

मंत्रालय के अधीन लाया जाए और इसे पूरे देश में एक आदर्श सैनिक विद्यालय की तरह विकसित किया जाए। मेरी सरकार से यह मांग है, धन्यवाद।

डा. विकास महात्मे (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is Shri John Brittas present? No. The next speaker is Shri M. Shanmugam. Shanmugamji, this is about need to transfer reserve fund for capital expenditure and to revise wages of BSNL employees.

Need to transfer reserve fund for capital expenditure and to revise wages and pension of BSNL employees

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to raise the issue of BSNL. When the BSNL was created in the Group of Ministers' meeting, it was decided that the reserve fund in DoT, that was earned during the past period due to the sweat and toil of workers, would be transferred to the BSNL for development and modernisation. However, the fund was not transferred. Most of the BSNL employees have taken VRS since there was a criticism that the company has more manpower. But, still, salary is not being paid to the existing employees. This Government is writing off NPAs and loans of corporate companies. But it is not prepared to help its own public sector undertaking. No capital expenditure is provided for maintenance and running of tower, generators or battery. Though the workers are motivated and performing dedicated service for the general public, many services like broadband internet are affected due to starvation of funds. When the workers were transferred from the Department of Telecom to BSNL in 2000 ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shanmugamji, you have to conclude. What is your demand?

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM: It was assured that their pension would be revised. But the Government has not given any financial support to the BSNL for revision of wages to the employees and revision of pension to retired employees. Thank you.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is Shri K. Vanlalvena present? Vanlalvenaji, this is about demand to reopen three regional offices of Food Corporation of India in the States of Mizoram, Tripura and Meghalaya. Are you ready?

SHRI K. VANLALVENA (Mizoram): Sir, I want to speak about ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whenever I exhaust the names that have been approved, then I go to the remaining names. You may not be aware of this. Anyhow, I read out your notice "Opening of regional offices of Food Corporation of India in the States of Mizoram, Tripura and Meghalaya." I told you yesterday also and I am reminding you again that whenever the approved list is exhausted, then the other names, who have given notice, will be called, if time is available. Accordingly, I have called you.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): You have not given me an opportunity today.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have given you an opportunity. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have already given you one opportunity; you cannot have two opportunities the same day. Others are also waiting. Next speaker is Shri John Brittas.

Need to restore the interest rate of Employees Provident Fund

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, the EPF rate which has been reduced may be reinstated. This is my demand.

The Government has done a very bad thing to the workers. Millions of people are being affected and I would request the Government to reinstate the rate.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.