

**SHRI K R GANESH** Actually what the hon. Member wants to know I think, is this The Association of Central Excise Organisation has been from time to time representing that there is stagnation at various levels

**श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :** सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने इस मिलसिले में कोई जजमेंट दिया है जिस की वजह से उन की सीनियोरिटी पर प्रभाव पड़ा इस की चर्चा इस में है

**SHRI K R GANESH** There has been representation that there is stagnation at certain levels, and as a result of this representation certain decisions have been taken with a view to seeing that the stagnation is lessened. Therefore, the question of seniority list in this does not come. But the fact is that there has been representation. We are looking into it. Also in the context of the pay Commission's recommendations and also the Self Removal Procedure Committee which is now going into it certain decisions will be taken.

**श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :** मंत्री महोदय ने जो जवाब दिया उसको मैं समझा नहीं।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** मैं तो रोक्ता नहीं हूँ। जो कुछ आप उन से निकाल सकते हैं, निकाल लें। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने क्या कहा है। क्या जजमेंट मंत्री महोदय के पाम है।

**SHRI K R GANESH** For that particular question about Supreme Court judgment I will require notice

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय** जो उत्पादन शुल्क अधिकारी और सीमा शुल्क अधिकारी हैं उन की संख्या आप ने 612 और 200 से कुछ ऊपर बतलाई है। उन का प्रमोशन विभाग से नहीं होता है। अधिकांश संख्या की सीधी भरती होती है जिस के कारण उन की विभागीय उन्नति रुक जाती है। ऐसे कितने प्रतिशत आप ने बाह्य से लेने का निश्चय किया है और विभाग से कितने

प्रतिशत लोगों की उन्नत करने का निश्चय किया है।

**SHRI K R GANESH** From the information that I have at present I think there is a category fixed and a proportion has been fixed from which promotions will be made and the rest of the category is done by direct recruitment.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE** What is that proportion? Let the Minister find out and give it if he has not got it now.

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :** मेरा मीधा सवाल था

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** वह बता दिया उन्होंने। (ध्यक्ष) जब आप स्पेसिफिक बात पर आ जाते हैं तो बड़ी मुश्किल हो जाती है।

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** आप की मुश्किल थोड़े ही होती है, मुश्किल तो उन को होती है।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** मेरी मुश्किल नहीं मुझे तो कुछ रेजीमि की लिए आप ने बैठा रखा है। अगर यह मेरा काम न हो तो मैं बड़े मजे से बैठा रहूँ और देखता रहूँ।

#### Increase in L.I.C Business

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**SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation's business has considerably increased in the recent years, and

(b) if so the reasons for not reducing the premium on Endowment policies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

## STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir. The new business transacted by the LIC during the last five years is as under:

(In crores of rupees)

1967-68	844.47
1968-69	929.35
1969-70	1036.08
1970-71	1303.08
1971-72	1639.89

(b) The LIC reduced the premium rates under certain *without-profit* plans of assurances with effect from 1st February, 1970 and under certain other *without-profit* plans with effect from 1st March, 1971, as actuarial considerations justified such reduction. These Plans included both whole life and endowment assurances. As regards with-profit plans of assurance (both whole life and endowment) in view of the uncertainty of the trend of future expenses the LIC decided, after a detailed review, to defer consideration of any provision of premium rates under these plans till such time as the expenses had stabilised, particularly since equity to with-profit policyholders can be ensured through the mechanism of bonus distribution.

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government would consider the desirability of reducing the premium rates on policies other than endowment policies? I would also like to know whether the ARC has recommended a reduction in the rates of premium and, if so, what is the reaction of the Government thereto and when will a decision be taken in this regard.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: The ARC has made certain recommendations as also the Morarka Committee for reduction in the premium rates. But the recommendation of the ARC was that there should be a substantial reduction in the premium so that the corporation could enter into the private sector.

The Government has thought over it and taking into consideration the national objective, because we want to utilise the investment in the national interest rather than in the interests of the policy-holders, the recommendations of the ARC have not been accepted.

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: I would like to know whether the increase in the volume of insurance business is from the upper classes or from the common man living in the remote villages.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: In the last two years there has been an expansion of the LIC's business in the rural areas though there is a disparity between the work in the urban areas and the rural areas, and there is definitely scope for improvement there.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : क्या यह सच है कि जीवन बीमा निगम का कारोबार बढ़ने का एक कारण यह है कि साल के अंत में बहुत सी पालिमीज लोगों को देने की कोशिश की जाती है जो एक या दो महीने बाद लैप्स हो जाती है और वह सारा हिसाब कारोबार के बढ़ने में जोड़ लिया जाता है। क्या इस बात का पता लगाने की कोशिश की गई है।

