

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) and (b) Air fares are determined by market forces of demand and supply. Air fares applicable for travel on any day are displayed in the websites of Airlines, travel portals and also available with travel agents and in the booking office of Airlines. Random monitoring of airfare revealed that airfares are remaining within the fare band made available by the scheduled airlines. Therefore, there is no proposal at present to fix maximum and minimum of airfares.

**Construction of additional sq. mtrs by GMR/DIAL
without permission**

3912. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI:

SHRI A.A. JINNAH:

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that GMR/DIAL had constructed an additional 83,700 sq. mtrs without any approval from the Ministry/AAI and included the same in the major development plan to escalate the project cost to Rs. 12,857 crores from the initial Rs. 8975 crores in January 2008;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this blatant violation was reported by both the financial and the Technical auditor of AAI in their report;

(c) if so, why no action was taken by Government on DIAL for escalating the project cost by dubious means;

(d) whether Government is planning to initiate action on the officials of Ministry and AAI for colluding with the officials of DIAL and brining huge losses to the public exchequer; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) and (b) As per the provisions of State Support Agreement (SSA) and Operation, Management and Development Agreement (OMDA) entered into between Government of India (GoI) and Airports Authority of India with M/s Delhi International Airport Pvt. Ltd. (DIAL) respectively, no specific

approval of the Master Plan is required either from GoI or from Airports Authority of India (AAI) except submission of their comments, if any to DIAL. However, the Independent Auditors and Independent Engineers engaged by AAI for audit of the project cost on behalf of Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) at the time of determination of Development Fee (DF) had observed that there is increase in Gross Floor Area (GFA) of 83,700 sq. mtrs from the original Major Development Plan. They have also observed that the reason behind increase in the project cost is increase in the GFA, volume of the works, volume of the facilities and increase in prices of the material, adoption of design-build approach, etc.

(c) to (e) Airports Economic Regulator/Authority (AERA) undertook an independent audit of the Project Cost through two independent agencies (M/s Engineers India Limited and M/s KPMG) and a detailed stakeholder consultation process, while allowing the project cost for the purposes of determination of Development Fee (DF). AERA has accordingly excluded 8652 sq. mtrs of this excess area of the terminal from the project cost. Matter is currently being examined by the Public Accounts Committee (PAC).

New system for issuing of passports

3913. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any comprehensive plan to streamline the Passport Issuance System in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and tentative date by which the new system would come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) (i) part of National e-Governance Plan, the Government has implemented Passport Seva Project (PSP) which aims **“to deliver all Passport-related services to the citizens in a timely, transparent, more accessible, reliable manner and in a comfortable environment through streamlined processes and committed, trained and motivated workforce”**.

(ii) As a first step in designing the PSP, the National Institute for Smart Government (MSG) was engaged for studying the existing system of Passport issuance