

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: I would also like to know whether it is a fact in regard to the IRCL that the Chairman is at odds, at loggerheads, with the Board of Directors of the IRCL. He lives in a simple way. But the Board of Directors and the members thereof enjoy huge salaries. What are the salaries they enjoy? Do they enjoy first class airconditioned tickets along with their families? With the loans that have been given, have the Indian Aluminium of Dum Dum, the Bengal Potteries etc. been restructured? If so, to what extent has this company become viable?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN: Do you think that this question arises out of this? Otherwise, I will be acting against your will.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It does not arise.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: This does arise because it is about IRCL. It might be inconvenient for the hon. Minister to reply.

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI: This is the first question with regard to IRCL that has been admitted in this House. Not a single question has so far been admitted on this subject Sir, why not you allow this discussion?

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI: We would like to have a half-an-hour discussion on this.

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY: Half-an-hour discussion should be allowed.

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI: There are many more things we would like to know about IRCL.

DR., R. K. CHAKRABARTI: There are instances of malpractices and mismanagement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then I won't call you now.

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI: There should be some discussion on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You give notice and I will consider it.

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI: I have sent at least 15 questions. But why are no questions admitted?

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: This shows that my question was relevant.

R. K. CHAKRABARTI: There are many sick industries. I would like to know whether the IRCL has considered applications from Joint Engineering Works of Calcutta and Bengal Potteries ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No question of Bengal Potteries.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI: The question is about IRCL. Have they considered applications from Joint Engineering Works of Calcutta or Bengal Potteries for financial assistance because these units are becoming sick? My impression is that they are not getting any help from IRCL.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question does not arise. Next Question.

#### **Demand of Pensioners for revision of Pension Rules**

\*619. SHRI DEBANANDA AMAT:

SHRI K. C. PANDA:

SHRI VITHAL GADGIL:

SHRI B. T. KEMPARAJ:

SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY:

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA  
GOWDA:

SHRI MAQSOOD ALI KHAN:

SHRIMATI SUSHILA  
SHANKAR ADIVARE-KAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

†The question, was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri B. T. Kemparaj.

(a) whether Government have received representations from various pensioners' Organisations for the revision of pension rules consequent upon the steep rise in prices of essential commodities; and

(b) if so, what action, is being taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is being examined.

SHRI B. T. KEMPARAJ : In view of the answer given by the hon. Finance Minister that the matter is under consideration, I would like to know how far this question has been taken into consideration for settlement and can the pensioners expect to get some more financial aid in view of the rising prices?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: I have already indicated that the matter is under consideration. The recommendations of the Pay Commission about the serving Government employees and the existing pensioners will be considered by the Government as early as possible.

SHRI MAQSOOD ALI KHAN: There is a set of pensioners who belonged to the erstwhile Hyderabad Government. On account of their residence within the territorial limit of Karnataka State, they have been drawing their pension from that Government. During the last 16 years, their counterparts in Andhra Pradesh Government have been allowed three or four increments in their pensions whereas these pensioners, whenever they make representations to Andhra Pradesh Government, are told that since they draw their pensions from the Karnataka Government, they must make representations to them. When they make representations to Karnataka Government, they are told that they belonged to Hyderabad Government and therefore should represent before

the Andhra Pradesh Government. In view of this, will the Central Government look into this matter and issue directives either to the Andhra Pradesh Government or to Karnataka Government to deal with such cases?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Does this arise out of it ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: This question does not arise out of this. This is a general question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But you could consider his suggestion.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I will look into it.

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY: This is a connected issue...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I do not want your assistance.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR: Looking at the number of pensioners who will be benefited and the small additional cost involved, will not the Government consider their case sympathetically?

I ask this question because, Sir, I am told that the pensioners in the past had made a representation and the matter was under consideration. This year also the Government is giving the same answer that the matter is under consideration.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Sir, the question of giving relief to the pensioners has been considered from time to time right from 1943 to 1970 and a minimum pension of Rs. 40 was fixed. Recently, Sir, the Pay Commission went into the question of the relief to be given to the pensioners and the Government has already accepted the recommendations of the Pay Commission, as far as the pensioners are concerned, now its extension to the pensioners who have retired before 1-1-73, the date on which the recommendations of the Pay Commission take effect, is under consideration and a decision will be taken soon on that.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, the same question is asked and the same answer is given that the case of the pensioners who have retired before 1-1-73 will be considered. I think the honourable Minister is aware that in the erstwhile princely States and in other places also the pensioners, that is, the teachers and others are drawing something like Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 only and they are groaning under the price rise. I would only request the Minister to consider their case. I would like to ask him what he means by saying that the process of thinking, continuous thinking is going on. It should be ended and I want him to give them some relief during their life-time.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: They are thinking as you are thinking.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : I have put a proper question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, you have put a proper question.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I have put a proper question and I also want and expect an appropriate reply . that the Minister will announce a decision during their life-time itself.

