

Title: Request the Government to look into the demand of LIC agents for providing pension, medical claim and provident funds, etc.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (MAVELIKARA): Sir, hundreds of LIC agents staged a dharna before the Parliament House yesterday. The representatives of the LIC agents met the hon. Finance Minister also.

Sir, lakhs and lakhs of LIC agents have contributed a lot to make this institution as one of the prestigious ones in this country. While even its employees are getting all kinds of facilities, these agents are deprived of any kind of privilege which is very much needed for them. They are not getting any sort of protection from this Government. The LIC agents have demanded a welfare scheme providing for pension for which the LIC and its agents have to contribute. They have also demanded bonus and facilities like medical claim and provident fund.

I request the hon. Finance Minister and the Government to look into this matter and redress their grievances as early as possible. This is a long pending demand on which they have met the hon. Finance Minister also. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, I would like to associate with the views expressed by Shri Chennithala. Many social workers find it as an employmentâ€¦...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan is allowed to associate with what Shri Chennithala has said on the subject.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Sir, the Finance Minister is present here. I would request him to say something on the matter. He is well aware of the matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If the Finance Minister wants to respond, he may do so. But I cannot compel him to respond.

...(*Interruptions*)