

PREFACE TO THE FOURTH EDITION

In the first edition, laws relating to the employee's provident fund and scheme's framed thereunder had been compiled and consolidated in one book, enabling the esteemed readers especially the employees and employers to have all the relevant Acts/Scheme/ Rules at one place which presented important and burning development issues relating to Employees Provident Fund and the related matters.

A commentary on a social welfare piece of legislation was, of course a difficult task, yet the author has tried his best to explain the provisions of the Act under the heading "NOTES" and also discussed case law wherever available. It is a trivial attempt to depict the various provisions relating to EPF and allied matters.

The network of the Act is day-by-day expanding to various establishments. In terms of Apex Court pronouncement in Regional Provident Funds Commissioners v/s Shive Kumar Joshi as reported in 2000(1) SCC 98, the entire network of the scheme under the Act is declared as 'Service' and the member employee as 'Consumer' under the Consumer Protection Act, 1987. This will on one hand, enable the employees to seek a speedy remedy before Consumer Forum in case of delayed settlement of claim and on the other hand will put the Provident Funds Organisations and the employer on the guard against delays.

This striking outstay work on employees provident fund and other miscellaneous Provisions, would be of immense use not only to concerned establishments/Organisations but also to the Hon'ble members of the bar and those who have keen desire to keep an upto date knowledge of the problems of Provident Fund etc.

The Second edition of this book was graciously accepted by the readers in 2008. And further third edition, 2012 was reproduced with added advantage of case law, amendments and also Notifications, Circulars, Orders, etc. for easy location of desired text in handy compilation. In further of that after a gap of five years, fourth edition of this book has been updated upto August, 2017 for the readers as a ready reference.

This compilation will serve as a ready recknor to employees/ employers, Hon'ble members of the bar and concerned establishments/organisations. We are grateful to the gracious readers for pointing out mistakes if any, and for offering their valuable suggestions for improvements of the book for its forthcoming editions.

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