

SHRI Z. A. AHMAD : A large number of recommendations were made. The answer given by the hon. Minister is rather vague. Certain recommendations have been accepted and liberalised grants have been made in certain cases. I would like the hon. Minister to state specifically in what respect the liberalisation of grants has been made. That will be helpful.

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : This is a relevant question. For the information of the hon. Member, the University Grants Commission has accepted the following recommendations of the report :

Liberalisation of assistance to colleges for books and science equipment by raising the Commission's share from 66 2/3 per cent to 75 per cent of approved cost.

Programmes of construction of teachers' and students' hostels.

Residential quarters for academic staff.

Establishment of non-resident student centres.

Assistance to Teachers' Training Colleges.

Extension of libraries and laboratories.

Development of post-graduate studies in Humanities, Social Sciences and Sciences in affiliated colleges..

Provision of basic grants on cent per cent basis for purchase of books for the establishment of text-book libraries for needy students and for the establishment or continuation of students' aid fund to provide financial assistance to the needy students.

These are the recommendations accepted out of the report.

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS : May I know from the Minister whether this College Education Reform Committee went into the question of regional language and advocated any liberal grant to all colleges which want to switch over to regional language as the medium of instruction ?

DR. TRIGUNA SEN : It is a mistaken idea of the hon. Member. All State Education Ministers have been

asked that they should form a Committee with Professors and Vice-Chancellors to write books and develop the regional literature and text-books for which grant is being given. It is not that grant is being given to any college to adopt the regional language.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Next question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You should allow this question of mine.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Next question, Mr. Rajnarain.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Again and again I got up. You did not allow me. I want to ask an important question. I would like to know why it is not allowed. The Question Hour should not be made a farce. I have got materials here. I have got to ask the question.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Next question.

रिजर्व बैंक आफ इंडिया तथा एयर-इंडिया द्वारा उठाया गया नुकसान

*** 357 श्री राज नारायण :**

श्री बी० डी० खोबरागड़े :

श्री को० प० सुब्रह्मण्य मेनोन :

क्या पर्यटन तथा नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हवाई जहाज के कटौती दर वाले टिकटों की बिक्री के कारण रिजर्व बैंक आफ इंडिया और एयर-इंडिया को लगभग सात करोड़ रुपये सालाना का नुकसान हो रहा है ;

(ख) क्या इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार का ध्यान लंदन के "दि सण्डे टेलीग्राफ" नामक अखबार में प्रकाशित विवरण की ओर आकृष्ट किया गया है; और

(ग) यदि हाँ तो उसके बारे में सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है और इस मामले में क्या निर्णय किये गये हैं ?

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OF INDIA AND AIR INDIA

♦357. SHRI RAJNARAIN :

SHRI B. D. KHOBARA-
GADE :

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA
MENON :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND
CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve
Bank of India and the Air India are incurring
an annual loss of about rupees seven crores on
account of the sale of concessional air tickets;

(b) whether Government's attention has
been drawn to an account published in this
connection in a London newspaper "The
Sunday Telegraph": and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of
Government thereto and what conclusions
have been arrived at in the matter ?]

पर्यटन तथा नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में
उपमंत्री (श्रीमती जहानारा जयपालसिंह) :
(क) से (ग) में सभा-पटल पर अपेक्षित सूचना
देने वाला एक विवरण रख रही हूँ।

विवरण

(क) ऐसा विश्वास करने के कारण है
कि कई हवाई कम्पनियां कुछ अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मार्गों
पर, विशेषतया भारत और यू० के० के बीच
उत्प्रवासी यातायात (इमाइग्रेंट) के संबंध
में निर्धारित हवाई किरायों की अपेक्षा कम
किराये लेती हैं। इसके परिणामस्वरूप यातायात
विदुर कर इन हवाई कंपनियों को चला जाता
है और एयर इंडिया को नुकसान होता है तथा
फलतः विदेशी मुद्रा की हानि होती है। लेकिन
इस प्रकार के कुत्सित आचार की सही सही
मात्रा निर्धारित नहीं की जा सकती, जब तक
कि विशिष्ट मामलों को साबित न कर दिया
जाय। इसलिये इस कारण होने वाली विदेशी
मुद्रा की हानि का मूल्यांकन करना संभव नहीं
है।

