

Fourteenth Loksabha

Session : 8

Date : 22-08-2006

Participants : [Chakraborty Shri Ajay](#), [Dasmunsi Shri Priya Ranjan](#), [Radhakrishnan Shri Varkala](#), [Dasmunsi Shri Priya Ranjan](#)

an>

Title : Discussion on motion for Introduction of Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2006 (Motion Adopted and Bill Introduced).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House shall now take up the Supplementary List of Business.

Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954. ”

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): I oppose the move to introduce a Bill to amend the salary, allowances and pension of the Members of Parliament.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Let me say, Sir, that we are not the persons to decide our salaries. This is beyond our legislative competence. When the farmers in the country are committing suicides, we are enhancing our salaries. This is very unfortunate and I oppose it.

It should be decided by an independent agency and not by the Members of Parliament. We should appoint an independent Committee, which should take evidence, decide and then make recommendations. Then only we should enhance our salaries. We, ourselves should not enhance our salaries. We are not

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dt. 22. 8.06
competent to say what should be our salary, emoluments and allowances.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Only Shri Varkala Radhkrishnan's speech will go on record.

*(Interruptions) **

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): We are not competent to decide it. Let us form a Committee, not of Members of Parliament, but an independent Committee to look into the matter and make recommendations

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing, except whatever Shri Varkala Radhkrishnan says, will go on record.

*(Interruptions) **

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : When farmers in the country are committing suicides, we should avoid enhancing our salaries. It is quite unbecoming. In the Press it has come that the Members salary will be about Rs.1 lakh. We will be in difficulty. So, I would request that the Bill should not be introduced at this stage. A new Committee may be formed which may look into the matter and decide.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (BASIRHAT): Sir, at the very outset, at the introductory stage of the Bill, I strongly oppose the Bill because it is un-wise, un-reasonable, illegal and un-ethical also. Members of Parliament are making laws for the country but it is a matter of regret that the Members are making law for the enhancement of their salaries and allowances for themselves. This is un-ethical. My humble suggestion before you is, let an independent Committee, barring the Ministers and the Members of Parliament, be constituted. This independent Committee should examine all the matters relating to the salaries, allowances and other facilities of the Members. If we increase our salaries ourselves, it will give a wrong message to the people. Therefore, I humbly request my friends not to press for the passing of the Bill. I would request the hon. Minister to withdraw it.

*Not Recorded.

Sir, I strongly oppose the introduction of the Bill. The Bill is unethical, undesirable and undemocratic. Therefore, I would request the Government to withdraw the Bill.

प्रो. रासा सिंह रावत (अजमेर) : मान्यवर, लाभ के बड़े-बड़े पदों पर कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी के नेता बैठे हैं।

...(ब्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मंत्री महोदय के भाषण के अतिरिक्त किसी भी माननीय सदस्य की कोई बात रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जाएगी।

...(ब्यवधान)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, first of all, the opposition to the introduction of a Bill in the House is always done on the legislative competence. I brought this Bill with full legislative

competence. It is within the ambit of the Constitution... (*Interruptions*). You have already made your submission, now let me speak. The Article 106 of the Constitution of India says:

“Members of either House of Parliament shall be entitled to receive such salaries and allowances as may from time to time be determined by Parliament by law and, until provision in that respect is so made, allowances at such rates and upon such conditions as were immediately before the commencement of this Constitution applicable in the case of members of the Constituent Assembly of the Dominion of India.”

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is speaking without my permission, therefore, nothing would go on record.

(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: All right, you go on speaking. I would sit down... (*Interruptions*)

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

(*Interruptions*) *

*Not Recorded.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I draw the kind attention of the hon. CPI leader, Shri Ajoy Chakraborty and Comrade Radhakrishnan that this constitutional provision provided the strength to have a Joint Parliamentary Committee of Parliament. It has examined the matter. I think similar would be the case in the State Assemblies of Kerala and West Bengal. Therefore, there is no difference between us and the States. After due deliberation on this matter, the Joint Committee of Parliament submitted a report. I thank the Members of the Joint Committee who represent all the parties. It is headed by Shri Giridhar Gamang. They have done a great job. They have brought out a table which would show that the Members of Parliament of India are the lowest paid parliamentarians in the world.

Secondly, I would like to submit that our Government has taken a decision in this regard which I am happy to inform you that this will be effective up to five years. Thereafter, a permanent institutional mechanism shall work. That is also the recommendation of the Joint Committee. I

-

-

-

* Introduced with the recommendation of the President.