THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Review of Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 is an ongoing process based on the changing socio-economic scenario.

(c) and (d) Representations from various stakeholders are received for review/ amendment of EPF Scheme, 1952. The suggestions so received are considered while carrying out amendment to the Scheme.

Exploitation and different wages for contract workers in automobile sector

2501. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any study about the difference between wages paid to contract labourers and permanent labourers, doing the same work in the automobile sector:
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to address such exploitation of contract workers in the automobile sector in the country?

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

(c) Rule 25(2)(v) of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Central Rules, 1970 framed under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 stipulates that in cases where the workman employed by the contractor perform the same or similar kind of work as the workmen directly employed by the principal employer of the establishment, the wage rates, holidays, hours of work and other conditions of service of the workmen of the contractor shall be the same as applicable to the workmen directly employed by the principal employer of the establishment on the same or similar kind of work. Further, the said rate provides that in case of any disagreement with regard to the type of work the same shall be decided by the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner (Central).

Reduction in jobs in the country

2502. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether reduction in jobs is at a worrisome rate in the country;