

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

in a comprehensive manner and to prepare a blue-print of integration. No report, interim or otherwise, has yet been received.

Complaints Against Regional Provident Fund Commissioners

7938. SHRI MD. JAMILURRAHMAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether several cases of complaints have been received by the Central Provident Fund Commissioner against various Regional Commissioners from general public and Members of Parliament ;

(b) if so, the nature and particulars of complaints against each individual Commissioner, received during the last three years ; and

(c) the steps being contemplated in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c), 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 Government have no information regarding complaints against Regional Provident Fund Commissioners received by the Central Provident Fund Commissioner.

Setting up of continuous Casting Plant in Andhra Pradesh

7939. SHRI K. KODANDA RAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the main features, such as cost, production capacity and employment potential of the proposed Demonstration Project for the production of iron being set up by Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation in Khammam District of Andhra Pradesh with the financial and technical assistance from United Nations Development Project ;

(b) whether the Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation applied to the Centre for licence for "Continuous Casting Plant" ; and

(c) if so, the response of the Centre thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation propose to set up a demonstration plant for the manufacture of foundry pig iron with United Nations Development Programme assistance. The proposal envisage manufacture of foundry pig iron by using raw non-coking coal as the reductant/fuel. The proposed capacity of this Unit is 50 tonnes per day. The total project cost has been indicated to be Rs. 2.35 crores, involving assistance from United Nations Development Programme of about Rs. 1.12 crores. The total employment Potential of this project is not given in the feasibility report.

(b) and (c). The Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation have submitted an Industrial Licence application recently for the manufacture of 50,000 tonnes of mild steel/high carbon steel billets and 20,000 tonnes of mild steel/high carbon wire rods per annum. The application is being processed.

Representation from Employees of Central Warehousing Corporation (South Region) against victimisation

7940. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation for the Employees of the Central warehousing Corporation (South Region) against victimisation ; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAIHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. In the memorandum submitted on behalf of the Employees' Union, it was alleged that the transfer of some of office bearers had resulted in victimisation. The matter was inquired into. It was found that transfers of office-bearers in question were done on administrative grounds and in public interest and did not amount to victimisation. However, Management of the Central Warehousing Corporation was requested to discuss and explain the position to the representatives of the Union