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Title: Regarding enhancement of pension of employees of the Andhra Pradesh Co-optex.

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI : Thank you. Mr. Chairman. At the outset I would request the Government to enhance the pension of employees of the Andhra Pradesh Cooptex. I would like to express my deep gratitude to the UPA Government for announcing a package for improving the conditions of weavers in the country.

I want to bring to the kind attention, through you, of the hon. Minister of Textiles regarding enhancement of pension to the employees of the Andhra Pradesh Cooptex. They have served in this Organisation for thirty to forty years. The Government of India was kind enough to grant them pension under 1955 EPS Pension Scheme some sixteen years ago. They are getting a meager pension ranging from Rs. 185 to Rs. 1,700 till date. Their life is pathetic in these inflationary days. They are unable to make ends meet with this meager monthly pension.

In this connection, particularly retired textile employees from north coastal Andhra Pradesh and the entire State, have requested me to represent their case for enhancing monthly pension to a minimum of Rs. 6,000 so that they can lead a dignified life.