

(b) whether the Government propose to give licence for the trading of poppy powder to 'NAFED'; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). In terms of Section 10 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic substances Act, 1985, the State Government have the power to make rules to permit and regulate the possession, transport, import inter-state, export inter-State, warehousing, sale, purchase, consumption and use of poppy straw (commonly known as poppy husk/powder). No statistics regarding seizure of poppy powder is maintained in this Ministry. The Central Government has no control over issuing of licences for trading of poppy powder.

Pending Tourism Projects

3822. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tourism projects submitted by the Government of Gujarat during the last three years are still pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to accord early clearance to the pending projects?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). All the tourism project proposals, received from the State Government of Gujarat during the last three years, which were found complete in all respects, have been sanctioned.

[English]

W.T.O. Treaty

3823. SHRI DATTARAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the details of those countries which have not signed the WTO Treaty and with whom India is having trade ties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Eighty four countries have signed the WTO Agreement so far and accession proceedings in respect of another 25 are in progress. As per information available there are 119 countries which have not yet signed the WTO Agreement. India's trade with some of these countries is significant but with most of the countries (many of whom are small), India does not have any significant volume of trade. The 119 countries are :

Canary Islands, Cape Verde Islands, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Reunion, Sao Thomo and Principe, Seychelles, Somalia, St. Helena of Ascension, Libya, Sudan, Greenland, St. Pierrea and Miquelon, Bahamas, Montserrat, American

Samoa, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Panama Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, Turks and Caicos Islands, Virgin Islands of U.S., Afghanistan, Bhutan, Christmas Island, Cook Islands, Iran, Kiribati Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Republic of Nauru, Nepal, Papua and New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vietnam, Western Samoa, Iraq, Lebanon, Oman, Syria, Yemen Arab Republic, Yamen People's Democratic Republic, Cocos Islands, French Guiana, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonea, New Hebrides, Niua Island, Norfolk Island, Pacific Islands, Pitcairn Islands, Portuguese Timor, Tokelau Islands, Wallis and Futuna Islands, Republic of Vanuatu, Faeroe Island, Andorra. Channel Islands and Gibraltar. Angola, Benin, Bolivia. Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burudni, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Cyprus, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Haiti, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Poland, Slovenia, Togo, Zaire, Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Ecuador, Estonia, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macodonia, Moldova, Panama, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Chinese Taipei, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

Merger of Private Banks

3824. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to merge any of the private banks with any of the nationalised banks this year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) At present there is no proposal to merge any private bank with any of the nationalised banks.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Civil Aviation in Maharashtra

3825. SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have fixed any targets for development of infrastructural facilities for civil aviation in Maharashtra during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amounts earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b). The Airports Authority of India have earmarked an amount of Rs. 420.15 crores in Eighth Five Year Plan for upgradation of Aurangabad, Nagpur, Pune and Bombay airports.