

MR. CHAIRMAN: Venkaiahji, please, (*Interruptions*)

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: If the Minister has informed the Chair, why should we go into the reasons? (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair does not pry into the affairs of Members outside the Chamber. (*Interruptions*) The Parliament is sovereign to make such rules that there shall be no absentees from Parliament at any time of the day during sessions. But, that is the right of Parliament. It cannot be imposed by the Chair. The Chair has only communicated what is the established practice. The Chair has acted in accordance with the established practice, (*Interruptions*) Now, let us go to the next question.

Seregation of ATC Operations

*585. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a proposal is under consideration to segregate Air Traffic Control operations from the control of Airports Authority of India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the main objective; and
- (d) by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The issue of separating ATC services from aerodrome operator had been pending before the Government for a long time. Various Committees had recommended this, starting from 1976, the latest being Naresh Chandra Committee of 2004. After detailed expert study in 2008 and careful examination, the Government had then decided that ATC services may be hived off from AAI. It was also decided to aggregate all ANS activities under a separate Member (ANS) in the first stage.

(c) The objective behind setting up a separate entity for Air navigation Services is to give undivided focused attention to augmentation/up-gradation/improvement of CNS/ATM infrastructure to match with the future huge growth of aircraft movement with safety, efficiency, adequate system capacity and improve the quality of services based on new and emerging technologies. Further it will result in separation of airport operator (AAI) and air navigation service provider (CNS/ATM) thereby avoiding any conflict of interest situation which is line with ICAO recommendations.

- (d) AAI has further undertaken a detailed study of the process of hiving off

the ANS entity through experts. Various alternatives suggested by the study so far are being examined in the Board of AAI.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, ATC is having problems due to lack of sufficient strength and new and latest gadgets. To what extent, will these problems be solved by creating a separate organisation of ATC?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid the Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTION

Growth with Distribution

586*. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that though the incidence of poverty has come down during 2004-05 to 2009-10, the inequality has increased;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has nothing to do with the objective of “growth with distribution”; and
- (d) if not, in what manner Government proposes to correct the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) The poverty estimates based on the extant methodology reveal that the percentage of population below poverty line has declined from 37.2% in 2004-05 to 29.8% in 2009-10. The data on distribution of income is not compiled centrally. However, the data on household consumption expenditure collected by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) could be used as a proxy to capture the economic disparities. On the basis of such data, it is estimated that in the rural areas, the average monthly per capita consumption expenditure (MPCE) of the top 10% of population was 5.76 times more than that of the bottom 10% of the population for the year 2009-10 as compared to 5.26 times in 2004-05. Similarly, it is estimated that in urban areas the average MPCE of the top 10% of population was 10.11 times more than that of the bottom 10% of the population for the year 2009-10 as compared to 8.41 times in 2004-05. This indicates that increase in inequality in consumption expenditure in rural areas during this period was much lower as compared to the increase in urban areas.

Reduction of economic inequalities has been one of the primary policy