

on Labour have recommended that the rate of Provident Fund contribution be raised to 8% where it is 4% and to 10% where it is 5%. The proposal is under consideration.

(b) Proposals to make the penal provisions in the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 more stringent are under consideration.

CASES TENDING WITH CUSTODIAN GENERAL OF INDIA

*611. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pending with Custodian General of India, New Delhi since 1964 to date in relation to the shops owned by the residents of undivided Punjab and Himachal Pradesh which were confiscated on the land purchased by them prior to the year 1947 and were wrongly declared Evacuee Property and ordered for auction by the Custodians Officer;

(b) the number of cases in which enquiry is still pending by the Regional Custodians of Evacuee Property in response to orders of the Custodian General of Evacuee Property in 1970 for releasing the shops after proper enquiry to the rightful owners; and whether any shops constructed on the same land have already been released to the owners; and if so, in how many cases; and

(c) in how many cases these owners had appealed to Government against delay in disposal of such cases, and what action has been taken on such appeals ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). No such case is pending with the Custodian General at New Delhi. In respect of land disposed of evacuee properties and agricultural lands situated within the States of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh the records have been transferred to the respective State Governments in pursuance of financial and administrative arrangements concluded

I with them. The officers of the State Governments have been delegated necessary powers under the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950 to deal with such matters. Necessary information is being collected from the Custodians of Evacuee Property in these States and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) No appeal lies to the Central Government under the provisions of Administration of Evacuee Property Act. The Central Government exercise supervisory powers under Section 54 of the aforesaid Act. As regards the number of cases where owners had represented against delays in disposal, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

REPORT OF BHAGWATHI COMMITTEE ON UNEMPLOYMENT

*612. SHRI K.C. PANDA :
SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bhagwathi Committee on unemployment has submitted its interim report;

(b) if so, the details of the findings and various recommendations made in the interim report; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in regard to its recommendations and observations ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A summary of recommendations is contained in para 90 of the Report which was laid on the Table of the House on 28-3-1972.

(c) The recommendations made in the Interim Report are currently being examined by an Inter Ministerial Group. Further action will be initiated when this examination is over.