

Central Government. The Provident Fund reported as under :—

(a) As on the 31st March, 1971 a sum of about Rs. 47.15 lakhs was due from the employers of defaulting unexempted establishments of Bihar Region on account of the employers' and employec's share of provident fund contributions as well as arrears of accumulations on cancellation of exemption. The amount in default in respect of each defaulting establishment is not readily available. However, a statement showing the provident fund amount in default in respect of major defaulting unexempted establishments of Bihar Region whose dues were more than Rs. one lakh as on 31-3-1971 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-914/71]

(b) The question of expeditious disposal of prosecution cases against defaulting establishments has been taken up by the Central Provident Fund Commissioner with the Bihar Government towards the end of June, 1971.

Cases under E. P. F. in Bihar

7936. SHRI R. P. YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that large number of criminal cases under the Employees Provident Funds Act in Bihar region had been filed against Mica Mines owners in one lump and at one time with the result that several cases are against the same accused ;

(b) if so, the name of the accused, the period of default and the date of filing of the cases ;

(c) whether the cases were not filed immediately after the default in payment of Provident Fund contributions but the Regional Commissioner filed cases after a lapse of 8 years ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. RHADILKAR) : 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 intimated as under :—

(a) Yes. As the default in respect of each month constitutes an offence, a large number of cases may have been filed against the employer of the same un-exempted establishment.

(b) A statement showing the names of the accused, the period of default and the date of filing the cases in respect of Mica Mines in Bihar Region is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T.—915/71].

(c) and (d). Initially persuasive method were adopted and when they were exhausted prosecution cases were filed after obtaining sanction from the State Government.

Merger of E. P. F., C. M. P. F. and E. S. I. Schemes

7937. SHRI MD. JAMILURRAHMAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the merger of Employees' Provident Funds Organisation, Coal Mines Provident Funds and Employees' State Insurance Scheme is in the offing ;

(b) whether any Committee has been appointed to work out the details for comprehensive amendments in the existing Acts ; if so, its terms of reference and whether any report interim or otherwise has been submitted by it ; and

(c) the preventive steps being taken to maintain the inter-seniority of the staff and officers of the three organisations after such merger ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). In order to come to a decision on the recommendation of the National Commission on Labour to evolve an Integrated Scheme of Social Security, a Working Group was set up in December, 1969, which suggested integration of all Social Security Schemes as an ultimate objective. A Special Officer has been appointed to examine the legal, administrative and organisational matters connected with the integration of Social Security Schemes