

(b) if so, the details of the report submitted, if any, by the said committee?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Sub Committee has not yet given its report.

#### **Wage Period Under ESI Act**

3398. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the change over from 'week' as the unit of contribution to 'wage period' under the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948, has caused disadvantage to the cashew workers in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to amend it to restore 'week' as the unit of contribution; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The change has deprived them of certain untended benefits.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Prior to the amendment of the Act in 1984, a worker who worked for just one day in a week was required to pay contribution for a week. After the amendment, a worker who works for one day pays contribution for one day only. The amended provision is, therefore, considered more rational.

#### **Proposal to Review Purchase Procedure of Medicines for CGHS**

3399. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CGHS goes by the lowest tender in the supply of medicines;

(b) if so, whether it has resulted in the supply of substandard medicines;

(c) whether Government propose to review the purchase procedure; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTARY): (a) to (d). CGHS is procuring all allopathic medicines included in the formulary from Medical Store-Organisation. Efforts are being made to improve the working of the Medical Stores Organisation.

#### **Amendment To The Bonus Act**

3400. SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of workers in Public Sector are deprived of the bonus due to low limit of ceiling on income for payment of bonus; and

(b) if so, whether there is a proposal under consideration of Government to amend the Act to raise the ceiling in view of rise in price index?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Information on the number of workers covered by the Payment of Bonus Act is not maintained by the Ministry.

(b) There is no immediate proposal to raise the ceiling limit.

#### **Attachment of Properties of Provident Fund Defaulter Employees**

3401. SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state: