

(b) whether there are cases where the date of coverage once fixed was later shifted to a later date by the Regional Commissioners themselves under their own powers; and

(c) if so, the number of such cases, region-wise, alongwith the original date and shifted date of coverage during the last three years and whether any control is being exercised by the Central Office of the Organisation to check the validity of such shift in the date of coverage?

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

(a) Factories/establishments which attract the provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 are covered in accordance with the provisions contained in Sections 1 and 16 of the Act. Determination of the date of coverage is made accordingly and no other power has been conferred on any authority except as contained in the Act.

(b) At times, factories/establishments are covered provisionally from certain date(s) on the basis of readily available information/data. In some such cases the provisional date(s) of coverage, if found necessary, is/are changed after making further enquiries and collecting more information from the establishments/factories concerned or other sources.

(c) Information is not readily available. However no control from the Central Office of the Organisation is necessary as the basic information is available in the Regional Office only and the Regional Commissioner has to abide strictly by the provisions of the Act and the Scheme.

#### Vigilance Set up in E.P.F. Organisation

2470. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:  
SHRI BHOLA MANJHI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether no effective vigilance set-up exists in the Central and Regional Offices of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation;

(b) whether Officers of the organisations handle thousands of cases of settlement of Provident Fund claims and grant of advances involving millions of rupees every month; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to strengthen the vigilance machinery in the Organisation, particularly at the Headquarters office?

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

(a) There is a Vigilance Cell in the Central Office which is in charge of vigilance matters for the entire Organisation. The working of the existing Vigilance set-up has not disclosed any deficiency *vis-a-vis* the matters, having vigilance angle, required to be dealt with from time to time.

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) of the question.

#### Honorarium of Personal Staff of Chairman of E.P.F. Organisation

2471. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:  
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Private Secretary and P.A. attached to the Secretary of Labour Department who is the ex-officio Chairman of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation are being paid honorarium by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation; and