

estimated number of vacant posts of regular Central Government Civilian employees as on 01.03.2010 is 5,33,936.

(c) All Ministries/Departments are required to review their vacancies *vis-a-vis* the work load regularly and take necessary steps in the light of such reviews. There is provision for filling up vacancies by Government Departments as per their requirements subject to extant guidelines and rules on the matter.

Enhancing the pension of EPF pensioners

†288. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the assurance given by Government for enhancing the pension of the economically weak pensioners of EPF would be fulfilled this time, if so, the burden to be caused by it on Government exchequer; and

(b) the steps Government is going to take to improve the condition of EPF pensioners?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) An Expert Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of the Additional Secretary (L&E) in June, 2009 to review the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 entirely. The Committee submitted its report to the Central Government on 5th August, 2010.

The report of the Expert Committee was placed before the Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund for consideration on 15.09.2010. CBT directed that the report be first considered by the Pension Implementation Committee (PIC). PIC has since submitted its recommendations to Employees' Provident Fund Organisation for placing these before CBT for their consideration.

Skill training centres for weavers in Gujarat

289. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme to create new skill training centres for weavers in Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the centres would be equipped with modern and latest technology; and

(c) how many weaver centres are running in the State presently?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) At present, one Weavers' Service Centre at Ahmedabad is functioning in the State of Gujarat.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.