

[डा० लक्ष्मी सापकाव पंडित]

सर्व-कार्य मंत्री जी के माध्यम से आकर्षित करते हुए निवेदन करता हूँ कि वे इस बारे में वक्तव्य दें क्योंकि यह जनसाधारण के लिये बहुत महत्व का विषय है मैं चाहूँगा कि वे यह भी स्पष्ट कर दें कि वे इसको किस प्रकार सुधारते जा रहे हैं ? इस हस्ताक्षर की हालत दिन-प्रतिदिन बिगड़ती जा रही है, जिसे सुधारा जाना अनिवार्य की दृष्टि से अत्यंत आवश्यक है ।

(11) REPORTED BREAK IN SERVICE OF MANUAL LABOURERS OF FARAKKA COMPLEX

SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SAN-YAL (Jangipur) A large contingent of manual labour had for a long time worked at the Farakka Complex. The labourers were on muster roll. The previous Government of India had a policy of making break in service of some for a short while to avoid their permanency and they passed as casual labour. During the incumbency of the present Government, after agitation and discussion the casual character was abrogated and all became permanent. Recently, out of a bunch of about 1500 labourers, 600 have been given notice of retrenchment with effect from 1-8-78. Through our intervention that date has been postponed to 15-8-1978. A serious situation has arisen and it is not merely a case of throwing back to unemployment but is inconsistent with the avowed policy of the Janata Government.

(111) REPORTED DECISION TO CANCEL PENSION OF SOME FREEDOM FIGHTERS

SHRI C K CHANDRAPPA (Cannanore) It was a matter of serious public concern that the Government of India has decided to cancel the pension granted to some of the freedom fighters on political grounds and

decided to invoke provisions of Revenue Recovery Act to recover the amount which already had been given to them by way of pension.

Whatsoever might have been the ideological inspiration and political motivation behind a struggle, we must have the broad mindedness and grace to accept it as freedom struggle and honour the participants of those struggles as freedom fighters and national heroes.

But the Janata Government has taken a narrow view on this matter and cancelled the pension granted to some of the freedom fighters merely on narrow political consideration.

Recently the Kerala Assembly has adopted a resolution to express its disapproval of this policy.

They wanted the centre to take immediate decision to grant pension to freedom fighters who took part in the historic Punnappa-Vayalar struggle, Moplah Rebellion and Kavumbi struggle.

It may be recalled that Punnappa Vayalar Struggle was the aimed struggle against the attempt of the former Maharaja of Travancore to declare Travancore independent at the instigation of the British. Moplah Rebellion in Malabar was part of the Khilafat movement and peasant revolt, inseparable part of freedom struggle. Kavumbi struggle was struggle against the British in Malabar.

I, therefore, request the Government to grant pension to the freedom fighters of the struggles and movements mentioned above and stop the act of invoking Revenue Recovery Act against the freedom fighters. It is an insult to injury I request the Government to make a statement on this matter in the House.