PAYMENT TO POLICY HOLDERS

1884. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWA-MI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be Pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are considering to make the payment to those policy holders within the minimum time whose policies were closed before three years;
- (b) if so, the minimum duration after which the deposited amount will be paid to the policy holders; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) If the premiums are not paid for a minimum period of 3 years, an insurance policy lapses without acquiring a paid-up value. No payment is made towards a lapsed policy.

SETTING UP OF STATE LEVEL COMMITTEES BY RBI

1885. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has set up State-level committees to promore exports and resolve the problems relating thereto;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total increase in exports likely to take place as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) with a view to sorting out expeditiously the infrastructural and operational prob-

lems which impede the growth of exports, has decided to set up with the help of the State Governments and other organisations, State Level Export Promotion Committees (SLEPC) to exclusively deal with all matters relating to exports. The lead bank of the State would be the convenor of the SLEPC meetings. The Chief Executive of the bank who acts as Chairman of the State level Bankers Committee will also act as the Chairman of SLEPC.

(c) The quantum of increase in export credit as a result of the Constitution of SLEPC is difficult to assess. However, it is expected that by removal of infrastructural & operational problems, SLEPC will certainly give a boost to the growth of exports of the country.

[English]

RURAL WELFARE BOARD

1886. SHRI RAM NIHORE RAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Gujarat State has appointed a separate Commissioner for rural labour and has also created Rural Welfare Board:
- (b) whether similar set ups are also proposed to be created in other States and Union Territories; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure that these are manned by suitably qualified and motivated persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

ENQUIRY INTO AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS

1887. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (FEROZEPUR):

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state;

- (a) the details of the accidents to Indian registered aircraft during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Government have enquired into all these accidents;
- (c) if so, the main findings/recommendations of each such enquiries/investigations;
- (d) whether the Government have implemented all these recommendations;
- (e) if not, the details of the recommendations which have not been implemented;
 - (f) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIA-TION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The details of accidents to Indian-registered aircraft from 1-1-90 are as follows:—

Air India aircraft 1 Indian Airlines aircraft

Non Scheduled operators' aircraft

Total

- (b) Investigations have been conducted/ ordered into all the above accidents.
- (c) Of the above accidents, only the following 3 were major ones in terms of casualties.
 - (i) Accident to Indian Airlines A-320 aircraft at Bangalore on 14-2-90.
 - (ii) Accident to Indian Airlines B-737 aircraft near Imphal on 16-8-91.
 - (iii) Accident to Indian Airlines B-737 aircraft near Aurangabad on 26-4-93.

The reports of the Courts which inquired into the accidents at Bangalore and Imphal alongwith Government's decisions on the findings and recommendations have respectively been laid on the table of Parliament on 10-1-91 and laid in the Parliament House Library vide index No. 363. 12465R N-1, on 2-9-92. The accident which took place near Aurangaoad on 26-4-93 is under investigation.

(d) to (f) Of a total of 191 recommendations made by Courts of inquiry/ Committees of inquiry Inspectors of Accidents during the period 127 have been implemented. 21 recommenda-tions have not been accepted by the Government. 5 of the accepted recommendations were not found feasible subsequently. The remaining 38 recommendations, which are either recent or involve longterm measures, are in the process of implementation.

STREAMLINING OF INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT

1888. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards growing perception of malpractices in the Incometax Department as reported in the Hindustan Times dated April 30, 1993;
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to take some steps to simplify and streamline the procedure and to check the malpractices prevailing in the department;
- (c) if so, the details of the revamping programme in this regard; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Simplification and streamlining of procedures is a continuous process in the Department. A number of steps have already been taken in this respect. These include processing of returns under Section 143(1)(a) of the Income Tax Act, without calling the assessees, ensuring that the returns filed by the taxpayers are assessed quickly and refunds are issued with min mum delays whereever required. Additional posts have also been sanctioned in different grades to reduce the workload with the Assessing Officers. A number of administrative