

Bureau's purpose is available in the New Secretariat building.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, that in shifting the Calcutta office to Nagpur, the location of various mines in the eastern zone is not being taken into consideration?

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SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: No, Sir. All these aspects of expert and technical investigations have been taken into consideration and it has been finally decided that the efficiency of the Indian Bureau of Mines will certainly increase if the various offices are located at one place.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: I could not quite follow how efficiency, by locating the Mines Bureau in Nagpur, will increase in preference to the areas where mining areas are abundantly situated, that is, in the eastern zone.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: The Indian Bureau of Mines is an administrative office and also it has to examine the various data which are obtained from the entire country. The mines are all dispersed throughout the country. Now, the eastern portion of the country also has got mines. So, Nagpur is better situated to have an overall assessment of the technical aspects, the administrative aspects and the mining aspects of India as a whole.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether there has been any representation by various mineral associations in eastern India not to shift the office from Calcutta to Nagpur?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I am not aware of any representation from any mining association.

DR. R. B. GOUR: The point that Nagpur is geographically centrally situated is there. But yet there are not many offices there. So, there should be some other reasons for the shifting of the office. Moreover, may I know what are the likely effects on

the employees, their emoluments and working conditions by this shifting?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Well the main cause of shifting the office to a central place like Nagpur is to increase the efficiency and the administrative ability of the office to function in a much better way. Of course, whatever is possible will be done to protect the interests and the working conditions of the workers.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: With the shifting of the Bureau of Mines to Nagpur can we expect that the central parts of India, which were neglected by the Geological Survey of India, would be paid better attention?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I do not think that the interests of the central parts of India were ignored by the Geological Survey of India. •

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know what is the general policy of the Government regarding the dispersal of offices from one place to various places?

DR. R. B. GOUR: There is no general policy.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have not become Minister. Order, order.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: We always take into consideration the efficiency and the working capacity of the Central offices. And obviously it is the policy of the Government to see that the offices function well and they are located in such a way that our policy of dispersal is discouraged.

EMPLOYEES ADMITTED TO THE BENEFIT OF THE PROVIDENT FUNDS

*95. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees who have so far been admitted to the benefit of the various provident funds

administered by the Ministry of Finance; and

(b) the total amount to the credit of the subscribers on account of (i) their own subscription,, (ii) Government contribution and (hi) interest accrued? .

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA) :

(a) Exact information regarding the numtrrer of Central Government employees who have been admitted to the various Provident Funds is not readily available. It may, however, be stated that the total number of Central Government employees is roughly Hi lakhs and that the vast majority of them are eligible to join either a contributory or a non-contributory Provident Fund, the condition of eligibility being completion of one year's service in some cases and three years' service in certain others.

(b) The total accumulation in the various Provident Funds administered by the Central Government at the end of the year 1957-58 was Rs. 200 crores approximately and the total interest allowed thereon for the same year was Rs. 7 crores. Separate figures for employees own subscriptions, the Gov ernment contribution and interest are not available. *

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether those people who have been admitted to the provident fund facility are not being considered for their being made eligible to the pension scheme?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: I do not have that information with me now and I would require notice to ascertain that. If the hon. Member wants that information, it will be given to him.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether some inordinate delays are occurring in the ultimate payment, of the provident fund on the discharge or on the retirement of the members contributing to the provident fund?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: We are not aware of inordinate delays. No complaints have been received so far by us. If the hon. Member brings certain definite cases to our notice, certainly they will be looked into.

DR. R. B. GOUR: The hon. Deputy Minister said just now that there are two types of provident fund. For one type of provident fund the period of eligibility is completion of one year's service and in the other type it is three years. May I know what is the difference and what are the categories of employees to whom they apply?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: The two types of contributory fund are: one is of a non-contributory nature and the other is of a contributory nature. The position in this respect is that all permanent employees and all temporary employees who have completed one year's service are eligible to join the Central General Provident Fund, which is of a non-contributory nature. As regards the contributory provident fund, the largest number of subscribers are on the Railway side where employees can join the State Railway Provident Fund after one year's service, the Railway's contribution being added after three years with retrospective effect. The condition of eligibility to join the Workmen's Contributory Fund also is continuous service of three years.

TRAINING OF STUDENTS IN MINING AND ITS ALLIED TECHNOLOGIES

*96. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many students are at present under training in the various institutions imparting training in mining and its allied technologies;

(b) what is the number of mining technologists required for implementation of the Second Five Year Plan; and