

(d) the additional financial burden suffered by the apprentices due to the present system of examination as compared to the earlier system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No Sir, The pattern of annual examination or examination on completion of apprentices training in the industries still remains same. It is conducted by National Council of Vocational Training (NCVT) twice in a year *i.e.* in month of April and October. To optimize the practical training facilities available with the industries, the Apprentices Act, 1961 was enacted to regulate the enrolment of apprentices in industries not in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs).

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The apprentices are enrolled to industries and not to the ITIs.

(d) Question does not arise.

Houses for EPF subscribers

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

(a) whether the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has chalked out a scheme for providing housing to its subscribers on additional contribution;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme; and

(c) the time by when the said scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) of the Question above.

Opening of ITIs through PPP

414. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to open Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) through Public Private Partnership (PPP) for skill development of educated youth during the Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) what have been the proposals for socially and economically disadvantaged categories; and