

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2912
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011
OPENING EPFO OFFICES
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the prescribed norms for opening and operating zonal, regional and sub regional offices of EPFO particularly in cities like Delhi;
- (b) whether these norms are being strictly followed;
- (c) if not, the details of cases where the laid down norms have not been followed together with the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government plans to open small offices of EPFO to make services accessible to industrial workers as well as to improve administrative efficiency; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

- (a): Zonal Offices and Regional Offices are opened as per the administrative requirements with the approval of the Central Board of Trustees(CBT), Employees' Provident Fund(EPF). Norms for opening of Sub-Regional Offices((SROs) and Service Centres were devised by National Productivity Council and approved by the Executive Committee, CBT, EPF in its 29th meeting held on 4.12.1998. These norms for opening of SROs and Service Centres are for all over India except for the State of J&K as the Employees' Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 is not applicable in the State of J&K.
- (b) & (c): Proposals for opening of offices are examined as per norms. In some of the cases norms are relaxed by the Competent Authority keeping in view the interest of the subscribers. Such SROs for the last five to six years are Yelahanka, Tumkur, Bharuch, Allahabad, Nagercoil, Mysore Road, Udupi, Karimnagar, Siddipet, Sagar, Shimoga and Keonjhar.
- (d) & (e): Norms for opening of SROs, Service Centres and District Centres are being revisited by the National Productivity Council with reference to service level, workload and enforcement level parameters. New norms have not yet been finalized.