

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:661

ANSWERED ON:02.03.2007

`TAX` RETURN PREPARERS SCHEME TRPS

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**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the present status of Tax Return Preparers Scheme (TRPS);
- (b) whether the Union Government will extend the scheme to all parts of the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken to raise awareness and compliance among the small and marginal tax payers in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE ( SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM )

(a) The Tax Return Preparer Scheme was launched in 2006-07 to provide help to small and marginal tax-payers in the form of Tax Return Preparers to assist them in filing of their income-tax returns. During the current year, 5000 unemployed/ partially employed graduates were selected through an enrollment test for training as Tax Return Preparers and their classroom training sessions have also been completed. The end-of-course certification test has also been held. The candidates who will be declared to have passed the certification test can function as TRPs.

(b) The Scheme is already applicable to all the parts of the country.

(c) The enrollment test as well as the classroom training sessions and the certification test have been conducted at 100 centres covering 80 towns all across the country. The certified TRPs can function in any part of India.

(d) The Central Government has also undertaken the `Help Centre for small assesseees programme` in the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 to raise the awareness and compliance level specifically among the small and marginal tax payers in the country. During the financial year 2006-07, 336 Help Centres have been set up in 292 towns and cities all across the country. A multi-media publicity campaign has been launched through television, newspapers (both vernacular and English), posters, banner, leaflets, seminars, contact programmes etc., to make the people aware of the facilities available under the Help Centre programme.