

# Fall' in PF arrears

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The Employees Provident Fund Organisation was able to contain mounting arrears and issue the highest number of account slips during 1983-84. The organisation contained arrears to Rs 41 crore. A substantial amount of these arrears was held up due to liquidation of organisations and litigation cases.

It was informed at the meeting of Board of Trustees, that a large amount was held up in the States of Bihar, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh. Jute industry accounts for 70 per cent of the total arrears.

The Board felt that greater vigilance is required on performance of exempted establishments as they play a dominant role in mobilising saving. Out of a total collection of contribution of Rs 1165.57 crore during 1983-84, the share of exempted establishments was Rs 658.73 crore. The contribution not transferred to the Board of Trustees was Rs 45.75 crore and not invested by the Board of Trustees Rs 1.65 crore.

During 1983-84 the total amount collected by way of contributions under the three schemes was Rs 1339 crore as against Rs 1217 crore in the previous year, thus registering an increase of 10.0 per cent over the preceding year. The savings generated under the Act during 1982-83 accounted for 4.7 per cent of net domestic savings and 9.8 per cent of the total financial savings originated in the household sector.

The organisation brought over 4,500 new establishments under the ambit of the Act covering over 74,302 new subscribers. Besides, 25,242 establishments were surveyed with a view to see whether they are recoverable under the Act.

During the year scheme relating to grant of advances in special cases was amended to clarify that no advance shall be admissible, if either of the situations indicated therein is as a result of a strike. The subordinate officers attached to

Regional Commissioners have been empowered to sanction advances. Paragraph relating to advance for house building, purchase of dwelling house/flat, land etc. has been amended to provide for grant of advance to meet the registration charges also and advance for marriage or post-matriculation studies of children. The number of advances have been raised from two to three.

The Board was informed for early realisation of the arrears, dues were determined in 10,675 cases. A sum of Rs 3.46 crore was recovered by executing 2,549 revenue recovery certificates. 6,291 prosecutions were launched. As many as 6,531 speaking orders were issued by Fund Commissioners levying damages amounting to Rs 5.85 crore on belated payment of contributions.

Out of 5.08 lakh provident fund claims due for settlement, 4.44 lakh or 87.4 per cent were settled authorizing payment of a sum of Rs 198 crore.

Under the Family Pension Scheme, 3.22 lakh claims were settled involving a payment of Rs 7.54 crore. The number of claims settled during the year 1983-84 registered an increase of 24.8 per cent and the amount authorised 48.2 per cent as compared to the immediately preceding year.

Under the Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, assurance benefit in the case of 12,892 legal heirs/widows of deceased members amounting to Rs 8.14 crore were paid during the year under report. The number of beneficiaries marked an increase of 30.0 per cent during the year 1983-84 over that of the preceding year.

# Panel to review fund use

Hindustan Times Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Nov. 18 — A five-member tripartite committee has been constituted to review the utilisation of the special reserve fund under the Employees Provident Fund.

Mr Anil Bordia, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour, will be the chairman of the committee. Mr Parduman Singh and Mr D. Venkatesh will represent workers on this committee while Mr Pratap Bhogilal and Mr M. Ghose will represent the employers.

The Special Reserve Fund was created in September, 1960, "for paying provident fund accumula-

tions to the outgoing members of unexempted establishments or their nominees or heirs where the employers have failed to pay the whole or a part of the provident fund contributions deducted from the wages of the members."

A sum of Rs 110 lakh has been transferred to this fund from the Reserve and Forfeiture Account and a sum of Rs 40.57 lakh has been recovered from the employers towards the arrears against which payment had been made from this fund. A sum of Rs 143.85 lakh was paid out of this fund till June last year.

## Miranda lecturer dead

By A Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI, February 12: Mrs V. Krishna, lecturer in the English department of Miranda House, Delhi university, died today after a brief illness. She was 59. She is survived by her husband and a son.