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stage it may be higher or lower, different States have different opinions on this question, But they are all concerned on a single point because their income will be curtailed by this new proposal.

l ask the Hon. Minister po ntedly whether complete unanimity would be arrived at on this question.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I cannot give that assurance to the Hon. Minister.

Problems of Air Passengers at Delhi Airport

*65. SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY: SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have taken into consideration immense problems that ordinary passengers are going to face at Delhi Airport since visitors have been barred from entry into the Airport;
- (b) if so, how such passengers are going to complete all formalities without any assistance from his/her relations; and
- (c) who will take care of their luggages at the Airport when they are to complete formalities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Entry to the Air Terminal at Delhi has been restricted with a view to provide better facilities to the passengers and to improve the security and handing of passengers.

Normally, a passenger does not need any assistance from the relatives to complete the formalities. But certain categories of passengers like minors or invalid, handicapped, sick, illiterate, aged etc. are permitted to take a person along with them to help them to complete the formalities.

(c) After the luggage is checked in, the airlines take care of the luggage. With the restriction of entry, only genuine travellers holding airlines tickets can come in and antisocial elements who indulge in petty thefts at the airports cannot enter.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRA-BORTY: It is a very non-controversial question.

I think you will agree with me that in almost all the airports of the world, the visitors and also the companions and relatives are allowed to enter into the airport excepting the prohibited area. But I do not know why the Government imposed a ban in Delhi airport on entry of these visitors and companions and others into the airport.

What were the complaints that were received by the Ministry on the basis of which this was introduced? Has anyone visiting the airport been found creating any problem anywhere? Their number is very small because one has to pay money. This is causing immense difficulties to

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The complaint is that they look at the passengers:

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRA-BORTY: And the second point is very interesting that this has been done to keep the anti-socials away. Before if anti-socials were there, how many complaints were received by the Ministry on the basis of which this has been done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): In the first place, I would like to say that the Hon. Member is right that the visitors are allowed all over the world in the airports to see off the friends and receive their relatives. But the only problem is that in this country almost 20 people come to see off

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when one person comes or goes and 10 people come to receive him and our holding area . .

श्री राम विलास पासवान : कोई मिनिस्टर पहंच जाए तो दो सौ।

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: That might be your experience during your regime.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE: Actually in our country today even the wife is not allowed to give send off to the husband in the airport.

SHRIKHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: The holding area is very small and, in fact, all the facilities were outstripped by the requirements of these visitors. For instance, genuine passengers were unable to get toilet facilities and the airconditioning was unable to cool the area because more people were expected to be in the holding area when they come. Therefore, it was decided that, on an experimental basis and in order to make more room for the passengers, we should introduce this on an experimental basis and try and see. In fact, this has been appreciated by most of the people. For the people who are aged or invalid, as my colleague has mentioned, we have made arrangements that their representative can go; he can take the pass and accompany these passengers inside the Airport.

MR. SPEAKER: I have got a complaint from an hon. Member that somebody is sleeping by his side. If he is snoring, it is unparliamentary.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I cannot hear anything because he is snoring.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: Another problem was that a large number of people used to... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Snoring is not allowed. About sleeping, I cannot do anything.

(Interruptions)

श्री राम विलास पासवान : टेजरी बेंचेज के लोग सायेंगे नहीं तो क्या करेंगे और उनको काम क्या है।

(व्यवधान)

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): It should not go on record-snoring.

MR SPEAKER: 'Snoring' or something else!

श्री श्रटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: एक बार सोने का माला उठा था. तो उस समय के स्पीकर महोदय ने व्यवस्था दी थी कि सोने में ऐतराज नहीं हैं, लेकिन खरिट नहीं ले सकते हैं।

MR. SPEAKER: I have only repeated the same thing.

सोने में कोई ऐतराज नहीं है, अगर खर्राटे भरेंगे तो मैं एलाउ नहीं करूंगा।

श्री पी. नामग्याल: रात के बारह बजे तक हाउस में रहा तो सो सकते हैं।

ग्रायक्ष महोदय: ज्ञानी आदमी जागते हैं. जब सारा संसार सोता है।

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: I would also like to say that people used to sleep there and snore also. (Interruptions) There is a Visitors' Gallery and people can go to the Visitors' Gallery; there is no problem. Even outside we have provided the necessary facilities for the visiters who come.

SHRI SATYASADHAN BORTY: What the hon. Minister has said applies to all the Airports. If that was uppermost in their mind, they would have introduced in all the Airports. But they have not done it; they have done it only in Delhi. The second thing he has mentioned is security. Is it because of security reasons that you

have done it and if so, what are the security problems, particularly in India?

Oral Answers

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: We have made the experiment only in one case and there are so many questions. If I had done it in all the Airports at the same time, I do not know how many more questions would have been asked?

Mr. SPEAKER: He has taken a precaution.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HAL-DER: The hon Minister, in the last portion of his answer, has state:

> "...With the restriction of entry, only genuine travellers holding Airlines tickets can come in and anti-social elements who indulge in petty thefts at the airports cannot enter."

