

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) As per the information received from the Government of Gujarat, they have registered 987 cases during the year 1990

(b) and (c) No such proposal is under consideration.

Revision of salary **and time limit** under E.P.F. Scheme, 1952

824. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently revised the Salary time limit for coverage of employees under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme, 1952;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and whether the various Chambers/ Unions and other concerned parties were consulted by Government before taking such decision- if not the reasons therefor;

(c) whether procedures for crediting, transfer, withdrawal loan/final settlement etc. of Employees' Provident Fund were simplified under the revised scheme and beneficial to the casual workers; and

(d) the amount lying with Government in Provident Fund till date which is "unclaimed" by the workers and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The wage limit for coverage of employees has been enhanced from Rs. 2500/- to Rs. 3500/- per month. The qualifying period of service for becoming member of the fund has been done away altogether and the employees have been made eligible for membership

from the date of joining service. These changes have been made on the recommendation of the Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund, which is a tripartite body consisting of representatives of the Organisations of Employers, Employees and the Government.

(c) There has been no further simplification consequent on enforcement of the above-mentioned changes.

(d) As on 31-3-1990, the amount of provident fund money lying unclaimed i.e the amount for which no claim has been preferred within a period of three years from the date the claim became payable was Rs. 70.58 crores. The amount has remain undisbursed mainly due to non-receipt of claims from the concerned subscribers or their nominees or their legal representatives or the amount remitted having been received back undelivered.

Permission to import computer system for training purpose

825. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM- Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently decided to permit import of computer system for the purpose of training by recognised training institutions;

(b) if so, whether the import of computer system would have an adverse affect on the indigenous computer manufacturers; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government would ensure that the import of computers is not engaged as a commercial activity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) to (c) A scheme for import of computer system for training purposes by training institutions recognised by the Department of Electronics, has been announced vide

Government of India (Ministry of Finance) Gazette Notification No. 294/90-Customs dated 17-12-1990. The Department of Electronics will consider the applications for registration as recognised training institutions for the import of computer system and will examine aspects like infrastructural facilities, faculty and activities to ascertain the capability of the institute for imparting training and also that they are not engaged in any commercial activity other than computer training. After recognition by the Department of Electronics, the applications for the import of computer system will be considered by the Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee (IMSC) of the Department of Electronics on mini-computer/microprocessor based items and computer software for import clearance. It is expected that there will be no adverse effect on the indigenous computer manufacturers.

#### Streamlining of MRTP Act

826. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government propose to streamline the existing system of MRTP approval and also to rationalise it in co-ordination with the Industrial licensing approval under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act 1951;

(b) if so, the details of changes proposed to be made in the MRTP Act; and

(c) to what extent the industries/export houses are likely to be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The streamlined procedure proposed to be followed envisages that the Approval Committees would give specific recommendations with regard to MRTP clearance as well as industrial licensing in respect of each

proposal. In order to enable the Committee to take an integrated view, comments from the MRTP angle will be given as far as possible when the case is considered by the Approval Committee in the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals.

MRTP (companies have accordingly been advised to submit applications under Sections 21 & 22 of the MRTP Act, 1969, complete in all respects, well in time, duly accompanied by the requisite application fee and copies of general notice in terms of Rule 4A of the MRTP Rules, 1970. No change in the MRTP Act, 1969 is required for the purpose.

The proposed procedure will substantially reduce the time taken in issue of approvals under the I(D&R) Act and Sections 21 & 22 of the MRTP Act to the applicant MRTP companies.

#### Arrests of ULFA activists

827. SHRI KHYOMO LOTHIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) how many ULFA activists have been arrested since the imposition of President's Rule in the State of Assam;

(b) how many persons have been killed by the militant activists in Assam since then; and

(c) how many amongst the persons killed by the militants were Congress(I) workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) Since the imposition of the President's Rule in Assam, 2766 ULFA activists have been arrested. 61 persons have been killed by the militants since then, out of whom 20 are reported to be Congress (I) workers.