

(क) क्या सरकार ने बिहार के चम्पारन, मुजफ्फरपुर तथा दरभंगा जिलों से प्रतिवर्ष देश में सपत हेतु तथा विदेशों को निर्यात हेतु भेजे जाने वाले आम्रों, लीच्चियों तथा अन्य फलों की मात्रा का कोई अनुमान लगाया है;

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार उपरोक्त प्रत्येक जिले में एक एक उद्योग स्थापित करने का है जहाँ फलों तथा सब्जियों को तैयार करने और डिब्बों तथा बोटली में बन्द कर करने का कार्य किया जा सके; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णासाहिब पी० शिन्डे०)। (क) यह सूचना तुरन्त उपलब्ध नहीं है।

(ख) और (ग). दरभंगा और मुजफ्फरपुर जिलों में चार सहकारी फल तथा सब्जी विधायन यूनिट स्थापित किए गए हैं। इनके अनिश्चित इन दोनों जिलों में निजी क्षेत्र में 5 छोटे यूनिट भी हैं।

#### **Disputes Referred by Railway Employees Associations to Regional Labour Commissioners**

3664. SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of disputes referred by the Railway Employees' Associations other than the recognised Federation, received and dealt with by all the Regional Labour Commissioners during 1970 and 1971;

(b) whether the All India Railway Commercial Clerks Association referred certain disputes during the month of May, 1971; and

(c) if so, the main points of the disputes and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House after it is received.

(b) and (c). The Association referred one dispute to the Regional Labour Commissioner, Bombay regarding the transfer of Shri Dina Nath Khanduja, Parcel Clerk, Ahmedabad to Broach. The Association has been asked to produce relevant documents. The matter is thus pending decision.

#### **Employees Provident Fund Claims**

3655. SHRI R. P. YADAV . Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether large number of claim applications are pending in various offices of the Regional Commissioners under the Employees Provident Funds Organisation and if so, the position thereof as on the 31st March, 1971, region-wise?

(b) whether subscribers are being harassed by the Accounts Branch of various regional offices and whether Government have ever got the matter enquired into so far about the genuine claims being not passed by the Accounts Branch on some flimsy grounds; and

(c) the total number of transfer of accounts cases as on the 31st March, 1971, region-wise and the reasons for the delay in the transfer of accounts from one region to the other and the steps being contemplated to expedite the same ?

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 is not

the direct concern of the Central Government. The Provident Fund authorities have reported as under :

(a) The information as on 31-3-71 is not readily available. A Statement showing the region-wise number of claim applications pending as on 31-12-70 in respect of the members of the Statutory Fund is laid on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library See. No. LT-575/71*].

(b) No. The claims received, complete in all respects are generally passed for payment within 10 to 15 days of their receipt in the Regional Offices. As passing of claims involves payment of huge amounts, proper scrutiny and due care are required to be exercised to avoid over/wrong payment.

(c) The information as on 31-3-71 is not readily available. A statement showing the region-wise number of cases pertaining to transfer of accounts pending as on 31-12-70 is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library See. No. LT-575/71*]. The main reasons for delay in the transfer of accounts from one region to other are :

- (i) non or incomplete receipt of the prescribed form;
- (ii) long correspondence undertaken with the various parties concerned eliciting additional information mostly to trace the credit entry; and
- (iii) delay in effecting transfer of amounts on the basis of the transfer advices issued by the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners by the various branches of the State Bank of India.

Recently orders have been issued for transferring provident fund accumulations from one Regional office to another by a crossed cheque/demand draft drawn in favour of the receiving region. This measure has started yielding fruitful results.

#### Distribution of Ammonia Sulphate to Tea Plantations

3666. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of Ammonia Sulphate distributed for the tea plantations during the period April-June, 1971; and

(b) the agencies through which it was distributed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) During April-June, 1971, a quantity of 19236 tonnes of Ammonia Sulphate has been distributed to Tea Plantations.

(b) The Central Fertiliser Pool has distributed imported Ammonium Sulphate through Food Corporation of India and Central/State Warehousing Corporations. Fertiliser Corporation of India and Hindustan Steel Corporation have distributed Ammonium Sulphate produced by them through their distributors, and Fertiliser Chemicals Travancore Limited have supplied the material direct.

#### Interest Free Loan to Mannam Sugar Mill Limited, Kerala

3667. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have under consideration any proposal to give an interest free loan to Mannam Sugar Mill Cooperative Limited, Pondalam in Kerala State to enable the concern to clear its dues to the Industrial Finance Corporation of India and the Life Insurance Corporation; and