

(d) whether Government propose to ensure that the policies taken under the above scheme will not be allowed to lapse in view of the obstacles created?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL):** (a) Yes, Sir. The Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. has recently stopped recovery of life insurance premiums of its employees under the Salary Savings Scheme of the Life Insurance Corporation when the Corporation did not agree to its demand for increase in the service charges which are being paid at a uniform rate to various employers.

(b) The premium involved in the Scheme is Rs.54 lakhs per annum.

(c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has been requested to ask the Company to review its stand.

(d) To protect the interests of the policyholders in question the LIC has offered special concessions in the matter of revival of the policies including waiver of (i) health requirements, (ii) interests on overdue premiums and (iii) interest while converting policies to ordinary scheme policies. These concessions will remain in force till 31.12.1977.

#### **Defective Promotion Policy of L.I.C.**

4248. **SHRI BALAK RAM:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware about the defective promotion policy of the LIC which virtually provides enormous powers to the management for encouragement of bossism, favouritism and nepotism in the Corporation;

(b) whether he is also aware that Scheduled Castes/Tribes are made to suffer as out of 100 marks 70 marks are awarded by the Management for confidential reports and Interview leaving only 30 per cent marks for other qualifications of the candidate; and

(c) whether a representation regarding irregularities in promotion of High

Grade Assistant in July, 1977 in Lucknow Division has been received by him, if so the action taken thereon and if not the reasons, for apathetic attitude to the cause at Harijans?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL):** (a) The L.I.C. Promotion Regulations 1976 do not provides powers to the management for encouragement of bossism, favouritism and nepotism in the Corporation.

(b) The aforesaid regulations have prescribed among other things criteria for selection as seniority, Qualifications, Confidential Reports and Interview. These criteria apply to all candidates eligible for promotions and do not put the SC/ST candidates at a disadvantage as compared to other candidates. However, the Corporaion has granted the following relaxations in the case of SC/ST candidates:—

(i) Even though in terms of promotion Regulations, 1976, eligible candidates equal to not more than 5 times the number of vacancies can be called for interview, all eligible candidates belonging to SC/ST irrespective of whether they are within 5 times the number of vacancies or not are called for interview.

(ii) Even though the standard of passing in the written test has been fixed at 50 per cent, in the case of candidates belonging to SC/ST it has been fixed at 40 per cent.

(iii) The minimum marks to be obtained by SC/ST candidates for being selected are as follows:—

(a) Qualifications and Seniority ..11 out of 30

(b) Confidential Report ..24 out of 40

(c) Interview ..12 out of 30

(iv) The vacancies are reserved for them as per the Roster.

(c) A representation has been received and is under consideration in consultation with L.I.C.