

(b) if so, whether Government have decided to revise its earlier decision to reduce EPF interest rate from 12% to 11%; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter is being taken up with the Ministry of Finance.

### **Educated and Uneducated Unemployed**

**2740. SHRI KHAGEN DAS:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of unemployed both educated and uneducated, in rural and urban areas of the country is constantly increasing;

(b) total number of such unemployed in the country for last three years (year-wise separately);

(c) total number of employment provided during the last three years;

(d) whether Government are contemplating to introduce schemes for providing employment to those unemployed youths; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL):** (a) and (b) The number of job-seekers (both educated and uneducated), all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, registered with the employment exchanges at the end of 1997, 1998 & 1999 was of the order of 391.4, 400.9 & 403.7 lakh respectively.

(c) Number of job-seekers placed in employment through employment exchanges in the country during 1997, 1998 and 1999 was of the order of 2.9, 2.3 and 2.2 lakh respectively.

(d) and (e) The primary objective of the Ninth Plan is to generate greater productive employment in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are more labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rate of unemployment and under employment.

A Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Ahluwalia, Member, Planning Commission has also been set up to look into the employment generation taking place and suggest measures to

generate at least one hundred million jobs in a period of 10 years (Ten million jobs in each year).

**Workers of PEPSICO Unit**

2741. SHRI JIBON ROY:

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the management of PEPSICO unit in Jaunpur, U.P. is forcing the workers to sign individual letter of undertaking after closing down the unit;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the same management had been refusing to attend the conciliation proceedings initiated by the State Labour Department; and

(c) whether Government will all ensure compliance of industrial legislation by the multi-national companies operating in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.

**Authorised Strength of All India Administrative Service**

2742. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the authorised strength of All India Administrative Services for the States, state-wise and Centre; and

(b) the criteria adopted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Indian Administrative Service officers are borne on the various State cadres only. A Statement showing the State-wise authorised strength is enclosed (*see below*).