

ing abroad, for the last three years, on whom Government have spent this amount?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: I have given the number of fresh applications. I have not got the details of those who are continuing to draw foreign exchange because of previous commitments. I have given figures for 1962 and 1963 and for January-March 1964, the figure is 301.

COL. B. H. ZAIDI: The hon. Finance Minister has stated that foreign exchange is limited. Would he be willing to cut down the unnecessary imports like terylene and hand over the savings for the purpose of studies abroad?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Sir, the question of the import of terylene is decided by my colleague, the Minister of Commerce, and I believe this terylene comes in as part of what they call export incentive. Some proportion of it is given for them to import goods which are either being manufactured in this country or are substitutes for wool. Therefore, the discretion is vested in him and one must presume that that discretion is being exercised well and wisely.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Has this come to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister that as there are no facilities or no powers given to the branches in different States of the Reserve Bank, it takes a long time for the students to approach the headquarters either at Bombay or at Madras to get the matter settled soon? Will he give some more powers to the Reserve Bank branches in the capitals of the States?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: If the hon. Member would give me instances, I am prepared to look into it.

जीवन बीमा निगम की इमारत में आग

*७३. श्री राम सहाय : क्या वित्त मंत्री ६ सितम्बर, १९६४ को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १५६ के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नई दिल्ली में जीवन बीमा निगम की इमारत में जो आग लगी थी उसके कारणों की जांच का क्या परिणाम निकला है ; और

(ख) इस आग के कारण कुल कितनी हानि हुई ?

†[FIRE IN L.I.C. BUILDING

*73. **SHRI RAM SAHAI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 156 in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th September, 1964 and state:

(a) the result of the enquiry made into the causes of fire which broke out in the Life Insurance Corporation building in New Delhi; and

(b) what is the total loss sustained as a result of this fire?]

वित्त मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री रामेश्वर साहू) : (क) जान पड़ता है कि आग बिजली के तार जल जाने (शाटे सर्किट) के कारण लगी थी ।

(ख) इण्डियन आयल कम्पनी का, जो एक किरायेदार है, लगभग २.२२ लाख रुपये का नुकसान होने का अनुमान है । इसके अलावा आग से उसके कुछ अभिलेख (रिकार्ड) भी जल गये ।

अनुमान है कि इमारत को २.३६ लाख रुपये की हानि पहुंची । चूंकि आग के खतरे से बचने का इमारत का पूरी कीमत का बीमा करा लिया गया है, इसलिए अनुमान है कि

†[] English translation.

इस क्षति की पूर्ति बीमा कम्पनी द्वारा की जायेगी ।

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR SAHU): (a) The fire appears to have been caused by an electrical short circuit.

(b) The loss to the Indian Oil Company, a tenant, is estimated at about Rs. 2.22 lakhs. In addition certain of its records were also destroyed.

The extent of the damage to the building itself is estimated at Rs. 2.36 lakhs. As the building is insured against fire risks for its full value, the loss, it is expected, will be made good by the insurance company.]

श्री राम सहाय : क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूँ कि इस आग की वजह से कुछ पालिसियां भी जल गई ?

श्री रामेश्वर साहु : आग लगने की वजह से कुछ रिकार्ड जल गये लेकिन पालिसियां जलीं इसका पता नहीं है ।

श्री राम सहाय : मेरी अर्ज यह है कि एल० आई० सी० ने पालिसी होल्डरों की जो पालिसियां इश्यू की थीं वे जली या नहीं ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Sir, we have been informed that in regard to policy records there has been no damage and if there is any special instance where the LIC has claimed that it is damaged and they cannot deal with the problem, we shall certainly ask them to look into it but so far our information is that the policy section is not affected.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Would Government disclose the name of the insurance company with which this LIC

building has been insured and whether the insurance company has raised any preliminary objection to the payment of the claim?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: The insurance company is the Oriental General Insurance Company. I have no information that they raised any objection; it is unlikely they will.

MAHALANOBIS COMMITTEE REPORT

*74. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have gone into Part I of the Mahalanobis Committee's Report on distribution of income and level of living submitted to Government in February, 1964; and

(b) if so, what action is proposed to be taken by Government to level the income in view of the statement that "the average incomes received by the contractors have registered the highest increase" contained in sub-para (6) of paragraph 55 of chapter 3 in the said Report?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR SAHU): (a) Pending the submission of Part II of the Report, the Ministries concerned are making a preliminary examination of the observations made in Part I.

(b) The Committee has stressed that the two parts of the Report should be treated as a whole in order to get a proper perspective on the questions referred to the Committee. Necessary action on the recommendations and findings of the Committee will, therefore, be taken after Government has considered the Report as a whole.

SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: The goal of the Government is democratic socialism but by creating a community called the contractors in the society, does Government think that fits in with the avowed policy of ours? Further, has the Minister got

† [] English translation.