

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

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

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

Need to increase the CGHS reimbursement rates

SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR (West Bengal): Sir, I thank you for the opportunity. I wish to draw the special attention of the House towards the dire necessity of increasing the

rates of reimbursement of treatment, medical tests and equipments under the Central Government Health Scheme. As you are aware, Sir, about two crore people are involved, including the Members of this House, who avail themselves of the facilities. Unfortunately, these rates were fixed about eight to ten years ago. I will just give a small example. The scales of payment fixed by the CGHS are totally unsatisfactory and below market rates. For example, Root Canal Treatment (RCT) of the tooth costs Rs. 8,000 in the market and the amount reimbursed is Rs.500 only. That's all. A somnographic test for sleep apnea is fixed by clinics all over India at Rs.10,000 to Rs.12,000, but the reimbursement given by the CGHS is Rs.638. This is not only irrational, but this is totally unjust. It is the due of the Members of this House and it is the due of about two crore Government employees and pensioners. Lumbar puncture costs Rs. 8,000 to Rs.10,000, but the CGHS gives Rs.600. I can go on giving more examples. I wish to raise it in this House because this gross injustice needs to be contested and we need a resolution to prevail upon the Health and Finance Ministries to revisit these rates to make it somewhere logical. They are quite a joke now. With these words, I conclude. Thank you, Sir.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

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

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SANJEEV ARORA (Punjab): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA (National Capital Territory of Delhi): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

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

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUBRATA BAKSHI (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI R. GIRIRAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

LT.GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (RETD.) (Haryana): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

Need for a comprehensive scheme to implement the recent Supreme Court judgement on EPF and to increase the minimum EPF Pension

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I want to raise the issue of 67 lakh pensioners of the Employees Pension Scheme. Their main demand is enhancement of minimum pension to Rs.9,000 on the basis of the recommendations of the Koshyari Committee. Two, payment of dearness allowance along with pension to neutralize the price index. Three, release higher pension on actual salary as per the orders of the apex court on 04.10.2016 and 01.04.2019. Free medical treatment to all EPS-95 pensioners and their dependants. There are about 67 lakh EPS pensioners who are getting fixed pension ranging from Rs. 400 to Rs. 4,000 per month without dearness allowance to neutralize the price index and half of them are getting less than Rs.1,000 pension and leading a very precarious life in their old age. The Union Government has enhanced minimum pension to Rs.9,000 plus DA/TI for their retirees since 2016 whereas the EPS pensioners who have equal contribution and sacrifice for the growth and development of the nation have been treated unequally and Rs.1,000 fixed minimum monthly pension has been given to them w.e.f. 01.09.2014 without any enhancement as yet.

In the year 2013, the Petition Committee of Rajya Sabha headed by Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari, in its Report, has recommended payment of Rs. 3,000 minimum pension to EPS-95 pensioners plus DA/TI to neutralize the price index. But the said Report is yet to be implemented by the Government of India for enhancement of pension even after a lapse of eight years.

It is also pertinent to mention that as of now there is a concluded judgment for payment of higher pension on actual salary in the light of direction of hon. apex court. Regarding the pension, the contribution for pension is 8.33 per cent from the employees' salary. Only 1.16 per cent the Government has to share for this. It is very pitiable. The Government has to come forward and give the pension now. These 67 lakh pensioners are agitating on this issue. Thank you, Sir.