

**Shri Kasliwal:** The hon. Minister has given figures about the progress made in foreign business by this Life Insurance Corporation. But I do not know whether the Minister is aware of the fact that in countries of East Africa and other countries there is a lot of competition with British and Commonwealth insurance companies who insure Indians on the same life expectancy as Britishers or Australians or South Africans. May I know whether the Life Insurance Corporation has introduced a similar scheme to that effect for Indians in those countries?

**Dr. B. Gopala Reddi:** In spite of the competition, perhaps in British East Africa the business is on the increase; and in Malaya and Singapore it is also steady almost.

**Shri Kasliwal:** May I know whether the Life Insurance Corporation has introduced a new scheme for Indians living in East Africa, a scheme other than what is prevalent here?

**Dr. B. Gopala Reddi:** I do not think there is any other new scheme prevalent in those countries. Whatever is being done here is being done in those countries.

श्री विभूती मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कौन कौन से देशों में आकार यह व्यापार घट्छा होने वाला है, और उस पर हमारी सरकार किस प्रकार से जर दे रही है ।

**Dr. B. Gopala Reddi:** In Malaya and Singapore, British East Africa and Fiji, business is on the increase. In Hong Kong, Mauritius, Aden and U.K. and others it is just picking up.

**Shri Raghunath Singh:** May I know whether L.I.C. has opened offices in those countries and, if so, how many offices have been opened, and what is the scheme to open new offices in those countries, that is Singapore, Malaya and East Africa?

**Dr. B. Gopala Reddi:** In U.K. they have recently opened an office, only in November 1960. About other offices I have no information.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** What is the amount of premium received during the years mentioned in the reply to the main question, from these countries?

**Dr. B. Gopala Reddi:** It all depends—they have got a table. About the sum assured I have given the figures, and it can be calculated. I do not have the figures with me just now.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member may look into the Year Book.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** My question was about the premium amount, because it varies from country to country. It is only from that that we can calculate the foreign exchange that has accrued to our country.

**Dr. B. Gopala Reddi:** I require notice for that.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members are very anxious about foreign exchange. I would personally leave it to the Finance Minister. This is his headache.

#### Air-Dropping of Food in Naga Hills Region

\*1052, **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether bags of food stuffs were carried by an Air Force Dakota from Rowriah and were dropped in the Naga Hills region on the 25th January this year;

(b) if so, the quantity of food so dropped;

(c) whether the Dakota was required to reduce its load on its way and as such had to drop several bags of rice etc. in the neighbouring villages of Jorhat;

(d) if so how much of food stuff was dropped there;

(e) whether the air-dropping of food stuffs mentioned in part (c) above caused injury to some villages and

(f) if so, how many were injured?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) Yes Sir.

(b) About 22 tons.

(c) No, Sir. There was no such incident on 25th January 1961.

(d) Therefore, does not arise.

(e) No report of this nature has been made to the Air Force authorities..

(f) Does not arise.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** May I know what was the carrying capacity of this particular aircraft, what were the actual loadings and whether there was an actual check-up before the aircraft took off?

**Sardar Majithia:** All aircraft are properly loaded according to the standards laid down by the operators. This aircraft was no exception. Normally a Dakota carries about 600 lbs.

**Shri Tangamani:** There was a report in the newspapers that one of the Dakotas engaged in dropping these food packets was found missing. May I know whether there is any truth in that?

**Sardar Majithia:** That does not arise out of this question. If notice is given, I will certainly answer it.

**Mr. Speaker:** This is about 'air-dropping of food in Naga Hills region'. If Dakota after Dakota disappears, how can food be dropped?

**Sardar Majithia:** This question was regarding the incident which is supposed to have occurred on the 25th of January in regard to which I have said that no such incident occurred. All the sorties on this particular day were carried out and there was no missing Dakota on that day. If the hon. Member is talking of some other day, if he gives me notice, I shall certainly answer.

