

Maintenance of Provident Fund Accounts of Bihar Government Employees by A.G. Bihar

2174. SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the background of the facts that (i) the up-to-date statements of Provident Fund Accounts last issued by Bihar Accountant General's Office to Bihar Government employees cover period upto 1980-81 only; (ii) complaints about missing credits and gross inaccuracies in such 'statements' are generally widespread; and (iii) such 'statements' without any inaccuracies therein are mere exceptions, Government agree that the maintenance of P.F. Accounts for Bihar Government employees done by Bihar A.G. is far from satisfactory;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in order to take such P.F. accounts holders in Bihar out of the Predicament they find themselves in currently and by when; and

(c) how Government propose to deal with the officers responsible for creating avoidable harassments/inconveniences to such P.F. accounts holders to prevent recurrence thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA) : (a) to (c) The arrears in posting of Provident Fund Accounts in the office of Accountant General, Bihar, Patna and the discrepancies in individual accounts are mainly on account of the persistent late rendition of accounts by the Treasuries and Public Works Divisions in Bihar and incorrect preparation of the Provident Fund schedules by the Departmental Officers or non-submission of schedules. The State Government was requested several times to take necessary steps for timely submission of accounts by the Treasuries and Public Works Divisions but without much improvement. In May, 1981, the State Government made proposals for taking over the work relating to maintenance of Provident Fund Accounts and authorisation of pay and allowances to gazetted officers from Accountant General. As the transfer of functions would have

rendered 571 persons surplus, a ban was imposed on further recruitment of staff pending transfer of work. As a result, the Provident Fund Accounts fall into further arrears. The State Government finally decided in April, 1982 that it would not be possible for them to take over Provident Fund Accounts for the next 5 to 6 years. The uncertainty created by the proposal of the State Government retarded the progress of work in Provident Fund group for about a year.

So far as 1980-81 accounts are concerned, 1,27,000 statements out of 3,06,408 have been issued so far. Expeditious action is being taken for the despatch of the remaining statements of accounts. To overcome the arrears and to settle discrepancies in individual accounts, the drawing officers/treasury officers have been asked to furnish collateral evidence in support of the deposits made. Peripatetic parties are also being formed for visiting various departmental offices for settlement of the discrepancies on the spot. The Office of the Accountant General has also been restructured recently with a view to improve the accounting and entitlement functions. The Officers dealing with Provident Fund Accounts have also been instructed to attend to the discrepant cases on priority basis.

Allocation made for Himachal Pradesh for Sanction of Loan Under NREP for unemployed Matriculate Youths

2175. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any allocation has been made for Himachal Pradesh for the sanction of loans Under NREP for the unemployed matriculate youths for 1983-84;

(b) if so, the exact amount and the number of cases for whom the loan has been (i) approved (ii) disbursed, as on 31 January, 1984, district-wise;

(c) whether any increase in (i) number of cases (ii) amount allotted would be made in view of large number of applications ; and