66	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]		Unstarred Questions	
1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Others	118.02	96.93	110.77	1.15
	Total Foreign Airlines Dues (D)	168.47	166.44	186.89	10.87
	TOTAL DUES (A+B+C+D):	1211.05	1832.51	2406.78	374.53

Note: Since FY 2013-14 has just commenced, the same has been ignored while compiling the

Taxes in the aviation sector

3903. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether taxes in the aviation sector are very high in the country thereby affecting the airlines and the passengers;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether ground handling policy in India is in a State of mess and confusion due to different interpretations of the multiple Government notifications and concessions awarded by airports;
 - (d) if so, the details thereof;
 - (e) whether India has a proper well coordinated national aviation policy;
 - (f) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of the policy; and
- (g) if not, whether there is any plan by Government to formulate a national aviation policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. At present varying amount Value Added Tax (VAT) on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) upto 30% is being levied by State Governments which constitutes major part of the operating cost of airlines. In addition, there is service tax on purchase on air ticket which is 12.36% of 40% of gross value of ticket. Besides this, service tax is applicable on Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul services and services connected with fuel complex at airports.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued AIC 3/2010 on the issue of grant of permission for providing ground handling

services at airports. However, Federation of Indian Airlines have filed an SLP in Supreme Court and the matter is *sub-judice*.

- (e) to (g) All key components of strategy, policy and plans for future growth of Civil Aviation Sector in India have been formulated and duly reflected in the Twelfth Five Year Plan document (2012-17). Major features of strategy and plan for Civil Aviation Sector include:—
 - (i) Modernisation and upgradation of airports.
 - (ii) Improvement of air connectivity to NE region and other remote areas.
 - (iii) Strengthening regulatory framework on safety and economic aspects of civil aviation.
 - (iv) Development of Air Cargo Industry.
 - (v) Encourage MRO infrastructures to support growth in the sector.
 - (vi) Promotion of regional airlines through simplification of Rules/Procedures and provision of better infrastructure.

Airport handling charges

3904. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that airport handling charges across Indian airports are high as compared to global standards;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such high charges have impacted the profitability of several airlines, including Air India; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, including the corrective measures being contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The comparative position of Indian airports as per ICAO Doc 7100 (2011 edition) for different types of aircraft, in descending order, for airport charges out of 243 airports worldwide is given in Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) Do not arise.