

Two constitution benches are proposed to be set up, to decide matters involving interpretation of the provisions of the constitution.

Policy regarding Negotiations with LIC Employees

623. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has in recent times changed its policy to hold negotiations with their employees in settling their charter of demands;

(b) whether the demands made by LIC employees in their charter of demands in 1977 were prolonged to April, 1985;

(c) whether the negotiations started from 8 January, 1988 for the revision of pay scales of LIC employees have been settled; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to restore the old practice of settling the demands as expeditiously as was done in 1970 and 1974?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. A notification has also been issued on 12th May, 1989, revising wages and other service conditions of Class III and Class IV employees of L.I.C. of India.

(d) Does not arise.

Indravati Multi-Purpose Project of Orissa

624. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTAIAK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES

be pleased to state:

(a) whether Upper Indravati Multi-Purpose Project is under construction in the State of Orissa;

(b) if so, since when, the amount sanctioned and the area (acres) going to be irrigated alongwith the locations; and

(c) whether Government have made any assessment regarding its progress and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). Upper Indravati Multipurpose Project was taken up for execution in September, 1978 at an estimated cost of Rs. 208 crores envisaging irrigation to about 1.85 lakh hectares in Kalahandi District. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 619 crores. The assessment made on its progress indicated that by the end of Seventh Plan, an irrigation potential of 4600 hectares would be created.

IMF Loans to Pay External Debts

625. SHRISAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the country's external debts at present;

(b) whether Government are considering for another IMF loan to get rid of these debts; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) The total external debt out-