

Rs. 1 lakh per policy issued at ordinary rates.

(e) No, Sir. No medical examination is necessary for revival of lapsed policies during the period of special revival campaign. Only a self-declaration of good health is obtained from the policyholders.

Law for Public Buying

4395. SHRI NARSINH SURYA-WANSHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to news item in 'Deccan Herald' dated 8th November, 1987 titled "Government contemplates law for public buying" and state :

(a) whether there is a need for better coordination with State Governments and their store purchase organisations ; and

(b) if so, the directions issued to States in this regard and how far these have been implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) and (b). The Central Purchase Advisory Council of the Department of Supply, at its meeting held on 7.11.87, commended better coordination between the Director General of Supplies and Disposals and the State Governments and their Store Purchase Organisations. It is proposed to discuss important aspects of public buying in a meeting with State Government Representatives early next year. However, since the State Governments are free to make their own purchases the question of issuing any directions would not arise.

Transfer of SC/ST Officers in Bank of Baroda

4396. SHRI SIMON TIGGA :
SHRI R.P. SUMAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had issued directives in the year 1985 to all the nationalised banks not to transfer SC/ST officers to far-off places and also not to post them to insignificant points;

(b) whether Bank of Baroda is still transferring the SC/ST officers to far-off places inspite of above instructions;

(c) whether SC/ST officers already transferred to far-off places by the Bank of Baroda from 1985 onwards have not yet been posted to the places of their choice near to their native places whereas the non SC/ST officers are being posted near to their native places; and

(d) if so, the remedial action Government propose to take in this regards ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) In pursuance of the instructions contained in Department of Personnel and Training O.M. No. 36026/3/85-Estt (SCT) dated 24.6.1985, the banks were advised to ensure that there was no discrimination against the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates in their transfers and postings on the grounds of their social origin.

(b) Bank of Baroda has reported that normally at the time of promotions, inter-state/inter-zone transfers in officers' cadres are done by it from surplus zones to deficit zones in the descending order of merit in the promotion list. In such transfers, no exemption is given to officers from the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe communities. Hence, officers from the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe communities whose names appear lower in the merit list are also transferred to the deficit zones from the surplus zones. The bank has, further reported that since more than 60% of its branches are located in rural and semi-urban areas, transfers of officers to these places are unavoidable. Further, since as per the requirements for promotions to Middle Management Grade Scale-II and III, rural experience of 2-3 years is necessary, all the officers, including Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe officers in these grades, are posted to rural areas for gaining the requisite experience so that they become eligible for next promotions.

(c) and (d). The Bank has informed that all officers, including Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Officers, who are subjected to inter-zone transfers, are normally re-transferred, on completion of 3 years in deficit zones, back to their home states provided they do not become due for transfer to rural/semi-urban centres. Such officers, on transfer back to their home state, are given posting at their original place of post-