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Title: Need to take steps to prevent closure of branches of private insurance companies in the country particularly in Kerala.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMATHITTA): Private insurance companies are closing their branches unexpectedly. One of such companies has closed down 10 branches in Kerala during the last three years. The company has also sacked 484 sales managers, 859 agents during this period. The Company collected Rs. 75,19,80,175/- as premium. Due to the declined customer services, 72 per cent of the collected premium amount will accrue to the Company. At the same time, the customers will lose their full amount on the pretext of discontinuing premium remittance before the minimum lock-in period. Staff and agents have not been granted the requisite benefits. For these reasons, policy-holders, staff and agents of this company are in agony. Therefore, I request the Government to kindly order an inquiry into this issue and take proper action in this regard. I also request the Government to take urgent measures for preventing such incidents in future.