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Title: Regarding need for early implementation of the Gramin Dak Sewak Committee Report.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the plight of more than three lakh Gram Dak Sewaks. Their nomenclature has been changed from Extra Departmental Employees to Gram Dak Sewaks, but there has not been any improvement in their salary nor are they being paid retirement benefits. These Gram Dak Sewaks are the backbone of postal services in our country. They are maintaining 80 per cent of the postal services, particularly in the rural areas.

Justice Talwar Committee was constituted in the nineties. This Committee had recommended to improve their salaries and also recommended for retirement benefits. Those recommendations were not implemented in spite of the assurances given on the floor of this House. So, these workers had to go on strike a number of times.

Subsequently, when 6th Pay Commission was constituted, a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Natarajan Murthy was constituted. That Committee made certain negative recommendation and even diluted the benefits which these three lakh Gram Dak Sewaks were getting. When there was a demand for modification of the recommendation, then another Committee was constituted. That Committee also made negative recommendation. When there was a strike by these workers, they were assured that modification would be made so that these three lakh Extra Departmental Employees would get benefit. That committee also did not make any positive recommendation.

The National Federation of Postal Employees submitted a number of modifications as to how the recommendation can be modified. I urge upon the Government to take positive steps so that these modifications are made to the recommendations which were made by earlier Committee and which have diluted even the benefits these employees are getting, and Extra Departmental Employees', who are demanding retirement benefits, pay and allowances are at par with that of Central Government employees.[\[SS15\]](#)

There is a huge gap between the pay of extra-departmental employees and the Government employees after implementation of the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission. ...(*Interruptions*) Therefore, there is an urgent need to improve their salary, and the retirement benefits should also be given to this category of employees under the Postal Department.

श्री गिरधारी लाल भार्गव (जयपुर) : महोदय, मैं बसुदेव आचार्य जी के साथ एशोसिएट करता हूँ।

प्रो. रासा सिंह रावत (अजमेर): महोदय, मैं बसुदेव आचार्य जी के साथ एशोसिएट करता हूँ।

श्री जसवंत सिंह बिश्नोई (जोधपुर): महोदय, मैं बसुदेव आचार्य जी के साथ एशोसिएट करता हूँ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : जो जो माननीय सदस्य श्री बसुदेव आचार्य जी के साथ एशोसिएट करना चाहते हैं, वे यहां स्लिप दे दें।

...(व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मेरी बात आप लोग सुनिए। जो माननीय सदस्य बसुदेव आचार्य जी के साथ एशोसिएट करना चाहते हैं, वे स्लिप दे सकते हैं।

...(व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: S/Shri Sunil Khan, P.C. Thomas, Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya, Chandra Mani Tripathi, P.S. Gadhavi, K. Francis George, Adv. Suresh Kurup, S. Ajaya Kumar, N. N. Krishnadas, Ram Kripal Yadav, P. Rajendran, Dr. K.S. Manoj, Braja Kishore Tripathy, Brahmananda Panda, and Shrimati C.S. Sujatha would like to associate themselves with the issue raised by Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, the Minister should respond on this issue. ...(*Interruptions*) The Minister of Minority Affairs, Shri Antulay, is present in the House, and he should respond on this issue that the Government will consider it. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

(*Interruptions*) â€ˆ*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Please do not compel them to go on strike. ...(Interruptions) The Minister wants to respond on this issue. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

* Not recorded.

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): The hon. Member has raised a very vital point, and it seems

that the consensus of the House is also with him. On behalf of the Government, I assure that it will be taken very seriously, and as far as possible it will be implemented soon.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Thomas to raise his matter of urgent importance. You can raise only one of the two issues listed against your name.