

को ऐसा कोई कानून बनाने से नहीं रोकेगा, जिसमें वह एससी, एसटी को प्रमोशन में आरक्षण और परिणामी ज्येष्ठता का लाभ देना चाहते हैं, लेकिन वह कानून नहीं बन सका।

माननीय सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेशानुसार उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा लगभग 15,000 कर्मियों को पदावनत कर दिया है। पदावनत कर्मियों को प्राप्त हो रही परिलब्धियों के आधार पर वरिष्ठता क्रम का कोई लाभ नहीं होगा। पदावनत होने पर मौजूदा वेतन एवं नए पद के वेतन के अंतर के बराबर वैयक्तिक वेतन तो दिया जाएगा, परन्तु इसकी गणना पेंशन और कटौती के संदर्भ में नहीं की जाएगी। एक ओर पदावनत से हजारों पद खाली हो गए हैं, वहीं दूसरी ओर आज भी आरक्षित वर्ग के पदोन्नति के लाखों पद खाली पड़े हुए हैं।

अतः केंद्र सरकार को पदोन्नति में आरक्षण से जुड़ा विधेयक लाना चाहिए, जिससे एक ठोस कानून बने। पदोन्नति में आरक्षण और परिणामी ज्येष्ठता की व्यवस्था सुनिश्चित होगी तो अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति वर्ग के खाली पड़े लाखों पदों को पुनः भरा जा सकेगा।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Sanjay Raut. No. Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. No. Shri Ahamed Hassan. Please lay it on the Table.

Demand for clarifying criterion for considering special package for States

SHRI AHAMED HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, the support that the Central Government gives to States in the form of special packages is appreciable as they come to the rescue of States that are in fiscal distress. The States of Jammu and Kashmir and Bihar have been given special packages by the Prime Minister, of ₹ 80,000 crore and ₹ 1.25 lakh crore respectively. These packages come at a crucial point for the States and will help them in their development process. But there are some States in the country which have been marred by natural calamities or have inherited huge fiscal burden from the past Governments - West Bengal suffers from both. Such States are in an urgent special need of such packages and shall be helped by the Central Government.

The State of West Bengal was struck by a cyclone in August which caused a loss of ₹ 30,000 crore. The Chief Minister of the State had written to the Prime Minister for help in this regard. The State has also inherited a huge fiscal burden from the previous Government. In the past one year, the State of West Bengal has been ravaged by floods, drought, earthquake, landslide and cyclone. Despite this rally of natural disasters, no help in the form of special packages has come to rescue the State of West Bengal. If some help is not given soon to the State of West Bengal, then the decision of the Central Government of granting special packages to Jammu and Kashmir and Bihar can be dismissed as only strategic decision.

I urge the Government of India to clarify the following queries while considering a special package for the State:

1. The criterion that is used for identifying States that will be granted a special package.
2. The criteria for ascertaining quantum of special package.
3. Why are certain States overlooked despite an urgent need for funds?
4. Whether the Government of India is planning to grant a special package to the State of West Bengal.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Dr. K. Keshava Rao. No. Shri Vivek Gupta. No. Shri Bhupinder Singh. Please lay it on the Table.

Demand for taking urgent measures to check air pollution at Toll Plazas on National Highways and Municipal Toll Booths in the country

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH (Odisha): The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) in a recent research has revealed that air pollution at Toll Plazas on National Highways and Municipal Toll booths in the country is beyond permissible limits. The average PM 2.5 level was found to be 150 on NH Toll Plazas which is beyond permissible level of 60 prescribed by CPCB. As a result, the health of Toll Plaza workers, the commuters as also the people living around Toll Plazas is being severely affected due to heavy air pollution. Due to this, the cases of lung cancer and chronic respiratory illnesses are rising alarmingly among the stakeholders.

The Toll Plaza workers spend the entire day and night confined within booths impacted by exhaust fumes and Particulate Matters. Sir, by taking some small steps we can save, according to a study done in the United States, at least, 0.35 tonnes of volatile organic compound emitted in the air per day, besides gallons of fuel and working man hours and human lives. Therefore, the Government must give serious consideration to checking pollution at all Toll Plazas.

Sir, against this backdrop, I urge upon the Government to immediately consider taking following steps at all Toll Plazas and Municipal Toll booths:—

- (i) make provision of Express Toll lanes;
- (ii) provide electronic Toll collection facility and EZ passes;
- (iii) provide Air purifiers, Oxygen dispensers at Toll Plazas;
- (iv) like Road Tax, bring up One-Time-Toll-Deposit Scheme;
- (v) develop enough greenery around Toll Plazas; and