

despite several visits by Provident Fund Inspector to the establishments/factories the full details for initiating prosecution such as particulars of the person(s) in charge and responsible for conduct of the business etc. could not be collected from the management earlier.

Supply of Arms to Arabian Countries

4589. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India supplied military spare parts and other defence materials and war equipments to various Arab countries during the recent Arab-Israel war;

(b) if so, the details about the nature and quantum of such assistance given to the Arab countries;

(c) whether such military supplies were given to the Arab countries by India of her own or being requested by the Arab countries; and

(d) whether India extended any other direct help to the Arab countries during the recent Arab-Israel war; and if so, the facts thereabout?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKA): (a) to (d). Only military spare parts and one item of Defence stores were issued at the request of the Arab countries.

It is not in the public interest to give further information and details.

Rate of Interest on Employees Provident Fund

4591. SHRI SOMCHAND SOLANKI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the present rate of interest on accounts of subscriber contributing 8 per cent of their earnings to Employees Provident Fund; and

(b) how it compares with the rate of interest paid by Banks, National Saving Scheme and Unit Trust?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): The Employees' Provident Fund Authorities have reported as under:—

(a) 6 per cent per annum.

(b) The maximum current rate of interest

(i) paid by Nationalised Banks on fixed deposit for a period over 3 years is 7 per cent per annum and over 5 years is 7.25 per cent per annum; and

(ii) on 7-Years National Savings Certificate (IVth issue—new series) is 7.25 per cent per annum. The Unit Trust dividend for the year ended 30th June 1973 was 8.5 per cent per annum.

भारतीय प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा ब्रिटेन की राजकुमारी को उपहार भेंट करना

4592. श्री हुकम चन्द कश्यप: क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या प्रधान मंत्री ने ब्रिटेन की राजकुमारी को अभी हाल में "मोती जड़ी मेज" जिसका डिजाइन ताजमहल की कला के अनुकरण पर तैयार किया गया था, भेंट की है;

(ख) क्या उक्त उपहार प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा व्यक्तिगत रूप से भयवा शासकीय स्तर पर भेजा गया है;

(ग) क्या कीमती उपहारों को भेंट करने से पूर्व रिजर्व बैंक आफ इंडिया की अनुमति प्राप्त की जाती है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या उक्त उपहार के संबंध में भी इस प्रक्रिया का पालन किया गया था?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेश पाल सिंह): (क) भारत की प्रधान मंत्री ने एक मेज उपहार में दी जिसका ऊरी सतह