श्रीमती सुशीला रोहटगी : इस का पता लगाने का प्रयास किया गया है और यह ठीक है कि थोड़ी लैप्स की संख्या बढ़ी है।

एल० आई० सी० मे जीवन बीमा की यह नीति रही है और यह उसके हित मे कि हमारी पालिसीज कम से कम लैप्स हो क्योंकि उन के स्टार्ट करने मे हमारा ज्यादा रुपया खर्च होता है । तो यह उसके हित मे है कि हमारी कम मे कम पालिसीज लैप्स हो ।

**SHRI P VENKATASUBBAIAH**  
May I know whether in view of the fact that a large number of people from the rural areas are being involved in the LIC operations any concrete steps have been taken by the LIC to undertake projects that are intended for the amelioration of the rural areas like rural housing scheme and all that instead of investing amounts

**MR SPEAKER** The question is very specific—the reasons for not reducing the premium on Endowment policies

**SHRI P VENKATASUBBAIAH** My supplementary arises out of the spread of LIC business in the rural areas I want to know whether in view of the fact that the amount of LIC business in rural areas has increased due to expansion of branches in the rural areas any effective steps have been taken to take up these schemes that will help in the amelioration of the rural masses

**SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI**  
Though this question does not arise directly from the main question, since the hon Member has asked, I may tell him that certain concrete steps have been taken by the LIC for the expansion of business in the rural areas such as opening of branches in the rural areas and even making these territories into more compact units for greater intensive work. We are also doing our best in the sphere of publicity by providing more mobile vans, etc. All these are intended to help the rural areas.

**SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH:**  
Has the LIC any policy or any scheme under contemplation by which they will give housing loans to small towns of our country having population of less than 6 000 or so What they now do is they are giving loans to big metropolitan cities only Will the LIC consider giving loans to these small towns also?

**MR SPEAKER** This is too wide a question You are enlarging the scope of the question The scope is quite limited Here mention of the name LIC does not mean that you can think that every question is relevant If you want to reply I have no objection

**SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI**  
I am afraid I don't have all the details The main question relates to reduction in premium

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU** The LIC does two businesses if I may put it that way One is sale of policies. The other is investment Will the hon Minister tell us zone-wise what the figures are relating to investment and sale of policies?

**MR SPEAKER** You are very clever It is not relevant

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU** I beg your pardon Sir, it is quite relevant

**MR SPEAKER** Don't argue with me

**SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN** The Minister said that investment policy will be governed not only by the needs of the policyholders but by national considerations May I know from her what are the national priorities which the LIC has fixed in respect of investments?

**SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI**  
National priorities are the same everywhere That has to subserv to the community as a whole

**SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN** It is not a satisfactory answer

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):** National priority is to encourage investment in the country. That is a national priority. So far as LIC is concerned, to look after the interests of policyholders is the basic responsibility of the LIC. When we come to investment, naturally we have to see the national priority for the investment, we have to see that the investment is safe. Of course, we have got to make a choice when it comes to service to society, service to community. For that matter, we do give consideration to the rural areas and also loans raised by the State Governments with regard to housing schemes, water supply schemes etc. Investments are also made on this basis. So, some of these services to society are national priorities.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Next question.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS** *rose—*

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** You may kindly allow my supplementary question arising out of part (a) of the question...

**MR. SPEAKER:** Let not hon. Members make it a habit to take 15 minutes on every question. Normally, I find that I am not able to cover more than five or six questions during the Question Hour daily.

**SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY:** I wish to raise a point of order...

**MR. SPEAKER:** No points of order are allowed during the Question Hour. Let the hon. Member please sit down.

**SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY:** I rise on a point of submission...

**MR. SPEAKER:** We do not allow any points of order during the Question Hour.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** He is coming from Cuttack where there have been disturbances...

**SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY:** I may come from Cuttack or from Calcutta. I want to submit that supplementary question related to part (a) of the main question may be allowed.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Let the hon. Member please sit down.

**SHRI JOYTIRMOY BOSU:** That was my question also. Part (a) covered my supplementary question also, but you did not allow it. I did not wish to argue with you, Sir.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Next question Shri Piloo Mody. The hon. Member is absent. Next question. Shri Giridhar Gomango. The hon. Member is absent. I think he is really Go-mango. He is never present here I have been calling his name on questions every day almost for the last seven days, but he has never been present. He is really Go-mango.

Then, Shri Shiv Kumar Shastri. I think he has also gone with him. He is also absent.

#### **Opening of Branches of Nationalised Banks**

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267. **SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY:**  
**SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new branches opened by the fourteen Nationalised Banks in the last two years, State-wise; and

(b) the number of Branches opened in the rural areas?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):**

(a) The 14 nationalised banks opened 2269 offices during the two years 1970 and 1971. State-wise distribution of these offices is given in the Statement placed on the Table of the House.