

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such a step of the Air India has exposed the credibility of the airlines which is running into losses; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure payment of salaries to its employees in time and also to take corrective steps to bring the Air India out of red?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Due to liquidity crunch, Air India has deferred the salary payable in the month of June, 2009 to all its employees which will be paid by 15th July, 2009.

(c) No, Sir. Deferment of salary in Air India is only for the month of June, 2009. In view of worldwide economic slowdown, almost all airlines globally have resorted to cost cutting measures that include cuts in pay and cutback in employees to tackle the financial situation.

(d) The deferment of salary for the month of June, 2009 for 15 days is only a temporary measure in view of the present liquidity crunch in the airline. NACIL has been advised to formulate a concrete proposal for equity infusion and provision of soft loans.

Safety measures for Civil Aviation

291. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cabinet Secretary presided over a meeting of Committee on Security and anti-hijacking at civil airports to analyse aviation security scenario in the country following an incident of emergency landing of an Indigo aircraft at Delhi Airport on 1 February and hijacking scare;

(b) if so, whether Government has also instructed authorities concerned to act swiftly to make our skies safer;

(c) if so, whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has also finalized reports on airports; and

{d} if so, what are concrete measures the Union and State Governments has taken for safety of civil aviation and also checking up of hijacking of airways in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Cabinet Secretary presided over meetings with representatives of various organisations/committees involved in aviation security following the incident of emergency landing.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. To insure Security the following additional measures have been initiated:-

(i) Check Posts put by ASG/APSU at the approach road to airports for random checking of vehicles/persons/articles; (ii) All unattended articles to be reported and checked for IED etc; (iii) Enhanced surveillance/watch on land side and airside areas of airports; (iv) Perimeter Patrolling and

guarding of funnel area during operational hours; (v) Reinforcement of all access control points; (vi) QRTs/ Striking Reserve at airports strengthened; (vii) Secondary Security Checks at ladder point of aircrafts being carried out and; (viii) A thorough and complete screening of both the hold baggage and hand baggage are being carried out.

Nominal Security at small airports

292. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is nominal security at smaller airports from where flights are also undertaken towards the metropolitan airports;

(b) if so, whether this lackadaisical approach could endanger flights being commandeered by subversives and insurgent elements like suicide bombers; and

(c) whether the Central Government in co-ordination with State law-enforcing agencies, has developed any foolproof security system to guard against such eventualities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir. Equal standards of security for all airports has been laid down in the country. Aviation Security Group of Central Industrial Security Force provides security cover to 57 airports (including major metropolitan airports) in India, as per guidelines issued by this Ministry. The basic security scheme is the same for all airports irrespective of their size.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Emergency arrangements at airports

293. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing arrangements at all airports in case of emergency;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to multiple-tier system, the authorities are encountered with various problems, particularly during emergencies at airports;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is formulating new measures to deal with airports emergencies at all the international airports in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Commensurate with the requirements of aircraft being operated at Airports Authority of India (AAI) airports, appropriate level of fire and safety services and security set up is maintained at all airports in accordance with International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)/ Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)/ Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) requirements to deal with various types of