

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977.

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : I introduce the Bill.

[English]

**SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND PENSION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL**

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, be taken into consideration".

Sir, during the last five years, the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954 was amended four times. The Members would recall that the last amendment to the Act was made in 1983. Subsequent to that, the Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament had made certain recommendations to extend certain facilities to the Members of Parliament. These recommendations were under active consideration of the Government. Taking into account the recommendations of the Committee and other relevant factors, it is proposed to amend the provisions of Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954.

1. It is proposed to increase the salary from Rs. 750/- to Rs. 1,000/- per month.
2. Instead of to and fro intermediate journeys by air only

during the session periods, it is now provided that 16 single air journeys throughout the year would be permissible to each Member.

3. It has been decided to increase the amount of minimum pension of ex MPs from Rs. 300/- to Rs. 500/- and they would be entitled to receive a sum of Rs. 50/- for one year of service as Member of Parliament. In order to give due recognition to long years of service by the Members of Parliament, it is proposed to abolish the maximum ceiling of pension payable to ex-MPs.
4. It has been a long-standing demand from various quarters to give due recognition to the ex-Members of Constituent Assembly who can be said to be the founding fathers of the Constitution by granting them some pension. With this view, it is proposed to give some pension of Rs. 500/- to all Ex-Members of the Constituent Assembly, who are not entitled to any pension.
5. It has also been decided that a sum of Rs. 20,000/- will be granted to a Member of Parliament for purchase of conveyance, which would be repayable within a period of 5 years.
6. It is also proposed to grant a consolidated allowance designated as constituency allowance at the rate of Rs. 1,250/- per month to each Member of Parliament.

The above mentioned proposals would require the amendment of the Act.

However, there are certain other facilities which are also proposed to be extended to the Members of Parliament by necessary amendments to the relevant rules made under this Act. The maximum ceiling of local telephone calls to which a Member of Parliament is entitled presently is 15,000/- a year. It is now decided to

raise this maximum ceiling to 30,000/- free local calls per annum. It is also proposed that trunk-call bills of Members will be adjusted within monetary equivalent of the ceiling of 30,000 local calls per annum.

It is proposed to provide rent free flat accommodation to the Members of Parliament, but those who are in occupation of Bungalows will have to pay the full rent. However, if any Member of Parliament who has been allotted the accommodation above his entitlement and is in occupation thereof, will have to pay additional non-entitlement charge of Rs. 500/- over and above his normal rent. It is proposed to provide free water and electricity to Members of Parliament up to Rs. 300/- per month.

Since the provisions of the Bill are of non-controversial nature, I would commend the acceptance of the Bill by the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Are you speaking of three bills or one bill, Mr. Bhagat ?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : The first will be taken up and then the Bill by the Home Minister and then the two bills by me.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your first bill I am taking, Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament. Anybody wants to say anything ?

*(Interruptions)*

The question is :

“That the Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954 be taken into consideration.”

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

“That Clauses 2 to 8 stand part of the Bill.”

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 8 were added to the Bill. Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : Sir, I beg to move :

“That the Bill be passed.”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill be passed.”

*The motion was adopted.*

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SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES  
OF MINISTERS (AMENDMENT)  
BILL, 1985

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : I beg to move :

“That the Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952 be taken into consideration.”

If the hon. Members would go through the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it will be absolutely clear as to what are the provisions which have been made in the Bill. Ultimately all the Ministers are Member of Parliament and whatever facilities have been provided to Members of Parliament are extended to the Council of Ministers.

(a) To provide that Ministers shall be entitled to a salary, daily allowances and constituency allowance at the same rates as a Member of Parliament;

(b) To increase the amount payable to Ministers by way of sumptuary allowance and exempt from income-tax the value of the official residence provided to a Minister; and