

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) besides entrepreneurial development programmes run by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

Amount of EPFO invested in private sector

†2912. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) invested in private sector, non-banking companies during the last three years and the current year along with the profit earned on these investments;

(b) whether Chief Investment Advisor of Employees Provident Fund Organisation, Finance and Investment Committee (FIC) has decided to reduce the maximum period of investment in private sector, non-banking companies to ten years;

(c) if so, the details of major decisions taken by Finance and Investment Committee (FIC) and the reasons therefor; and

(d) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH): (a) Details of amount invested by the Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) in private sector, non-banking companies and annual return as per the coupon rate during the last three years and current year are as under:

<i>(Rs in crore)</i>		
Year	Amount Invested	Annual Return
2009-10	575.40	51.20
2010-11	2433.20	220.59
2011-12	1181.80	111.19
April, 2012 to November, 2012	Nil	Nil

As the securities are not sold by EPFO in market, there is no question of earning any profit.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) to (d) Committee on Finance and Investment (FIC), a sub-Committee of Central Board of Trustees, is a recommending committee. The recommendations of FIC were placed before Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund (CBT, EPF) in its 200th meeting held on 7th August, 2012. The CBT, EPF approved the following recommendations of FIC for consideration of the Central Government:

- (i) Allowing investment in certificate of deposits of public sector banks for better cash management.
- (ii) Increase the maximum tenure of Terms Deposit Receipt of Public Sector Banks to 5 Years from existing up to 1 Year to enable EPFO to capture higher yields on such investments.

The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Identity cards to beedi workers

†2913. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has ascertained the number of Beedi workers to issue them identity cards;
- (b) if so, the number of such Beedi workers;
- (c) the number of Beedi workers to whom identity cards have been issued by Government; and
- (d) by when identity cards will be issued to all those Beedi workers who have been identified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH): (a) and (b) As per available information, there are about 64 lakh beedi workers in the country.

(c) and (d) About 51 lakh beedi workers have been issued identity cards. Issuance of identity cards is a continuous process. Government's endeavor has been to issue identity cards to all identified beedi workers. However, no time limit has been fixed for this purpose.

Attack on dalit colonies in Tamil Nadu

2914. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.