

[*Translation*]

Provident fund Scheme for bidi workers

1958. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Provident Fund Scheme also covers the bidi workers working in bidi industry ;

(b) if so, State-wise number of workers enjoying this facility; and

(c) whether Government have any scheme to make available this facility to all the bidi workers and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) The provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 were extended to the Bidi industries employing 20 or more persons with effect from 31.5.77. Some Bidi manufacturers had subsequently challenged the applicability of the Act to Bidi Industry in the Supreme Court and the Court had ordered the stay of operation of the notification extending the provisions of the Act of bidi industry, pending hearing of the case. The Supreme Court has recently given its judgement upholding the coverage of bidi industries under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. The EPF Authorities are accordingly taking steps to secure compliance of the bidi manufacturers under the Act.

(b) This information is not readily available, as the EPF Act was not being enforced in the bidi industry till recently.

(c) For the present, the proposal is to cover only bidi manufacturing establishments employing 20 or more persons to which the provisions of the Act have already been extended.

[*English*]

Improvement of urban sanitation programme

1959. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any specific programmes have been taken for the improvement of urban 'sanitation' during the first year of the Seventh Five Year Plan ;

(b) if so, a brief outline thereof and the financial allocation made for this purpose ; and

(c) if not, whether any such programmes would be taken up during this year and the nature thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) & (b) Sanitation is a State subject. Programmes for providing sanitation facilities in urban areas are formulated and executed by the State Governments. This Ministry, therefore, has no precise information regarding specific programmes undertaken by the States to provide urban sanitation facilities during the first year of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Under the scheme for Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) administered by this Ministry, loans amounting to Rs. 15 lakhs, exclusively for low cost sanitation, are given to project towns. During the current year the following amount for low cost sanitation has been released :

Kottayam (Kerala)	: Rs. 6.80 lakhs
Valsad (Gujarat)	: Rs. 1.74 lakhs
Siwan (Bihar)	: Rs. 7.22 lakhs

The Ministry of Welfare has intimated that a combined allocation of Rs. 5.50 crores has been made for the scheme of implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act during 85-86, which includes a scheme for elimination of manual scavenging. No grants have so far been released under this scheme during the current year.

During the current year, the HUDCO has sanctioned to local bodies/State level agencies loans amounting to Rs. 9.13 crores for implementing 21 schemes for providing low cost sanitation facilities in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and West Bengal,

(c) Does not arise.

Retail prices of levy and free sale sugar

1960. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the retail price per Kg of levy sugar and free sale sugar, year-wise from 1982 to 1985 (upto October, 1985) :

(b) on how many occasions since 1982 to-date prices of levy sugar have been enhanced through administrative order of Government ; and

(c) the extent of enhancement on each occasion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH (DEO)) : (a) The retail levy sugar price fixed by the Government from time to time since 1982 is indicated below :—

(Rs. per kg)

		(Rs. per kg)	
1982			
(i)	Upto 30.11.82.	—	3.65
(ii)	From 1.12.82.	—	3.75
1983			
1984			
(i)	Upto 31.1.84.	—	3.75
(ii)	From 1.2.84.	—	4.00
1985			
(i)	Upto 31.3.85.	—	4.00
(ii)	From 1.4.85.	—	4.40
(iii)	From 1.12.85.	—	4.80

As regards the retail prices of free sale sugar, a statement showing the month-end retail prices prevailing in important markets during the period from January, 1982 to October, 1985 is given below :

(b) and (c) Since 1982 the retail levy sugar prices were enhanced on four occasions as indicated below :—

Date from which increase effective	Extent of increase (Rs. per kg.)		
	From	To	Quantum of increase.
1.12.1982	3.65	3.75	0.10
1.2.1984	3.75	4.00	0.25
1.4.1985	4.00	4.40	0.40
1.12.1985	4.40	4.80	0.40