

12.00 Noon

सदन में बड़ा योगदान दिया है। राजा जी, आप तो देश के नेता हैं, आप तो सदन के नेता नहीं थे, अब तो आप महासचिव बन गए हैं। आपने जब भी शोषितों और पीड़ितों की आवाज देश में या बाहर उठाई है, तो सदन में भी उसका प्रभाव हुआ है। प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा या प्रो. राम गोपाल जी ने मैत्रेयन जी के बारे में काफी अच्छी बातें कही हैं। उनकी हिंदी की जानकारी और उनकी हिंदी में गाने की जानकारी के बारे में भी बताया। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि वे मराठी गाना भी बहुत अच्छा गाते हैं। हम जब भी उनसे बात करते थे, तो मराठी में करते थे। वे नागपुर में रहे हैं और मराठी के बहुत ही popular गाने हमें गाकर सुनाते थे, जो गाने हमें भी हमेशा याद नहीं रहते थे। हमारे साथी हमेशा एक-दूसरे के साथ परिवार की तरह रहे हैं। मैं आप सभी को शुभकामनाएं देता हूँ और मुझे विश्वास है कि आप जैसे लोग इस सदन में वापस आएंगे और काम करेंगे, धन्यवाद।

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली) : सभापति महोदय, आज इस अवसर पर, जो हमारे पांच साथी रिटायर हो रहे हैं, मैं उनके उज्ज्वल भविष्य की शुभकामनाएं देता हूँ। राजा जी के मां-बाप ने जब इनका नाम डी. राजा रखा, तो राजा आम तौर पर प्रजा के खिलाफ काम करने के लिए जाने जाते हैं, लेकिन ये हिन्दुस्तान के ऐसे राजा हैं, जिन्होंने हमेशा गरीबों, मज़दूरों की आवाज को बुलन्द किया है। डा. वी. मैत्रेयन साहब को मैं हृदय से बधाई और शुभकामनाएं देना चाहता हूँ और बाकी सभी सदस्यों को भी शुभकामनाएं देना चाहता हूँ कि आप अपने अधिकारों के लिए, तमिलनाडु के अधिकारों के लिए और देश के लिए सदैव अच्छे ढंग से काम करते रहेंगे, धन्यवाद।

श्री सभापति : धन्यवाद। मेरी ओर से सभी को शुभकामनाएं, आपके भविष्य के लिए, उज्ज्वल भविष्य के लिए। इस वक्त पर मैं यह भी याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि अमित शाह जी भी हमको छोड़कर दूसरे सदन में गए, रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी भी गए, स्मृति जूबिन इरानी भी गई, कनिमोझी भी गई। उनको भी हमारी शुभकामनाएं। वे दूसरे हाउस में हैं। ये लोग भी लोक सभा में जाएंगे, इनको भी मेरी ओर से शुभकामनाएं।

Now, Question Hour.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**Leasing out of airports under PPP model**

*331. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has approved a proposal to lease out some airports

including Guwahati airport for operations, management and development, etc. under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) model;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of role to be played by Airports Authority of India (AAI) in this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Government of India accorded 'In-principle' approval for leasing of six airports of Airports Authority of India (AAI) viz. Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangaluru for Operation, Management and Development through Public Private Partnership (PPP). Accordingly, Airports Authority of India floated a Global Tender for inviting bids and identified the highest bidder. Based on the same, AAI has issued the Letter of Award for handing over Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru airports to Adani Enterprises Limited.

(c) Airports Authority of India will continue to carry out its statutory functions of providing of Communication Navigation Surveillance (CNS)/Air Traffic Management (ATM) services at these airports after implementation of PPP project. AAI will also facilitate for provision of reserved services/activities like Security, Custom, Immigration, Plant and Animal Quarantine and Meteorological services to be performed by the concerned Government agencies. Besides, AAI will also carry out periodic monitoring of services quality/various obligations to be discharged by the Concessionaire in terms of Key Performance Indicator (KPIs) as per provisions of the Concession Agreement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 331

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, this is ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Sir, we had given notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That was already disposed of yesterday. Please sit down.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Sir,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The issue was disposed of yesterday. Please sit down. This will not go on record. Please sit down.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM :*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I had disposed it of yesterday. Please sit down.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, six airports are getting almost disposed of for operations, management and development through PPP. I want to know from the hon. Minister: What is the stake of Airports Authority of India and the Government and the investment made by the private parties in the PPP mode?

