

(b) and (c) Policy on booking of tickets by airlines is a commercial matter decided by airlines themselves depending upon market factors and international practices. Further, the airlines usually have several distribution channels for booking seats including the following:

1. Airlines Offices/Call centres
2. Airlines Website
3. Airlines' Travels Agents including Online Travel Agents.

The revenue and profits of airlines are again dependent upon market forces of demand and supply and the operating costs governing airline operations in the country.

#### **AAI Joint Venture with Oil Companies**

3273. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Airports Authority of India is planning to set up a Joint Venture with Private Oil Companies and Airlines to help air carriers meet jet fuel requirement in the remote parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is at a very preliminary stage of formulation of terms and conditions for creation of Joint Venture Company with Oil Companies (PSUs and Private) and Airlines for supply of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) to aircraft at airports in India.

#### **Subsidy to airlines**

3274. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide subsidies to airlines, both the national and the private operators, operating on unprofitable routes especially those in remote destinations, for improving regional connectivity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether funds have been allotted for this purpose and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the time by which this scheme is likely to come into operation; and

(e) the extent to which this move is likely to boost regional connectivity along with the other steps taken/being taken to improve regional connectivity?