**Shri Tangamani:** I had tabled a short notice question, but it has been

rejected. At least, I would like to know whether there is any contradiction of that.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister has not said that he would not answer. He only says that this does not arise out of the main question. He has got information only regarding this question.

**Shri Raghunath Singh:** I had also put a short notice question, but it has been rejected.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister is not bound to accept the short notice question.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** In reply to part (c) of the question, the hon. Minister has stated that no such incident took place on the 25th January, 1961. May I know whether several bags of rice had to be dropped on any other day near about the 25th January, whether on the 24th, or 26th or 27th of January, 1961?

**Sardar Majithia:** As I said, food is carried for this food-dropping area, and food is continuously being dropped. There was one incident, not on the 25th, but on the 21st January, when one of the Dakotas developed some engine trouble, with the result that the food supplies, in that particular case were dropped on the airfield itself; and no damage was reported to any of the civilians.

While on that, I would like to correct also the answer which I gave just a little while ago in reply to a supplementary question. I said that the capacity was 600 lbs; actually, 6000 lbs is the capacity of a Dakota.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** May I know the number of Dakotas that are engaged in this air-dropping, and whether all the Dakotas are safe or whether any of them is missing?

**Sardar Majithia:** So far as the number of Dakotas is concerned, it will not be in the public interest to disclose the number of Dakotas which are operating in that area.

**Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** May I know whether besides the Air force Dakotas, any contract has been given to any private airlines for dropping food articles in these areas?

**Sardar Majithia:** No contract has been given by the Defence Ministry.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** May I know the reasons that necessitated the reducing of the load while the Dakota was in the air?

**Sardar Majithia:** As I said earlier in my answer, on the 21st of January, and not on the 25th of January, it developed some engine trouble, and, therefore, it had to reduce some load.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** On a point of order. The hon. Minister was just now heard to say that no contract had been given by the Defence Ministry. It looks that the contract has been given, and the hon. Minister is in the know of the things, but he wants to evade the answer. The contract has probably been given by some other Ministry of Government. After all, this is one Government, and if the hon. Minister knows the fact, he must say that the contract has not been given by the Defence Ministry, but it has been given by some other Ministry. But whether the contract as such has been given or not is a fact on which we are interested in getting an answer.

**Mr. Speaker:** I find some difficulty in this. There is no question of any point of order in this. The hon. Member may know something; and the hon. Minister also may know something besides what is happening in his own Ministry; in that case, the hon. Member would not leave him alone. If the hon. Minister says that some other Ministry has arranged then the hon. Member will go into the details and ask what the quantity is and so on, even though some other Ministry may be in charge of it, and they may not be content merely with a statement of what the hon. Minister knows; they will pursue that matter. If once the hon. Minister undertakes this kind of job, hon. Members will

start pursuing it further. I would, therefore, advise all Ministers, to keep within the limits of their jurisdiction, just as the Deputy Ministers are doing. It would be dangerous to go into the jurisdiction of others, because they would not be allowed to state merely what they know about their Ministry, but will be compelled to answer about other things.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** That would mean that there are separate Governments and one Ministry does not care for another Ministry.

**Mr. Speaker:** No, there are no separate Governments, but there is allocation of work between the different Ministries, and allocation of days between them. Otherwise, I can allow questions to be put here even with respect to the Ministries whose turn is not there today; as in Australia, I can allow all Members to put questions as they like, offhand, without previous notice, because the whole Government is bound to know. There is allocation of portfolios here, and, therefore, there is no meaning in putting this sort of question.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** My only point was this. He may give only this much information that it has been given by some other Ministry, and further information can be elicited from the Ministry concerned.

**Mr. Speaker:** No, I would not allow this. It is not within the province of the hon. Minister. If he knows casually, then, the question will be asked whether he is correct and so on; he may or may not know. It is not as if every food bag comes before the Cabinet.

Next question.

#### **Advance by Banks Against Foodgrains**

\*1053. **Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank has relaxed regulations regarding advance by banks against foodgrains; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?