

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI B. N. DATAR): (a) and (b) The information is being collected.

LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION

352. SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press reports alleging that the Life Insurance Corporation was encouraging bogus business to boost up figures in order to touch the target of 1000 crores annual business by 1963;

(b) if so, whether any investigation has been made into these allegations;

(c) whether it is a fact that the practice of declaring "first year lap-sation" has been discontinued since 1959; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Corporation has observed that it has no reason to suppose that the business done is bogus business or not of good quality. Nevertheless, the Corporation is keeping a strict watch on the figures of lapses and if any bad features are disclosed necessary corrective measures will be taken to remedy the situation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

TRAINING OF ENGINEERS IN AUSTRALIA UNDER COLOMBO PLAN

353. SHRI MAHABIR DASS: Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a batch of 24 engineers is likely to go to

Australia in the year 1962 for training under the Colombo Plan;

(b) if so, how many engineers have been selected from Bihar State; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what is the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM) : (a) to (c) Australian Government have offered facilities for training 24 persons in Australia under the Colombo Plan. The composition of the batch to be sent for training is not yet complete, and hence it is not possible to say at this stage as to how many engineers selected for training will be from Bihar State. It may be mentioned that the trainees are selected on the basis of requirements of the Plants and suitability of the men for training and not on the basis of the State from which they come.

BOOKS ON FOLK ART OF MATHILA

354. SHRI MAHABIR DASS: Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any books have been published on the folk art of Mathila out of the grant of Rs. 8000 sanctioned to Shri B. N. Jha, Artist (Bihar) in the year 1961-62; and

(b) if so, what are the names of those books; and if not, why not?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR) J (a) No such grant has been sanctioned by this Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.