

returns of income above rupees one lakh filed during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(b) whether there has been steep fall in income tax returns of large incomes over the years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the main reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR):

(a) The number of income tax returns having income of Rs. 1 lakh and above for the years 1988-89 to 1990-91 are as follows :

(in lakhs)

Year	Returns
1988-89	1.71
1989-90	2.32
1990-91	2.38
	(Provisional)

(b) No, sir.

(c) to (e) In view of (b) above, do not arise.

Strike by Income-tax officials

4220. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Income Tax strike on arrest of UP official" appearing in the "Hindustan Times" dated July 9, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the action taken by the Union

Government to provide adequate protection to the Income Tax officials during search operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A case has been registered and is under investigation with the local police.

(c) The Union Government took up the matter with all the State Governments, who have agreed to provide adequate security cover to the Income Tax officials during search operations.

Introduction of Stage Carriage Services in Delhi

4221. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the proposal to introduce Stage Carriage Services for luxury buses on selected routes in Delhi;

(b) the time by which these services are likely to start;

(c) the reasons for delay in implementation of this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Government have recommended to the Delhi Administration to introduce a scheme of special stage carriage permits at a fare structure higher than that of Delhi Transport Corporation, with more comforts, to wean away passengers who presently use personalised vehicles, to public transport.

In response to this Delhi Administration invited applications from private operator. Since the number of applications received were more than the number of permits to be issued, draw *of lots was held. In the meantime, stay order was issued by the Delhi High Court on writ petitions filed by the private operators with the direction that the result of the draw should not be finalised and declared.*

Pension Scheme in Associate Banks of State Bank of India

4222. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce pension scheme in all the associate banks of the State Bank of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which pension scheme would be introduced in all the associate banks of the State Bank of India as these constitute SBI Group?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Retirement benefits in the form of Contributory Provident Fund and Gratuity are already available to the employees of the Associate Banks of State Bank of India except in the case of State Bank of Hyderabad where, owing to historical reasons, the

pension scheme is also available to the employees who joined the Bank before the 30th Sept., 1959. The demand of bank employees for pension as a third retirement benefit has not been found acceptable to the Government in view of the financial liabilities involved.

Computerisation in Public Sector Banks

4223. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of public sector banks which have been computerised so far, bank-wise;

(b) the number of bank branches proposed to be computerised during 1991-92, bank-wise; and

(c) the amount allocated for the purpose for 1991-92, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) A statement indicating the bank-wise position of the number of branches of public sector banks covered so far under mechanisation/computerisation, the number of branches proposed to be covered in this regard during 1991-92 as well as the estimated amount allocated for the purpose for 1991-92, as reported by public sector banks, is attached.