

trawlers who had undertaken export obligation at the time of import of these trawlers as deemed exports, for purpose of fulfilment of export obligation. Necessary instructions in this regard have been issued to the licencing authorities.

Such trawler owners are permitted to make use of the existing plants for processing their own catches for export purposes.

Seizure of Foreign Currency at Madras Airport

3796. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether numerous air passengers with Indian passports have been apprehended with foreign currency at Madras Airport in 1983 and 1984;

(b) if so, the number of people thus apprehended at Madras Airport in 1983 and 1984 respectively by the Customs authorities; and

(c) the total amounts seized in this manner in 1983 and 1984 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :

(a) to (c) The details showing the number of air passengers holding Indian passports apprehended at Madras airport, during 1983 and 1984 and the value of the foreign currency seized by the Customs authorities from them, are furnished below :—

Year	Number of air passengers apprehended	Value of foreign currency seized (Rs. in lakhs)
1983	65	9.66
1984	81	16.76

[Translation]

Steps to Check Illegal Mining in Pithoragarh and Dehradun Districts (U P)

3797. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that mining work is being carried on continuously by

certain mine owners in Pithoragarh and Dehradun districts of Uttar Pradesh in contravention of the mining laws; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to check this illegal mining ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) Contravention of mining laws has been detected in Pithoragarh and Dehradun districts.

(b) The State Government have taken action to terminate the leases prematurely as well as refuse renewal, wherever violation of mining laws have come to their notice. The lessees have gone to the Court and have obtained stay orders. Inspections are being carried out by the concerned authorities under the mining laws.

Issue of Licences to Nationalised Banks for Opening New Branches

3798. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that many nationalised banks do not actually open their new branches even after obtaining licences from the Reserve Bank for this purpose :

(b) if so, the reasons for this indifferent attitude of banks regarding opening of new branches and the action being taken in this regard; and

(c) the State-wise number of licences issued for this purpose which are lying pending with various nationalised and recognized banks and since when these are pending ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :

(a) to (c) A statement showing State-wise and population Groupwise number of licences/authorisations pending with commercial banks as on 28-2-1985 for opening branches in the country is attached. The reasons for such large pending licences/authorisations with banks are that a good number of authorisations under the branch expansion programme for the period April 1982 to March 1985 were issued towards

the end of the policy period. Besides, many of the centres identified did not have basic infrastructural facilities. This has necessitated identification and allotment of alternate centres. With a view to expediting

opening of branches at allotted centres, Task Forces consisting of representatives of State Governments, NABARD and Reserve Bank have been set up at each of Reserve Bank of India's Regional Offices.

Statement

State-wise & Population Group-wise No. of licences/authorisations pending with commercial banks as on 28-2-1985@

State/Union Territory	Rural/Semi-urban	Urban/Metropolitan Port Towns	Total
Andhra Pradesh	379	37	416
Assam	387	2	389
Bihar	740	6	746
Gujarat	262	38	300
Haryana	70	10	80
Himachal Pradesh	63	1	64
Jammu & Kashmir	68	2	70
Karnataka	236	55	291
Kerala	116	22	138
Madhya Pradesh	558	27	585
Maharashtra	449	154	603
Manipur	34	1	35
Meghalaya	27	1	28
Nagaland	15	—	15
Orissa	229	12	241
Punjab	151	15	166
Rajasthan	493	8	501
Sikkim	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	132	38	170
Tripura	28	—	28
Uttar Pradesh	1434	45	1479
West Bengal	866	119	985
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	1	2
Arunachal Pradesh	29	—	29
Chandigarh	2	3	5
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
Delhi	1	61	62
Goa, Daman & Diu	3	—	3
Lakshadweep	—	—	—
Mizoram	31	—	31
Pondicherry	1	1	2
Total	6805	659	7464

@ Based on allotments made upto 28 Feb 85 and intimation of branches opened, received by this office upto January end.