

tion about life insurance in India and in finalising such life insurance proposals?

**SHRI B. R. BHAGAT:** It may be one of the reasons why the L. I. C. is thinking of setting up an office there to enrol direct business from London.

#### ABSENTEEISM IN DELHI SCHOOLS

**\*30. SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that absenteeism in Delhi Schools has of late assumed alarming proportions;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons for this; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to minimise this?

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### EXPLOSION OF INDIAN AIR FORCE PLANE NEARABOUT AGRA

**\*31. SHRI HARIHAR PATEL:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian Air Force plane exploded in mid-air nearabout Agra on the 23rd December, 1959; and

(b) if so, what were the reasons of the accident and what have been the losses on account of it?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to investigate the accident. The cause of the accident and the loss caused by it will be known after the proceedings have been finalised.

**SHRI HARIHAR PATEL:** May I know when the Court is likely to submit its report?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** When do you expect the thing to be submitted?

That is his question.

**SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA:** It should be with the Ministry in the next couple of months.

**SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND:** May I know the number of casualties in this accident?

**SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA:** Five.

**SHRI M. VALIULLA:** May I know if the plane was insured, and if so, for how much?

**SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA:** The plane was not insured, and it is not the policy of the Defence Ministry to insure Defence planes.

#### NATIONAL DISCIPLINE SCHEME

**\*32. SHRI HARIHAR PATEL:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the up-to-date progress of the National Discipline Scheme;

(b) whether the result of the Scheme has been found satisfactory and encouraging; and

(c) whether there is going to be an expansion of the Scheme in the near future to other areas of the country?

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI):** (a) The Scheme at present covers 622 schools/institutions with over 3 lakhs children under training in Delhi and in the States of Bombay, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal;

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir.

**SHRI HARIHAR PATEL:** May I know what the purposes of the scheme are?

**DR. K. L. SHRIMALI:** To inculcate discipline among students.