

MR. SPEAKER : You come to me and speak to me with the documents.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, it is very unfair. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I have not barred any discussion, Guptaji. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Jagdish Tytler.

12.10 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Sixty—Fourth Report and Minutes

[*English*]

SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI (Ratnagiri) : I beg to present the Sixty-fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Finance—Department of Economic Affairs (Banking Division)—Customer Services and Security System in Nationalised Banks and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

12.10 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : LIBERALISATION  
 OF RATES OF FAMILY  
 PENSION AND RETIREMENT-  
 CUM-WITHDRAWAL BENEFITS  
 UNDER THE EMPLOYEES'  
 PENSION SCHEME, 1971

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : Hon'ble Members are aware that Government is committed to advancing the welfare of workers. The Prime Minister has supported all measures for improving not only the measures for benefiting workers but also stressed the importance of ensuring that social security measures give a much needed sense of security and confidence to workers against hazards that they face in factory, mine, plantation, or any other industry or establishment.

In furtherance of the Prime Minister's directions and the support the Government

has extended to the coverage and quality of social security. Government is happy to announce upward revision in the rates of family pension to families of workers who are member of the Employees' Family Pension Scheme who may die while in harness, as also improving the retirement-cum-withdrawal benefits to such workers on cessation of membership on retirement on superannuation under their respective conditions of service, resignation etc. On the basis of an actuarial evaluation of the family pension fund, the Central Board of Trustees (C.B.T.) of the Employees Provident Fund has recommended further liberalisation of the rate of family pension and retirement-cum-withdrawal benefits under the Scheme. Against the present entitlement of family pension ranging from Rs. 140 to 630 to the families of those workers who die while being members of the provident fund, the new rates will range between Rs. 225 to Rs. 750.

As for retirement-cum-withdrawal benefits to workers who are at present entitled to benefits ranging from Rs. 110 (for one year's membership) to Rs. 9000 (for 40 year's membership) the enhanced rates of benefits recommended will be on a graded scale. For last pay drawn, upto Rs. 690 the benefits payable will range from Rs. 110 to Rs. 9000 as at present, but for other pay ranges above Rs. 690, the maximum benefits will go up to Rs. 19,825.

Government have decided to accept these recommendations of the Central Board of Trustees of the Employees Provident Fund, as a measure that will go a long way to confer significant benefits to our industrial workers, who have contributed to the rising trend of industrial growth over the last three years and whose contribution to India's economic growth is a matter of pride for us. I hope the House will join me in extending to our workers full support in their endeavours to establish this country as an industrial power, and would wish to extend their appreciation of the peaceful industrial relations climate that has prevailed over the last three years. Both workers and managements have contributed to these achievements and I am sure I carry the House with me in extending thanks to them for the same.