

Date: September 22, 2017

Varun Gandhi criticises salary hike for lawmakers

Says he has written to PM rejecting the raise

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CHENNAI

BJP MP Varun Gandhi on Thursday said that he had met the farmers from Tamil Nadu who were protesting in Delhi and that they were in a terrible condition. “They had so much anger and frustration against the system. But the next thing I know is that the Tamil Nadu Assembly had arrogated to double wages for the legislators,” said the MP, while addressing students at the Great Lakes Institute of Management in the city.

He expressed his dissatisfaction over the prolonged issue of farmers and questioned the salary hike for lawmakers. “You can’t just wake up in the morning and say ‘I am going to



Strong views: BJP MP Varun Gandhi with students in Chennai on Thursday. ■ G. KRISHNASWAMY

double my salary,’ it would have been a happier world if you could do that.”

“I find it strange that in the last five years, the Lok Sabha has increased the salary for MPs itself by four times. I wrote to the Speaker and the Prime Minister and said that I will not accept this raise, it is immoral and unethical.

Have the members of Parliament earned this raise and MLAs in Tamil Nadu earned this raise? I do not want to comment on them because I have to drive past Chennai now,” he quipped.

Mr. Gandhi pointed out that very few women candidates get tickets to contest elections.

Online link - <http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/varun-gandhi-criticises-salary-hike-for-lawmakers/article19733452.ece>