

**Rewards to Informants of Income-tax**

5739. SHRI D. K. PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases where the payment of rewards to informers of income-tax had become due but has not been paid during last three years and during the current year so far;

(b) the reasons for delay in payments;

(c) the number of cases in which the question of payment of reward is pending finalisation; and

(d) the reasons for delay in finalising such cases.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (d). Rewards to informers are exgratia payments made by Government in accordance with certain guidelines and are paid as and when they become due. During the years 1970-71 to 1972-73, rewards have been paid as under:

Financial year	No. of informers	Amount paid as reward
		Rs.
1970-71	104	3,19,949
1971-72	110	4,39,109
1972-73	122	4,99,125

**Ban on Issue of New Gold Dealers Licence**

5740. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any ban has been imposed on the issue of new Gold Dealers Licence;

(b) whether transfer of gold licence from one State to another is permissible;

(c) the number of transfer applications pending at Delhi, Bombay and Madras during the last more than nine months; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to eliminate the Departmental delays in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However a licensed gold dealer can surrender his licence in a city, town or village and apply for the issue of a new licence in another city, town or village. His application will be considered by the licensing authority having regard to the matters specified in the Gold Control (Licensing of Dealers) Rules, 1969 which, *inter alia*, include the need to increase the number of licensed gold dealers in such city, town or, in the case of a village, the district in which such village is situated.

(c) There are no such cases pending at Bombay and Madras. Two such cases are pending at Delhi.

(d) Instructions have been issued to the concerned authorities to dispose of pending cases expeditiously on their merits.

**Allegations against Commerce Ministry**

5741. SHRI B. V. NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to serious allegations against his Ministry in the 'Blitz' issue of 20th October, 1973; and

(b) if so, his reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The allegations made in respect of wool-combing capacity and cotton cloth are baseless.

**Import of Fertilizer from Bulgaria**

5742. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA:

SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been signed with Bulgaria for the import of fertilizers on preferential basis; and

(b) if so, the quantity to be imported and the foreign exchange involved?