

ANNASAHIB SHINDE: (a) The Ministry of Food, Agriculture, C. D. and Cooperation is not aware of any scheme said to have been formulated by Punjab Govt. for sinking 2 lakh tubewells in the area between Chandigarh and Pathankot.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Employees Provident Fund's Regional Office, New Delhi

2026. **SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK:**
SHRI M. L. SONDHI:

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

(a) whether Government have received any complaints in regard to the tampering with the records and the malpractice in the Regional Office, Employees' Provident Fund, New Delhi by the Provident Fund Inspectors and other officials;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have instituted any enquiry into such complaints and, if so, with what result; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):
(a) Yes.

(b) to (d). The allegations relate to tampering with records, submission of false reports, failure to enforce the law and harassment by officials of the office of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Delhi.

The matter is under examination by the authorities of the Employees' Provident Fund.

Agreement with World Food Programme

2027. **SHRI G. S. REDDI:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

be pleased to state:

(a) the basic agreement entered into by the Government of India and the World Food Programme signed on the 16th July, 1968 under the Joint auspices of the United Nations and the Food and Agricultural Organization;

(b) the expenditure to be borne by the Government of India for the voluntary food surpluses donated by the different countries of the World; and

(c) whether these food surpluses include other food gifts made by other countries to voluntary Organizations in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The basic agreement signed on the 16th July, 1968 between the Government of India and the World Food Programme enumerates the standard procedure, terms and conditions under which food assistance can be provided by World Food Programme. Detailed plan of operation for each individual project will be finalised on the basis of this basic agreement.

(b) Commodities are donated by the different countries to the World Food Programme. The programme supplies these commodities to India for specific project free of cost and also pays the freight. However the Government of India has to bear all expenditure on unloading, handling and distribution etc. of the consignment from the port of entry.

(c) No.

Minimum Wages of Labour Engaged in Railways

2028. **SHRI K. HALDER:** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the rates of minimum wages for the labourers engaged by the contractors employed in the Rail-