

#### **Predatory pricing of air tickets**

1875. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons that private airlines are indulging in predatory pricing of air tickets;
- (b) whether any committee has been constituted to study the whole gamut of issues behind the exorbitant airfares;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of airlines that are indulging in such activities; and
- (e) the action taken by DGCA/Ministry on such airlines so far?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAM): (a) and (d) Domestic Air fares are determined by market forces. No case of predatory pricing of Air tickets by private airlines has been brought to the notice of the Ministry, so far.

(b), (c) and (e) A working group has been setup under the Chairmanship of Director General of Civil Aviation on Regulatory Framework to protect consumer interest including disclosure of tariffs and conditions of service by domestic airlines.

With a view to maintaining transparency in tariff publication, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has taken following steps:

- Scheduled domestic airlines have been directed to display established tariff route-wise and fare category-wise in their websites, on monthly basis and also to notify any significant and noticeable changes to DGCA within 24 hrs. of effecting such a change.
- A Tariff Analysis Unit has been set up in DGCA to monitor air fares of Domestic airlines on a regular basis at periodic intervals.

#### **Expansion project of Chennai Airport**

1876. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Airport Authority of India has requested loans to bear the cost escalation in the Chennai airport expansion project;