

LOK SABHA

Monday, August 27, 1962/Bhadra 5,
1884 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair.]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Contribution to Provident Fund

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*612. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

Will the Minister of Labour and
Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken
a final decision to raise the Provi-
dent Fund Contribution from 6½ to
8½ per cent; and

(b) if not, the reason for this
abnormal delay?

The Minister of Labour in the
Ministry of Labour and Employment
(Shri Hathi): (a) Yes. A Bill to en-
hance the rate of contributions from
6½ per cent. to 8 per cent. of basic
wages, dearness allowance and retain-
ing allowance, if any, in cigarettes,
electrical, machanical or general en-
gineering products, iron and steel and
paper industries under the Employcees
Provident Funds Act, 1952, was
introduced in the Rajya Sabha on
22nd August, 1962.

Necessary notifications enhancing
the rate of contributions from 6½ per
cent. to 8 per cent. of total emclu-
ments under the Coal Mines Provi-
dent Fund Schemes with effect from
1st October, 1962, have been issued.

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(b) Does not arise.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know,
Sir, what are the specific reasons for
not raising this Provident Fund
contribution from 6½ per cent. to
8½ per cent. I want to know what
was the specific objection of the em-
ployers in raising this to 8½ per
cent.

Shri Hathi: There was no specific
objection, but for purposes of calcula-
tion we thought 8 per cent. would
be suitable.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know
whether the Government is taking
necessary steps to see that the other
industries are also covered by this
increase; if so, the action that is like-
ly to be taken.

Shri Hathi: We are appointing a
committee to look into the question
as to which other industries can be
added, how much should be the rate,
whether it would be possible to do so
and all that. We have already start-
ed taking action in that connection.

Shri Prabhat Kar: May I know
whether Government has extended
this scheme to all the commercial em-
ployees including those in the bank-
ing industry?

Shri Hathi: This raising from
6½ per cent to 8 per cent. has been
extended to four industries.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: What was the
specific ground on which Government
decided to exclude two or three indus-
tries whose condition was equired
into, particularly the cotton textile
and jute textile industries?

Shri Hathi: The committee which was appointed for this purpose recommended in the first instance that these four industries are in a position to bear the higher burden and, therefore, it was extended to these four industries. It was done on the recommendation of this technical committee. About the other industries, we have again asked this committee to go into the question.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: My question has not been understood properly.

Mr. Speaker: He has given the specific reasons why the others were excluded.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: They have already been enquired into.

Mr. Speaker: He said that this committee made a recommendation that in the first instance it may be applied to these four industries, and that the question of others being included is being enquired into.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: It is all right that they are being enquired into. But I want to know the grounds on which they were excluded.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member there.

श्री कछवाय : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस विषय में मजदूर यूनियन्स के भी विचार लिए गए हैं और यदि लिए गए हैं तो किन किन यूनियन्स के ?

श्री हाथी : जी हाँ, अभी जो अग्रस्त महीने में इंडियन लेबर कानफरेंस मिली थी उसमें इस बात की चर्चा आयी थी और यह तै हूया था कि और इंडस्ट्रीज के मामले भी कमेटी के सामने पेश किए जाएँ और उसकी जांच की जाए ।

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: May I know how far the Government examined the working of the institutions where the rate has already been increased to find out how far it increases efficiency in production?

Shri Hathi: The rate has not yet been actually increased, because the Act has to be amended. As I have said in the main body of the answer, we have introduced a Bill in the Rajya Sabha for this purpose. It has not actually been increased.

Bank Award

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*613. { **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:
Shri Kolla Venkaiah:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Kachhavaia:
Shri Bade:
Shri Ram Ratan Gupta:
Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:
Shri Nambiar:
Shri Warrior:
Shrimati Renu Chakravarti
Shri Prabhat Kar:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the award of Justice K. T. Desai, 75,000 employees of commercial banks will get bigger pay packets;

(b) whether it is a fact that the banks have been classified according to their deposits and magnitude of operations and that separate scales of pay and D.A. have been recommended for each class;

(c) how far the recommendations vary from that of the Second Pay Commission;

(d) whether a separate report will be submitted with regard to the bonus to be paid to bank employees; and

(e) the reactions of Government thereto?