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Title : Need to revise the pension being given to old age pensioners under Employees Pension Scheme 1995.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (KOTTAYAM): I would like to highlight the miserable plight of retired employees covered under the family pension and pension schemes of 1971 and 1995 presently receiving a pittance ranging from Rupees 300 to 2000 per month. These entitlements were fixed at the time of the commencement of the schemes with an assurance from the Government that the entitlements under these schemes would be revised every three years commensurate with the rate of inflation and rise in cost of living.

The rupee has since been devalued many times over and the present monthly disbursement would not even cover a fraction of costs providing basic requirements for a dignified living at old age - food, clothing, Medicare and shelter. Many representations from the Employees Provident Fund Pensioners' Associations are still pending with the Government for revision of pension entitlements under these schemes calibrated to the present day cost of living index. In my view there is no justification on the part of the Government denying the legitimate demands of old age pensioners struggling hard to lead a dignified living as costs/prices of essential commodities have risen much beyond the capacity of the meagrely paid pensioners. I would therefore urge the Centre in the Ministry of Labour and Employment to address this long pending concern of old age pensioners.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please go and occupy your seats. You have made your point.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go to your place. Do not hijack the proceedings of the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions) \*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please go to your seats. I am warning you that I will have to take action.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am warning you, I will take action. Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please go to your seats. Do not force the Chair to take action.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members for the last time, I am warning you, please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)