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Title: Need to take measures for the welfare of pensioners under EPS-95.

SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK (KOLHAPUR): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to various issues pertaining to EPS-95. Millions of pensioners throughout the country, from Government, Public and/or Cooperative setups having unestablished production or services, are receiving petty pension funds. Further, many of them are receiving less than Rs.1000/- per month, whereas none of them receive more than Rs.2,200/- per month. Under such circumstances, from past 7-8 years, pensioners in their respective departments have formed different unions in order to lead a movement. In this regard, the pensioners have, many times either independently or by coming together, been leading such movements.

The demands of pensioners with regard to EPS-95 are as follows:

1. Withdrawal of entire investments made into government funds and cancellation of privatization policy. Also, government to reimburse the loss suffered due to the investments made in government funds.
2. The minimum pension level of Rs.1,000 per month declared by the government effective 1st April, 2014 to be given without any further deductions.
3. As per the circular dated 06.09.2006, the benefits which were cancelled need to be reinstated.
4. From the year 2000 onwards, revaluation of pension fund to be done for the past 16 years and the resulting differential amount to be paid off along with the accumulated interest amount.
5. Employees who have completed 20 years of service need to be given 2 years of weightage.
6. Pension Schemes to be revised after every 5 years and accordingly, immediate revision for improvements to be undertaken in the present pension scheme.
7. The rate for compensating dearness to be given once in every 3 months. Dearness allowance also needs to be given.
8. The minimum pension level to be fixed at Rs.6,500 per month. Also, maximum pension need not be defined.
9. Effective September 1,2014, the Pension Scheme applies only to those persons who become a member of the EPF Scheme and whose pay on such date is less than or equal to Rs.15,000 for both government as well as employer's contribution. This coverage of monetary limitation to be cancelled. Also, in order to determine whether the wages fall under pensionable wage requires 60 months as per the new method should be struck down and the previous method of 12 months needs to be reinstated.
10. The computed portion of pension that was cut to be increased and given after completion of 100 months.
11. The income gained after return of capital need to be given to the legal heirs of pensioner.
12. The rate of interest to be given on pension fund to be same as that of the provident fund. Also, the same needs to be calculated for 16 years and differential amount to be paid off.
13. Those who have not opted for EPS pension to be given minimum level of pension without payment of any amounts.
14. Medical benefits available prior to retirement need to be continued after retirement as well. Also, all the medical expenses to be borne by the government. All medical facilities should be considered.
15. the benefit of Food security be provided to pensioners.
16. State Travel as well as national travel during retirement to be given at concessional rates.

I, therefore, urge the Union Government to do justice to these pensioners.

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे (गुलबर्गा) :** अध्यक्ष महोदया, चंद चीजें ऐसी होती हैं, जिन्हें कहना जरूरी है। ... (व्यवधान) गुजरात का इश्यू बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट है। ... (व्यवधान) 20 हजार करोड़ रुपये का घोटाला है। ... (व्यवधान) यहाँ ऐसी चीजें उठायी जाती हैं, जिनका कोई तर्क नहीं होता। ... (व्यवधान) यह अन्याय है। ... (व्यवधान) यह अच्छी बात नहीं है। ... (व्यवधान) आप हमें पांच मिनट बोलने का समय दे दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Item No. 11.

Hon. Minister

...(Interruptions)

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** इस पर सभी मੈम्बर्स ने अपनी बात रखी है इसलिए the Minister has to reply.

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: I have disallowed it.

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे : अध्यक्ष महोदया, यह अच्छी बात नहीं है। ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : कई बातें अच्छी नहीं होती हैं। Yes, Mr. Minister.

â€ (व्यवधान)

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे : अध्यक्ष महोदया, आप हमेशा जीरो ऑवर पहले लेती हैं। ... (व्यवधान) जीरो ऑवर के बाद मंत्री जी का रिप्लाई होने दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान) आप रोज जीरो ऑवर पहले लेती हैं। ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आज फाइनेंस बिल पहले पास करना है। शाम को जीरो ऑवर होगा।

â€ (व्यवधान)

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे : अध्यक्ष महोदया, हर चीज गवर्नमेंट के फेवर में नहीं होती है। ... (व्यवधान) अगर कोरम नहीं होता तब भी बैठते हैं। ... (व्यवधान) अगर मंत्री जी सदन में नहीं होते तब भी सुनते हैं और हाउस को बताते हैं। ... (व्यवधान) लेकिन हमें अपनी बात रखने के लिए समय नहीं मिलता। ... (व्यवधान) यह क्या हो रहा है? ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आज अगर जीरो ऑवर लेना भी हो तो भी मैं उन्हें एलाउ नहीं करने वाली हूँ, क्योंकि वह मैटर कुछ नहीं है।

â€ (व्यवधान)

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे: ऐसा क्यों है? ... (व्यवधान) क्योंकि यह घोटाळा गुजरात का है? ... (व्यवधान) This is not good Madam. You follow one procedure.

**12.05 hours**

#### **FINANCE BILL, 2016 .... Contd.**

HON. SPEAKER: Now we will take up Item No. 11. Mr. Minister.