(ख) जी, हाँ।

(ग) इस कारण से होने वाली विदेशी
मुद्रा की हानि को रोकने के लिये कई कदम
उठाये गये हैं तथा उठाये जा रहे हैं। वे ये
हैं :—

(i) अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विमान परिवहन संस्था
की अन्य सदस्य देशों की भांति एक "एनफोर्स-
मेंट एजेंसी" (प्रवर्तक अधिकरण) है जो
इस प्रकार के अनाचारों पर निगरानी रखती
है, तथा जहाँ सबूत मिलता है वहाँ वहाँ
संस्था के नियमों के अनुसार अपराधियों
के विरुद्ध दण्डात्मक कार्यवाही करती है।

(ii) जहाँ इस प्रकार के अनाचार
विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमन अधिनियम के विरुद्ध
अपराध के दोषी होते हैं वहाँ प्रवर्तन निदे-
शालय निरोधात्मक एवं दण्डात्मक कार्य-
वाही करता है। प्रवर्तन निदेशालय विदेशी
हवाई कंपनियों में से एक के विरुद्ध एक
मामले की जांच कर रहा है।

(iii) क्योंकि यह अनाचार अधिकतया
उत्प्रवासी यातायात के संबंध में चल रहा है,
भारत और यू० के० के बीच उत्प्रवासियों के
लिये एक रियायाती किराये की व्यवस्था
की गयी है। केवल इन दो देशों के राष्ट्रीय
वाहकों, अर्थात् एयर इंडिया और ब्रिटिश
ओवरसीज एयरवेज कारपोरेशन, को ही
इन घटायें हुए किरायों को लेने का अधिकार
है। इसका प्रभाव यह होता है कि उत्प्रवासी
यातायात इन दो हवाई कंपनियों की ओर
आकर्षित होता है तथा विदेशी मुद्रा में हानि
का निरोध होता है।

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL
AVIATION (SHRIMATI JAHANARA
JAIPAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) I lay a statement
on the Table of the Sabha giving the requisite
information.

STATEMENT

(a) There are reasons to believe that certain
airlines undercut the official air fares on
certain international routes, particularly in
regard to the emigrant

traffic between India and the United Kingdom. This leads to diversion of traffic to such airlines to the detriment of Air India, and consequently to loss of foreign exchange. However, the precise extent of such mal-practice cannot be determined unless specific cases are proved. It is, therefore, not possible to estimate the loss of foreign exchange on this account.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Several steps have been and are being taken to check the loss of foreign exchange on this account. They are :—

(i) The International Air Transport Association has an enforcement agency in India, as in other member countries, which watches such mal-practices, and where evidence is available takes penal action against the offenders in accordance with the rules of the Association.

(ii) Where such mal-practices involve offences against the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act the Directorate of Enforcement takes preventive and punitive action. A case against one of the foreign airlines is under investigation of the Enforcement Directorate.

(iii) As the mal-practice is largely prevalent in emigrant traffic, a concessional fare for emigrants has been established between India and the U. K. Only the national carriers of these two countries, namely, Air India and British Overseas Airways Corporation are entitled to offer this reduced fare. This has the effect of attracting emigrant traffic to these two airlines, thus preventing loss in foreign exchange.]

श्री राजनारायण : माननीया, हमने प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं सुना, इसलिए हम प्रश्न क्या करें ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The Minister has laid a statement on the Table of the House.

श्री राजनारायण : जो आपने बचन दिया है, उसको हम फालो कर रहे हैं।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have not followed Mr. Rajnaraia.

श्री राजनारायण : चैम्बर में आपने कुछ बातें कहीं थीं, उसी को हम फालो कर रहे हैं।

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON : May I know from the Government which are the airlines which are suspected to practise this sort of thing?

