

Delay in disbursement of pensionary benefits to Government employees

MS. SUSHMITA DEV (West Bengal): Thank you, Sir, for having given me the opportunity. Sir, pensioners have served the country with dedication and denying them fair and timely pensions is unjustified. The Supreme Court has repeatedly stated that the right to receive pension is equivalent to right to property under the Constitution. I quote: "Pension is neither a bounty nor a matter of grace." It is a social welfare measure rendering socio-economic justice to those who in the heydays of their life ceaselessly toiled for the employer on an assurance that in their old age they would not be left in the lurch. Sir, the recent amendments to the Central Civil Service (Pension) Rules have given rise to some concern and I demand that the Government relooks at it. Sir, the concern is spreading fast among the State Government employees as well as the Central Government employees. The changes suggest that pensioners who retire before January 2026 may be deprived of the benefit of the Eighth Pay Commission creating an unfair distinction between retirees. This is unjust, Sir. The Employees' Associations and Unions have strongly criticized this. According to the changes to the Civil Service (Pension) Rules, the Government has given itself a power to classify pensioners at its discretion. Such arbitrary policy-making violates the principles of fairness and transparency. Sir, as a good example, I look at the Seventh Pay Commission implemented in 2016, which ensured that pensioners, whether retired before or after 2016, received equal pensions. The principle of no discrimination between old and new pensioners has been repeatedly upheld by the Supreme Court. The Government is now attempting to reverse this. Sir, according to Government data, by 1st March 2025, nearly 36.57 lakh Government employees and 33.91 lakh pensioners will be affected by these changes. The Central Government employees and pensioners are expecting a salary and a pension hike under the Eighth Pay Commission, which is also likely to be delayed. Reports suggest that the Government has also given itself the power to decide when to implement the Pay Commission's recommendation and who should qualify for pension benefits, leaving lakhs of pensioners in a state of uncertainty. These pensioners have served the country with dedication and denying or delaying their fair pension is unjustified. Therefore, I urge the Government to ensure that all pensioners, no matter when they retire, receive their rightful benefits and enjoy parity under the Pay Commission. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by hon. Member, Ms. Sushmita Dev: Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha),

Shri Saket Gokhale (West Bengal), Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu), Shri A. A. Rahim (Kerala), Shri Mohammed Nadimul Haque (West Bengal), Shri Ritabrata Banerjee (West Bengal), Ms. Dola Sen (West Bengal), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shrimati Mausam B Noor (West Bengal), Shrimati Sagarika Ghose (West Bengal), Shri M. Shanmugam (Tamil Nadu), Shrimati Jaya Amitabh Bachchan (Uttar Pradesh), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri Niranjana Bishi (Odisha) and Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu).

Now, Shrimati Sulata Deo - Demand to enforce stricter laws to protect animals, wildlife and nature.

Demand to enforce stricter laws to protect animals, wildlife and nature

SHRIMATI SULATA DEO (Odisha): Thank you, Sir, for having given me the opportunity. सर, इंसान अपने-अपने प्रावधान के लिए बोलते हैं, लेकिन मैं आज, जो बोल नहीं सकते हैं, which cannot speak, उनके बारे में बोलना चाहती हूँ। Mythology भी हमें animals and birds को बचा कर रखने की सीख देती है और उनको बचाने के लिए ही बहुत सारे देवी-देवताओं के वाहन animals and birds हैं। मगर आज हम एक ऐसी सोसाइटी में रहते हैं, जहाँ animals cruelty दिन-प्रतिदिन बढ़ती जा रही है, चाहे वह pregnant dog हो, cat हो, elephant हो या कोई भी animal हो, उसके ऊपर दिन-प्रतिदिन cruelty होती रहती है। आप देखेंगे, तो पाएँगे कि आज open slaughter house सारी जगहों पर मौजूद हैं। इसके चलते बच्चों के दिमाग पर भी बहुत खराब प्रभाव पड़ रहा है।

जब ट्रेन से बहुत सारे एलीफेंट्स की कट कर मौत होती है, कितने गाय तथा अन्य जानवरों की कट कर मौत होती है और उसके लिए जब बोला जाता है, तो रेलवे वाले फॉरेस्ट वाले को दोष देते हैं और फॉरेस्ट वाले रेलवे वाले को दोष देते हैं। इसमें किसी के ऊपर दोष देने से कुछ नहीं होता है। जब बीएनएस लागू हुआ था, तब भी मैं बोली थी कि एनिमल के ऊपर जो cruelty हो रही है, उसके लिए कड़ी-से-कड़ी सजा के लिए नियम बनाना चाहिए।

(सभापति महोदय पीठासीन हुए।)

मगर, animal के ऊपर जो day-by-day cruelty हो रही है, उसके लिए ऐसा कोई प्रावधान नहीं है, जिससे उन पर cruelty करने वालों को कड़ी से कड़ी सजा दी जा सके। अभी ओडिशा के ब्रह्मपुर में एक dog को तीन-चार बार चाकू से काट दिया गया। ऐसे बहुत सारे मामले हुए हैं। इसीलिए, मैं यह कह रही हूँ कि animal-cruelty के ऊपर ऐसा आर्डिन आना चाहिए, जिससे इस तरह की cruelty करने वालों को कड़ी से कड़ी सजा मिल सके।