

Satyam Committee on ESI

1935. SHRI GAYA SINGH:

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the recommendations of the Satyam Committee constituted by Government to review the functioning of the ESI Schemes;
- (b) whether Government have approved these recommendations; and
- (c) if so, how many of these have been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) The short term recommendations of the Committee such as enhancing the ceiling on medical care for insured persons to Rs. 600/-, issue of identity cards to insured persons, creation of posts in the medical scheme as per ESI norms, issue of common guidelines in respect of referring cases to non ESI institutions, enhancing of in house capabilities to minimize referrals to other institutions, introduction of health record booklet for each beneficiary, preparation of list of formularies and rate contract, no specific reservation in favour of small scale industries sector for supply of medicines, quality control checks in purchase of medicines, penal action for supply of sub-standard drugs, purchase of medicine in strip packs, provision of medicine for supply by the hospitals or specialist clinics for a minimum period, and streamlining the purchase procedure with adequate delegation of powers have been accepted.

The long term recommendations like parity in all respect with medical officers of ESI Scheme and their counter parts in the general health services, contractual arrangements for running ambulance service, cleaning, security, laundry, kitchen and maintenance of equipments etc. have been approved.

Recommendations such as grant of exemption in the even of both the employer and employee unanimously requesting for exemption, flow of funds from ESIC directly to the State Government ESI

Scheme, privatization of hospital management, and introduction of IMP system are at different stages of examination for implementation.

Recovery of P.F. Dues

1936. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge amount of PF dues is being termed as 'Unreliable arrears' by the PF Organisation;

(b) if so, what is the exact amount till date that has been declared to be beyond recovery;

(c) whether many renowned private companies are involved in such malpractice; and

(d) if so, whether Government are planning some stringent measures to recover the PF dues and save interest of the employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) An amount of Rs. 945.43 crore which includes arrears of establishments in private sector, in currently locked up as arrears due to various legal provisions such as pendency of cases before Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), stay orders granted by the Courts, liquidation proceedings, etc. These dues are not immediately realisable but are collected in due course.

(d) Necessary legal and penal action as provided under the various Sections of the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 as also under Indian Penal Code where necessary, is taken against the defaulting employers.

Change in Social Security Schemes

1937. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are bringing out a radical change in the social security schemes covering the workers;