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, the Cabinet had taken a decision on 8th November, 2018 to privatise six airports in the country. These are Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangalore. Out of these, a decision has been taken to proceed with the privatisation of three of these airports. I would like to tell the hon. Member, through you, Sir, that the term that he has used 'disposed of' is something, with which I would like to submit, is not exactly a correct description. Many of the core functions, the statutory and sovereign functions such as security, air navigation, customs, immigration will continue to be provided by the Government. These are reserved functions to be provided by the Government. The Airports Authority and all the other Government agencies will continue to perform those functions. I might also like to inform the hon. Member that our experiment with privatisation of airports has, particularly, been successful. I would like to give the examples of two airports that were privatised in 2006. These were the Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi and the Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport in Mumbai. The gross revenue has gone up from 2003.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: All right, Sir. I am satisfied. My second, supplementary is, the right of first rejection. Right of first rejection is an important part of any contract and, as I know, the Government of Kerala gave their petition to the Ministry to develop this airport. That is one part. The second part is, the letter of award has not yet been issued for PPP mode for Guwahati airport because there are many complaints and objections from all quarters. So, are you reviewing the decision of giving Guwahati airport on PPP mode for maintenance and development?

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI : Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that six airports were approved in principle for privatisation. We have already granted approval for three of them. In so far as two of the other airports are concerned, Guwahati and Jaipur, I would not characterise the situation as involving a large number of

[Shri Hardeep Singh Puri]

complaints etc. There were some legal issues relating to land. My own understanding of the state of processing is that these have been, more or less, resolved. And, it is a question of the concerned agencies taking steps to move ahead on those.

Insofar as the right of first rejection, which the hon. Member referred to, is concerned; yes, the right of first rejection is an acknowledged principle in such transactions, provided the bid is within a stipulated band of the overall bid received. Sir, my understanding is that the bid of the concerned State Government is way below the band of 10 per cent. But, again, these are issues which the Government will have to take a call on. We have, as I mentioned, already cleared three airports for privatization and we will take a view on others.

With regard to Guwahati and Jaipur, we are in touch with the State Governments. And, as far as I can make out, there is no major hurdle which remains to be seen.

As far as the Government of Kerala is concerned, yes, the hon. Chief Minister has written to us. I will also be meeting the hon. Chief Minister in the next few days. But, it is a call we will have to take based on the facts on record and the quality of bid received.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that there is a long-standing agitation between the workers' union and the AAI.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kalita, you have already put your two supplementaries.

SHRI A.K. ANTONY: Sir, hon. Member, Shri Kalitaji, has already raised the issue of the remaining three airports.

Sir, regarding the Trivandrum Airport, as the hon. Minister mentioned, hon. Chief Minister of Kerala wrote to the Central Government and Members of Parliament from Kerala also requested the Government of India about this airport. Sir, Trivandrum airport has historical significance, because this airport was started by the then Government of Travancore. So, the request of the Government of Kerala not to handover this airport to private people is justified and its request to hand it over to the Government of Kerala for operation is also justified. So, this request of the Government of Kerala should be considered as a special case. Hence, I request the hon. Minister to take a decision on Trivandrum airport at the earliest.

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I wish to assure the hon. Member that all shades of opinion have been forthcoming from the State of Kerala. We have a position enunciated by the hon. Chief Minister that the airport be handed over to the State Government for operations. But, I would also like to mention that Kerala has a very rich history of privatization. In fact, Cochin was the first airport to be privatized in the 1990s. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: No, Sir. No. He is wrong. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Sir, hon. Minister is misleading the House.

...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Sir, Cochin airport was never privatized.

...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SOMAPRASAD: Sir, it is not correct. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति : कृपया अपनी-अपनी जगह पर बैठिए।

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, let me clarify this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is a process for it. ...*(Interruptions)*... If the Minister is giving incorrect answer, there is a process for it. ...*(Interruptions)*... कोई बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाएगी। ...कृपया अपनी-अपनी जगह पर बैठिए। ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH:*

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, if the hon. Members allow me to speak, I can clarify this. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, it was a private airport in which NRIs had 31 per cent stake. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.K. RAGESH:*

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM:*

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD:*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, I would like to remind the hon. Minister a point. I was Minister of Civil Aviation. It was a Greenfield Airport. It was not a working airport or functional airport and given to private people. Late Shri Karunakaranji was Chief Minister at that time. He came with some NRIs and said that the Government will help in acquiring land. Some NRIs and local people were ready to buy land and the Civil Aviation Minister gave permission. It took some months, because it was the first Greenfield Airport which was being set up in private sector. So, it was a Greenfield Airport. And, Sir, Trivandrum Airport is not a Greenfield Airport. It is a functional airport.

