no outstanding tax liabilities and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether compliance by the existing tax payers, projected around 62.6 million assesseees is typically low with only three per cent tax payers and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether in the past IT Department used to encourage tax payers by issuing certificates of appreciation and if so, the details thereof; and
- e) whether the Government is considering reasonable tax rates going forward and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA)**

- (a) No such scheme of monetary reward/incentive is under consideration of the Government.
- (b) Does not arise in view of reply to Question (a) above.
- (c) The number of individual taxpayers for Financial Year 2015-16 (Assessment Year 2016-17) as on 30.09.2017 is 6.08 crore, which works out to be 4.9% of the estimated population of 125 crore.
- (d) Yes Madam. A scheme for felicitating top taxpayers under different categories called the "SAMMAN Scheme" was in operation around 2000-2001.
- (e) Currently there is no such proposal under consideration.
