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Title: Need to remove the discrepancy in the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995.

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SHRI P. NAGARAJAN (COIMBATORE): The Employees Pension Scheme 1995 has a provision that a member can contribute additional money into the pension fund which can be up to 8.33% of his actual entire salary. In that case the pension to the member will be commensurate with the money so deposited and hence the pension will be increased proportionately.

The Honble High Courts gave a verdict that the increased contribution should be accepted. EPFO has given effect to this issue but at a later date they have come out with an erroneous stand that the said circular applies only to employees who belong to un-exempted establishments and does not apply to exempted establishments.

This is a blatant discrimination against the employees and diluting the spirit of the judgments. This is detrimental to the retired employees from exempted establishments. Due to this erroneous stand of EPFO many employees who worked in exempted establishments have been severely affected.

I, therefore, urge the Government to intervene immediately in this vexed issue and remove any such discrimination to ensure the benefit reaches to all eligible retired employees of several organisations like Food Corporation of India.