

Arrears of Provident Fund Amounting to Rupees one Lakh and above

531. SHRI L. L. KAPOOR: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the names and addresses of all those parties who are defaulters in paying the provident fund of employees amounting to rupees one lakh and above;

(b) the arrears at the end of each year during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to recover such arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. RAM KRIPAL SINHA): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. (Placed in Library See No. LT-1585/78].

Abolition of contract Labour System

532. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH SAYIAN WALA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some definite proposals are being actively considered by Government either to protect the interest of the casual labour or abolish the system at all at least in the public sector undertakings and ministries; and

(b) if so, what are those measures adopted so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI LARANG SAI): (a) and (b). During November 1971, the Ministry of Labour had circulated to all Employing Ministries Model Standing Orders for Casual Labour in Central Government undertakings for adoption by the

various departmental undertakings the administrative control of the Employing Ministries. These standing orders seek to regulate the conditions of the employment of casual labour, and provide inter-alia for normal hours of work, payment of wages, overtime, weekly day of rest, procedure for termination of employment etc. While there is no proposal at present to abolish the system of casual labour as such, the question of the further safeguards needed to be provided in respect of this category of workers, was reviewed at an Inter-Ministerial meeting convened by the Ministry of Labour during January 1978 to assess the magnitude of the problem. The matter is to be considered further in the light of the additional information being collected following the discussions during January, 1978.

Linking of Amritsar with big Cities through Microwave Direct Dial

533. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH SAYIAN WALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals are under consideration to link up Amritsar with other big cities of the country through microwave direct dial or a satellite circuit; and

(b) whether such a link up is already there between Amritsar and Lahore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) Amritsar is already linked to the National Telecommunication Network by a coaxial cable system and has direct dialling facility to a number of cities of the country. A wide-band microwave system is also proposed to be installed so as to augment the existing circuit capacities. There is no plan for having circuit to Amritsar via satellite.

(b) No, Sir.