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Title: Need for pension and welfare fund for LIC agents.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Thousands of agents of Life Insurance Corporation of India are on a demonstration in Delhi yesterday. They were demanding pension, welfare fund, Central Provident Fund, amendment to their gratuity rule, rejection of Narasimhan Committee Report, withdrawal of criteria of 15 per cent lapse, inclusion of these agents in the Sales Promotion Employees Act. Some other demands were also made. LIC is one of the prestigious institutions in the public sector of our nation and we are all proud of it. The strongest pillars of LIC are the agents who are carrying the message of LIC to the people. I would urge upon the hon. Finance Minister to look upon their grievances in a befitting manner, to call them for a conference and also to respond to their grievances in a positive way.