DR. KARAN SINGH : Madam, the case is in progress against one airline, the Middle East Airlines. There are several other cases which are suspected, but I think you will agree that it would not be correct to mention the names of those airlines until the cases are proved because that might unnecessarily cause a deterioration in our relations.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : On a point of order. Where are cases pending? When the cases are started against these companies, these are supposed to be known; certainly they are known to a large number of people. If you take them to a court, they are public matter. Why should the Parliament not be told the names of the companies? This is certainly not covered by the rules.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You put your supplementary.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Kindly tell the names of the companies.

DR. KARAN SINGH : Only preliminary investigations are going on in the case of some companies. I am sure the hon. Member who himself has been a very distinguished lawyer will agree.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I am not a distinguished lawyer.

DR. KARAN SINGH : I stand corrected, undistinguished lawyer.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : It has to be given. There is a tendency on the part of the Minister not to take Parliament into confidence even in regard to matters on which they can certainly divulge information.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He says preliminary enquiries are going on.

DR. KARAN SINGH : It may hamper investigations.

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN :
The statement says that the International Air Transport Association has an enforcement agency in India. May I know from the Minister how many cases of malpractice have been registered by this Association, and what action has been taken against them ?

DR. KARAN SINGH : Madam, nine cases have been investigated by the IATA authorities in India. In several of these cases fines have been imposed on the offending airlines.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : In the last session a calling attention notice on this specific question was given. At that time the hon. Minister replied that enquiries were going on. Till now, Madam, two months have passed. At that time I made a particular request as regards the cashing of foreign cheques or travellers' cheques. Has any action been taken by the Government as regards the modification suggested by me for encashing the travellers' cheques through the airlines as is done in some posh hotels ?

DR. KARAN SINGH : This question was raised to making it compulsory to cash travellers' cheques in some authorised governmental agency rather than through private means. The matter is being considered by the Finance Ministry because even these other investigations, I may clarify, are being done by the Enforcement Directorate of the Finance Ministry. Our Ministry is in very close touch with them. I can assure the hon. Member that I not only share his indignation and unhappiness over the illegal practices but I am in fact even more concerned and unhappy about it.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Madam, on a point of order. . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Arora.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : You have not allowed my point of order.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I do not allow points of order frivolously made during Question Hour.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Are you going to follow this for all ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Yes.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : I do not mind then, but you must implement strictly..

SHRI ARIUN ARORA : May I know which are the nine companies whose cases were investigated by the IATA and who were fined, what were the fines imposed by the IATA, whether the fines have been paid; if the fines have been paid, what portion of the fines has come to the Government of India and what has gone to the IATA?

DR. KARAN SINGH : The IATA is an international agency. It is not the Government of India which really collects those fines. When the IATA regulations are infringed, it is the IATA enforcement authorities who collect them. The first was against the Middle East Airlines; a fine of \$ 2,500 was imposed. The second was Lebanese International Airways. (Interruption) These are the ones which have already been done. The Lebanese International Airways has been fined £12,000. Middle East Airlines again £12,000. Kuwait Airlines £5,000. Middle East Airlines-£10,000. Middle East Airlines £12,000. Middle East Airlines £10,000. Kuwait Airlines cases under investigation. Middle East Airlines again £12,000.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I put it to the hon. Minister that among the nine cases under investigation Middle East Airlines is again featuring.. Can he deny it?

DR. KARAN SINGH : No, I said . . .

श्री राजनारायण : माननीया, देखिये। मैंने सप्लीमेंटरीज न पूछने की बात आप से कही थी, लेकिन मंत्री जी के सवाल पर मैं पूछ रहा हूँ। मैंने जो वचन दिया था उस का पालन कर रहा हूँ।

मेरा अब प्रश्न यह है कि हम ने स्पष्ट सरकार को कहा था कि करीब 7 करोड़ रुपये का घाटा हुआ है और सरकार कहती है कि हम ने इस में जाल-बट्टा नहीं किया। तो सरकार के पास क्या आधार है, सरकार हम को आधार बताये जिस से कि हमारे द्वारा दिये गये आंकड़े सरकार गलत सिद्ध करती है। और दूसरी बात सरकार इस को उचित क्यों नहीं समझती कि जब दूसरी कंपनियां कम किराया ले कर हमारी विदेशी मुद्रा का नुकसान कर रही हैं तो हम भी किराया क्यों न कम कर दें!

