

Title: Need to fulfil demand of Goa freedom fighters regarding pension and other facilities.

12.56 hrs.

श्री हरीभाऊ शंकर महाले (मालेगांव) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से भारत सरकार के गृह मंत्रालय का ध्यान एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। भारत देश 1947 में आजाद हुआ। लेकिन गोवा में पुर्तगाली सरकार रही। उस वक्त गोवा भारत में नहीं मिला था। स्वतन्त्रता दिलाने के लिए नागागोरे, एसएम जोशी, जसवन्त राव जोशी, मधु दंडवते, मधु लिमेय और अन्य के माध्यम से बड़ा संग्राम हो गया। गोवा को मुक्ति मिली, कई लोग शहीद हुए, गोली चली, लाठी चार्ज हुआ और लोग जेल में गए। इन लोगों को महाराष्ट्र सरकार की पेंशन मिलती है, लेकिन भारत सरकार की पेंशन नहीं मिलती है। दादरा-नागर हवेली क्षेत्र के लोगों को भारत सरकार ने भारत सरकार की पेंशन लागू की है और अन्य सुविधायें दी हैं, लेकिन अन्य लोगों को नहीं मिली है। माननीय मंत्री, श्री राम नाइकजी बैठे हैं। उन्होंने आश्वासन दिया था, लेकिन अभी तक गोवा के मुक्ति संग्रामियों को भारत सरकार की ओर से पेंशन नहीं मिली है। ये लोग जन्त-मन्तर पर धरने पर बैठे हैं। मेरी भारत सरकार से प्रार्थना है कि इन लोगों को पेंशन देने की व्यवस्था करें। ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rupchand Pal. He has given the notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I allow you to associate with this.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY): In Dadra & Nagar Haveli, 82 freedom fighters of the Portuguese Colony have been granted pension on 26th January last. But these 2,000 people, mostly aged, above 70, are sitting in a *Dharna*. There is a formula given by the former Home Minister, Shri Indrajit Gupta, and Shri Madhu Dandavate. Under that formula, they can be granted pension on the basis of the list of the Maharashtra Government. ...*(Interruptions)* You should do something. ...*(Interruptions)* Let the Minister respond. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pal, you have already raised the matter. I cannot compel the Minister to reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (CANARA): Under the rules, they are required to provide records of jail sentences but the Portuguese destroyed all the record when they withdrew. There are no jail records. So, genuine freedom fighters of Goa have not received any recognition or pension.

13.00 hrs.

I am appealing to the Government to make an exception in the case of these people because their companions know that they were in jail together, though there are no records because the Portuguese have destroyed them before they left...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): Sir, since my name has been taken, I am trying to clarify the matter. It is true that many Goa freedom fighters did not get the pension for the last so many years. When I was looking after Home as Minister of State, we had made a start...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not shout like this.

SHRI RAMNAIK Prof. Madhu Dandavate and other leaders have also seen the hon. Home Minister. As far as my personal information is concerned, because I am not in that Ministry now, this issue is being looked into by the hon. Home Minister.

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