

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार): सर, मैं भी इस विषय से एसोसिएट करती हूँ।

श्री गुलाम रसूल बलियावी (बिहार): सर, मैं भी इस विषय से एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

†جناب غلام رسول بلیاوی (بہار): سر، میں بھی اس مسئلے سے ایسوسی ایٹ کرتی ہوں۔

कुछ माननीय सदस्य: सर, हम भी इस विषय से एसोसिएट करते हैं।

**Strike by road transport workers to protest against
proposed Motor Transport and Safety related Bill**

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir. I rise to draw the attention of the House about the ongoing strike today by lakhs of road transport workers, throughout the country, protesting against the move of the Government in the form of a proposed Motor Vehicles and Safety Related Bill, which is in public domain. It is against that provision, which basically aims at opening the door of doing away with the public transport system, even eliminating the small operators in the public transport system owning one or two buses and handing over the entire sector to the corporate giants, and the provision to put the route on auction, which will tremendously push up the fares of the public transport. Besides, the proposed Bill is also imposing a huge inhuman penalty on drivers and operators in the name of safety without proper and appropriate investigation into the exact fault of the concerned people. This is a draconian Bill. It is an infringement on the right of the working people in the concerned sector. They have gone on strike. It has started today. It is a one-day strike. Right from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, the road transport workers, including the public transport workers, have joined the strike in a very big way. The workers of the whole public transport system, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, the entire southern and eastern part of the country have joined the strike against this draconian exercise. I urge upon the Government to take a call on this.

Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that it was a peaceful strike organised by the transport workers. But they are being attacked and their democratic right has been trampled by * in many States, including my State of West Bengal. They have been attacked and their democratic right is sought to be trampled upon. Despite that, the entire people of the State, including civic society organisations, and all opposition political parties have joined it.

† Transliteration in Urdu Script.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Sir, it is far from the truth. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: It has been converted into a virtual bandh to protest against the murderous attack on the democratic right of the people which is being engineered by **(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O BRIEN (West Bengal): This has nothing to do with the strike. ...*(Interruptions)*... They have lost the election. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is an all-India strike. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: I urge upon the Government to please take a call and give due warning and respond to it. ...*(Interruptions)*... If you go on screwing the working people, they will definitely hit back. I request the Government to take a call. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं, श्री तपन कुमार सेन द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is an all-India strike. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why are you worrying? ...*(Interruptions)*... All of you sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

listen to one. ...(Interruptions)... All the names of the Members, who are associating with the mention, will be added. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, that portion must be deleted. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Which one? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, he has accused the State Government and the State administration. ...(Interruptions)... It is absolutely far from the truth. ...(Interruptions)... It is absolutely far from the truth. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will look into it. ...(Interruptions)... If there is an allegation against the State Government, I will expunge it. ...(Interruptions)... If there is an allegation, I will expunge it. ...(Interruptions)... Now, Shrimati Viplove Thakur. ...(Interruptions)... Don't encroach upon a lady Member's time. The lady Member is speaking. Don't encroach upon her time. ...(Interruptions)..... Shrimati Viplove Thakur.

Facility of refueling of aeroplanes at Gaggal Airport in Himachal Pradesh

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आपको बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। मैं अपने क्षेत्र, हिमाचल प्रदेश का एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय उठाने जा रही हूँ।

महोदय, हमारे यहां एयर सर्विस चलती है, लेकिन उसका टैरिफ 11,000 रुपए से लेकर 16,000 रुपए तक प्रति सवारी है। इसलिए वहां कोई टूरिस्ट जाना पसन्द नहीं करता, क्योंकि उसका किराया बहुत ज्यादा है। आपको यह जानकर आश्चर्य होगा कि एक साइड का एक व्यक्ति का किराया 11,000 रुपए है और यदि आपको इमर्जेंसी में टिकिट लेनी हो, तो उसका किराया 16,000 रुपए है। इसलिए लोग कहते हैं कि हिमाचल प्रदेश जाने की बजाय हम इतने किराए में तो सिंगापुर, हांगकांग और बैंकॉक आदि देशों में तीन दिन के पैकेज टूर पर जा सकते हैं।

महोदय, जब हमने एयर लाइन से इसका कारण पूछा कि क्या वजह है, क्यों इतना टैरिफ है, तो उन्होंने जवाब दिया कि वहां प्लेन्स में रीफ्यूलिंग का इंतजाम नहीं है। चूंकि वहां रीफ्यूलिंग नहीं होती, इसलिए उन्हें प्लेन्स में सीटें खाली रखनी पड़ती हैं। इस वजह से वहां टैरिफ बहुत ज्यादा है।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन में यह भी बताना चाहती हूँ कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में एयर टैरिफ सब्सीडाइज्ड किया गया है, जम्मू एवं कश्मीर में भी सब्सीडाइज्ड है, लेकिन हिमाचल प्रदेश में नहीं है, जबकि हिमाचल प्रदेश की भौगोलिक परिस्थितियां बिल्कुल नॉर्थ-ईस्ट एवं जम्मू-कश्मीर की तरह ही हैं। मैं यह भी स्पष्ट करना चाहती हूँ कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में एक भी ब्रॉडगेज रेल लाइन नहीं है। वहां सड़कें हैं, लेकिन उनसे आने-जाने में समय ज्यादा लगता है। इसलिए वहां हवाई जहाजों के