

into the various malpractices indulged by the re-rollers of steel scrap,

(b) if so, the names of the parties involved and the outcome of the enquiry, and

(c) the preventive measures which Government propose to take to put an end to such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) (a) and (b) Some reports have been received about allocation of raw materials to some scrap Re-rollers who are not in existence or not in operation. These are being investigated

(c) Regional Offices of the Iron and Steel Controller have been set up in different parts of the country and one of their functions is to check misuse of steel. The Iron and Steel (Control) Order was also amended last year to provide that utilisation of steel for purposes other than those for which steel is allocated or applied for is a violation of the Control Order and would attract the penal provisions of the Essential Commodities Act. In investigating such complaints, the assistance of the Central Bureau of Investigation is also being taken where necessary.

Increase in E. P. F. Arrears

120. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the arrears of Provident Fund Shares of Employers are increasing every year,

(b) if so, the arrears, year-wise, during the last three years, and

(c) the action taken by Government for the prompt payment of Provident Fund Shares by the employers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADIKAR) : The Provident Fund Authorities have reported as under :-

(a) and (b). Separate figures of arrears of employers' share are not available. How-

ever, the total quantum of arrears of provident fund contributions in respect of unexempted establishments stood at Rs 1217 lakhs, 1469 lakhs and 1649 lakhs at the end of March, 1969, March, 1970 and March, 1971 respectively.

(c) The following steps are taken against the unexempted establishments which default in the payment of provident fund dues

- (i) Prosecution is launched under Section 14 of the Employees' Provident Fund and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952
- (ii) Revenue Recovery proceedings are initiated under Section 8 of the Act
- (iii) In suitable cases complaints are filed with the Police Courts under Section 406-409 of the Indian Penal Code
- (iv) Penal damages are levied under Section 14B of the Act
- (v) The default is brought to the notice of the Employers and Workers Organisations including the Trade Unions
- (vi) In some cases the establishments are afforded a chance to pay the dues in suitable instalments subject to production of adequate guarantee, surety etc.
- (vii) In the case of Textile Mills which have gone into liquidation, reconstruction schemes are examined on merits

Debarring of Defaulting Employers from Board of Trustees of E. P. F. and C. M. P. F.

121. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDAR Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to debar the defaulting employers sitting on the Board of Trustees of Employers' Provident Fund and Coal Mines Provident Fund, and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADIKAR) (a) and (b) The Employers' Provident Fund and the Coal Mines Provident Fund Schemes have already been amended to provide for removal from trusteeship of defaulting employers from the Boards of Trustees.