

very lest the CBT is aware of the factors which have influenced Government to take a decision in the matter.

(e) To take a final view in the matter, a reference has been made to Ministry of Finance to approve the rate of interest as recommended by the Central Board of Trustees. The consultation process with that Ministry is underway.

Rate of interest on EPF

1528. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Board of Trustees, EPF had recommended 9.5 per cent rate of interest of its subscribers for year 2010-11 in its meeting held on 15th September, 2010;

(b) whether this involved any financial support from Government;

(c) if so, whether the same has been notified;

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) the impact of the delay on the subscribers whose claims have been settled so far in 2010-11?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This does not involve any financial support from Government.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Before declaring the interest by the Central Government, in the course of Inter Ministerial Consultation, the Ministry of Finance raised certain observations on the accuracy of calculations which have been clarified by the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

(e) The claims have been settled by giving interest @ 8.5% for 2010-11, which was the rate of the previous financial year 2009-10. If the interest rate for the financial year 2010-11 is notified more than 8.5% then they are also entitled for the difference amount.

The delay in declaration of the rate of interest will delay the updation of members' accounts and resultantly, the Account Slips to be issued to the members may also be delayed.

Non-ratification of two ILO conventions 98 and 87

1529. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons that Government did not ratify two ILO conventions 98 and 87 which allows right to form workers' Union;

(b) whether it is a fact that in view of

(a) above, there are disputes over trade union's recognition between managements and workers in the country; and

(c) how Government would like to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (c) Sir, the formation/recognition of Unions are governed in our country by statutes of Central and States Governments and are not dependent on ratification or otherwise of ILO Conventions Nos. 87 and 98.

Government is not ratifying ILO Conventions 87 and 98 as ratification would involve granting of certain rights to Government employees against the statutory rules, viz., to strike work, to openly criticize the Government policy and freely accept financial contribution, to join foreign organizations, etc. The Government employees in India enjoy exceptionally high degree of job security flowing from article 311 of our Constitution. Government employees also have grievance redressal machinery under the Joint Consultative Machinery (JCM) and the administrative tribunals.

The guarantees provided for under these Conventions are by and large available to Industrial workers in India by means of constitutional provisions, laws, regulations and practices.

Policy framework for domestic workers

1530. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by Ministry to include 'domestic work' as a scheduled employment for fixation of minimum rates of wages as per the Minimum Wages Act, 1948;

(b) whether any consultations in this regard have been held with the State Governments;

(c) if so, the outcome of such consultations; and

(d) the Task Force constituted to evolve a policy framework for domestic workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (d) Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both the Central and State Governments are appropriate Governments to fix, review, revise and enforce the minimum rates of wages for different categories of workers employed in the scheduled employments under their respective Jurisdictions. 'Domestic Workers' falls under the purview of State sphere, wherein, the State Governments are the appropriate Governments to fix, review, revise and enforce the minimum rates of wages for domestic workers under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.