

(b) whether Government have allotted any house-site to public of that area for the last 7 years;

(c) whether Government are constructing single-storey Government quarters despite protests made by people's representatives in Chief Commissioner's and Home Minister's Advisory Committee meetings and in spite of their requests to construct double-storey buildings to minimise land requirement;

(d) if so, the reasons for constructing single-storey buildings only;

(e) whether the Chief Commissioner and certain others have been permitted to construct double-storey buildings and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) whether Government propose to start double-storey buildings there in view of land shortage?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Iqbal Singh):** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. However, about 500 sites have been located within the municipal area for allotment to members of the public.

(c) to (f). By and large, single-storeyed quarters have been built because of the inadequate pressure of water. Some double-storeyed houses also have been built in areas where the pressure of water is adequate. New water supply distribution lines are being provided and the work is expected to be completed in a few months. It is proposed to construct double-storeyed houses thereafter.

No permission is needed by the Chief Commissioner and others for constructing double-storeyed buildings.

#### Strike by L.I.C. Employees

8676. **Shri Virendra Kumar Shah:**  
**Shri Samar Guha:**  
**Shri K. P. Singh Deo:**  
**Shri N. S. Shivappa:**  
**Shri Meetha Lal Meena:**

**Shri D. C. Sharma:**

**Shri D. N. Patodia:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the staff of the Life Insurance Corporation throughout the country went on a day's strike on the 25th July, 1967; and

(b) if so, what were their demands and Government's reaction thereto?

**The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai):** (a) and (b). Class III & IV Employees belonging to the All India Insurance Employees' Association went on a day's token strike on 25th July, 1967 to protest against introduction of automation in the Corporation.

Government considers that the introduction of automation is essential for the efficient handling of the growing business of the Life Insurance Corporation.

#### "Sale of Confiscated Articles"

8677. **Shri Sradhakar Supakar:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state.

(a) whether any minimum price of articles confiscated by the Customs authorities is fixed before they are put to auction; and

(b) the steps taken to ensure that no article is sold either in lots or in singles at less than the minimum price fixed?

**The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Where the minimum price fixed is not reached, the goods are withdrawn and put up for sale in subsequent auctions. In case the minimum price is not reached even then, sale by tender is resorted to. In exceptional cases sale by private negotiation is also undertaken and the goods are sold to the best advantage of the Government.