

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION**Concern over certain provisions of the Consumer Protection Bill, 2018**

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Good Morning, Sir. Wish you all a Very Happy New Year and thanks a lot for giving me this opportunity to speak before the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, you want action on both? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. SANTANU SEN: I fully support your opinion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go back to your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. SANTANU SEN: The entire country is watching what is happening here*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: AIADMK Members, please go back to your seats. It is not fair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. SANTANU SEN: ... how the Government is trying to push the IMC Amendment Bill as a Money Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not fair. Please go back to your seats. This is my appeal once again. ...*(Interruptions)*... I also appeal, please don't sit and make the slogans. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please cooperate so that we can operate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, we have a demand. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Santanu Sen. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, in the Consumer Protection Bill that got passed in the Lok Sabha on 20th of December ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing shall go on record. Other than what Dr. Santanu Sen says, nothing shall go on record. Unless the Chairman permits, nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Dr. Santanu Sen. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: *

DR. SANTANU SEN: We are surprised to see that on the one hand, you have increased the provision of compensation ten times. On the other hand, there is no provision of involvement of any person from the Judiciary. Sir, how can a

* Not Recorded.

court run without having a Judge? ...*(Interruptions)*... Number two, Sir, there is no provision for penalty against false complaints. We believe this Bill will indulge the people to lodge false complaints just for getting money. ...*(Interruptions)*... Number three, the entire medical profession and the small traders will be affected by this Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, we suggest, there must be some amendments. Without amendments, this Bill cannot serve the community at large. On one hand, you are trying to serve the people by the process of Ayushman Bharat. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are asking the doctors to serve the community at a minimum possible rate and by producing the CPA Bill, you are indulging the patient-parties to lodge complaint for compensation. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is ridiculous. This cannot be done. Amendments should be brought in, Sir. This is our proposal. Thank you.*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Md. Nadimul Haque.

Privatisation of Airports in India

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, first of all, a Very Happy New Year.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the recent decision taken by the Union Government of approving the privatization of six airports, that is, Ahmadabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Mangaluru, Thiruvananthapuram and Guwahati through the PPP model has led to a dire situation on the ground with the Airports Authority of India employees are going on a three-day relay hunger strike and planning to take mass casual leave as a form of protest against the decision. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Sir, this move puts the jobs of thousands of AAI employees at risk. ...*(Interruptions)*... The AAI-managed airports have reservations for people from the marginalized communities. After privatization, the job opportunities for them will reduce significantly. ...*(Interruptions)*... The staff will now be hired on a contractual basis which may lead to their exploitation. Also, the bidder quoting the highest per-passenger fee for domestic travellers will be awarded the rights. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, it would automatically lead to an increase in airport fees and airfares. All in all, this decision has the potential to cause inconvenience to both the staff as well as the passengers. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Sir, this decision is also surprising given the fact that the airports chosen for the exercise are all profit-making and are running smoothly. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Airports Authority of India has been elevated to a Mini Ratna status of the Government as their performance was as per the required standards. ...*(Interruptions)*... Moreover no adverse report has been reported against this Authority by a parliamentary committee