

Cancellation of Policies by LIC

4928. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected by Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) due to cancellation of policies being discontinued in the mid period during each of the last three years;

(b) whether there is any proposal to make proportionate payment to the policy holders whose policies are cancelled;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). Nothing is accrued to the reserve under the life insurance policy which lapses without acquiring any paid-up value for non-payment of premium in time during the first 3 years of the policy, since the cost of procuring a policy and the initial expenses outweigh the premiums collected under the policy. In case the policy lapses after acquiring the paid-up value, the policy is not cancelled, but life insurance cover continues for the proportionately reduced value known as paid-up value and the same is payable at the time of claim whether by death or by maturity, together with the accrued bonuses, if any, to the policyholder or his/her nominees or legal heirs.

[English]

Financial Assistance to Tamil Nadu

4929. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance sanctioned during the current financial year so far to the Government of Tamil Nadu to

supplement its efforts to start nutritional noon-meal scheme and also for providing foot-wear to school going children and old ladies;

(b) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has asked for more financial assistance for the above purpose; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). The schemes appear both in the plan and the non-plan budget of the Government of Tamil Nadu. For the plan schemes, the State Governments are given Central assistance in the form of block loan and block grant, not related to specific projects. The current year's plan outlay of Tamil Nadu is fully funded by State's own resources and Central assistances. The schemes appearing on the non-plan side are financed out of State's own resources.

No financial assistance was sought for by the Government of Tamil Nadu for the above purpose.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

[Translation]

Ordnance Factory, Kanpur

4930. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of main armaments manufactured in the Ordnance factory at Kanpur;

(b) whether the Government have entered into contracts with private companies

and contractors for supply of armaments which are manufactured in this Ordnance factory also;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to maintain quality, credibility and secrecy of the armaments and to check its adverse effect on the future of the employees of this Factory?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No complete armament is manufactured in the Ordnance factory, Kanpur. Only assemblies/components used in the manufacture of armaments and various types of ammunition hardware are manufactured in that factory.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.

[English]

Job Reservation to Fishermen in Visakhapatnam Port Trust

4931. **SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the job reservation facility to fishermen in Visakhapatnam Port Trust; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Trade Between India and France

4932. **SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:** Will

the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to increase the trade between India and France;

(b) whether the Government have also identified various sectors for increasing Indo-French collaboration and attracting French investments in India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) Steps taken to increase the trade between India and France include (i) regular bilateral discussions at official and Ministerial level, exchange of trade and industry delegations, and (ii) participation in trade fairs, exhibitions, seminars, training programmes and buyer-seller meets.

(b) and (c). Some possible areas identified for increased French investment in India are computer software, food processing, telecommunications, pollution control, chemicals, solar energy, etc.

Shipping Tonnage for Inter-port Movement of Cargo

4933. **SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:**
SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KON-
ATHALA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the shipping tonnage available in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to enhance the shipping tonnage for inter-port movement of cargo; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?