

Saurashtra, Gujarat, is a place of workshop of great importance. It is also a temple of antiquity and beauty.

After the 1975 cyclone, it was damaged, but no repairs were conducted.

In October, 1981, another cyclone hit the temple and the structure was much affected and cracked up.

The Archaeological survey of India carried out an inspection of the building, made a survey and they closed their office without making any concrete suggestions for repairs or budget provision.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government to make specific budget provision this year for this and therefore would like that this matter be discussed in the House very early.

(iv) SATYAGRAHA BY INSPECTORS OF GENERAL INSURANCE INDUSTRY FOR REDRESSAL OF THEIR GRIEVANCES.

SHRI T. S. NEGI (Tehri Garhwal): The Inspectors of General Insurance industry (subsidiary companies: 1. National Insurance Co. Ltd., 2. New India Assurance Co. Ltd., 3. Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd., 4. United India Insurance Co. Ltd.) are on relay hunger strike at Boat Club, New Delhi, from 22nd March onwards.

They are observing 'satyagraha' to focus the attention of the Parliament and Government towards the mismanagement existing in the general insurance industry. Inspector also suffer because of the fact that their promotion and pay depend on the policy limit fixed for them. But since taken care of by the officers, the policyholders get annoyed and refuse to take policy. Therefore, the inspectors suffer.

The General Insurance Companies are unable to:

1. Deliver Insurance documents to its clients.

2. Settle, process and pay claims on the policies quickly and in fact in many cases, they are just not paying any claims or making inadequate compensation.

3. Accept business from the weaker section of the society. On paper they advertise that they are insuring cattle, pumpsets, hull (country craft), crops, etc. but in actual practice they are refusing to do these insurance.

4. Charge uniform premium rates. They quote premium rates at their sweet will depending on the type of the client. For burglary insurance of shops containing similar commodity, the companies may charge Rs. 6 per thousand and in some cases may charge Rs. 2 per thousand.

5. Insure under uniform pattern. They insure at their whims and fancy. If they feel like, they will insure the goods, and if they do not feel like, they will refuse the insurance. No one in the company can give sufficient and good cause for these acts.

They are on hunger strike, because they have to face the clients and sell insurance. Today they are unable to keep up the promises they make to the clients while taking their insurance. The Companies of insurance just do not want to work. Higher officers do not care because their pay and promotions depend on their seniority.

Therefore, if the Government and General Insurance Corporation want to do some thing to better the existing state of affairs, kindly probe deeper into the activities of General Insurance Companies and get their grievances redressed at the earliest.

SHRI HARIKESH BIHADUR (Gorakhpur): Sir, I support his statement. I had also gone there to-day to visit them.