

like to do anything by half measures and he would like the full thing. I recall that there was a commitment on this very floor of Parliament by the P.V. Narasimha Rao Government that the Government would bring a comprehensive broadcasting law which would include the Prasar Bharati and the Regulatory Authority and it was done as a consequence of the Supreme Court Judgement. I would like to know whether the Prasar Bharati amendment is going on, whether it will form part of the comprehensive broadcasting law and whether it will also incorporate the Supreme Court judgement and its observations regarding the Regulatory Authority. I would also like to know as to how long it will take for the Government to bring it before the Parliament so that we get the opportunity of discussing it here.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : Sir, I have already answered this question. I think the hon Member was not present here at that time. But I am very happy to answer it again. Definitely we want to bring a comprehensive Bill. We will keep all the aspects in view.

As far as the interim report is concerned, I agree that there are certain cases where we need the interim report. But in this case, if I take the interim report I cannot do anything. So, I did not demand for the interim report. I asked them to give a full and final report. They have extended the time till the 31st July and once the report comes, as I told earlier also, we will involve specially all the former Information and Broadcasting Ministers in the discussions. I will have individual discussion with them and also with all the political parties. We will uphold the Government's programme also. The previous Government also had made this commitment. We know it. That is why I made it clear that this Prasar Bharati Bill should be passed unanimously.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, the commitment was that the Prasar Bharati and the Regulatory Authority will be components, will be part and parcel of the comprehensive broadcasting law. Is this Government separately getting the Prasar Bharati, the comprehensive broadcasting law and the Regulatory Authority or will they all be part of the comprehensive broadcasting law?

MR. SPEAKER : I think what the Minister has said is that he has not taken any final view. He is collecting all the inputs.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, he is answering on the interim report of the Expert Committee. That was not my question. The commitment was that the comprehensive broadcasting law would incorporate the Supreme Court Judgement and the observations, the Regulatory Authority and the Prasar Bharati. What is the present state of the comprehensive broadcasting law? I want to know whether it will incorporate all these things or whether these things are coming separately.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : Sir, again and again I am saying that after getting the report of the Committee, if we are thinking of a comprehensive Bill.

[Translation]

I would see as to how it can be incorporated. I would consider all the suggestions given by you prior to presenting the report to the Parliament.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Minister aware of the fact that there are six former Information and Broadcasting Ministers, including you, present in the House?

MR. SPEAKER : All of them will be given equal opportunity.

[Translation]

#### Constitution of Separate Bodies

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\*25. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether several committees constituted by the Government during the previous years have recommended to constitute separate bodies for Local Self-Government in the tribal dominated areas for the welfare of the tribes.

(b) if so, the progress made in the implementation of the above recommendations, and

(c) the time by which separate bodies are likely to be constituted for Local Self-Government in the tribal dominated areas?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Department of Rural Development in Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment and Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment had set up two separate Committees of M.P.s and Experts to make recommendations on the salient features of the law for extending the provisions of Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 and (74th Amendment) Act, 1992 to the Scheduled Areas which are pre-dominantly inhabited by the Scheduled Tribes.

(b) and (c) Both the Committees have submitted their reports to the Government of India. The Department of Rural Areas and Employment is actively processing the matter in consultation with concerned Administrative Ministries and State Governments for implementing the recommendations contained in aforesaid reports. Ministry of Urban

Affairs and Employment have also initiated a dialogue with Ministry of Rural in this connection.

[Translation]

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question from the hon. Welfare Minister was regarding separate bodies I had asked, whether several committees constituted by him for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have sent their recommendations to him for the constitution of separate bodies? You have already admitted that you have received such recommendations. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being exploited politically, economically, socially and educationally and we feel that we have not been able to stop this exploitation. For this purpose, these committees have sent their recommendations to you to constitute a separate body so that it may think over in this regard properly. You have said in your reply that almost four years have passed since 73rd and 74th Amendments were made in 1992. In this case either you say that you do not rely on the Parliamentary Committees and only then you have constituted the committees comprising of other experts. I would like to ask you whether Expert Committees constituted by you consist of experts belonging only to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes since only wearer knows where the shoe pinches?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the two committees which were constituted comprised of the hon. Members and experts both. They presented the report in 1995. The recommendations of the committees which are within the ambit of Schedule 5-6 pertaining to tribal areas should be considered in accordance with the spirit of 73rd and 74th Amendment which gives administrative power to local bodies and it should be extended by incorporating age old traditions, mode of imparting justice and also keeping in mind the resources of the tribals. The committees have presented their reports on these lines. I have said that it is under consideration and deep study is going on that. (Interruptions)

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my second supplementary question. The hon. Minister has replied to my question but he did not make it clear. I am not interested in members of the committees because every committee has members. I wanted to know whether the members of the committees constituted by you and experts nominated belonged to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes? What is their number? My second question is. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now ask the second question quickly.

(Interruptions)

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : I am asking the same. You had stated in your reply that you had contacted State-Governments and the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment and that the work was in full swing. I would like to request you to fix a limit of works done during 1992-1996. I would also like to know the time bound scheme for the constitution of these bodies and the time by which this scheme will materialised.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : You do not give an opportunity to give clear reply. Shri Dileep Singh Bhooriya was the Chairman of that Committee. Secondly, we have clearly stated in the common minimum programme, rural programme of United Front that

[English]

'The United Government will also study

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Outstanding Amount of P.F. of Beedi Workers

\*22 SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Beedi workers whose provident fund is regularly deposited by the factory owners with concerned authorities, State-wise,

(b) the amount of provident fund which is still outstanding against Beedi factory owners, State-wise and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) A statement is enclosed

### STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of State/Region	As on	As on
		31.12.95 No. of EPF subscribers in Beedi Industry	31.3.96 Amount of EPF Arrears (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	4,31,021	11.62
2	Bihar	28,322	201.89