2 The above pattern will be in force from the 1st July, 1977 until further orders. Reinvestment of Post Office Time Deposits maturing during this period shall be made 50 per cent in Post Office Time Deposits and 50 per cent in Special Deposits. Subject to this reinvestment of all other maturities of Provident Fund accumulations shall continue to be made in accordance with the pattern mentioned in paragraph 1 above.

[No. G. 27035(5)/76-PFI(ii)] Sd/-

S. S. SAHASRANAMAN, Deputy Secretary.

Health Insurance Scheme for Industrial Workers

*249. SHRI JANARDHANA RED-DY: Will the Minister of PARLIA-MENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have formulated any health insurance scheme for industrial workers; and
- (b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. RAM KRIPAL SINHA): (a) A health insurance scheme for industrial workers, namely Employees' State Insurance Scheme, is already in operation.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Broad details of the Scheme are as given below:—

Coverage:

The Scheme initially applied to nonseasonal power using factories employing 20 or more persons. Some State Governments have extended it to smaller power using factories employing 10 to 19 persons, non-power using factories and certain categories of establishments employing 20 or more persons. The wage limit for coverage under the Scheme is Rs. 1,000/- per month.

Benefits Provided:

The Scheme provides for medical care and treatment, cash allowance during sickness, maternity and employment injury. The dependents get pension on the death of workers due to employment injury and funeral benefit towards expenditure on the funeral of an insured person.

Administration:

The Scheme is administered by a Corporate body by name of Employees' State Insurance Corporation. The Corporation consists of members representing employees, employers the Central Government, State Governments, medical profession and the Parliament. The administration of medical care under the Scheme is the responsibility of State Governments, except in Delhi, where the Corporation arranges medical care.

Finances:

The Scheme is mainly financed by contributions from employers and employees. The employers pay contribution at the rate of 4.35 per cent of the total wage bill. The employees' contribution works out to nearly 2.17 per cent of wages.

Impounding of Passports

- *250. SHRI VITHAL GADGIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that passports of Indians working with the Indian Foreign Service officials at their residences in Europe have been impounded; and