

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:182
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000
EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND
P. RAJENDRAN

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of employees covered under Employees Provident Fund, State-wise;
- (b) whether pension is proposed to be granted to non-members of Employees Provident Fund Family Welfare Scheme;
- (c) whether the Government propose to consider the demand to increase the minimum provident fund pension to Rs.1500 p.m.; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.182 FOR 8.3.2000 REGARDING EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND

(a) As on 31.3.1999, there were 2.31 crore employees covered under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. The requisite information about the covered employees, Statewise, is given in Annexure.

(b) No Scheme by the name of Employees' Provident Fund Family Welfare Scheme was ever introduced. With effect from 1.3.1971, a pension scheme under the name of the Family Pension Scheme had been introduced. Employees who were members of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme on 28th February, 1971 had the option to join the Family Pension Scheme. While some employees opted for that Scheme, there were many who did not opt for the same. Such of the employees who did not opt for the Scheme but were in service on or after 16.11.1995, when the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 was introduced, have been given the option to join the Scheme. Others, who did not opt for the Family Pension Scheme, 1971 and had ceased to be in employment before 16.11.1995, are not eligible to join the Scheme.

(c) & (d) The minimum and maximum amount of pension have been fixed on the basis of actuarial calculations and keeping in view the affordability and financial viability of the Pension Fund. Under the Scheme, there is a provision for evaluation of pension fund and review of pensionary benefits on annual basis. It is not considered actuarially feasible to enhance the minimum pension to Rs.1500/- per month.