

Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Financial Services
Lok Sabha
Unstarred Question No. †650

Friday, July 20, 2018/Ashadha 29, 1940 (Saka)

Allowances to LIC Employees for Conferences

†650. DR. UDIT RAJ:

Will the Minister of FINANCE
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether from lower level/class IV employee to Chairman of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) are paid banker's cheque of value from Rs. 2500 to Rs. 11,000 for taking part in each conference and LIC even deposits income tax on the same and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the rule under which such disbursement is being made;
- (c) whether such amount can be taken in the form of momento; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer
Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance
(Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla)

(a) to (d): As per Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), mementos are distributed in the form of gift cards to employees who actually participate in conferences organized by controlling offices such as Central Office, Zonal Office and Divisional Offices. An employee may participate in any number of such conferences, but the gift card will be given only for one conference of a controlling office in a year. Income tax is paid by LIC treating such gift card as perquisite, if its value is Rs 5000/- or more. LIC paid a total of Rs 2.62 crore as income tax in respect of such cases, for the financial year 2017-18.

Distribution of mementos is made as per instructions contained in the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Distribution of Mementos etc) Instructions, 2014 issued under Regulation 4 of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Staff) Regulations, 1960. Further, these amounts can be taken in form of Gift Card/Gift Coupon/Gift Voucher/Gift article etc. At present, the system of distribution of gift cards is being followed.