

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Non-depositing of PF contribution of staff in their accounts**

†*106. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Provident Fund (PF) contribution of the staff working in private factories and institutions in the country is not being deposited in their PF accounts by their owners;

(b) if so, whether such complaints have been received by the Ministry;

(c) if so, the details of the action taken on the complaints received; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) Some complaints have been received by EPFO through its field offices that some of the establishments which are covered under Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 fail to deposit provident fund contribution of their staff.

(c) The details of actions taken against such defaulting establishments are as under:—

- (i) Wherever the establishments are found coverable under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, the same are covered under the Act.
- (ii) In case of default in remittance of dues, enquiry under Section 7A of the Act is being initiated.
- (iii) Recovery of dues under Section 8B to 8G of the Act is initiated for recovery.
- (iv) In case of belated remittance, action under Section 14B of the Act is taken for levy of penal damages and under Section 7Q of the Act for calculating interest.
- (v) Action under Section 14 of the Act is taken for filing prosecution against the defaulters before the competent court of law.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (vi) Wherever it is found that the provident fund contribution has been deducted from salary of employees but not deposited in the fund, action under Section 406/409 of Indian Penal Code (IPC) is taken.
- (vii) During 2014-15, 228 FIRs and 1490 prosecutions were filed and 14,000 enquiries under Section 7A of the Act were initiated against defaulting establishments. For late payment of provident fund, an amount of ₹ 730/- crore was collected as damages and interest.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) of the Question above.

Modern training to police forces to upgrade their skills

*107. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the updated status of action taken by Central Government in consultation with State Governments, to provide modern training to bottom part of police forces to upgrade their skills in apprehending militants with arms/explosive materials;

(b) whether Government intends to provide modern guns to police forces; and

(c) whether Central Government has sought/going to get any report about the action plan from State Governments on above said matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) "Public Order" and "Police" are State subjects as per the provisions of the Constitution of India. The responsibilities of maintaining law and order including investigation, prosecution and conviction rest primarily with the State Governments. Several State Governments have set up their own State police academies to train their police personnel for the purposes, including for upgrading their skills and apprehending militants with arms and explosives.

However, the Central Government supplements the States by providing funds for the construction and upgradation of State Police Academies and offers its training facilities to the States. During the last three years an amount of ₹ 76.27 crores have been released to States for training equipment and construction of training infrastructure under Modernisation of State Police Scheme.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. MHA supplements the States in this respect also. MHA provides funds to the States for procurement of modern arms and ammunition, based on the Annual Action Plans submitted by the States under Modernisation of State Police Forces Scheme.