

### **Regarding payment charged by Banks on public**

**SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM (SIVAGANGA):** Madam, our banking sector has become like a low-cost airline, where you have to pay to check in your bag, to recline your seat, or even to get a sandwich or a bottle of water.

Our banking sector is now charging for even basic services. If you want to withdraw your own money from an ATM, you have to pay a charge. If you want to get an SMS for your balance, you have to pay a charge. If you want to get a cheque book, you have to pay a charge. The most cruel thing is, if your deposit drops below a minimum balance, they impose a penalty. As it is with this economy, every family is struggling and every individual is struggling. When their money dips in a bank balance, the bank charges a minimum balance fee.

I urge the Finance Ministry and the RBI to rationalise this and ensure that they become customer-friendly. It is not very far away from a day when a bank will start charging people if they come to a branch and want to talk to a person. They are charging for everything that is basic and taken for granted, and this must be rationalised. Thank you very much.