

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) Government have approved fleet renewal plan of Air India and Indian Airlines to provide them a policy frame to have a more modern and younger fleet for improving aircraft utilisation, on-time performance and passenger appeal. The practice so far has been that the two national airlines retire aircraft after about 20 years. Approval has now been given for a 10 year roll out plan for Air India; in Indian Airlines, it is about 15 years. The roll out plans are also intended to be staggered with a view to avoiding large scale bunching of aircraft replacement. On current reckoning, the number of aircraft to be replaced until the year 2010-11 is 49 in the case of Air India and 56 in the case of Indian Airlines. The plans are only indicative and their implementation would depend upon the results of detailed techno-economic evaluation of specific replacement proposals.

Commercial pilots from rural areas

1106. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) how many operators have been issued permits to operate Air Taxies at present;
- (b) what steps are being taken to trim the operations of scheduled flights of Indian Airlines to keep up punctuality;
- (c) whether it is a fact that only a privileged small section is enjoying the available facilities of pilot training; and
- (d) whether there is any scheme to select and train qualified boys from rural areas as commercial pilots?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA). (a) Seven

operators have been issued permits for Air Taxi operations.

(b) Steps taken by Indian Airlines to ensure punctuality of its scheduled flights include monitoring of delays and instituting suitable remedial action wherever necessary, provision of adequate infrastructure for handling/maintenance of aircraft, creation of standby capacity and rationalisation of schedule to the extent possible.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Non-operation of Indian Airlines flights

1107. DR. BALDEV PRAKASH:

SHRI TRILOKI NATH
CHATURVEDI:

SHRI RAM RATAN RAM:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI;
SHRI SUNDER SINGH
BHANDARI:

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

- (a) what is the number of scheduled Indian Airlines flight* that were missed or cancelled during the period from January to June, 1992, together with the reasons;
- (b) what is the number of occasion when the staff had struck work during the same period, together with the details of the category of employees involved and man days/hours lost as a result thereof;
- (c) what is the number of flight-hours lost during the past six months due to non-availability or shortage of spares, together with the names of the aircrafts; and
- (d) what is the amount of loss incurred by the Indian Airlines due to the above factors?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) During January to June, 1992, out of

48613 flights in the Indian Airlines network, 4788 were cancelled due to aircraft maintenance and handling problems, inclement weather, airport restrictions, industrial unrest and) services withdrawn etc.

(b) There were 6 occasions when the staff represented by Air Corporation Employees' Union (such as loaders, helpers, traffic assistants, typists, stenographer etc.) and Indian Aircraft Technician's Association (such as aircraft technician, master technician, foreman etc.) had struck work during January to June, 1992 resulting in the loss of 12683 mandays.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected.

Incidents of fire in planes

1108. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of fire in planes that took place in recent months;

(b) whether these incidents of fires in planes were in quick succession;

(c) what steps have been taken to avoid such incidents in planes in future;

(d) whether these were cases of attempted sabotage or pure accidents;

(e) whether any enquiry have been ordered to find out the facts covering these fires in planes; and

(f) if so, what are the measures suggested in enquiry to prevent such fire incidents?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There has been no case of actual fire incident on Indian Registered aircraft, during the year 1992, so far.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

एयर इंडिया और इंडियन एयरलाइंस में सुरक्षा संबंधी चूक

1109. श्री राम सिंह राठवा : क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या एयर इंडिया और इंडियन एयरलाइंस में पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान सुरक्षा प्रबंधों के संबंध में गंभीर चूक हुई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कब और किन-किन क्षेत्रों में ;

(ग) यह सुनिश्चित करने की भविष्य में ऐसी चूक न हो, सरकार द्वारा क्या प्रयास किये गये हैं ; और

(घ) ऐसी चूक के लिये दोषी पाये गये अधिकारियों के खिलाफ क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री माधव राव सिंधिया) : (क) और (ख) एक गंभीर सुरक्षा चूक उस समय ध्यान में आई जब 1-12-91 को इंदिरा गांधी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर एयर इंडिया उड़ान संख्या एआई-111 में एक तात्कालिक विस्फोटक यंत्र पाया गया था। यह चूक उस स्थान पर हुई जहाँ खान-पान यंत्रों की छानबीन की जाती है।

(ग) नागर विमानन सुरक्षा आयुक्त को इस मामले की जांच करने के लिये कहा गया था। उनकी रिपोर्ट के आधार पर, सुरक्षा को कड़ा करने के लिये और आगे कदम उठाये गये हैं।

(घ) संबंधित अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध अनुशासनात्मक कार्यवाई की गई है। पुलिस ने एक अधिकारी को गिरफ्तार भी किया है।