

go by the technical advice of the Air Force. They are very happy with this Aircraft for the last four decades. The Indian Air Force is very happy with the Russian made fighter aircraft.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, I am coming to the particular aircraft which is said to have been crashed. Sir, before it took off whether, any precautions were taken to check up; whether it was in order, etc., etc. and after having been thoroughly checked up, it should have taken off. If that is the case, what could be the reason? The Minister may try to say that it is under investigation. I am trying to ask the informal information or informal source of information through which whether I can take it that it is a human failure or an equipment failure.

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Sir, there are certain standard operating procedures that the pilot follows before takeoff. I am sure if anything is in disorder, he would abort the take-off. But in this case, once they are in flight, there is probability of malfunction in so many systems that happen; and in this case it is a fly-by-wire system and there is a possibility of malfunction happening in a number of places. So, till the court of inquiry is concluded, we will not be able to say what had definitely happened.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सभापति जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि जो दो पायलट बाहर आ गये, क्या उनकी स्टेटमेंट भी रिकार्ड की गई? यह प्लेन चलने के कितनी देर बाद दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हुआ? क्या उन्होंने उसके बारे में कुछ बताया था कि इस प्लेन में प्रॉब्लम आ रही है? उनकी जो स्टेटमेंट है, उसमें यह पाया गया है? यह प्लेन क्यों दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हुआ? आप इन्क्वायरी तो कर रहे हैं, लेकिन मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या उन पायलट्स से भी पूछताछ की गई है?

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Sir, I am sure the court of inquiry would have spoken to the pilots if they were in a conscious condition and the facts are ascertained. Till the court of inquiry is concluded, we cannot reveal any other thing.

Engaging private domestic airlines for moving paramilitary forces

*62. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to provide air service for movement of paramilitary forces by engaging private domestic airlines;

(b) if so, the reasons for engaging private airlines instead of Air Force planes;

(c) whether engaging of private aircrafts to operate on border areas is a great security risk; and

(d) if so, whether Government would review its decision and, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) There is no proposal under consideration of Government for engaging private domestic airlines for moving paramilitary forces. However, there is a proposal of outsourcing of air courier services for airlifting of Central Paramilitary Forces (CPMFs) troops from J & K and North Eastern Sectors as a troop's welfare measure.

(b) Due to its own operational commitments, Indian Air Force is providing limited air support to CPMFs which is not adequate to meet the requirement of CPMFs.

(c) and (d) As far as outsourcing of air courier service is concerned, it will be operated in J & K Sector *i.e.* between Jammu and Srinagar and in the North Eastern Sector *i.e.* between Imphal, Agartala, Silchar and Koikata. At these Airports, there is already a heavy traffic of commercial airlines in operation. As such, there is no security risk involved.

श्री धर्म पाल सभ्रवाल : सर, मंत्री जी ने जवाब दिया है कि अर्द्ध-सैनिक बलों को सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों तक पहुंचाने के लिए एयर कैरियर सर्विस का इस्तेमाल करते हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि ये किस कम्पनी की हैं या ये किस एयरलाइंस से संबंधित हैं? ऐसी कौन-कौन सी एयरलाइंस हैं जो यह काम करती हैं?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, at this stage, it is only a proposal. We hope to get the approval of the competent authorities and then go to an open tender process and an expression of interest will be issued to all airlines registered with the Director-General of Civil Aviation.

श्री धर्म पाल सभ्रवाल : सर, मैं आपके द्वारा मंत्री जी से यह अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि इस समय एयर इंडिया वित्तीय संकट में जा रही है, तो क्यों न यह काम एयर इंडिया से लिया जाए, क्या सरकार इस पर विचार करेगी।

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the decision to go for an open tender process was taken after consulting Air India. In the open tender process, Air India will also bid and it is quite possible that Air India may win many of the bids in many of the areas.

Impact of global recession on Indian exports

*63. SHRI P. RAJEEV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any statistical data regarding reduction in exports due to global recession is available;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many export oriented industries have been compelled to close in these circumstances; and

(d) how many employees have lost their jobs?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Quick Estimates of monthly trade statistics compiled by DGCI&S indicate declining trend in India's merchandise exports during the last few months. While there are various contributory factors, recession, particularly in the developed countries, is a significant factor. Details of Quick Estimates of monthly merchandise exports from April, 2008 till May, 2009 (alongwith figures of corresponding month of the previous year) is given in the enclosed Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) A sample survey conducted by Department of Commerce (during August, 08 till April, 09) for 648 exporting units as well as a survey conducted by Ministry of Labour and Employment has shown significant job losses.