

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4314
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2015
INVESTMENT OF EPFO FUND
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any new pattern for investment of Employees Provident Fund including investment in the share market and equity and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) has decided to legally examine the new investment pattern that allows investment ranging from 5-15% in this high return assets class, is binding on it and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has ensure the interest of the subscribers while investing EPF funds particularly in the share market; and
- (d) whether the trustees of the EPFO has agreed to raise the contribution age under the employee pension scheme from 58 to 60 years besides making the minimum pension of Rs. 1,000/- per month to be continued beyond 2014-15 till perpetuity and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

- (a) Ministry of Labour & Employment has not formulated any new pattern of investment for Employees' Provident Fund for investment in share market and equity.
- (b) The recommendations of the Finance Investment & Audit Committee (FIAC), a sub-Committee of the Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) to invest in equity were placed before the CBT in its 207th Meeting held on 31.03.2015. Final decision in the matter is yet to be taken.
- (c) Interests of the EPF subscribers are always paramount while framing any new investment guidelines/policies.
- (d) The CBT, EPF in its 206th meeting held on 11.03.2015 has recommended the proposal to defer age of drawing pension on superannuation from 58 years to 60 years on optional basis only and not mandatorily. The CBT, EPF has also recommended in the same meeting to continue the provision of minimum pension of Rs.1,000/- per month under Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 beyond 2014-15 in perpetuity.