

of collaboration was identified during these discussions. Nor was it the intention to do so.

Increasing Rate of P.F. Contributions

1253. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to enhance the current rate of Provident Fund contributions from 6.25 per cent to 8 per cent and from 8 per cent to 10 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether All India Organisation of Employees have questioned this enhancement; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION AND LABOUR (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK):

(a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Representations were received from some Organisations of employers requesting that the rates of contributions may not be enhanced.

(d) As mentioned at (a) above, presently there is no proposal to enhance the rate.

Unemployment Allowance by States

1254. SHRI CHITTA BASU:

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several State Governments have in-

troduced schemes for the benefits of the unemployed;

(b) if so, the names of the States and details of the schemes introduced by them;

(c) whether any financial assistance has been sought for by these States from the Centre; and

(d) if so, the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION AND LABOUR (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Available information regarding the State Governments which are implementing unemployment benefit schemes and the available details of such schemes are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d). The Government of Punjab had requested in January, 1979 for the grant of a subsidy to the extent of 50 per cent of the expenditure on their "Unemployment Allowance Scheme." This request was not acceded to.

Statement

Unemployment Benefit Schemes of State Governments

West Bengal

In West Bengal, unemployed persons aged 18 to 58 years who are registered for 5 years or more with an Employment Exchange in West Bengal and whose family income does not exceed Rs. 500/- p.m. are paid an unemployment assistance of Rs. 50/- p.m. Those who receive unemployment allowance are expected to participate in any work programme/scheme sponsored by the State Government. These persons will be paid an amount of Rupees

two hundred per annum as additional remuneration for such participation.

Punjab

In Punjab, Unemployment allowance is paid to the educated unemployed person who have been registered with the Employment Exchanges in the State for a period of 5 years or more on or after 1st April, 1978. While matriculates are paid Rs. 40/- p.m. graduates and post-graduates are paid Rs. 50/- p.m.

Maharashtra

The Government of Maharashtra initiated in January, 1979, a scheme of financial assistance to the educated unemployed. Under the scheme, (a) unemployed graduates and SSC diploma holders who passed their SSC as well as their higher examinations from institutions in Maharashtra and who have been on the live register of employment exchanges in Maharashtra for 5 years or more (4 years in the case of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Tribes, Nomadic Tribes or Vimukta Jati), are provided part-time work of such duration and nature as to enable them to earn Rs. 100/- p.m. (b) unemployed SSC holders aged 21 to 30 who passed their examination from a School in Maharashtra and who remained on the live register of employment exchanges in Maharashtra for 3 years or more (2 years in the case of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Tribes, Nomadic Tribes or Vimukta Jati) are paid Rs. 100/- per year to enable them to cover part of the expenses they may incur while seeking employment.

The State Government have also been implementing an "Employment Guarantee Scheme" which is meant to make effective provision for securing the 'Right to Work' by guaranteeing employment to all adult per-

sons who volunteer to do unskilled manual work in the rural areas in the State of Maharashtra. The scheme envisages providing work to any person demanding work within 15 days of such a demand. In the event of failure to provide work to such persons, the scheme envisages payment of an unemployment allowance. The scheme has recently been given a statutory backing.

Gujarat

Government of Gujarat provide "retention allowance" to the educated unemployed registered with the employment exchanges who satisfy the following conditions:

(i) The annual family income of the applicant should be less than Rs. 4800/-.

(ii) Applicant must have passed SSC/ Diploma /Graduates/ Post-Graduate Examination from a recognised institution of Gujarat State.

(iii) The applicant must be residing in Gujarat State.

(iv) The applicant must be within the age limit of 20-30 years at the time of filing an affidavit.

(v) Must have been on the live register of employment exchanges continuously for a period of five years or more on 30th November 1978.

Full time and part-time students of recognised teaching institutes, applicants receiving assistance or aid from any source exceeding Rs. 600/- or more annually, pensioners from Central Government/State Government/Other establishments, those dismissed from State/Central Government services and persons convicted of offences involving moral turpitude are not eligible to receive the retention allowance.

