

D. A. to Government Employees

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Shri P. C. Borooah:
 Shri Rameshwar Tantis:
 Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
 Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
 Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
 Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
 Shri Jagdev Singh Siddhanti:
 Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
 Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
 Shri Subodh Hansda:
 Shri D. N. Tiwary:
 Shri Daljit Singh:
 Dr. P. Srinivasan:
 Shri Parmasivan:
 Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 Shri Siddheshwar Prasad:
 Shri Madhu Limaye:
 Shri Vishram Prasad:
 Shri Warior:
 Shri Parashar:
 Shri P. K. Deo:
 Shri Kapur Singh:
 Shri P. K. Ghosh:
 Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha:
 Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
 Shri K. C. Pant:
 Shri Himatsingka:
 Shri Basumatari:

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Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received the Das Commission Report recommending the grant of D.A. to the Central Government employees;

(b) if so, whether all the recommendations of the Commission have been accepted;

(c) if not, the recommendations that have not been accepted by Government and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the report will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. B. Bhagat): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The recommendations of the Independent Body for Dearness Allowance in respect of pay ranges from Rs. 600 to Rs. 1200 have not been accepted as its terms of reference could not be held to cover these pay ranges.

(d) No, Sir. Copies of the Report have already been supplied to all Members and to the Parliament Library.

Shri P. C. Borooah: While the net benefit given to the low income group by way of increase in dearness allowance is Rs. 7.50, to the high income group it is Rs. 50. May I know how far is it in consonance with the present policy of government of reducing the disparity in income?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: We have accepted the recommendation of the Das Commission which went into all these questions.

Shri P. C. Borooah: I want to know whether it is in consonance with the policy adopted by Government to reduce the disparity in income.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: As I said, all these aspects of the question were gone into by the Commission.

Shri A. P. Sharma: What is the number of Central Government employees in the salary range Rs. 600—1,200? What would have been the financial implications if the recommendations of the Das Commission regarding grant of dearness allowance in respect of these employees had been accepted and why have they not been accepted?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I have not got the information about the exact number of employees falling in the salary group Rs. 600—1,200. Part (b) of the question has already been answered in part (c) of the main answer.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether the principle which has been accepted for the neutralisation of the rise in price index is in consonance with the canons of social justice and

if not, whether Government is going to adopt some other formula?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The canons of social justice were gone into by the Commission and representations were received by the Commission on all these matters. Now the neutralisation is up to 90 per cent. So, I do not think it violates any canons of social justice.

श्री मधु लियये : महंगाई भत्ते का बवाल बार बार खड़ा हो जाता है। इसलिये मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जैसे बम्बई और अहमदाबाद के सूती मिल मजदूरों आदि को महंगाई भत्ता मिलता है इन्डेक्स नम्बर के अनुसार उसी प्रकार से क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार के मुलाजिमों के लिये भी किसी किस्म का कोई प्रबन्ध सरकार करेगी।

श्री ब० रा० भगत : अभी तो कोई ऐसी बात विचाराधीन नहीं है। अभी तो जिस आधार पर पे कमिशन ने महंगाई भत्ते का निर्णय किया था उसी पर चलता है।

श्री डा० ना० तिवारी : भारत सरकार आर्थिक मामलों में देश की प्रवर्तक है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसी संस्थाओं के सम्बन्ध में, जैसेकि म्युनिसिपल बोर्ड्स हैं, जिन के पास कोई रिसोर्स नहीं हैं, उन के कर्मचारियों को भी महंगाई भत्ता मिले, उन को मदद करने के लिये कोई कदम उठाया जा रहे हैं।

श्री ब० रा० भगत : उन को मदद करने के बारे में कोई कदम नहीं उठाया जा रहा है और न इस की अभी जरूरत है।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether the hon. Minister is aware that today, that is, the 18th February, all Central Government employees are holding demonstrations, demanding revision of dearness allowance in case of employees drawing Rs. 70 to 109 and Rs. 150 to 209 as also revision of the dearness allowance formula and, if so, what is the reaction of the Government to it?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I take the information from the hon. Member.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The second part of my question has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: What is the reaction of Government?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have taken the information from him. I am afraid, reactions are not quite so quick; it takes time.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, I rise on a point of order. He cannot take it so lightly. I want to know whether there is serious discontent among employees drawing salaries between Rs. 70 and Rs. 109 because they have got less and between Rs. 150 and Rs. 209, and whether the employees are demanding revision of the dearness allowance formula as recommended by the Das Commission. What is the Government's reaction?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member said that he knows that the Central Government employees are making some demonstration. To this the hon. Minister says, "I take this information". The second part was, "What was the reaction of Government?". He says, "It takes time; that can be considered and would take some time; it cannot be so quick."

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The Das Commission has recommended revision of the dearness allowance formula. Has Government accepted that?

Mr. Speaker: That is a new question.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Would not the Government's decision not to give this relief to the people of higher wage group result in the higher cadres of the public services becoming less and less attractive for the best talent in the country which would ultimately result in a brain drain from the public sector to the private sector?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: As I said, the main reason why this recommendation in respect of the higher wage group, that is, Rs. 600 to Rs. 1,200 was not considered was that that did not form part of the terms of reference though all other matters may be relevant.