On the 12th of this month when myself and Comrade Chakraborty were going to Calcutta by Flight No. 264, not only the family members but we were also harassed. As you know, I have one stick and I had to carry my hand-luggage and he had two handluggages. We said we were Members of Parliament, we had tickets, we were genuine passengers, but at the gate not only the relatives but both of us were harassed. This happened on the 12th of this month. You have said that the relatives of air passengers are anti-social, I object to this answer, Air passengers take their relatives and they purchase tickets to enter into the Terminal.

Upto that area it is not protected. You have said the relatives and others are antisocials. How many anti-socials you have arrested within six months in Delhi airport-I want to know. This is nothing but harassment of the passengers and their relatives. In the Statesman the news has appeared that the DCP, Delhi Airport has said that the step was taken to prevent over-crowding, etc., etc. But you have said that it is a temporary measure but the DCI, Delhi Airport has said that it will be in force for an indefinite period. I want to know how long by issuing this order you are going to harass the passengers including MPs and their relatives? When are you going to withdraw it? Within these

six months how many thefts have occurred in the Delhi airport and how many people have been arrested for that? You are curtailing the democratic and basic right of the passengers and their relatives. I would like to have a clear answer from you.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: I hope you have finished now. I am extremely sorry for the inconvenience which was experienced by the two hon. Members and I apologise for that I would certainly ensure that there is no such inconvenience to any hon Members in future and I have already issued instructions in that regard.

As far as the anti-socials are concerned we never consider our genuine passengers or their relations as anti-socials. Really these are the people who have no business to be present there and they just go there to pickpocket. I am sorry I do not have the exact figures at this moment with me but I assure you that this is the common complaint all over. Therefore we decided that we should make this experiment and this experiment, I must tell you, has been appreciated by most of the Airlines and passengers...(Interruptions) At least there is now room for passengers to move about. Then, the security angle is also involved in Delhi. You know in Delhi in most of the congested places something has happened and we do not want anything of that sort to happen at our airports.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I am one of those who fully support this measure. But I have one objection. the security people who do the security checking, may I know, from the hon. Minister, what is the guideline? Sometimes the security checking of frisking is so embarrassing for some passengers. May I know what is the guideline and what is the method adopted? How far can they go and to what extent?

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : A very relevant question.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: The simple guideline is that the frisking should be done throughly.

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SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH: While agreeing with the steps taken by the Ministry, I would like to know what will be the revenue loss to the Airport Authority.

Oral Answers

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: The revenue loss will not be very much and in case of security and other facilities that are involved for our passengers, if there is a little revenue loss, we do not bother about

Change in the Present set-up of S.T.C.

*66. SHRI MOTIBHAI R. CHAUDHARY: SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARU-LEKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have under their consideration a scheme to change the present set-up of State Trading Corporation ;
- (b) if so, the details of the changes being made in the set-up;
- (c) the outline of the alternative setup; and
- (d) the time by which alternative setup is likely to come about?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

श्री मोती भाई ग्रार. चौधरी: माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, एस. टी. सी. में जो गडबड चल रही है, उस को देखते हए यह एक सफेद हाथी साबित हो चुका है और दिन व दिन इस का खर्चा बढ़ता जा रहा है। विदेशों में पर्मानेन्ट

बेस पर आफिस खोल कर ये बैटे हैं और अधिकारी विदेशों में घमते ही रहते हैं। कई चीजों पर मोनोपली होने पर भी हर साल इस का खर्चा बढता ही जा रहा है और मिसमेनेजमेंट के कारण कई घोटाले भी हए हैं। यह सब देखते हए, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहंगा कि इस के ढाचे में परिवर्तन के लिए क्या वे कुछ सोच रहे हैं। मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हं कि पिछले पांच सालों में विदेशों में इस के कितने आफिसेज खोले गये और उन पर कितना रुपया खर्च हुआ और पुरे इस्टाविलिशमेंट का खर्चा क्या है। एक तरफ खर्च बढ रहा है और दूसरी तरफ कारोबार कम हो रहा है।

श्री विष्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह: मान्यवर, जहां तक खर्च का सवाल है, खर्चा काम के साथ ही बढता है। एस. टी. सी. का काम उत्तरोत्तर बढ़ता गया है। उस हिसाब से अगर देखा जाए. तो कुछ खर्च का बढ़ना अनिवार्य है और इस वर्ष की तुलना अगर पिछले बर्ष से करें, तो एस. टी. सी, के माध्यम से जो निर्यात किया गया है. जहां गत वर्ष वह अप्रैल से अक्तूबर तक 274 करोड रुपये था, इस साल 269 करोड रुपये का नियात हुआ है।

कई माननीय सदस्य: यह तो घट गया है। क्या ये आंकडे सही हैं।

श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह: ये आंकडे जो निर्यात के आए हैं, वे सही हैं लेकिन मैं यह बताना चाहता हं कि इस साल जो कान्टेक्टस हए हैं, उस के आधार पर भविष्य में इस वर्ष के अन्दर जो निर्यात होगा, वह गत वर्ष की तुलना में 37 प्रतिशत से अधिक के निर्यात का कान्ट्रक्ट हुआ है। इस तरह से जो निर्यात का एक आधार बना है, वह वृद्धि की ओर सकेत करता है।