The beneficiaries under this scheme are provided part-time work/train-

ing and will be paid retention allowance as under:—

Sl. No.	Qualification	Minimum hours of work fixed per day	Rate of allowance per month
1.	S.S.C.	1 hou	Rs.50/-
2.	Technical Diploma holder & (Arts, Commerce, Science, teaching & Law) Graduates'	1½ hours	Rs. 75/-
3.	Technical & Professional Graduates or Post-Graduates.	2 hours	Rs. 100/-

Tamil Nadu

The Employment Guarantee Scheme for the rural areas is meant to benefit those educated and uneducated unemployed persons who did not get any job opportunities or benefits through their SFDA, DPAP and the Integrated Rural Development Programme already under implementation in the State. The scheme envisages provision of work to all the unemployed villagers above the age of 18 who register their names requesting for employment under the scheme. Payment of weekly wages calculated on the basis of output at the rate of Rs. 3/- per day besides some rice and wheat is envisaged. Payment of Re. 1/- per day or rice/wheat of equivalent value to persons on the days the Government are unable to give any work is also envisaged under the scheme.

Other Unemployment Benefits Schemes

Karnataka

The Karnataka 'Employment Affirmation Scheme' for the rural areas aims at providing employment in manual work for 100 days in a year to all able-bodied adults who are prepared to do manual work but cannot find work in the areas under existing activities during the slack season. The scheme is applicable only to the rural areas of the State

and envisages creation of productive assets and improvement of the rural environment in the process. The scheme, which came into operation in March, 1979, is to be implemented in 45 Talukas to start with and will be extended to all the Talukas by the end of the Plan. The scheme does not, however, envisage payment of any unemployment allowance.

Kerala

The Government of Kerala had introduced an Unemployment Relief Scheme during 1978-79 under which an unemployment allowance of Rs. 400/- per annum was being paid to the unemployed persons registered with the Employment Exchanges for 5 years or more provided the family income of the unemployed from all sources did not exceed Rs. 4000/- per annum.

The Government of Kerala decided in 1979-80 to modify the above scheme as an Employment Generation Programme with emphasis on providing employment even if it would be on a temporary or partial basis. The programme envisages employment generation through the implementation of schemes like :

- (a) execution of community development works;
- (b) unemployment and housing survey;

- (c) opening of retail outlets for distribution of essential commodities;
- (d) rural industries to be sponsored by Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board; and
- (e) formation of a cadre of family welfare promoters.

Railway ticket racket busted

1255. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a bogus railway ticket racket was busted in Patna during February, 1980; and

(b) if so, the number of persons involved in the racket and their status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No. but such a racket was detected in December, 79 based on earlier Commercial and Vigilance checks.

(b) Three non-gazetted Commercial staff of Danapur division have so far been found responsible and the matter is now being investigated in detail by C. B. I.

Development of Paradip Port

1256. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether adequate funds had been provided in 1979-80 for development of Paradip Port;

(b) if so, what was the amount provided for; and

(c) the details of the amount spent and improvement made?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) and (b). during the year 1979-80, Rs. 517.00 lakhs were provided for Paradip Port in the Annual Plan.

(c) An expenditure of Rs. 102.97 lakhs has been incurred upto 31-12-79. The development works like improvement and modifications to ore handling plant second general cargo berth, construction of sea wall, transit sheds, warehouses, railway permanent way, wet basin etc. are currently under execution.

Modernisation and expansion of Ports.

1257. SHRI CHITTA BASU: will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether port facilities in the country are not adequate;

(b) if so, whether there are proposals for modernisation and expansion of ports;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the progress of each project?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) The facilities at the major ports in the country so far as they relate to handling oil and ore, meet the current needs. Some additional facilities for oil are also being provided at Bombay and Tuticorin. However, some of our Major ports are functioning beyond their capacities for handling general cargo and certain bulk cargoes like Fertilisers.

(b) to (d). The modernisation and expansion of ports is a continuous process. Beginning from the period 1951 to the 5th Plan ending on 31-3-1978, a sum of Rs. 957 crores has been spent on the development of 10 major ports in the country. During the first two years of Plan 78-83, Rs. 58 crores has been spent in 78-79 and about Rs. 50 crores is expected to be spent in 79-80. Cur-