15.49 hrs.

Title: Consideration of the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2002. (Bill Passed)

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोा कुमार गंगवार) : सभापित महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हं

"कि संसद सदस्य वेतन, भत्ता और पेंशन (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 1954 में और आगे संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक पर विचार किया जाये।"

यह बहुत छोटा सा संशोधन है। सदन अवगत है कि संसद् सदस्य वेतन, भत्ता और पेंशन अधिनियम के द्वारा दिनांक 14.9.2001 को चार वी की सदस्यता वाले पूर्व संसद सदस्यों की न्यूनतम वेतन की राशि को 2500 रुपये से बढ़ाकर 3000 रुपये प्रतिमाह किया गया था। पर उसमें पूर्व संसद सदस्यों की दो श्रेणियां रह गई थीं। एक श्रेणी वह थी, जिसमें लोक सभा की दो अवधि होने के बाद भी जिन संसद सदस्यों के चार वी पूरे नहीं हो पाए थे और दूसरी श्रेणी थी अंतरिम संसद के सदस्यों की, जिनको 2500 रुपए मिलते थे, उसमें सम्मिलित नहीं हो पाए थे, उनकी राशि 3000 रुपए कर दिया जाए।

मेरा सदन से आग्रह है कि इस प्रस्ताव को आगे बिना बहस के पारित करने की अनुमति प्रदान करें। अगर इसमें कोई सुझाव होगा, तो जब कभी बड़ा बिल आएगा, उसमें इसका समावेश किया जा सकता है, तो वह किया जाएगा।

श्री थावरचन्द गेहलोत (शाजापुर) : सभापति महोदय, मंत्री जी ने जो कहा है, मैं उससे सहमति व्यक्त करता हूं और अपील करता हूं कि इस विधेयक को पास किया जाए।

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, we are all supporting this Bill. But a message always goes wrong if they bring forward the Bill in a piecemeal manner. Every time, the Government brings forward some Bill on the Salary and Allowances. A message goes to the media that Members of Parliament are getting everything which is absolutely not correct. The Government should also give a comprehensive statement to the public through the Ministry saying that the Members of Parliament working in India are taking the least benefit when compared to the Members of Parliament of the rest of the world. What kind of people do we represent? We represent millions and millions of people comparing others in the world. Our task is most hazardous in nature. No Member of Parliament in the world represents more than one million people. When the Government brings forward such piecemeal Bills, the newspapers create an impression in the minds of the public that again we are taking something more. For God's sake, please bring forward a comprehensive Bill once and give a justified response to the public. So, I would request the Government to bring forward a comprehensive Bill and send a message to the public how much the Government is giving and now much it is not giving. Otherwise, we will unnecessarily be criticised outside the House. So, I would request the hon. Minister to give a comparative note to the public saying that you have brought forward this Bill for the provisional Members of Parliament who are elders and senior Members. Why does the Government not bring forward a Bill comprising every thing? That is my submission.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): When the other Bill relating to enhancing the salary and allowances was brought forward earlier, I was the only Member who opposed it for the simple reason that it would give rise to severe criticism from the public. Every day, the Government is bringing forward one amendment after another amendment. If the Government has got a clear idea about the present situation, then, it should bring forward a comprehensive amendment. Mr. Minister, you have not done that. You are making the Members of Parliament a mockery in the eyes of the public. As I said earlier, you bring forward piecemeal amendments giving enhancement of Rs.500, Rs.3000 and like that. This will create a very bad impression among the public. I would request you not to do that. Please study the situation....(Interruptions)

Even now, this Bill is defective. There are some ex-MPs who have completed three years and more. They will not get a single pie. You may see that a large number of Members, who have completed more than three years, will not get pension. On the other hand, a Member of Parliament, for the simple reason that he was a Member of Parliament for two terms in the House, is entitled to get it even if he has not completed four years. This is also a lacuna. So, Mr. Minister, you must give consideration. You should reduce the number of years to two or three....(Interruptions) The point is that the provisional Members of Parliament are allowed to get it. You incur expenditure on that count.

Why do you not do that? Those Members who have not completed four years will not get it. It is not because of their fault....(*Interruptions*) There are some Members who could not complete four years for the simple reason that the House was prematurely dissolved. It is was because of their fault.

So, these ex-MPs who have served a tenure of 3 years and 9 months or 10 months could not get pension. So, the Government should consider their case also, make a detailed study and bring a comprehensive Bill. With these words, I whole-heartedly support this Bill.

लेजिस्लेशन में बिल लाने का कोई इरादा नहीं है लेकिन उस समय थोड़ी सी त्रुटि रह गई थी, जैसे अंतरिम संसद के करीब 20 सदस्य हैं, वे इसमें सम्मिलित नहीं हो पाए थे। उनकी 2500 की राशि बनी रही और वह नहीं बढ़ पाई। ऐसे ही जिनके दो कार्यकाल होने के बाद भी चार वा नहीं हुए थे, ऐसे ही थोड़े से संसद सदस्यों के लिए इसमें सम्मिलित किया गया। हम मुंशी जी और राधाकृणन जी की बात से सहमत हैं कि पीस मील लेजिस्लेशन में लाने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है। भविय में जो भी इस पर विचार होगा, जो हमारी सम्मिति है और जो भी फैसले होते हैं, उसके अनुसार किया जाएगा। यह बात हम भी समझते हैं कि इसमें है तो कुछ भी नहीं लेकिन अखबार में ऐसे निकलेगा जैसे पता नहीं कि हम लोगों ने क्या फैसला लिया है। मैं ऐसा मानता हूं कि हम सब इस बात से परिचित और सहमत भी हैं। मेरा आपसे आग्रह है कि इस त्रुटि को दूर करके संशोधन के माध्यम से, हम आप सबकी सहमित से इसे पारित कराएं और बाद में जब भी लाएंगे तो बिना उसके नहीं लाया जाएगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.