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI : Sir, I entirely agree with the hon. Members. Many of the airports, which have been privatised, like Delhi and Mumbai, are Brownfield Airports. Kannur, for instance, in Kerala, is a Greenfield Airport. All I want to submit is — and, may be, if I had been allowed to say this earlier, I would have told this — that we have received several representations, including from the hon. Members of the Opposition saying that the bid -which have been received from the party, which has won these six airports -should be allowed to go through. In fact, we have been told about business interests in Kerala. Members of Parliament from the opposition say that their position, we have not taken a stand on it, is that Governments are normally not adapt at running airports. This is the position that they have taken. And, I am very happy to make these facts public. These have come from my distinguished friends in the party, which has taken a very deep interest. I am quite happy to make these communications public. But my basic submission, through you, to the hon. Members is that the Government still has to take a call on sixth airport, to which a reference has been made, whether we should proceed or whether the request of the Government of Kerala should be considered. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI A.K. ANTONY: Sir, as Chief Minister, I had been the Chairman of Cochin Airport twice. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your question is over. Now, Shri Ranvijay Singh Judev. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI A.K. ANTONY: Sir, the Chief Minister of the State is always the Chairman of the Cochin Airport. So, when I was the Chief Minister of Kerala, I was the Chairman of Cochin Airport twice. The majority shareholder there is the Kerala Government. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI : No, no. Not correct, not correct, not correct.
...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: These are interventions. क्वेश्चन ऑवर में अब आगे interventions न करें, नहीं तो हम क्वेश्चन ऑवर पूरा नहीं कर पाएंगे।

श्री रणविजय सिंह जूदेव : उपसभापति महोदय, छत्तीसगढ़ में तीन एयरपोर्ट्स हैं- बिलासपुर, रायगढ़ और अम्बिकापुर। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इनकी क्या स्थिति है और इन तीनों एयरपोर्ट्स से "उड़ान स्कीम" के तहत कब से सेवाएं चालू होंगी?

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Will you please repeat the question?

श्री रणविजय सिंह जूदेव : उपसभापति महोदय, छत्तीसगढ़ में तीन प्रमुख एयरपोर्ट्स हैं- बिलासपुर, रायगढ़ और अम्बिकापुर। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन तीनों एयरपोर्ट्स की क्या स्थिति है और इन तीनों एयरपोर्ट्स से "उड़ान स्कीम" के तहत कब से उड़ानें शुरू होंगी?

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Member that the UDAN is a demand-driven scheme. The State Government, the Central Government, and the Airport Authority, we all make our contributions, provided a private operator bids for it. So, insofar as bidding is concerned, three rounds have got completed. Some of the parties, which had bid in the first three rounds, have not come forward to implement their bids. But, very soon, we will now be undertaking another round of bidding. And, it will be our endeavour to try and operationalize all the airports, like the ones mentioned in Chhattisgarh, forthwith.

SHRI ANIL DESAI : Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether leasing out of airports to private parties, under the PPP model, will affect the passengers, as far as their overall air travel cost is concerned, and even the visitors who visit the airport to drop or receive the passengers.

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI : Sir, I was in the process of responding to the first supplementary, when I had started saying that the yield from the privatization process is far quite impressive. I had started by mentioning the case of the Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi, where the yield has gone up from Rs. 407 crores, in 2003-04, to Rs. 3,460 crores. Also, it has gone up in terms of net revenue which the AAI has got. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: please be brief, Mr. Minister, otherwise we will
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI : Well, the short question is that when the yield increases, the passenger cost decreases. If any extra expenditure is incurred, it is not passed on to the passengers. So, privatization is helpful for both, the Airport Authority and the passengers. The Airport Authority gets more revenue and can use that revenue on tier-II and tier-III cities. The passengers are also benefitted. As in the case of Delhi, from 2017-2019, the costs are coming down.

Communal riots in the country

*332. SHRI K.K. RAGESH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the communal riots in the country are increasing;
- (b) if so, the year-wise and State-wise number of communal riots occurred in the country during the last three years; and
- (c) the year-wise and State-wise number of deaths or other casualties reported in such riots during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The incidents of communal violence show a declining trend. “Public Order” and “Police” are State subjects as per the provisions of the Constitution. The responsibility of maintaining law and order including dealing with communal violence and maintaining relevant data rests with the respective State Governments. However, Government monitors the internal security and law and order situation in the country, and issues appropriate advisories from time to time to maintain peace, public tranquility and communal harmony. Government also deploys CAPFs to aid and assist State Governments to maintain law and order and public tranquility.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Sir, the reply clearly shows that a deliberate attempt is being made to hide the real facts.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: I am doing that, Sir. The reply says that the Centre is not maintaining the data. If you look at various reports,...