

particulars of the seized films are as follows :—

Name of the firm	No. of reels
Devdas (Hindi)	5
Talaq (Hindi)	4
Pati-Patni (Hindi).	4
Karigar (Hindi)	4
Aasra (Hindi)	4
Under Capricon (English)	3
The man who know too much (English)	1
TOTAL	25

(c) One person was arrested. His name is Robert Johnston. He was subsequently released on bail by the Court.

(d) Prosecution has been launched against the person and the same is pending in the Court. Further investigations are in progress.

Commuted Pension to Central Government employees seeking voluntary Retirement

*1006. SHRI S. NANJESHA GOWDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government employees who seek voluntary retirement are eligible for commutation of their pensions after appearing before a Medical Board while the employees who retire on superannuation can get their pensions commuted without appearing before the Medical Board ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether Government propose to remove this anomaly ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The primary aim of the medical examination held for the purpose of commutation of pension is to determine whether the pensioner is in normal health or not. As a measure of simplification of procedure, orders have been issued allowing commutation of pension without a medical examination to Government servants retiring on superannuation, since in their case it can be safely assumed that they are in normal health. It is not proposed to extend these orders to

those seeking voluntary retirement, as the assumption of normal health cannot be made safely in all such cases.

New Air Routes for Newly Developed Tourist Spots

9201. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH SAYIAN WALA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to open new air routes in the country linking inter-alia prospective and newly developed tourist spots ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) : (a) and (b). The question of connecting small towns and places of tourist and other interests by third level operations is engaging the attention of the Government. A preliminary project report prepared by the Indian Airlines is under examination by a Committee constituted to go into the various aspects of the proposal.

Incentives to Gem and Jewellery Trade

9202. SHRI RAM KISHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in Rajasthan there is a three per cent levy at every point on semi-precious stones while in Maharashtra and Gujarat there is no sales tax on them thereby escalating the cost of finished semi-precious pieces by 30 per cent ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in Rajasthan manufacturers and traders having a turnover of Rs. 5,000 a year or more are required to get themselves registered for sales tax while in Delhi and the limits Rs. 1 lakh and in Bombay Rs. 50,000 and it has resulted in the employment at wholesale level ; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to remove the snags and offer incentives to the gem and jewellery trade ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL) : (a) Levy of tax on sales or purchases of goods inside a State is a State field of taxation. In Rajasthan, there is 3% sales tax multipoint basis on gems and jewellery and semi-precious stones. In Gujarat and Maharashtra also, gems and jewellery are