

smuggling of drugs. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Act, 1985, which came into force with effect from 14.11.1985, provides for deterrent punishments for drug trafficking offences. A new organisation called, "Narcotics Control Bureau" has been set up for effectively co-ordinating the action against illicit traffic in drugs.

2. As a result of various measures taken and the intensive drive launched against drug trafficking, considerable quantities of drugs have been seized, particularly, heroin and hashish. During the first 10 months of 1986, over 2,850 kg. of heroin was seized, which is the highest quantity ever seized by any country and includes the largest single seizure of 602 kg. in January, 1986 and the second largest seizure of 472 kg. in August, 1986. The quantities seized are 3 times more than seizures in 1985, 12 times more than of 1984 and 18 times more than of 1983. In addition, the authorities have also seized over 17 tonnes of hashish till October, 1986 as compared to 10 tonnes in 1985 and 4 tonnes in 1984.

3. The anti-drug drive has also been effective in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Delhi as indicated from seizures during the period from 14.11.1985 (the date of enforcement of the new Act) to 30.11.1986 as compared to that of corresponding period in 1984-85, which is given below :

Name of drug	P E R I O D	
	14.11.1984 to 30.11.1985	14.11.1985 to 30.11.1986
	Quantity (kg.)	Quantity (kg.)
Heroin	238	1,751
Hashish	4,528	15,935

(N.B. Figures provisional and rounded off to the nearest kilogram).

SHRI R. P. DAS : Sir, the statement laid on the Table of the House says that the Government have taken some action against the narcotic trade.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many people have so far been rounded up from the narcotic trade and in how many cases deterrent punishment has been given to those who are engaged in this den.

MR. SPEAKER : Question Hour over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Inadequate Banking Facilities in Rural Areas of Andhra Pradesh

*469. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

SHRI H. A. DORA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are inadequate banking facilities in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh, particularly Nalgonda district ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the remedial measures proposed to be taken by Government to cover the remote villages by their loaning programmes through banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) A Statement is given below.

Statement

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as at the end of June, 1986, the total number of rural branches, operating in District Nalgonda and the entire State of Andhra Pradesh, was 103 and 2405 respectively. The average population per bank office (APPBO), for the rural and semi-urban areas of Andhra Pradesh was 15,000 and for District Nalgonda, it was 16,000. The Branch Licensing Policy for 1982-85 envisaged to achieve APPBO of 17,000 in the rural and semi-urban areas of each district.

Under the current Branch Licensing Policy the population coverage norm is being reckoned with reference to the development block rather than the whole district in order to remove intra-district imbalances and to ensure an even spread of bank branches. Further, a spatial norm, that at least one bank office should be available within a distance of 10 Kms. has also been prescribed in the new policy.

Expansion of Trade Between India and Italy

*470. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Italian businessmen have shown keenness to expand trade with including joint ventures in relevant areas ; and

(b) if so, whether any concrete steps have been taken in this direction and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : (a) and (b) Besides the constant interaction of Italian businessmen with Indian trade and industry to promote their commercial exchanges, they have also been interested in promoting industrial collaborations and joint ventures with Indian companies in addition, soft credits and technical assistance grants have been available by Italy for projects mutually agreed upon.

Direction to Re-Instate Workers of Kohinoor Mills.

*474. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bombay High Court has recently directed the Kohinoor Mills in Bombay to reinstate their workmen with back wages ; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the National Textile Corporation in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) A Statement is given below.

Statement

The Third Labour Court, Bombay had ordered that work should be assigned to 1654 workers of Kohinoor Mills before 25.10.1986. The Bombay High Court did not grant stay of the order of the Labour Court. A social leave petition has been filed in the Supreme Court in this regard.

Scope for Setting up Indo-Hungarian Joint Ventures.

*478. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great scope for setting up Indo-Hungarian joint ventures in both countries ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) and (b) Indo-Hungarian Joint Business Council has identified potential areas for promoting joint ventures. At the meeting of the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission the two sides have indicated the areas of interest to them for establishing joint ventures. Specific decisions for setting up joint ventures, however, can be taken by trade and industrial organisations in the two countries based on commercial and economic considerations.

[Translation]

Demand for Training Institute for Bank Employees in Uttar Pradesh

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the largest number of branches of various banks are functioning in Uttar Pradesh ;