

Beautification of Temples in Assam

4168. SHRI PROBIN DEKA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Assam for financial assistance to beautify Kamakhya Temple and Maha Bhairab Temple, Tezpur in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) The Union Government have not received any proposal from Government of Assam seeking financial assistance for the beautification of Kamakhya Temple and Maha Bhairab Temple at Tezpur. However, based on the proposals received from Government of Assam, Union Government had sanctioned a project for construction of Pilgrim Cottages at Kamakhya for Rs.27.09 lakhs during 1992-93.

Employment under Gatt Agreement

4169. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether employment opportunities for Indian professionals which become possible under the GATT agreement in U.S.A. and other European countries are not being made available in these countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) does not deal with employment but it deals with the provision of services inter-alia as a part of a contract between companies.

[Translation]

EPF of Beedi Workers

4170. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Beedi workers covered under Employees Provident Fund Scheme in the country State-wise;

(b) whether the amount deducted from the salaries of the Beedi workers is deposited in their Provident Fund accounts;

(c) whether a large number of Beedi workers have not been covered under Provident Fund Scheme; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to cover all the Beedi workers, under Employees Provident Fund Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) According to available information number of Beedi workers covered under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme is 406384 in A.P., 10752 in Bihar, 718 in Gujarat, 269540 in Karnataka, 104148 in Kerala, 93931 in M.P., 121455 in Maharashtra, 686 in N.E. Region, 5160 in Orissa, 6522 in Rajasthan, 274814 in Tamil Nadu, 5863 in U.P. and 5449 in West Bengal.

(b) Yes, Sir. The amount deducted from the salaries and recovered by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation is deposited in the provident fund accounts of the subscribers.

(c) and (d) The Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 applies to factories/ establishments including Beedi establishments employing 20 or more persons. All the identified and eligible Beedi workers have been enrolled as members of the Employees Provident Fund. Identification and enrolment of the Beedi home workers as members of the EPF is an on-going process. For this purpose, the State Governments have been requested to locate and issue identity cards to facilitate coverage of all such workers under the EPF Scheme.

[English]

Business Generated by L.I.C. in Andhra Pradesh

4171. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of business generated by L.I.C. in Andhra Pradesh during the last three financial years;

(b) the corresponding investment by LIC in Andhra Pradesh during the same period;

(c) whether LIC follows any specific guidelines for making investments in the States where business is generated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) There are 9 Divisions of LIC of India in Andhra Pradesh. The total new business generated in these Divisions for the last 3 financial years is as follows :

Year	Policies	S.A. (Rs. Crores)
1992-93	1017625	3296.07
1993-94	1027594	3788.40
1994-95	1013966	5144.41

(b) Investment made by LIC during the last three years in Andhra Pradesh are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) Investment of the LIC's fund is governed by the provisions of modified Sector 27(a) of the Insurance Act 1938 as made applicable to the LIC and the guideline issued therein by the Government of India from time to time.