

Amount Paid to Individuals for giving information regarding Goods being Smuggled into India

2014. PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether those who give information to the Customs department about smuggled goods are given income-tax free amount equivalent to ten per cent of the value of the smuggled goods;

(b) if so, how many persons have received such amounts during the last three years; and

(c) whether many among those who have received such amounts are smugglers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Maximum reward upto Rs. 20/- per tola in gold bullion seizure cases and upto 10 per cent of the estimated realisations of the seized goods in other cases is paid to the informers on the merits of the information given. Such payments exceeding Rs. 1000/- in aggregate have become liable to income-tax with effect from 1-4-1972, like other casual income, but the question whether rewards paid to informers in various spheres should be exempted is under Government's consideration.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

(c) The identity of the informants is kept secret. However, the possibility of persons who were once smugglers becoming informers cannot be ruled out.

Indo-Bangladesh Trade under Limited Payment Agreement

2015. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rs. 25-crores turnover each way envisaged in Indo-Bangladesh trade under the Limited Payment Agreement is not likely to be fulfilled; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the short-fall?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). During the review of the current Limited Payments Agreement, held in Dacca in the first week of July, 1973, it was noted that approximately Rupees 18 crores worth of goods may be exported from Bangladesh by September 27, 1973 when the Arrangement is due to expire, as compared to Rs 20 crores expected to be exported from India. Inadequate transport facilities and institutional difficulties have mainly been responsible for inhibiting the flow of trade between the two countries. In order to take effective and timely measures for removing all transport bottlenecks, the two Governments have decided to form a Joint Transport Co-ordination Committee.

Construction of an Aerodrome at Salem (Tamil Nadu)

2016. SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN:
SHRI DEIVEKAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision regarding the construction of an aerodrome at Salem in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether any study team has visited the proposed site recently; and

(c) if so, the recommendations of the study team and the reaction of Government thereto?