श्री भागवत झा प्राजाप : दास प्रायोग की सिफारिशों को स्वीकार करने के फल-स्वरूप केन्द्रीय सरकार के कितने कर्मचारी लाभान्वित होंगे, और कौनसा हिस्सा इस लाभ से वंचित रह जायगा ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : 600 तक तनखाह पाने वाले लाभान्वित होंगे, उन की संख्या तो इस समय मेरे पास नहीं है। इस के लिए सूचना चाहिए। 600 से ऊपर वालों को ये सिफारिशें लागू नहीं होतीं।

Shri Mohammad Elias: In this changing situation in our country and specially the way in which prices are going up when in other industries the formula of dearness allowance is ever changing, what is the Government thinking with regard to the Das Commission's recommendation for the revision of the dearness allowance formula for Central Government employees?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: That matter is under consideration. A number of other bodies, like the State Governments and others, are also involved; so, a decision will be taken after consultation with all these concerned bodies.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार के ध्यान में यह बात प्रायी है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार जब अपने कर्मचारियों की तनखाह बढ़ाती है तो उसका असर विभिन्न प्रादेशिक सरकारों पर भी पड़ता है, पर उन की प्राथिक स्थिति ऐसी नहीं है कि उस को मीट कर सकें। क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार प्रादेशिक सरकारों की राय से दोनों प्रकार के कर्मचारियों की तनखाहों में बढ़ोतरी देने के लिए तैयार है ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : असर तो पड़ता है, लेकिन जो दूसरी बात उन्होंने ने कही कि जो राज्य सरकारों के कर्मचारी हैं उन को केन्द्रीय सरकार बढ़ोतरी दे, इस पर वह तैयार नहीं है।

Shri Dimen Bhattacharya: May I know whether it is in the knowledge of Government that the pay scales and dearness allowance of State Government employees are far below that of the Central Government employees and whether, after the Das Commission's report, the Central Government has sent any directions to the State Governments for raising the dearness allowance of the State Government employees?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: We are not concerned with that.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: In view of the fact that the increase in dearness allowance is not commensurate with the rise in prices and still the low-paid employees are finding it very difficult to make both ends meet, do Government propose to evolve a formula whereby they can pay salaries in kind rather than in cash as has been done in industrial concerns?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It is a suggestion for action. We will consider it.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: In view of the last but one answer that was given by the hon. Minister I would like to know as to what he means by saying, "We are not concerned with" when the Central Government has made contributions to the State Governments for raising the dearness allowance and the State Governments have swallowed that money and have not paid it to their servants. Why is action not taken?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The position is that the responsibility of the Central Government is to its employees. It may be, as the hon. Member mentioned, that on previous occasions the Central Government has

given some loan or some kind of a subvention to the State Governments. Any further help of that nature would depend on a number of circumstances. And the House, being the custodian of Central finances, will be able to judge after the Budget whether the Centre could perhaps give such help. But so far as the utilisation of the money, given for specific purposes is concerned, it is a matter for the States.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: The hon. Finance Minister, Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, gave a definite assurance on the floor of this House that he will accept the Das Commission Report in full. How does he now reconcile his action in not accepting it in full but accepting it only partially?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We accepted the Commission's recommendations in full so far as our terms of reference to that Commission are concerned. The terms of reference can only be covering that class to whom the benefit had been given.

श्री किशन पटनायक : महंगाई भत्ते का आधार बदलने के लिए प्रायोग ने जो सिफारिश की है, उस के बारे में सरकार ने क्या विचार किया है ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : उस पर विचार किया जा रहा है ।

New Water Plant

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- *3. { **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:**
Shri Naval Prabhakar:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work on the capital's New Water Treatment Plant which is being set up to help augment the city's water supply is already much behind the schedule;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) when this plant is likely to be commissioned?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health (Shri P. S. Naskar):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Delhi Municipal Corporation has reported that the delay has been due to the following reasons:—

- (i) shortage of cement which has been experienced from time to time;
- (ii) large scale rock cutting has been involved in the sites for the clear water reservoir and pump house; which was not anticipated earlier;
- (iii) difficulties encountered in removing Juggies coming in the alignment of the rising mains. Besides these, there has been considerable delay in placing orders for imported pumping sets by the Corporation.

(c) The total capacity of the treatment plant under construction is 40 million gallons of water per day, out of which a portion designed to supply 10 million gallons of water per day has been commissioned with effect from the 6th January, 1965. The remaining plant along with the ancillary works is expected to be completed by April, 1966.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: When this plant is fully commissioned, will it be able to meet the entire demand of drinking water of the capital or is there any proposal to set up one or more plants of this type in future?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): For the time being, the requirements will be met. But the population of Delhi is continuously increasing. So, there are proposals to have another plant also.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: What effective steps, if any, have been taken to ensure that the supply of raw water to the plant will be maintained uninterrupted all the year round?