

(b) the amounts of arrears on the 31st March, 1962 and 31st March, 1963 and what percentage they bear to the total collections made during these years; and

(c) whether Government propose to hold an enquiry into the working of the Department concerned?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Defence (Shri D. R. Chavan):

(a) and (b). The requisite information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House when received.

(c) No.

'Tribunal Superior' for Pondicherry

1657. Shri Umanath: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to make the "Tribunal Superior" of Pondicherry as the High Court of Pondicherry and to appoint a Judicial Commissioner; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

The Prime Minister, Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). The Government are examining a proposal for the establishment of a Judicial Commissioner's Court in Pondicherry. The matter is still under consideration.

Employees' Provident Fund Scheme for Textile Industry

1658. Shri Eswara Reddy: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a technical committee will be appointed to find out the capacity of the textile industry to pay if the contribution under the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme is increased from 6½ to 8 per cent; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be constituted?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment and for Planning (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman): (a) No. Under the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952,

the Central Government is required to make such enquiry as it deems fit before applying the enhanced rate of contribution at 8 per cent to any establishment or class of establishments. Investigation by a technical committee has proved in the past to be dilatory and expensive. Of course, the capacity of the Textile Industry to pay contribution at the enhanced rate will be ascertained before it is raised from 6½ to 8 per cent.

(b) Does not arise.

Miners' Hostel at Gorakhpur

1659. Shri Eswara Reddy: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee is being constituted to go into the condition of miners' hostels where Gorakhpur labour is accommodated; and

(b) if so, the terms of reference and the names of the members of the Committee?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri R. K. Malviya): (a) Yes. A Committee has been constituted.

(b) The terms of reference and names of the members of the Committee are as follows:—

Terms of Reference:

(i) To frame detailed proposals to enable the Government of India to take over the existing Miners Hostels and to administer them through the Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner and also to set up and administer similarly new hostels as and when necessary.

(ii) To examine the old system of repatriation of Gorakhpuri Labour and to suggest ways and means of ensuring that these workers who want permanent absorption are not repatriated and that no distinction is made in this respect between workers.

(iii) To examine how the level of employment of persons recruited through Gorakhpur Depot can be secured and maintained.