

TION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for construction of office building and residential quarters for the staff of the Regional Office at Patna of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation ;

(b) whether the above proposal has been pending for so many years ; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to expedite the same and the time it would take to decide the issue of the purchase of land and construction thereof ?

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 Government of India. The Provident Fund authorities have intimated as under :—

(a) to (c). There is a proposal for constructing an office building and staff quarters for the office of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Bihar at Patna ; but no appreciable progress has been made due to non-availability of suitable plots of land at reasonable rates. The State Government of Bihar have already been approached for allotting a suitable plot of land for the purpose.

Construction of buildings for Regional and Central Offices of E.P.F.O. at Delhi

4332. **SHRI R. P. YADAV :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether land has been allotted by the Delhi Development Authority for construction of buildings for offices of the Central Provident Fund Commissioner and the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner at Delhi ;

(b) if so, the time required for this completion and the progress made in the matter so far ; and

(c) the details of the building area, floor, storey and the estimated cost ?

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 it is not the direct concern of the Government of India. The Provident Fund authorities have reported as under :—

(a) to (c). The Central Government have allotted a plot of land to the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation for construction of an office building in New Delhi. Possession has already been taken and an idea as to the time required for completion cannot be given at this stage when even the preliminaries regarding preparation of the building plan and its approval by the New Delhi Municipal Committee have not been completed. The Organisation, however, are themselves anxious to have the building completed as early as possible.

Survey of Minerals in Gujarat

4333. **SHRI JADEJA :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme for surveying area of Gujarat for minerals ;

(b) if so, when it is likely to be taken ; and

(c) the main features of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). The Geological and mineral surveys of Gujarat by the Geological Survey of India has been continuing since several decades and a general survey of the State has almost been completed. Geological mapping on modern maps and mineral investigations are in progress as per the Ten-Year Plan (1969-79) of the Geological Survey of India.

The Ten-Year Plan (1969-79) of Geological Survey of India for Gujarat envisages systematic geological mapping and preliminary mineral assessment of an area of 8,500 sq. km. and regional mineral assessment which will include 23,000 metres of drilling, besides pitting, trenching, sampling etc. in the first phase (1969-74).