

(c) and (d) The matter has been discussed with officials of Bangladesh Govt. and both sides have agreed to cooperate in checking smuggling activities and share intelligence in this regard. Further, field formations are alert to check smuggling across Indo-Bangladesh border.

[English]

Smart Cards

505. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to introduce Smart Cards to replace the notes in day to day money transaction to reduce the pressure on printing and circulation of currency notes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Profit and Loss of LIC

506. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loss and profit of the Life Insurance Corporation of India during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) whether the expenditure on establishment and ancillary expenses on organising function by the L.I.C. has been mounting during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to hike the bonus for policy holders of the LIC;

(d) if so, since when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India have reported that due to long

term nature of insurance contracts and the uncertainty associated with future experience regarding deaths, expenses and interest earning the profit and loss for a particular year is not prepared like a trading or manufacturing firms, etc. However, valuing actuary determines 'surplus' every year based on prudent assumptions as to mortality, expenses and interest in the light of past experience.

The surplus declared in the Financial years 94-95 and 95-96 is as under:-

Valuation as at (Surplus)	Rs.
31.3.1995	3218.87 Crs.
31.3.1996	3433.93 Crs.

For 1996-97 the surplus has not been declared so far.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Bonus is declared by the LIC on the basis of valuation surplus available at the end of the financial year. The valuation surplus for the financial year 1996-97 has not been determined so far.

[English]

Foreign Assistance to Madhya Pradesh

507. SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved foreign assistance for some development projects in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount proposed to be spent on those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per the Statement attached.

Statement

On-going/approved externally aided projects in Madhya Pradesh

S.No.	Name of the Project	Donor	Total Project Cost	External Aid
1	2	3	4	5
On-going projects				
1.	Indore Slum Improvement	UK	Rs. 34.54 crore	Pds. 14.4 million
2.	Rewa Hospital	OPEC	Rs. 57.56 crore	US \$ 10 million
3.	MP Forestry	WB	US \$ 67.3 million	US \$ 58 million
4.	Eco. Development Project*	WB	US \$ 67 million	US \$ 48 million