

Claims from Insurance Corporation

720. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA-
GAVIT:
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the losses/claims received by the General Insurance Corporation of India after the recent riots in Bombay and Gujarat in the aftermath of the Ayodhya events; and

(b) the details regarding the claims paid on account of the losses suffered during the riots in Bombay alone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLAIMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Details of claims reported in Bombay and Gujarat are given below:

<i>No. Reported (Provisional)</i>	<i>Estimated Claim amount (Rs. in crores)</i>
Bombay	1773 43.06
Gujarat	1441 31.64

(b) In Bombay run on 90 claims, including 14 claims that have been withdrawn or treated as 'no claim', had been settled for an amount of Rs. 53.25 lakhs till 22.02. 1993.

Social Insurance Scheme for Journalists

721. SHRIR. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the attack on media persons in Ayodhya and several other

parts of the country, the Government propose to introduce a social insurance scheme for journalists;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). The Workmen Compensation, Act, 1923 provides for payment of compensation in the case of injury by accident arising out of and in the course of employment and resulting in disablement/death. The Expert Committee for Newspaper employees appointed by the Government had in its report of 15th Jan. 1991 recommended inter-alia inclusion of the "newspaper employees on outdoor duties" in schedule II of the W.C. Act, 1923 so as to make them eligible for compensation under the Act. The recommendations of the Committee were accepted by the Central Govt. and in August, 1991 State Govts./UT adms. were requested to add such employees to the list of hazardous occupations specified in schedule II of the Act. The ESI Scheme which provides for medical care, dependent benefits, etc. has also been extended by most State Governments to the newspaper establishments employing 20 or more persons. As such the question of introduction of a Social Insurance Scheme exclusively for journalists does not arise.

[Translation]

Seizure of Gold, Silver and Foreign Currency

722. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether gold, silver, benami Accounts