

Disappearance of Guns and Rifles from Rifles Factory, Ichapore

2756. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the 'Free Press' dated the 29th October, 1973 that 270 guns including ten .22 rifles have disappeared from Defence Ministry Rifle Factory at Ichapore (Calcutta); and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not correct that any weapons have disappeared from Rifle Factory, Ichapore as reported in the 'Free Press' dated 29th October 1973. In respect of supply of 260 Nos. 12 bore DBBL guns and 22 and 10 Nos. .315 rifles to some dealers, the money receipts ostensibly issued by a bank, have on verification been found to be not genuine. The cases are under police investigation.

Failure of Bharat Heavy Electricals, Bhopal to deliver Ninth and Tenth Units of Sharavathi Hydro-Electric Projects on Schedule

2757. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a result of the failure of the Bharat Heavy Electricals, Bhopal, to deliver the ninth and tenth units of the Sharavathi Hydro Electric Project as scheduled the State of Karnataka has been losing a lot of money;

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(b) if so, the extent of loss suffered by State of Karnataka annually; and

(c) whether any assurance has been given by the Central Government in this regard; and if so, the particulars thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). It would not be correct to say that BHEL failed to deliver the 9th and 10th units for the Sharavathi Hydro Electric Project. At the request of the Karnataka State Electricity Board, HEIL, Bhopal had agreed to import the turbine for the 9th set and other components for the 9th and 10th units for Sharavathi. These imported items were subject to delays ranging from 4 to 9 months and there has been some delays in transporting these items of equipment by rail. It is understood that these were to be commissioned for Peaking purposes. This Ministry, however, has no information whether any loss has been sustained by the State of Karnataka which could be attributed solely to the delays cited.

Notification covering Hospitals under E.P.F. Act, 1952

2758. SHRI YOGESH CHANDRA MURMU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the recent notification under the E.P.F. Act, 1952, covering the Hospitals is very vague inasmuch as several Regional Commissioners are having different meanings in the said notification;

(b) whether Government hospitals are not covered under the said notification; and

(c) whether the railway hospitals are covered under the said notification?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) The notification is very clear as it extends the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 to hospitals run by any individual, association or institution. As and when clarifications are sought by Regional Commissioners these are given by the Central Provident Fund Commissioner's Office.

(b) and (c). Government hospitals and Railway hospitals are not covered under the said notification.

Report of Sub-Committee of E.P.F.O. on pay structure of officers and staff

2759. SHRI YOGESH CHANDRA MURMU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sub-Committee of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation met recently and finalised the pay structure of the officers and staff and submitted its report to the Central Board of Trustees on the 7th November, 1973, when it met at Ahmedabad; and

(b) if so, the salient feature of the recommendations made?

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

(a) The Sub-Committee constituted by the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund, to recommend the pay scale for officers and staff of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation on the basis of the report of the Third Pay Commission with suitable adaptation, wherever necessary, met last on the 27th October, 1973 and it will meet again on the 7th December, 1973 to finalise its recommendations.

(b) Does not arise.

Coverage of Patneswari Bakery, Hanuman Biscuit Factory and Hosiery Factory in Patna under E.P.F. Act, 1952

2760. SHRI YOGESH CHANDRA MURMU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Patneswari Bakery, Ranighat, Patna-6, Hanuman Biscuit Factory, Maroofganj, Patna City and Hosiery Factory at 'Chimnighat' Patna City have not been covered under the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action which Government propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) and (b). The Provident Fund Authorities have intimated that the information is being collected. It will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

T.A. Bills of Regional Provident Fund Commissioners

2761. SHRI YOGESH CHANDRA MURMU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of T.A. Bills of all the Regional Commissioners individually and regionally for the last two years;

(b) whether some of the Regional Commissioners are habitant in demanding hospitalities from the employees and gifts and presents from the subordinate staff; and

(c) whether some of the Regional Commissioners do not pay rent charges of hotels and Government Rest Houses and meals charges when they go outside and instead ask the subordinate officers to pay the amount?