Investment of EPFO's money in equities

1510. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: SHRI R.C. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Finance Ministry has been demanding the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) to invest 15 per cent of their money in equities; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof and the decision of the EPFO thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) The Finance Ministry is not demanding the Employees' Fund Organisation to invest 15 per cent of their money in Equities.

People committing suicide due to joblessness

†1511. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people committed suicide across the country due to joblessness during the year 2009;
- (b) if so, the number of people in the country who committed suicide due to joblessness between the year 2009 and 2010; and
- (c) the names of such States where number of people committing suicide due to joblessness has been highest and lowest?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) As per available information, 2472 persons committed suicide due to unemployment during 2009 which is 1.9 per cent of total suicides committed in the year.

(c) Highest number of 428 people committed suicide due to unemployment in West Bengal. In North-Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Island and Daman and Diu, no one committed suicide due to unemployment.

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1512. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: SHRI PRABHAT JHA: SHRI D. RAJA: SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

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

 $[\]dagger$ Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.