

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा: सर, इसके साथ ही मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि दो साल पहले 39 इंडियन्स, विशेषकर जो पंजाब से, बंगाल से ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. That is a different matter. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: It is a similar thing, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is a different matter. You give another notice. That is a different matter. ...(Interruptions)... चूंकि यह अलग मैटर है, इसलिए आप इसके लिए दूसरा नोटिस दीजिए। आप इसके लिए separate notice दे दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... You do one thing. Give a Zero Hour notice for tomorrow. Now, sit down. Now, Shri Tapan Kumar Sen. ...(Interruptions)... Give a Zero Hour notice tomorrow.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Opposition to Government's move to appropriate huge part of employees' savings in EPF

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I am going to raise a labour issue and, at the outset, I will definitely thank the hon. Minister of External Affairs. She has taken a very prompt action. I had also written to her on this issue earlier. It was a very prompt action, So I thank her.

Sir, I rise to draw the attention of the House to the move of the Government of India to appropriate a part of the workers' own lifetime savings lying in the Provident Fund for a purpose which is in no way linked with the EPF subscribers. So, this appropriation is thoroughly illegitimate, improper and an attack on their own lifetime savings. The Government has mooted a proposal that a part of the EPF accumulation will be appropriated for the purpose of setting up Senior Citizens' Pension Fund. We welcome the idea of Senior Citizens' Pension Fund. But the Government should fund it. Why is the Government making the poor workers to pay for the pension fund of poorer workers, which is, essentially, the Government's responsibility? The money lying in the Employees' Provident Fund wholly belongs to the workers who are subscribing to EPF, not of anybody else. So how could you appropriate it? We also support you for the cause of Senior Citizens' Pension Fund. There is pilferage in the bank money to the tune of Rs. 8.5 lakh crore worth NPA. There is pilferage in the National Exchequer to the extent of unpaid direct-tax, to the tune of Rs. 5 lakh crores. And these are all Government figures. Instead of stopping that pilferage — if you stop that pilferage, you will get enough money

to pay pension to all the citizens of the country — why are you encroaching upon this? The workers are staunchly opposed to it. All the trade unions, Right, Left and Centre, had walked out from the Central Board of Trustees' Meeting, when the Labour Minister mooted this proposal. Please stop it; otherwise, workers are preparing for action. And just to warn the Government, out of many other issues, they are going on a countrywide general strike on 2nd September, 2016. Stop this pilferage on workers' lifetime savings in the Employees' Provident Fund. You are trying to fritter away the money by investing in stock market. Now, you are appropriating a part of that in a most unauthorized manner. It is nothing but a robbery on their fund. Government must restrain and refrain from this. Thank you.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI JHARNADAS BAIDYA (Tripura): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार): सर, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री पी.एल. पुनिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार): सर, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Mr. Tapan Kumar Sen. The workers will be in the deep soup if they do not get support from the Government of India. Otherwise, their money will be ruined. That is very clear. All the Central Trade Union Organisations are going on a nation wide strike. To avoid this, I request the Government to come forward with an appropriate proposal immediately.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. Mr. Shantaram Naik.

Need to give reservation of seats to Scheduled Tribes in Goa Assembly

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, three Scheduled Tribes of the State of Goa, namely, Gawda, Velipo and Kunbi, have not found a place as Scheduled Tribes' communities of Goa. When the Delimitation Commission visited Goa for the purpose of deciding Assembly seats, the Census figures of these communities were not available. Since it was not available, the Election Commission, then, decided that they were helpless. Independence of Goa took place in 1961, yet, these communities who were the original settlers have still not found an honourable place in their land. The representation of seats in the Assembly is decided by the Delimitation Commission. But subsequently the U.P. High Court in a case filed before them gave directions that seats should be readjusted for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the whole country. Accordingly, a Bill was introduced in this House for this purpose. I was the Chairman of the Committee; I hurriedly prepared a report to draft the Bill. The Bill was prepared and introduced in the House; yet, the Bill has not found success as it required. Subsequently, it was not taken up. The question is when the Election Commission visited Goa, at that time, could have given directions to the Census authorities in Goa to have a summary census. I had enquired of the Department in Goa, they told me that they required one month's time. "Within one month we can give you Census figures." But the Election Commission did not hear.

The BJP Government which was led by Mr. Manohar Parrikar, presently the Defence Minister, also did not cooperate. The Congress Party was the only party which gave a proper representation before the Delimitation Commission that these communities should find a place. They have got six to seven seats in Goa Assembly. Today, Goa is, perhaps, the only State where there are no representations to the Scheduled Tribe community in spite of the fact that its population is to the tune of 12 per cent. So, how can the country tolerate that these Scheduled Tribe communities of Goa have not found a place in the Constitution to be declared as the Scheduled Tribe community as required by the law?

I think this House or some authority has to take a call on this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. Please sit down.

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by my colleague.