

Labour in Tamil Nadu and a few other states. The report on the survey is presently under preparation.

Amendment to EPF Act

5452. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that lakhs of employees are deprived of the benefit of membership of Employees' Provident Fund Scheme because the much publicised amendment of Section 1(3) (a), 1 (3) (b) of the Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952 has not been made for the last several years;

(b) by what time the appropriate legislative measure is likely to be taken to help the workers; and

(c) whether Government are considering to abolish the condition of infancy period of 3 and 5 years which has become out-dated, under the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) and (b). Certain proposals to enlarge the coverage of the Employees Provident Fund and Misc. Provisions Act, 1952 are being processed. Efforts are being made to bring forward necessary amending legislation as soon as possible.

(c) There is a proposal to modify the infancy period.

Ranchi Railway Station

5453. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is an acute water scarcity in Ranchi Railway Station resulting in dry taps in waiting rooms, retiring rooms, etc.;

(b) whether the Ranchi Railway Station is most ill-managed and there is no traffic control within the premises of Railway Station;

(c) whether there is insufficient accommodation in the retiring rooms of the said Railway Station; and

(d) whether Government propose to initiate a crash programme to introduce all round development?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There is no shortage except when there is dislocation due to occasional stoppage of supply by Bihar Public Health Engineering Department.

(b) No. There is large open space available in front of the station with adequate parking facilities. The responsibility for traffic control lies with the traffic police of the State Government.

(c) Adequate retiring room facilities are available at this station.

(d) As Ranchi is a well developed station with all necessary facilities, there is no proposal to initiate a crash programme for its all round development.

Deposit-linked Insurance Scheme

5454. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Employees Deposit-Linked Insurance Scheme has been brought into effect from 1st August, 1976;

(b) whether Government are aware that there is acute shortage of staff in Provident Fund Commissioners' Offices resulting in deterioration of efficiency of staff and hardship to the workers at large; and

(c) the number of claims preferred under Deposit-linked Insurance Scheme in each year since its inception, month-wise and number of claims settled in each year, month-wise and the total number of pending cases as on the 31st March, 1980?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No shortage of staff at lower levels has been reported in respect of Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance