

'A Life of Granite' A Newsitem Caption

10018. SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the Indian Express dated 6 May, 1990 under the caption 'A Life of Granite';

(b) if so, whether these migrant labourers are living in inhuman conditions and are paid much less wages than prescribed by Government; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The information/Report has been called for from the State Governments Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Providentfund Contribution by Textile, Jute, Hosiery Units

10019. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire textile industry, jute factories, hosiery and silk factories are excluded from the application of the provisions of the Employees' Provident Fund Act regarding increase in the monthly contribution from 8.33 per cent to 10 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether readymade garment industry is included in textile industry as per Government Notification dated 17-5-89 regarding first provision to section of the Employees Provident Fund Act, 1952;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government propose to review these two provisions and take steps to apply the increased rate of monthly contribution to above industries except units covered by (i), (ii) and (iii) of above Notification dated 17-5-89; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was reported that these industries were generally not in a position to bear additional financial liability on account of enhanced rate of provident fund contribution.

(c) No, Sir. The enhanced rate of contribution is applicable to the garment making factories.

(d) It is felt that these factories are in a position to bear the additional financial liability on account of enhanced rate of contribution.

(e) Yes, Sir. The question of applying the enhanced rate of contribution to the textile industry, other than jute industry, is under consideration.

Re-testing of Drugs

10020. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cases of re-testing of drugs done by national laboratories in the presence of foreign manufacturers' representatives during last three years;

(b) the details of the products and the final outcome of the same; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?