

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1749  
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2013  
ARREARS OF EPF  
Sudhakaran Shri K.

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the arrears of Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) from employers have accumulated to a staggering Rs. 4238.00 crores;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the slow process of recovery of PF arrears by the EPFO especially laxity in the collection of fines awarded by Courts and taking steps to vacate stay orders obtained by errant employers are the main reasons for this huge accumulation; and
- (d) if so, the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH)

(a) & (b): As per data available with the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, an amount of Rs. 4093.48 crore was in arrears as on 31.03.2013. Actions as envisaged under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 are taken to recover the arrears. This has resulted in recovery of an amount of Rs. 1,441.43 crore during the year 2012-13.

(c): The slow process of recovery of PF dues is mainly owing to stay granted by courts and EPF Appellate Tribunal, establishments going into liquidation and the sick companies approaching Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for a rehabilitation package.

(d): As a corrective measure, EPFO has directed its field offices to regularly review recovery dossiers, file prosecution, lodge FIR with police authorities, file petitions before appropriate Courts for vacation of stays granted and to impress upon the High Courts for constituting special Court/Bench for early disposal of PF cases to enable recovery of arrears.