

relief in the form of *ex-gratia* grants at the rate of 25 per cent of the value of verified claims to Indian nationals, and Indian companies, whose assets in Pakistan were seized by that Government during and after the Indo-Pak conflict of September 1965 and who have notified their losses to and filed claims with the Custodian of Enemy Property for India. The payment is made against a bond and is restricted to an amount of Rs. 25 lakhs in each case. Cases above this limit are decided upon merits. So far a sum of Rs. 1,97,43, 882/- has been disbursed to the various claimants as *ad hoc* interim relief in the form of *ex-gratia* grant.

Discovery of Iron Ore Reserves in Haryana

2467. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:

SHRI P. GANGADEB:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether large reserves of iron ore with an annual capacity of 1,00,000 tonnes have been found in Haryana;

(b) if so, the percentage of iron content in the iron ore; and

(c) whether apart from iron ore, two dozen species of minerals have also been located?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Investigations conducted by the Geological Survey of India and State Government of Haryana indicated the occurrence of iron ore in two separate belts, one from Nanglia to Dhankhora and other from Dhanota to Dhancholi. The State Government of Haryana have recently estimated a total reserve of four million tonnes of iron ore with 46 to 69 per cent iron content.

(c) Apart from iron ore, sizeable deposits of limestone and dolomitic limestone and occurrences of some economic importance of saltpatre, marble, graphite, ochra and slate have been located at

different places in Haryana. Besides, minor occurrences of Barytes, Mica, Pyrite, Quartz, Arsenopyrite, Asbestos, Beryl, Calcite, Felspar Garnet, Kyanite, Manganese ore, Staurolite etc. have also been located.

Sub-Committee to Examine Demands of All India E.P.F. Staff Federation

2468. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:
SHRI BHOLA MANJHI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sub-Committee has been set up by the Central Board of Trustees to examine the demands of the All-India Employees' Provident Fund Staff Federation; and

(b) if so, the date on which the Committee was set up, the number of sittings held so far and the conclusions of the Committee thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a): Yes.

(b) The Committee was set up by the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund at their meeting held on 11-5-1972. The first meeting of the Committee was held on the 27th and 28th November, 1972. A further report is awaited from the Provident Fund authorities.

Shifting of Date of Coverage of Establishments under E.P.F. Act

2469. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:
SHRI BHOLA MANJHI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Regional Commissioners of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation have been empowered to determine the date of coverage of establishments covered under the Schedule of the 'Industry' to which the Employees' Provident Fund Act applies;

(b) whether there are cases where the date of coverage once fixed was later shifted to a later date by the Regional Commissioners themselves under their own powers; and

(c) if so, the number of such cases, region-wise, alongwith the original date and shifted date of coverage during the last three years and whether any control is being exercised by the Central Office of the Organisation to check the validity of such shift in the date of coverage?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): The Provident Fund Authorities have reported as under:—

(a) Factories/establishments which attract the provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 are covered in accordance with the provisions contained in Sections 1 and 16 of the Act. Determination of the date of coverage is made accordingly and no other power has been conferred on any authority except as contained in the Act.

(b) At times, factories/establishments are covered provisionally from certain date(s) on the basis of readily available information/data. In some such cases the provisional date(s) of coverage, if found necessary, is/are changed after making further enquiries and collecting more information from the establishments/factories concerned or other sources.

(c) Information is not readily available. However no control from the Central Office of the Organisation is necessary as the basic information is available in the Regional Office only and the Regional Commissioner has to abide strictly by the provisions of the Act and the Scheme.

Vigilance Set up in E.P.F. Organisation

2470. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:
SHRI BHOLA MANJHI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether no effective vigilance set-up exists in the Central and Regional Offices of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation;

(b) whether Officers of the organisations handle thousands of cases of settlement of Provident Fund claims and grant of advances involving millions of rupees every month; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to strengthen the vigilance machinery in the Organisation, particularly at the Headquarters office?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): The Provident Fund Authorities have reported as under.—

(a) There is a Vigilance Cell in the Central Office which is in charge of vigilance matters for the entire Organisation. The working of the existing Vigilance set-up has not disclosed any deficiency *vis-a-vis* the matters, having vigilance angle, required to be dealt with from time to time.

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) of the question.

Honorarium of Personal Staff of Chairman of E.P.F. Organisation

2471. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Private Secretary and P.A. attached to the Secretary of Labour Department who is the ex-officio Chairman of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation are being paid honorarium by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation; and