

(b) The total number of employees engaged in these gardens is 3198, excluding those in Kumai tea estate.

(c) Yes, subject to availability of funds, services and materials.

**Amount spent on air journey by L.I.C. officers**

2096. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on air journeys by Life Insurance Corporation officers in the country in last three years, year-wise;

(b) Is it a fact that some officers did not perform the journey even after purchase of ticket and even refund was not taken; and

(c) total amount spent on purchase of the tickets by L.I.C. officers and the journey not performed in last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**इस्पात का उत्पादन और मांग**

2097. श्री मोती भाई शारदा चौधरी : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पाठशाला भवनों, चिकित्सालयों और होटलों जैसे सार्वजनिक संस्थानों के निर्माण के लिये उचित मूल्य पर इस्पात उपलब्ध कराने को सुनिश्चित करने हेतु कोई कदम उठाने का विचार है ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूति और इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी) : पाठशाला भवनों, चिकित्सालयों, होस्टलों आदि सार्वजनिक संस्थाओं के निर्माण के लिए इस्पात की सप्लाई के लिए संयुक्त संघ

समिति द्वारा बनाई गई एक योजना पहले से चल रही है। सप्लाई इस योजना के अनुसार की जाती है बशर्ते कि माल उपलब्ध हो।

**Setting up of Civil Supplies Corporations in States**

2098. SHRI S. R. A. S. APPALANAI DU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to set up Civil Supplies Corporations for different States and Union Territories for distribution of essential commodities at controlled prices; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) & (b) Civil Supplies Corporations are to be set up by the concerned State Governments. Such Corporations exist in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The States of Manipur, Sikkim and Union Territory of Delhi are also considering setting up of such Corporations. The Civil Supplies Corporation wherever it exists is entrusted with handling essential commodities for the Public Distribution System in the State.

**Group Insurance of L.I.C. for U.P. Govt. Employees**

2099. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme of group insurance of L.I.C. for Uttar Pradesh Employees in Uttar Pradesh,

(b) whether Government are considering to discontinue it;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;