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Title : Need to revise the minimum basic pension provided by EPFO to the workers in private sector.

SHRI K. P. DHANAPALAN (CHALAKUDY): The employees provident fund scheme as a social security and welfare measure was devised in view of the miseries and hardships of the workers in the nation. The family pension scheme 1971 and EPF pension scheme 1995 were primarily intended for the benefit of the retired employees and their families with a view to give them some relief in the evening of their lives and days of sickness. The retired employees covered under the family pension scheme are getting only a meagre amount ranging from Rs. 300 to Rs. 2000 per month which was fixed at the time of commencement of the scheme. In view of the fact that costs of essential commodities have increased beyond limits, enhanced rates of relief have to be granted to EPF pensioner as in the case of government pensioners. But unfortunately, the authorities have turned a deaf ear to the repeated appeals and requests of the EPF pensioners.

In this context, I would urge the Government to revise the minimum basic pension to Rs. 2500 per month with effect from 1995.