

Seniority in EPF Organisation

4360. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India, while deciding the question of determining the seniority in respect of employees in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation has decided the date of appointment in the Organisation as the date of seniority;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that frequent Orders issued by the Central Office in finalising the seniority cases has raised controversies among the Regional Offices and

(c) if so, whether Government would issue uniform instructions to remove the confusion created by orders/instructions of the Central Office, EPF Organisation?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):
(a) No, Sir. The Supreme Court has, however, while dismissing a Special Petition filed by the EPF Organisation in a case relating to seniority of UDCs, held that in the absence of any other rule seniority of the officials is to be determined with reference to the actual date of appointment in the grade.

(b) No, Sir. All the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners have already been instructed to prepare the seniority list in the grade of UDCs (where not already finalised) as per direction of Supreme Court.

(c) The seniority rules of the employees of the organisation (including UDC) have been finalised and notified recently.

Guidelines for distribution of essential commodities

4361. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have issued any guidelines or laid down norms for the distribution of essential commodities to the Fair Price Shops;

(b) whether upliftments of essential commodities is in accordance with these guidelines, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):
(a) to (c). While allocation of PDS commodities is made by the Central Government to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, norms regarding distribution of these commodities to the fair price shops, including those relating to the scale of distribution and other details, are decided upon by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, in the general guidelines sent to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for strengthening the Public Distribution System (PDS), they have been advised on various aspects like the need for universal coverage of the population by ration cards, opening of new fair price shops, specially in un-served and under-served areas, introduction of mobile shops in remote and inaccessible areas, etc.

Commissioner for SC/ST

4362. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commissioner for SCs/STs has not been vested with powers to ensure implementation of its recommendations by the concerned ministries/departments;

(b) if so, the steps proposed for enforcement of recommendations of the Commissioner in order to protect the interests of SCs/STs; and

(c) the number of recommendations made by the Commissioner in its reports for the years 1986 and 1987 and the number out of them accepted/implemented by the Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b). The Commissioner for SCs and STs who is appointed as per the provisions of Article 338 of the Constitution, which states that the Special Officer for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, appointed by the President, has to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution, and report to the President upon the working of those safeguards at such intervals as the President may direct, and the President shall cause all such reports to be laid before each House of Parliament. The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has not been specifically vested with powers to ensure implementation of his recommendations by the concerned Ministries/Departments.

The copies of the report of the Commissioner are forwarded to all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and to the concerned Central Ministries/Departments, requesting them to take necessary action on the recommendations, and to inform the details about there along with their comments to the Ministry of Welfare to be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

(c) Of the 34 recommendations contained in the 28th Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the year 1986-87, 19 recommendations have been accepted, 11 have been partially accepted, 2 have not been accepted, and 2 are under consideration.

Demand of C.G.H.S. Pharmacists Association

4363. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some demands of CGHS Pharmacists Association are pending implementation;

(b) if so, the demands made and the details of those which have been implemented and those which await implementation; and

(c) the reasons for delay in implementation of the pending demands?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NILAMANI ROURAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The major demands of the CGHS Pharmacists' Association of India are as under:—

- (1) Recognition of the CGHS Pharmacists' Association of India.
- (2) Improving promotional avenues by creation of 223 posts of pharmacists in higher grade.
- (3) Grant of selection grade.
- (4) Establishment of Testing Laboratory of CGHS for standardisation of quality of medicines purchased.
- (5) Risk or Pharmacy allowance to the CGHS Pharmacists.

The present position with regard to implementation/stage of consideration of the aforesaid demands are as under:—

- (1) Since the rules relating to recogni-