डा० कर्ण सिंह : महोदया, जो व्यक्ति या जो कोई चोरी करता है वह हिसाब तो देता नहीं कि मैंने कितनी चोरी की, [इसलिये कितनी ही इस प्रकार की जो गैर-कानूनी चीजें होती हैं उन से कितना हमें नुकसान हुआ है, हमारे लिये यह कहना बड़ा कठिन है। रिटर्न तो वह हमें देते नहीं कि हम ने इतनी चोरी की है, इसलिये हम इस के बारे में कुछ स्पष्ट नहीं कह सकते। दूसरे यह कि अगर कोई चोरी करे या बेईमानी करे तो यह अच्छा नहीं है कि हम भी उसी तरीके की बेईमानी करें।

श्री राजनारायण : उसे चोरी कैसे कहा जा सकता है! आप अपने किराये के रेट ऐसे रखिये जो दूसरों से कम हों।

DR. KARAN SINGH : May I explain this fact ? I would like to explain this..

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Rajnarain, no interruptions when he answers.

डा० कर्ण सिंह : इंटरनेशनल एयर ट्रांसपोर्ट अथॉरिटी ने ले डाउन किये हैं ये सारे रेट्स। हम उस के मेम्बर हैं। जो भी हमारे साथ एग्रीमेंट होता है किसी दूसरे देश का और उन की एयर लाइन्स यहां काम करती हैं, उस में एक क्लॉज है कि आयोटा रेट्स उन पर लागू होंगे। तो जो भी हम एग्रीमेंट करते हैं उन में आयोटा रेट्स चलते हैं। अगर कोई कंपनी उस का उल्लंघन करती है तो वह बहुत बुरी बात है। हम तो करेंगे नहीं।

श्री राजनारायण : सरकार ने क्या इस को कंसीडर किया है कि दूसरे नहीं मान रहे हैं तो हम भी नहीं मानेंगे।

डा० कर्ण सिंह : एक बात मैं स्पष्ट कर दूं कि दूसरा कोई कहता नहीं है कि हम नहीं मान रहे हैं। कोई एयर लाइन यह नहीं कहती कि हम नहीं मान रहे हैं। कहते तो सब हैं कि हम मानते हैं लेकिन वास्तव में जब वह काम करते हैं तब हमें सुन पड़ता है कि उस में कुछ गड़बड़ घोटाला हुआ है। इस लिये यह स्पष्ट करना

जरूरी है कि किसी भी एयर लाइन ने हमें नहीं कहा है कि हम आयोटा रेट्स नहीं मानते और आयोटा लाइन को शक नहीं बल्कि उन्होंने माना नहीं और यह पकड़ा गया कि बेईमानी होती है। यह बात है।

May I just clarify one point which the hon. Mr. Bhupesh Gupta raised ? There are two different types of investigation. One is the IATA investigation of the names that I have mentioned. The ones which I was men-what hesitant to mention are those which are being investigated by the Finance Ministry.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : The hon. Minister has said that there were repeated infringements of the rules of the IATA by the Middle East Airlines. Have our Government written to the IATA that we would not allow the Middle East Airlines to function in India because they are undercutting the rates and therefore India is losing a lot of foreign exchange especially? Have they written to them and have they taken a bold stand on this?

DR. KARAN SINGH : The Middle East Airlines functions here according to a bilateral agreement between India and the Lebanon. Now, they have been caught several times. We are already taking this up. In fact, we have had some negotiations with the Lebanon on this matter and the negotiations have also been somewhat stormy at times. And I can assure the hon. Member that we are very gravely concerned and very much distressed and upset about this and whatever is possible that can be done within the international regulations, we will do.

INFILTRATORS IN KASHMIR

*358. **PROF. SHANTILAL KOTHARI :** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of the 2nd May, 1968, to the effect that a new body of infiltrators is preparing to 'liberate' Kashmir;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have asked the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to find out the details in the matter; and