UK/4481

MH/95413

MH/42123

MH/Vashi/95220

MH/BAN/39407

[9 July, 2014]

Written Answers to

M/s. Dey's Medical

M/s. Almora Magnesite Limited

M/s. I.G. Petrochemicals Limited

M/s. Mysore Petrochemicals Limited

M/s. Hexaware Technologies Limited

M/s. GIC Housing Finance Limited

SI.No. 60.

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Unstarred Questions

## Investments by EPFO in marketable government securities

340. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Employee's Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) proposes to exit from the Special Deposit Schemes of Government and instead invest in marketable Government securities;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by EPFO to improve return on investment and also provide a higher interest rate to subscribers on their retirement savings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs *vide* Notification No. F5(6)/ ECB&pr/2003 dated 1st May 2003 disallowed any new investment in Special Deposit Scheme with effect from 30th June, 2003 and the interest accretions on the outstanding balances under SDS were to be invested as per investment pattern for the non-government provident funds, superannuation and gratuity funds. The refunds of deposit before redemption were allowed in specific circusmstances mentioned in the Notification dated 1st May 2003. It was also mentioned in the said Notification that Central Government may make repayment of the outstanding balance under the scheme through issue of dated Government securities to the subscribers of the scheme for such amount and maturity as it may decide, in consultation with the subscribers.

The investment in SDS are in perpetuity which is a disadvantage from a cash flow management perspective and the yields have been lower than Government securities at the time of making the application for issuance of dated securities in lieu of SDS.

- (c) The following steps have been taken to improve return on investment and a higher interest rate to subscribers on their retirement savings:—
  - (i). Adoption of Government of India's New Investment Pattern 2013 for EPFO funds.
  - (ii). Modification in guidelines in investment considering the extant market situation.
  - (iii). Appointment of four fund managers to efficiently manage investment of the fund by introduction of competition and professionalism.
  - (iv). Continuous monitoring and evaluation of performance of fund managers by benchmarking performance with assistance of professional consultants.

## Unclaimed amount lying in PF

- 341. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) the State-wise details of amount of funds of the labourers deposited in Provident Fund (PF) is lying unclaimed in their accounts;
- (b) the steps Government is taking to give this amount to the rightful claimants; and