

(a) whether any study has been conducted to assess the business generated by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in West Bengal during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) No such exclusive study has been conducted during the last 2 years. However, every month figures are collected in respect of new business figures in the form of number of policies, sum assured and first premium income. The figures are then consolidated for a financial year in respect of all Divisions of LIC in West Bengal.

(b) Following are the details of new business figures of LIC in respect of all the Divisions in West Bengal for the last two financial years:

	1993-94	1994-95
1. No. of Policies	931055	1000578
2. Sum Assured (Rs. in Lakhs)	310097.00	399883.00
3. First Premium Income (Rs. Lakhs)	9756.33	10608.84

(c) Study of growth rates pertaining to business in the States of West Bengal as against all India show that growth rate in the State are higher in respect of policies and first premium income. The growth rate for the year 1994-95 is less while for the year 1993-94 it was higher than the all India figure as may be observed from the following statement:

*Growth Rate (%)*

	<i>West Bengal</i>		<i>All India</i>	
	<i>93-94</i>	<i>94-95</i>	<i>93-94</i>	<i>94-95</i>
1. No. of Policies	10.4	7.5	1.16	1.4
2. Sum Assured	18.0	29.0	16.3	32.1
3. First Premium Income	24.0	8.7	18.1	5.3

[Translation]

**Labour Welfare Schemes**

2073. SHRI. CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes under operation for the labour level, Industrial pace and labour welfare;

(b) the details of the monitoring machinery provided for the proper implementation of these schemes; and

(c) the further steps taken to strengthen the monitoring machinery?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY):

(a) A statement is enclosed

(b) and (c). The Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM) headed by the CLC(C) is responsible for the enforcement of labour laws, and focuses special attention on the unorganised sector.

Nine offices of Welfare Commissioners functioning in different parts of the country are responsible for providing welfare facilities to the workers under the welfare Fund Schemes referred to in part (a).

Periodic inspections under the different labour laws are carried out by the competent authorities to ensure compliance with the provisions of the different Acts. The officers of the Ministry and its attached/subordinate offices also conduct inspections to ensure that benefits of the welfare schemes are extended to the workers.

**STATEMENT**

(a) In order to protect the interests of the workers the Central Government has provided for special allowance, as part of the Minimum wages in all the scheduled employments in the Central Sphere. The Special Allowance is linked to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and is revised every six months. The State Govt./UT Administrations have also been requested to provide for variable D.A. linked with Consumer Price Index as part of Minimum Wages to be revised every six months.

Compulsory Provident Fund Scheme, ESI Scheme, Personal Accident Insurance Scheme, Pension Scheme, etc. are some of the important schemes for the benefit of different categories of workers extended under the various labour laws.

Besides, the Ministry of Labour are administering five welfare funds for the mines, beedi and cine workers under the following Acts of Parliament.

1. The Iron Ore, Manganese Ore and Chrome Ore Mines LWF Act, 1976.
2. The Mica Mines LWF Act, 1947.
3. The Limestone and Dolomite Mines LWF Act, 1972.
4. The Cine Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1981, and
5. The Bedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976.

The Funds are utilised to implement welfare schemes for providing medical, educational, recreational, health, housing and water supply facilities to the workers.

For workers of poor families not covered under any insurance schemes or any Law/Statute, the Central Government has introduced a Personal Accident Insurance Security Scheme. This scheme is applicable to all persons in, the age group of 18-55 years who are earning members of poor families and meet with fatal accidents.

Some other schemes like Stat Welfare Fund Schemes for different categories of workers in the unorganised sector, Subsidised social security schemes for unorganised labour in 23 different occupation, group Insurance Schemes for landless

Agricultural Labour (LALGI) and Group Insurance Scheme for IRDP beneficiaries are also in operation for the benefit of workers.

The Scheme for ensuring industrial peace is contained in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 which provides a machinery for prevention and settlement of Industrial Disputes. A bipartite agreement known as 'Code of Discipline industry' was evolved in the year 1958 in the 15th Indian Labour Conference which provides for notices before strikes and lock-outs, recognition of unions and redressal of grievances of employees etc.

The Central Industrial Relation Machinery headed by the CLC(C) is also entrusted with the task of maintaining good industrial relations in the central sphere.

The Labour Relations Monitoring Unit in the Ministry of Labour monitors information on industrial relation throughout the country with the objective of taking timely action through preventive mediation for resolving industrial disputes and containing general industrial unrest.

Besides eleven Industrial Tribunal Cum Labour Courts have been set up under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 for adjudication of industrial disputes in organisations for which the Central Government is the appropriate Government.

The comprehensive scheme of employee participation in Management was also introduced in 1983 for ensuring better industrial relations.

[English]

**Trade Centre in Ahmedabad**

2074. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has set up an International Trade Centre in Ahmedabad; and

(b) if so, the details of assistance provided by the Union Government to the State Government for promoting exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.