

(c) whether the amount of handling charges has already been paid to the Indian Airlines or not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There was Ground Handling Agreement between *erstwhile* Indian Airlines and Kingfisher Airlines for the period 25th April, 2005 to 24th April, 2007 for provision of comprehensive ground services. The comprehensive Ground Handling charges were INR 24,500/- per departure.

(c) At the time of termination of Ground Handling Agreement between Indian Airlines and Kingfisher Airlines, an amount of Rs.7.48 crores was outstanding which is yet to be paid by Kingfisher Airlines.

Re-naming of airports

†2577. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals for re-naming of some airports in the country are lying pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the status of each proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) From time to time various proposals for renaming of airports in the country have been received. Names of some of such airports are: Aurangabad, Bhuj, Dabolim (Goa), Vadodara, Nanded, Raipur, Gondia, Belgaum, Madurai, Trivandrum Silchar, Jodhpur, Amritsar, Chandigarh, Khajuraho, Srinagar, Dehradun, Jaipur, Gaya and Porbandar.

(c) The proposals of renaming of the airports require wider consultative process, taken up with all the concerned stakeholders, and are decided on case to case basis with the approval of the Cabinet.

Violation of air safety norms

2578. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India in a shocking violation of air safety norms, allowed three extra passengers on board a fully-loaded flight;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware that safety of passengers has been put at several occasions by Air India and its safety record is weak; and

(d) if so, the action taken to ensure safety of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Airbus-321 Aircraft scheduled to operate flight IC-179 (Mumbai-Mangalore) on May 5, 2009

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

was involved in a ground incident at Mumbai due to aircraft pushback with Aerobridge still connected. During investigation, presence of three adults, over and above the 172 passengers, was observed on the flight.

(e) and (d) No, Sir. Apart from the incident mentioned above, no incident has come to the notice of this Ministry wherein Air India has disregarded the safety of passengers. However, during the surveillance checks if any observations were made by Air Safety authorities, requisite corrective actions are taken by Air India.

Subsidy on service tax from Haj travellers

2579. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Aviation Company of India Ltd. (NACIL) has been issued notice in respect of Service Tax dues for Haj operations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the NACIL is liable to pay the Service Tax on the subsidy component of the price of ticket for Haj travel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) National Aviation Company of India Limited has received a notice to pay Service Tax in terms of service provided under the category of 'Transport of Passengers embarking in India for international Journey by Air Service' as defined under Section 65(105) under Customs Act. In the "Show cause Notice" a demand of an amount of Rs.95.89 crores has been raised for the period from 1.4.2006 to 31.3.2008.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Begumpet airport

2380. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received in his Ministry for converting Begumpet airport at Hyderabad into a National Aviation University;

(b) if so, the details of the request; and

(c) what action his Ministry has taken on the above request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) In the year 2005, Government of Andhra Pradesh had expressed its willingness to set up an aviation university at the Begumpet airport after its closure.

(c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh was advised to initiate the process of setting up the