GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2178 TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 29TH JULY, 2016

SHRAVANA 7, 1938 (SAKA)

BLACK MONEY

2178. SHRI MAHEISH GIRRI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether black money is extensively routed through lottery and hawala rackets, if so, the details thereof and amount unearthed during each of the last three years across India;

(b) the total amount of money involved in these operations;

(c) whether any foreign connections have emerged in the management of these rackets, if so, the details of all such persons in India and abroad who are involved in such activities; and

(d) the actions taken against the guilty?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (d): Appropriate action against tax evasion/black money, including routing of the same through lottery and hawala rackets, is an on-going process. Such action under direct taxes laws by the Income Tax Department includes searches, surveys, enquiries, assessment of income, levy of tax, interest, penalties, etc. and filing of prosecution complaints before Criminal Courts, wherever applicable. Other relevant law enforcement agencies such as Enforcement Directorate (ED), Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) etc. also take appropriate action under the laws administered by them depending upon facts and circumstances of each such case.

As part of enforcement measures, the Income Tax Department (ITD) conducted searches in 990 groups of assesses during last 2 years (F.Ys. 2014-15 and 2015-16), seizing undisclosed assets worth Rs. 1,474 Crore. These assesses admitted undisclosed income of Rs. 21,354 Crore. During the same period, 9,457 surveys conducted resulted in detection of undisclosed income of Rs. 22,475 Crore. Further, there has been significant rise in criminal prosecutions filed by the Income Tax Department in last 2 years and number of cases where prosecution complaints were filed and offences were compounded during F.Ys. 2014-15 and 2015-16 is 3,140 as against 1,690 during F.Ys. 2012-13 and 2013-14.

Modus operandi-wise data, such as lottery, hawala etc, including the amount of money involved in specific cases is not maintained centrally. Further, disclosure of information regarding specific persons is prohibited except as provided under section 138 of the Income-tax Act, 1961.
