

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

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य (त्रिपुरा): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Zero Hour submission by Mr. K. N. Balagopal.

### **Exorbitant Airfares charged by Airline Companies from NRIs**

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise a very serious matter connected to the exorbitant airfares being charged by the airline companies.

Sir, this is mainly charged from the passengers travelling to Middle East. There are many poor people who are going to the Gulf countries as workers and they are working there. Now the airline companies are charging these prices according to the seasons. Now, as the mid-summer vacations are approaching, either children reach their homes after their vacations, or, their parents come to India for vacations, these companies are charging this much money. Sir, differential pricing is there. From Calicut to Gulf countries, the air fare is three times as compared to the other airports in the same State. Sir, for going to Dammam from Calicut, the airfare is ₹ 27,900 while, at the same time, from Cochin, it is ₹ 12,000. All the foreign airline companies are ruling the market. Sir, compared to the Gulf countries, the airfares are much lesser if you go to USA or UK. So, these companies, on these occasions, are taking huge money from the poor and NRI workers who are going from this country to other places. It is a very huge amount. Sir, I come from a State where a lot of NRIs are there. Sir, we give the maximum remittances by NRIs back to India. Both Punjab and Kerala are doing that. It is not a matter of Kerala alone. It is a matter of all the people working in Gulf countries who are going there from different parts of the country. So, this issue needs to be discussed, Sir. ...(Interruptions)... They are looting actually. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री मधुसूदन मिस्त्री (गुजरात): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री पंकज बोरा (असम): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री राज बब्बर (उत्तराखंड): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रणविजय सिंह जूदेव (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

प्रो. जोगेन चौधरी (पश्चिमी बंगाल): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI A. K. ANTONY (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. T. S. TULSI (Nominated): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI S. THANGAVELU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we also associate ourselves with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. All those who associate....*(Interruptions)*... I think, hon. Minister should convey the feelings of the House to the concerned Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is a feeling, ...*(Interruptions)*... I also share that feeling. ...*(Interruptions)*... Exorbitant charges. ...*(Interruptions)*...

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): सर, जो मनमाना किराया लिया जा रहा है, उसके बारे में मैं concerned hon. Minister को बताऊंगा। कल रात में भी इस बारे में डिस्कशन हुआ था। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. The Minister will convey the feelings and try to.....*(Interruptions)*... Yes. ...*(Interruptions)*... Including Shri A. K. Antony, all Members of the House are supporting this demand.

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### SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Special Mentions. I will call the name. You can mention the subject and lay it on the Table. Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar.

DR. BHALCHADRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated): Please allow me to elaborate, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Others have to be allowed. Mention the subject and lay it on the Table.

#### **Demand to celebrate the 3rd January, the Birthday of Savitribai Jyotirao Phule, a Social Reformer as Women's Education Day**

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated): Savitribai Jyotirao Phule, born on 3rd January, 1831, like Jyotirao Phule, her husband and India's first social reformer, was herself a social reformer. She fully supported Jyotirao Phule's historic movement for the emancipation of the down-trodden, the *shudras* and the *atishudras*, that included women, from all-pervasive degradation, exploitation, humiliation and destitution caused by the orthodox and inhuman practices sanctified by the Hindu religious scriptures.

Jyotirao was the first to diagnose that the denial of the right to education was the root cause of the downfall of the downtrodden including women. Therefore, he and Savitribai started the first school for women in Pune in 1848. Since there was no woman teacher, Jyotirao first taught Savitribai to qualify her to teach women. When she started teaching, nine girls to start with, the hostile, orthodox lobby from Pune, the champions of women's centuries-old degradation, heaped all sorts of sufferings on Savitribai, including throwing mud and stones at her on her way, to prevent her from teaching the women. She faced all indignities and humiliation, but remained steadfast in her commitment and mission. This made Savitribai the first woman teacher in India.