

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3374  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024**

**NON DEPOSIT OF EPF CONTRIBUTION BY TEA GARDEN OWNERS**

**†3374. SHRI MANOJ TIGGA:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is a large workforce of tea plantation workers in West Bengal;**
- (b) if so, the number of workers registered with Employees' Provident Fund;**
- (c) whether the Government has received complaints regarding non-deposit of the Employees' Provident Fund contribution of the workers already deducted from their salaries by the owners of the tea plantations;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken in this regard;**
- (e) the details of the provisions for taking action against the institutions and companies not depositing Employees' Provident Fund contribution of the workers;**
- (f) the details of the mechanism in place for investigating such matters; and**
- (g) the manner in which the affected workers are likely to be given relief?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)**

**(a) & (b): The number of tea plantation workers registered with Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is given below:**

<b>Number of Establishment</b>	<b>Number of Employees</b>
<b>940</b>	<b>6,79,230</b>

**Contd..2/-**

**(c) & (d): The details of actions taken in the last 3 years against establishments regarding non deposit of contribution is as follows:**

<b>Assessment made under section 7A</b>	<b>Prosecution cases filed</b>	<b>FIR filed under IPC section 406/409 and Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023</b>
<b>45</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>33</b>

**(e): Action is taken against institutions and companies for not depositing EPF contributions of workers as per provisions under various sections of Employees' Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 (EPF & MP Act) and schemes framed thereunder.**

**(f): Inspector (Enforcement Officer) appointed under Section 13 of EPF & MP Act investigates the cases and if default is found, inquiry under Section 7A is initiated for deciding the applicability of the Act or assessment of dues, as the case may be.**

**(g): Due share of the social security benefit to the employees when recovered from the employer in case of the default as per the provisions of the EPF & MP Act is credited to members' account.**

**\*\*\*\*\***