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Title : Need to grant GPF cum pension benefits to the teaching and non-teaching staff of Jawahar Navodayas in the country.

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (IDUKKI): Respected Chairman, Sir, there are around 575 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas across the country in which two are in my constituency in Nariyamangalam and Kulamavu in Idduki district. These Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas is the dream child of our late Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi. These institutions are providing good quality residential education to students, predominantly belong to rural India.

I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that some of the urgent needs of these institutions and some demands of employees. Teachers and non-teaching staff of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas and those who joined prior to 1.1.2004 are not granted GPF-cum-benefits. The recommendations of various Parliamentary Committees for introduction of GPD-cum-pension has not been implemented. The option to switch over to CPF to GPF scheme was also not given to Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas employees as per the recommendations of the 4<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission. The Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas situated in rural areas are facing difficulties for infrastructural development also. More funds have to be provided for this. Also, the budget allocation for the mess fee is very low. Students are getting only Rs.675 per month for their mess fees. It has to be revised. I am requesting the Government to interfere and sort out these issues immediately.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri L. Rajagopal – not present.