

Title: Regarding non-payment of Provident Fund to the workmen by the Provident Fund Organization.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you for your suggestion. Now, I give the floor to Shri Gurudas Dasgupta. Shri Dasgupta, please be brief.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (PANSKURA): Sir, I seek the indulgence of the entire House ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please be quiet. These are important issues that are being raised.

श्री गुरुदास दासगुप्त : मैं पूरे सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ, सिर्फ सरकार का ही नहीं। It is a matter of concern to all parties. A serious information regarding Provident Fund Organisation has come to light. Nearly 49 per cent of the subscribers who contribute to the provident fund and whose number is not less than 1.5 crore, and most of them are daily workers and contract workers, are not getting their provident fund dues. It is because of the reason that these people are moving from one place to another, changing the employer. Therefore, no account is being maintained as a result, out of three crores of people who are covered under this provident fund scheme, nearly 49 per cent of the subscribers do not get their money back. They are deprived of their lifelong savings. This is a secret report submitted to the Provident Fund Organisation. It has been totally suppressed by the Organisation and it has not come to light.

Sir, the situation is like this. Though their money is being deducted from their salaries, they do not get their money back.

MR. SPEAKER: You have referred to the report and that is enough. There should be no discussion on this.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, I will take just two minutes. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record, except the submission being made by Shri Gurudas Dasgupta. Please conclude now, Shri Dasgupta.

(*Interruptions*) *â€

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : I appeal to you to please allow me to complete my submission. While the money is being deducted from the salaries of the employees, they are not paying it back as a result, Rs. 8,000 crore unclaimed fund is lying with the Provident Fund Organisation.

MR. SPEAKER: Please mention it briefly.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : People are in a dangerous situation. I seek the intervention of the Government because people's own money is being eaten up by the Ministry of Labour and the Provident Fund Organisation.

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your point.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : The Government needs to intervene immediately. The whole thing has come to the Press.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (TAMLUK): Sir, please give me a minute because I just want to associate myself with what he has stated. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Unless I call somebody, please do not volunteer. Shri Lakshman Seth, you can just associate yourself. You should not make a speech.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : While associating myself with what Shri Gurudas Dasgupta has said, I would like to enlighten the House on some important issue. I suggest that the Government should introduce a common code which should be applicable throughout the country. In addition, offices of the Provident Fund Organisation should be set up in all those places where the maximum number of organised and unorganised workers are being engaged. Otherwise, the unorganised labour will not be getting their money back. This is an important issue and I seek your indulgence and intervention of the Govt. ...(*Interruptions*)

* Not Recorded