

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): The administration of the Employees' Provident Fund is the concern of the Central Board of Trustees set up under the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 and not the direct concern of the Central Government. The provident Fund authorities have reported as under:—

(a) and (b). The Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 already applies to mica mines employing 20 or more persons. Every possible effort has been made to cover mica mines in Bihar and Rajasthan under the Act. However, some of the establishments which are situated in remote areas or deep in the interior of the regions not served by regular transport facilities could not be surveyed due to inaccessibility. In order to overcome these difficulties, a vehicle has been provided to the Regional Office, Bihar and the question of providing the same to Rajasthan is being examined.

Memorandum by Construction Workers

3619. SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether no labour law is applicable in the case of construction workers ;

(b) whether workers' representatives had submitted a memorandum to him in the month of may, 1971 ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to get them covered under various labour laws ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) No,

(b) Yes.

(c) A number of labour laws are already applicable to the workers in the construction industry.

The CPWD/MES Contractors' Labour Regulations, though not statutory, are also applicable to the construction workers in CPWD and MES Departments.

Besides, there is a proposal to have a legislation to provide for the safety of the workers employed in the construction industry.

Subsidy paid to Sugar Mills

3620. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE
SHRI C. JANARDHANAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the total amount of subsidy paid to Indian Sugar Mills Association or Sugar Mill owners during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : No subsidy was paid to Indian Sugar Mills Association or Sugar Mill owners during the last three years.

Implementation of Abolition of Contract Act in Iron Ore Mines of Baragonda and Gua, Bihar

3621. SHRI B. K. MODAK : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Abolition of Contract Act passed recently has been implemented in iron ore mines Baragonda and Gua, Mines (Bihar) ;

(b) if so, the number of contracts abolished; and