

# ENEMY PROPERTY ACT



## What is Enemy Property?

Enemy property is the property left behind in India by people who took Pakistani and Chinese citizenship.

## Enemy Property Act

- ✓ The act was enacted in 1968 after the 1965 war with Pakistan to regulate such properties.
- ✓ The same was done for property left behind by those who went to China after the 1962 Sino-Indian war (which began on 20th October 1962).
- ✓ The ownership of these properties was passed on to a government department known as the Custodian for Enemy Property in India.
- ✓ The Enemy Property (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2017 amended a few clauses of the original act.

## Why was it in News?

- ✓ A Group of Ministers which is headed by Union Home Minister is going to monitor the disposal of over 9,400 enemy properties.
- ✓ Two committees would be headed by senior officials who will be initiate the disposal of immovable enemy properties vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property for India under The Enemy Property Act.

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## Who oversees these properties?

- ✓ Under the Defence of India Rules framed under The Defence of India Act, 1962, the Government of India took over the properties and companies of those who took Pakistani nationality.

## The Tashkent Declaration

- ✓ It included a clause that said India and Pakistan would discuss the return of the property and assets taken over by either side in connection with the conflict.
- ✓ However, the Government of Pakistan disposed of all such properties in their country in 1971.