Title: Regarding resettlement of ex-servicemen under DGR guidelines.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI (BADAGARA): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government on a very important matter regarding the need to take effective steps to protect the interests of the ex-military personnel of the country and strict monitoring of the implementation of the DGR guidelines.

This is the apt time to analyze ourselves and to think it over whether we are paying much attention to the issues faced by our exmilitary personnel who had dedicated a major portion of their life for the safety and security of our nation.

Sir, it is time that we had formed the guidelines by the Director General of Resettlement under the Ministry of Defence. All the major public sector undertakings are given directions to give priority in security-related jobs to these ex-service personnel.

One of the major public sector undertakings, BSNL, is providing security jobs to safeguard the telephone exchanges and mobile towers of the country. In the State of Kerala, about 4,500 ex-servicemen were appointed as security guards by BSNL authorities. But recently, in some of the districts, especially in the districts of Palghat and Pathanamthitta, these ex-servicemen guards have been terminated stating that there is a direction from the Corporate office to reduce the expenditure of the functioning of the BSNL.

MR. SPEAKER: One cannot be so long on every matter. How can we go on like this?

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: Sir, this issue has to be taken up by the Defence Ministry and the Ministry of Telecommunications. In Palkat District only, 42 persons have been issued termination notice. The DGR guidelines strictly direct that these persons once appointed should be protected; their jobs should be protected until the age of 58 or till they attain superannuation.

This attitude of the BSNL authorities stating that to reduce the expenditure of the BSNL, they are welcoming these measures, is not fair.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a debate. You are making all the issues. How can it go on? You just mention it.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: Therefore, Sir, I would urge upon the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Telecommunications.

MR. SPEAKER: This is also an art. To raise an issue is an art also.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: I would urge upon these two Ministries to take up this issue and reinstate those ex-military security guards who are already terminated and secure their jobs.

MR. SPEAKER: Although by no standard and means, Shri Hannan Mollah can be treated as an hon. lady Member, but since I made a promise to him, I allow him only one of his two matters. [r11]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): Thank you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: You say thank you because I am recognizing you!