

Regional Offices in the scale of Rs. 470—750. The posts of Special Head Clerks and the Upper Division Clerks are to be allotted to the Sub-Regional Offices by the Regional Commissioners concerned, depending on their workload.

Conveyance allowance to EPF Staff

3741. SHRI R. P. YADAV:
SHRI P. J. KURIEN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to extend conveyance allowance facility to the Inspectors, Assistant Commissioners and Regional Commissioners in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation under consideration;

(b) whether this proposal is pending since some time ago although the implementation of this proposal would have immensely enhanced the efficiency of the staff and officers;

(c) whether the proposal has been examined and if so, what expenditure is likely to be incurred on this account;

(d) whether this proposal has been examined with reference to other organisations e.g. B.C.C.L. Mecon and other similar Government undertakings; and

(e) if so, what immediate steps are being taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) A recommendation for payment of conveyance allowance to the employees of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation has been made in the interim report of the Sub-Committee constituted by the Central Board of Trustees.

(b) to (e). The above recommendation and some other recommendations of the Sub-Committee are being examined with reference to their financial implications and the practice in some

other undertakings. The financial cost of the recommendation concerning payment of conveyance allowance is estimated at Rs. 28 lakhs per annum.

Vessels stationed at Colgong (Bhagalpur)

3742. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vessels stationed at Colgong (Bhagalpur);

(b) the actual number in operation at present at Colgong;

(c) the reasons for keeping the remaining vessels idle and failure to repair the defective vessels; and

(d) the remedial action proposed to be taken for ensuring proper and prompt maintenance of all vessels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) 12 vessels (5 powered and 7 dumb).

(b) 10 vessels (3 powered and 7 dumb).

(c) The two powered vessels need dry-docking for carrying out the repairs to them. Hence repairs can be carried out only after requisite space in the Railway dry-dock at Mokameh becomes available for these vessels as there is no other dry-dock upstream of Farakka and it is not possible to take these vessels to Calcutta for repairs due to non-availability of water route.

(d) The Ministry of Railways (Rly. Board) were requested on 18-3-80 to dry-dock I.W.T. Directorate's vessels in Mokameh Dry-dock. The Railway Board have forwarded on 15-4-1980 the request of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport to the General Manager(M) North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur for necessary action. The vessels laid up for repairs are thus expected to be dry-docked shortly. In