

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1516
ANSWERED ON 01.08.2025

NON-DEPOSITION OF EPF CONTRIBUTIONS IN TEA GARDENS OF ANDREW YULE GROUP

1516. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) contributions are not being deposited in Karbala, New Dooars, Banarhat and Choonabhutti tea gardens of Andrew Yule group since September 2023; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES
(SHRI BHUPATHIRAJU SRINIVASA VARMA)**

(a) & (b): Andrew Yule & Company Limited (AYCL) has incurred loss in Tea Division and has been passing through acute financial crisis since 2023 due to Pest (loopers caterpillars) and Fungal (fusarium) attack on Tea plantation, Adverse climatic conditions, Erratic rain falls, Low sale realization, etc. Hence, there has been delay in deposition of Employees Provident Fund (EPF) contributions for employees of Karbala, New Dooars, Banarhat and Choonabhutti tea gardens of Andrew Yule group.

The detail of outstanding PF dues of these tea gardens for the period September, 2023 to June 2025 is as follows:

(Rs. in Crores)		
Garden	Total EPF contribution	Outstanding EPF contribution
Karbala	5.44	2.94
New Dooars	5.21	2.81
Banarhat	4.21	2.29
Choonabhutti	3.56	1.77
