

biogas plants was high, few poor and middle class farmers set up biogas plants.

(c) A Central Sector Scheme 'National Project for Biogas Development (NPBD)' is under implementation in all States/UTs, which provides for Central subsidies as an incentive to beneficiaries. Higher quantum of subsidy is given to small and marginal farmers and Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries. Through research efforts, substantial decrease in capital cost has been achieved by reducing the digester volume and feed material requirements have been diversified. It is proposed to continue R & D to further reduce costs and amount of feed material needed. It is also proposed to continue to remove constraints, increase the number of implementing agencies and have regular monitoring and involvement of States to increase installation rates. With a view to extend benefits of biogas technology to weaker sections, a programme of installation of community biogas plants has also started.

**Transfer of RPE Commissioners who
have completed 3 years at one
Place**

7848. SHRI KAMAL NATH JHA :
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND
REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that many senior officers of the rank of Regional Commissioners in the RPF Organisation have completed more than 3 years in one place and are manoeuvring to stay at the same place while posts at very important places like Tamil Nadu are vacant and without any Regional Commissioner and, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government propose to review the affairs afresh, according to the needs, administrative convenience and propriety ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABI-
LITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR : (a)

and (b) The Employees' Provident Fund Authorities have stated as follows :-

There are at present 37 Officers working in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation who are holding the posts of Regional Provident Fund Commissioner or equivalent posts. Only 4 officers from among them have completed the period of 3 years and are now running their fourth year of stay at their present places of posting. As per existing policy guidelines, normally, an officer can be retained for a period between 3 years to 5 years at a particular station and transfers during the mid-academic session are to be avoided as far as possible. Cases of these officers for transfer are receiving attention.

In certain Regions like Tamil Nadu, the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners of appropriate grades have not been posted. Postings of Regional Provident Fund Commissioners are made according to availability of officers keeping in view the requirements of the Organisation as a whole and the exigencies of service.

**Strengthening the Administration in
Tribal Areas**

7849. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :
Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND
COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to
state :

(a) whether the Seventh Finance Commission had gone into the question of strengthening the administration in tribal areas and recommended grant-in-aid to the States under Article 275 (1) relating to his Ministry;

(b) if so, the findings of the Seventh Finance Commission with regard to the problems of administration in the tribal areas of the country and suggestions to strengthen the administration;

(c) the grant-in-aid provided by his Ministry to the States for establishment of additional courts and construction of village