12.09.1 hrs.

AIRCRAFT (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): I beg to move:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Aircraft Act, 1934."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Aircraft Act, 1934."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister may now introduce the Bill.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I introduce the Bill.

12.10 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

(i) Demand for improvement in the Public Distribution system

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN (Kairana) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the inefficient working of the Public distribution system. I had asked a starred question in this context in 1987 and the hon. Minister had then assured to constitute a committee soon for getting the matter investigated and for taking suitable action. But in this context I would like to reveal that investigations were carried out only in Muzaffarnagar and Gonda districts of Uttar Pradesh and after a few days the fair price shops of those particular areas and at other places in the rest of the country started following the same working trend. Delhi Administration supply nine types of commodities through ration shops. Whereas in other

States only two or three commodities are supplied. Some of the hon. Members had confirmed this fact when my question was taken up in 1987.

So I would like to urge the Government that the Public Distribution System should be streamlined not only in Uttar Pradesh but also in the entire country, so that the corruption prevalent under this system can be rooted out and the poor people are able to get commodities of daily use.

[English]

(ii) Demand for action to remove causes of inconvenience being faced by lady passengers in DTC buses at present `

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali) : In the Delhi Transport Corporation which is a Union Government Undertaking, women passengers continue to suffer in the buses run by it. The Government have not been able to enforce its own directive that women passengers would be allowed to board from the front door to avoid jostling by men passengers. The Times of India reported on June 28 that the directive is not being obeyed by many DTC staff posted in the buses. In some of the buses the reserved seats for ladies are still at the rear of the bus rather than at the front. Most of the conductors do not care to get the reserved seats occupied by male passengers vacated when lady passengers come to occupy them. Lady passengers prefer to suffer in silence and stand rather than pick up a fight with the male passengers who occupy the reserved seats. Teasing of lady passengers is common and DTC staff in the buses do not help even if a lady complains. The matter needs to be looked into and lady passengers' convenience and safety in DTC buses should be ensured.

(iii) Demand for re-routing certain Indian Airlines flights from Delhi to Calcutta and Delhi to Andamans

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): There is no direct flight to Madras from Bhubaneswar and therefore, the

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passengers desirous of going to Madras from Bhubaneswar have to go to Hyderabad to catch the flight to Madras on the next day, after having night halt at Hyderabad. Similarly there is constant demand to divert flights IC-485 and 486 from Delhi to Calcutta via Varanasi and vice versa through Bhubaneswar due to its tourist importance. This proposal was accepted by Civil Aviation Ministry as well as the Director General of Tourism. The Managing Director of Indian Airlines had also accepted this proposal in a meeting held on 29.6.1987 but even after a lapse of one year, it has not materialised yet. Besides, the then Hon'ble Minister announced on the floor of the House to introduce a Air Bus or Boeing service from Delhi to Andaman via Bhubaneswar, which is still to be implemented.

I would therefore request the Hon'ble Minister, Civil Aviation to (a) operate IC-485 and 486 from Delhi to Calcutta via Varanasi and Bhubaneswar (b) to operate the Air Bus or Boeing service from Delhi to Andamans via Bhubaneswar putting priority in considering the long pending demands of the users as well as the large numbers of tourist spots in the state of Orissa.

[Translation]

(iv) Demand for declaring Mirzapur district of U.P. a hilly district and constructing roads connecting villages with main roads

UMAKANT MISHRA SHRI (Mirzapur) : Mirzapur district is a big hilly area. All the small and big villages are situated in the hilly areas. Due to lack of roads, the villagers, Adivasis, Harijans and Girijans of this district have been deprived of the benefits of development. The Planning Commission has decided to link the villages having a population of 1000 to 1500 in plains and the villages having a population of 500 to 1000 in hilly areas with Pucca roads. Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh has not been recognised as a hilly area due to which it has been deprived of the development of roads. I would like to urge the Planning Department and Planning Commission of the Government of India to declare Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh as a hilly area as far as

the construction of roads is concerned, so that the backward Adivasis, Harijans, Girijans and villagers can enjoy the benefits of development.

[English]

(v) Demand for eradicating malaria from Orissa and the rest of the country.

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jaipur): The incidence of Malaria is on the increase in Orissa. Mosquitoes carry this disease and without the extinction of mosquitoes this disease cannot be eradicated. It is regrettable that the mosquitoes are increasing day by day. In the past, DDT was being sprayed to kill mosquitoes and it showed good result. It was announced by the Government that Malaria has been eradicated. But, it is surprising that a few years after the announcement was made mosquito population has again increased, with the result that Malaria is now spreading at a menacing rate. Unless immediate steps are taken to kill mosquitoes, Malaria cannot be eradicated. Therefore, viable scientific research should be undertaken to thereby kill mosquitoes and eradicate Malaria. I demand that Malaria should be eradicated not only from Orissa but from entire country through some new the Centrally sponsored schemes.

(vi) Demand for restoring the quota of rice, wheat, palm oil, etc. to Karnataka

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER (Bengalore South) : For the past three months, the Union Government has cut the rice, wheat and palm oil quota to Karnataka for distribution through informal rationing. As against the normal allocation of 60,000 tonnes of rice, the State received only 55.000 tonnes and this was further reduced to 45,000 tonnes for June and July. Similarly, the allocation of wheat was reduced from 25,000 tonnes a month to 15,000 tonnes. The card holders have been put to great hardship due to cut in the quota of rice, palm oil, wheat and other essential articles supplied through ration Bangalore city, there are shops. In 11,44,079 card-holders, most of them are poor and middle class, and are being put to untold hardship as they are not in a position to buy in the open market.