

Government of Orissa during 1957-58 and 1958-59 as loan assistance towards expenditure incurred during 1957-58 on the Miscellaneous Development Schemes of the State, including the construction of the new capital, Bhubaneswar.

Life Insurance Corporation

*348. { Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Damani:
Shri Anirudh Sinha:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reportedly increasing difficulty and delay in settlement of policy holders' claims, loan applications etc. by the Life Insurance Corporation;

(b) whether Government's attention has also been drawn to the irregularity on the part of the Corporation in sending premium notices and receipts; and

(c) if so, the nature of steps taken?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b). It would appear that consequent upon the integration of over 200 Life Insurance companies into the Life Insurance Corporation, there has been some difficulty in the initial stages in the settlement of policy-holders' claims, loan applications and issue of premium notices and receipts. Government are not aware of any increase in such difficulties. They are, however, concerned with such difficulties as exist in the way of the policy-holders and are anxious that ways and means should be found for their removal as early as possible.

(c) With a view to correcting any complaints of procedural irregularities the Corporation has decided upon a judicious decentralisation of powers so as to vest officers at all levels with adequate powers to deal effectively with such complaints.

Import of Stainless Steel

*349. Shri Wodeyar: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of workers in various stainless steel factories in India have been thrown out of employment on account of the recent restriction on the import of stainless steel sheets; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) One or two factories have reported that owing to shortage of materials, their factories will have to be closed or slowed down.

(b) Unless more foreign exchange resources are available, it will be difficult to increase import of stainless steel.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में पंच यत्न

*३५०. श्री १८ देव : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री १५ अप्रैल, १९५८ के प्रतारकित प्रश्न संख्या २४३० के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में मैं यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में हिमाचल प्रदेश में पंचायतघरों के निर्माण के लिये प्राय-व्ययक कुछ राशि रक्ती गई थी ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष १९५७-५८ में कोई पंचायतघर न बनाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

गृह कार्य मंत्रालय में रजिस्टर-संख्या: (जी वातार) : (क) जी हां। इस काम के लिये दूसरी पंच साला योजना में चार