

hon. Minister whether the Government will tighten the drug control law, namely, whether it will make the possession of *ganja*, which at present is legal upto 25 g., illegal for non-medical uses and, secondly, I would also like to know whether in the new drug law the hard drugs, like LSD and Mendrake will be included, by a suitable amendment in the legislation.

SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA:
There is a well-planned law in the country and it has been time and again brought to the notice of the Government that all the narcotic drugs should be brought under one law. This is under the consideration of the Government.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:
Though it is mentioned in the statement that trafficking in such drugs is not very common in India, it so happens that India is located near one of the nerve centres of the drug traffic which consists of Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal and Burma. May I know whether the Government will enter into a cooperation agreement at regional and inter-regional level with such countries and other countries to control effectively this trafficking in drug narcotics?

SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA:
It is a good suggestion.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA:
Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state what happened to the recommendation of the high-powered committee appointed by the then Government of India in June, 1976?

SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA:
It is mentioned in the statement itself. I may read it out:

“Government have taken stringent measures to prevent illicit production and trafficking in narcotic drugs. The problem of drug addiction in the country was ex-

mined by a high level Committee appointed by Government in June, 1976. This Committee has made several recommendations such as introduction of appropriate legislative measures, initiating educational programme; use of mass media for creating awareness amongst the public about the ill effects of drug abuse and development of facilities for treatment of drug addicts. These recommendations are under consideration of Government.”

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

Indo-Pak Tourist Traffic

*169. **SHRI CHANDRABHAN
ATHARE PATIL:**

**SHRI M. RAM GOPAL
REDDY:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Begum Viqar-Un-Nisa Noon, Chairman of the Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation has met him and given proposals to introduce tourists visas between the two countries for promoting Indo-Pak tourist traffic; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION AND LABOUR (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. During her recent visit to Delhi, Begum Viqar-Ur-nisa Noon, Advisor on Tourism to the President of Pakistan, met the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation and made a suggestion to promote tourist traffic between India and Pakistan.

(b) This is being examined by Government.