

standard deduction in Income-Tax as the working employees;

(b) whether the Committee on Direct Taxes in its report submitted in 1968 recommended this;

(c) whether representations have also been made to Government from time to time to grant this relief to the pensioners, also when they are very hard hit owing to very high cost of living; and

(d) if so, the difficulties which lie in the way of Government in granting this relief to their retired employees and the action which the present Government propose to take in the matter to redress this long-standing grievance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): (a) Pensioners including Central Government pensioners are not entitled to standard deduction under section 16(i) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 on the amounts received as pension.

(b) The Direct Tax Laws Committee (Chokshi Committee) has, in its Final Report, submitted in September, 1978, recommended that the standard deduction should be allowed also to a person in receipt of a pension from a former employer at the rate of 10 per cent subject, however, to a ceiling of Rs. 1,000 per year.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government are yet to take a view on this demand of pensioners.

Additional Hotels by State Governments and Private Sector

2083. SHRI JAI NARAIN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to encourage the State Governments and private sector to build more hotels in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION AND LABOUR (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is formulating its policy in regard to development of hotels. Details are being worked out.

Conversion of Ahmedabad Civil Aerodrome as International Airport

2084. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert Ahmedabad Civil Aerodrome from alternate international airport into the full fledged international airport; and

(b) if so, the progress achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION AND LABOUR (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Restriction by IA & AI on Marriage by Hostesses

2085. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that in many foreign countries there is no restriction that the air-hostesses must remain unmarried during their period of service;

(b) whether it is true that on the Indian Airlines and Air India some restrictions are imposed on the air-hostesses in this regard; and

(c) if so, whether the Indian Airlines and Air India propose to remove these restrictions?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION AND LABOUR (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) to (c)