

the notification issued under the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, extending its coverage to bidi manufacture has been stayed by the Supreme Court. Steps are being taken to get the stay vacated. However, some of the employers are complying with the Act.

#### Assistance to Iran in setting up of Industries

565. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Iran has sought India's help in setting up mini cement plants, foundries, castings and forging, ceramics and electronic units in that country;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of his Ministry;

(c) whether his Ministry is going to provide necessary help for the industrial development of Iran; and

(d) the details about the implementation of such proposal?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND LABOUR (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (d). During the recent visit of Minister of Housing and Rural Development of Iran, the Iranian delegation had broadly indicated its interest in India's technology in the field of mini cement plants, foundries, castings and forgings, ceramics, electronics and mining machinery. The details of specific assistance required from India are, however, yet to be received from the concerned Iranian authorities.

#### Crimes against women

566. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a special cell to

investigate the cases in connection with the crimes against women:

(b) if so, when such a cell is going to be set up;

(c) whether guidelines have been sent to various States to set up similar special cells on crimes against women; and

(d) the details about the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a) No such proposal is under consideration.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

#### Decentralization of provident fund scheme

567. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a proposal for the decentralization of the Provident Fund Scheme on an experimental basis in the establishment, employing more than 500 people;

(b) whether it is a fact that such decentralization scheme may lead to the retrenchment of staff in those organisations;

(c) the basis on which the above decentralization scheme is going to be implemented; and

(d) when the above proposal is going to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. VENKATA REDDY): (a) to (c). On the basis of the recommendations made by the Employees Provident Fund Review Committee (Ramanujam Committee) it has been decided that establishments employing 500 or more may be given the option to maintain their own accounts and to make payments under the Employees Provident

Fund Scheme on an experimental basis, and with adequate safeguards to be enforced by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation and also subject to the condition that such decentralisation of work does not lead to any retrenchment of the staff strength of the organisation. Payment on account of Employees Family Pension Scheme and Employees Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, will, however, continue to be authorised by the EPF Organisation.

(d) Details for implementing the decision are being worked out by the EPF Organisation.

#### Shortage of Paper

568. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is facing shortage of paper;

(b) if so, whether Government have any specific plans to make up that shortage and if so, what are the programmes; and

(c) what were the indices of profit of the paper industry in each of the years 1975-76 to 1980-81?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) On the basis of the latest RBI study of Finances of Medium and Large Public Limited Companies, Gross Profits as percentage of total net asset for the paper and paper products companies for the year 1975-76, 1976-77 and 1977-78 were 17.3, 8.5 and 9.3 The profits after tax as percentage of net worth was, however, 14.8, 2.6 and 5.5 respectively.

#### Wages of Workers in various fields

569. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Will the Minister of

LABOUR be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the following details:

The State-wise wages prevailing as on 1-5-1981 in respect of the following:

- (1) Carpenters
- (2) Masons
- (3) Helpers of Masons
- (4) Daily rated workers in the construction industry.
- (5) Unskilled day labourers in the agricultural sector.
- (6) Ploughmen
- (7) Harvesting workers
- (8) Automobile Mechanics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) The required information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

#### Tribal Sub-Plan in Orissa

570. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the districts of Orissa which have been covered for implementing tribal sub-plan and component plan;

(b) the total amount allocated to Orissa during 1981-82 for implementing various programmes under the tribal sub-plan and component plan; and

(c) the progress made so far in implementing those programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The Tribal Sub-Plan covers the districts of (1) Mayurbhanj, (2) Balasore, (3) Keonjhar, (4) Sundergarh, (5) Sambalpur, (6) Koraput, (7) Phulbani, (8) Ganjam and (9) Kalahandi, in Orissa. The Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes is implemented in all districts.