

Demand to restore previous funding pattern for Project Tiger for conservation of National Animal in country

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, the Project Tiger was a 100 per cent Centrally-sponsored Scheme launched in 1973 by the Government of India with the aim of conserving our national animal. However, the recent changes in the funding pattern by the Finance Ministry by dividing the funding pattern to 60-40 between the Centre and the State has not only put in jeopardy the Programme for safety of tigers but has also added extra burden on the State which is already responsible for implementing various State schemes out of its financial kitty.

Sir, the change in funding pattern has taken place in the face of continuous deaths of tigers that have ranged from 68 deaths in 2013 to 78 deaths in 2014. Moreover, the data collected by Wildlife Protection Society of India on deaths of tigers has marked 90 deaths for 2015 and already 20 in 2016. Similarly, Wildlife Protection Society of India has stated poaching data as 42 and 23 for 2013 and 2014 respectively which is opposed to the Government data of 18 and 10 for 2013 and 2014 respectively.

Sir, after doing this change, the Centre is saving approximately a sum of ₹ 20 crore. However, its effect on infrastructure under Project Tiger has been more than expected as it has halted progress of anti-poaching camps, buying of arms and ammunition, camera traps, GPS devices and net fencing around the forest boundary. Hence, in this light, I would request the Government to retain the earlier funding pattern for Project Tiger for the effective conservation of our national animal.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Anubhav Mohanty, not present.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Gujarat): Sir, I have a submission to make. When there are a few matters in Zero Hour, instead of giving three minutes to each Member, you should allow us four or five minutes. What is the problem? I don't understand, Sir. When there are 10-15 notices, then you should divide the time accordingly rather than fixing three minutes for each Member. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. *...(Interruptions)...* It is like this. *...(Interruptions)...* I will explain it to you. *...(Interruptions)...* Mistryji, it is like this. Zero Hour submissions and Special Mentions are important as far as Members are concerned. So, we want to take them between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, because of lack of business, you are taking it up. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. It is not like that. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, instead of doing this, I would request that when there are a few matters, the time-limit should be divided accordingly. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The point is that there are many matters. ...(Interruptions).... We can do one thing. ...(Interruptions).... This happened because some Members are absent. Secondly, we can even give 15 names for Zero Hour submissions so that it will be over. ...(Interruptions).... Dr. K. Keshava Rao. ...(Interruptions)....

RE. REGULATORY AUTHORITY TO CHECK ARBITRARY AIRFARES

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, क्या हम कोई सब्जेक्ट उठा सकते हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can give suggestion. ...(Interruptions).... This is the time for that. Do that. ...(Interruptions)....

श्री नीरज शेखर: सर, मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...(Interruptions).... I have allowed him. ...(Interruptions)....

श्री नीरज शेखर: सर, अभी बालगोपाल जी ने यह विषय उठाया कि एयरलाइंस फेयर बढ़ा देती है। अभी हरियाणा में जाट रिजर्वेशन के लिए एजिटेशन चल रहा था, तो उस समय दिल्ली से चंडीगढ़ और अमृतसर की फ्लाइट एक लाख रुपये की थी। ...(व्यवधान).... एक लाख रुपये! एयरलाइंस ऐसा करती हैं कि जब लोग परेशानी में होते हैं, तो वे एक-एक लाख किराया वसूलती हैं। ...(व्यवधान).... सर, इसके लिए कोई रेगुलेटरी अथोरिटी क्यों नहीं है? ...(व्यवधान).... जैसे टेलीकॉम के लिए "ट्राई" है तथा ऐसे ही सबके लिए है, तो इसके लिए क्यों नहीं है? ...(व्यवधान)....

श्री रणविजय सिंह जूदेव (छत्तीसगढ़): सर, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is what was raised here by Shri Balagopal. The Minister has said that he would look into it and take some action.

श्री नीरज शेखर: सर, पांच हजार की टिकट एक लाख रुपये में बिक रही है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This complaint is from everywhere, hon. Minister.