MR. CHAIRMAN ; All right. Yes, Mr. Ganesh.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Sir, I have already mentioned that as late as 1970 certain relief was given. Now, the entire question relates to the Third Pay Commission's recommendations which were recently accepted by the Government. Now, its extension to those pensioners who have retired before 1-1-73 is under consideration and examination and a decision will be taken on that soon.

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR: Sir, mine is a very short question. I want to know from the Minister when the Government is going to take a decision on it and whether they are going\* to give it retrospective effective or not.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Sir, as far as the existing pensioners are concerned there are two aspects of the matter: Firstly, whether relief that has been given by the Third Pay Commission on 1-1-73 should be applicable to them. And, secondly, the question of giving some ad hoc relief to them between 1-1-73 and the last date. These are under examination.

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR: Sir, my question has not been answered. When is the decision going to be taken? Secondly, Sir, are they going to give retrospective effect or not?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Sir, that is exactly what I have answered. I have said that the question of giving some ad hoc relief before 1-1-73 is also under our consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He says that it is under consideration, including the question of giving retrospective effect.

**श्री ना० कृ० शेजवलकर : डिसेशन कब होगा यह तो बतायें ।**

MR. CHAIRMAN; He says that it is under consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Ganesh, mention the approximate time by which it will be done.

**श्री ना० कृ० शेजवलकर : मेरी अर्ज है कि कुछ समय बता दें कि दो महीने में, चार महीने में, या साल भर में, कब करेंगे । बता सकते हैं तो बतायें ।**

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Sir, it is at the final stage of consideration and a decision will be taken soon.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON : Sir, one of the problems faced by the pensioners is regarding the computation of petition and all that. Now, the provision for commuting the benefits is that a certain number of years,

ten years or eleven years or so, is taken into account. This particular rule was framed about twenty years back. But, since then, Sir, the life expectancy has gone up and many pensioners live up to twenty or thirty or even forty years after retirement from service. Therefore, will the Government reconsider the present basis of calculation and also the case of commutation of pension and see that this rule is revised in order to make it much more just to the pensioners who want to draw their pension in a lump sum?

SHRI K. R. GANESH: Sir, as the House is aware pension is a contract between the Government and the pensioners and it is not compulsory for the pensioner to commute his pension. It is an option which he utilises for getting a lump sum pension.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON: You can not take an undue advantage of it.

SHRI K. R. GANESH: There is no question of taking any undue advantage. The Government also loses if the pensioner dies earlier and the Government will also have to look into this aspect. So, it is a question of a contract between the pensioners and the Government in which both the parties take the risk. Then, Sir, if the pensioners survive longer, the Government also loses.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Goray. Last question.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: Sir, I want to know this from humanitarian point of view. The Pension Rules, which were framed a long time back, have become completely obsolete. Therefore, I would like to know from the Government whether they are going to consider the question in its ninety and frame new Pension Rules so that this category of employees, which is a waste category, get some relief before they die.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, the hon. Member is not perhaps getting the reply that I gave earlier. Sir, the Pay Commission have gone into this question. For the first time, the Pay Commission have decided that the pensioners will be entitled to a relief of Rs. 5 as the minimum up to a particular percentage if the cost of living or consumer price index exceeds a particular point they have given. They have indicated that at present if the consumer price index has gone up to 216—which has already passed 216—they will be entitled to the relief of 5%, according to the formula they have given. Sir, according to the Pay Commission's recommendation, two things have happened. Firstly, they will be entitled to a certain relief, and secondly the relief will be permanently linked with the cost of living, for which a formula has been laid down.

\*620. [The questioner (Shri K. B. Chettri) was absent for answer vide Col. 35-36 infra.]

\*621. [The questioner (Shri Kalyan Chettri) was absent for answer vide Col. 37-38 infra.]

#### Repayment of foreign loans

\*622. SHRI PREM MANOHAR:

SHRI V. K. SAKHLECHA :

SHRI D. K. PATEL:

SHRI S. C. ANGRE:

SHRI N. K. SHEJWAL-KAR:

SHRI O. P. TYAGI:

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the break-up of amount paid to various countries in the form of rupee

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri V. K. Sakhlecha.