

countries to discuss and resolve difficulties that may arise in the development of trade. Government have taken, and will continue to take, measures aiming at expansion of trade and closer economic and commercial cooperation with the neighbouring countries.

Ex-Gratia Compensation for Properties left over in Pakistan

5755. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any estimate regarding the total amount of claims and ex-gratia compensation made for properties in Pakistan including former East Pakistan, declared as Enemy Property, after the Indo-Pak conflict of 1965 ;

(b) the break-up of estimates for West Pakistan and former East Pakistan properties ; and the process of assessing veracity of claims and authorities therefor ;

(c) the number of claims which remained uncleared for last 7, 6, 5 and 4 years respectively and this break-up for the two parts of former Pakistan ;

(d) the number of claims cleared for West Pakistan and East Pakistan, respectively during the years 1967-68, 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72 and 1973 ; and

(e) whether a Special Cell will be set up to expeditiously deal with these claims ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The value of assets/Property of Indian nationals/companies seized by Pakistan during and after 1965 Indo-Pak conflict, according to the claims registered with the Custodian of Enemy Property, is estimated at about Rs. 109 crores.

(b) The break-up would be known only when all the claims numbering about 6,000 are verified. The verification of claims is done on the basis of documentary/secondary evidence.

(c) The decision of the Government of India to make ex-gratia grants was announced on 10-4-1971. The question of claims remaining uncleared for last 7, 6, 5 and 4 years, therefore, does not arise.

(d) So far claims for the value of Rs. 1.42 crores for assets/property located in former East Pakistan and Rs. 1.05 crores in respect of West Pakistan have been paid.

(e) The claims are verified in the office of the Custodian of Enemy Property, which has already been strengthened to expedite verification of these claims.

Foreign tours by officials of Central Government

5756. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :
SHRI RAMACHANDRAN
KADANNAPPALLI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of officials of the Ministries of Central Government above the level of Under Secretary, who have undertaken official tours abroad during the last three years and the total expenditure incurred thereon ; and

(b) how many of these officials have gone abroad more than once and the number of times each official has visited abroad ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

तस्करों के लिए पंजाब के गुहद्वारों का उपयोग

5757. श्री हुकम चन्द कल्लवाय : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान पंजाब के मुख्य मंत्री के इस वक्तव्य की ओर दिलाया गया है कि पंजाब में गुहद्वारों का उपयोग असांभोजिक तत्व और तस्कर लोग तस्करों के लिए कर रहे हैं ; और

(ख) इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है और इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० आर० गणेश) : (क) दिनांक 23 सितम्बर,