

tion of tax at source. Further, the Direct Tax Laws Committee (Choksi Committee) have recommended in their Final Report that deduction of tax at source under section 194D of the Income-tax Act should be made only where the payment to any one person during a financial year exceeds Rs. 1,500. This recommendation will be considered by the Government.

Tourist potential in Maharashtra

894. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any effort has been made to assess the tourist potential in the State of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and steps taken or proposed to be taken to exploit this potential with a view to developing these areas and to attract more tourists there?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). The State Government had been requested to make a quick tourism potential survey and to prepare a perspective plan of tourism development categorising the centre from the point of view of their importance to local, national and international tourism. The Government of Maharashtra had accordingly sent a perspective plan of tourism development. The matter was further discussed in the Tourism Ministers Conference held in New Delhi on 17-11-1978. It was then suggested that in addition to the development of facilities at Ajanta and Elephanta and the construction of a Janata hotel in Bombay, and a star category hotel at Juhu, the possibility of constructing a youth hostel at Bombay may also be considered. The suggestion made by the State Government will be considered keeping in view the availability of funds and inter se priorities.

Opening of Super Bazar Branches

895. SHRI ABDUL AHMAD VAKIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state whether Government are contemplating of directing State Governments to open Super Bazars at all Tehsil headquarters to supply essentials of life?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): The programme formulated by the Government visualises expansion of the network of branches of varying sizes to be set up by cooperatives in urban areas for distribution of essential commodities. The decisions as to whether department stores (Super Bazars) or smaller branches may be set up in the towns including Tehsil Headquarters are to be taken by the concerned cooperative institutions and State Governments, having regard to population coverage, per-capita income and considerations of economic viability of the units.

विदेशी पर्यटकों द्वारा देखे जाने वाले पर्यटक स्थल

896. श्री सुरेन्द्र झा सुमन : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में कितने विदेशी पर्यटक भारत आये और 1973-74 से 1976-77 वर्षों के लिए उनका देशवार ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ख) उन्होंने मुख्य रूप से किन-किन पर्यटन स्थलों की यात्रा की ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) वर्ष 1973-74 से 1976-77 के दौरान जो