

(a) whether Government has decided to introduce separate flight corridor for helicopter operations at Delhi and Mumbai airports in a bid to ease air traffic congestion and ensure safety;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) which has decided to introduce separate Visual Flight Route (VFR) corridor at the two airports for helicopter operations has asked the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to promulgate the routing and issue necessary orders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Separate flight corridor for helicopter operations at Delhi and Mumbai have been notified *w.e.f.* 15.03.2010.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per the instructions issued by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to Airports Authority of India (AAI) for detailed procedure for separate helicopter Routes at IGI airport, Delhi and CSI airport, Mumbai on 4th February, 2010, AAI has issued the procedures for IGI airport, Delhi and CSI airport, Mumbai for such routes *vide* Aeronautical Publication (AIP) Supplement. As such, helicopters routings has already been promulgated.

Free air tickets for former Ministers/Secretaries

4160. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH:

SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to give their former Ministers, secretaries and their family members life-long upgrades to first class air-ticket on Air India;

(b) if so, the reasons of such largesse at a time when Air India is ailing and showing losses;

(c) what other facilities Government has decided to give to their former Ministers and Secretaries; and

(d) the estimated loss Air India would incur on these upgrades/facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Such facilities are not going to increase any burden on Air India or other agencies as they will be extended only if vacant seats are available.

(c) The other facilities extended are airport entry pass, VIP car parking label and facilitation at airports.

(d) Upgradation of facility is only subject to availability of seats, hence Air India on this account would not incur any loss.

Breathalyser test for pilots

†4161. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) the number of pilots found under the influence of alcohol in Breathalyser test from January, 2009 to December, 2009;

(b) the action taken against pilots found under the influence of alcohol; and

(c) the arrangements made to ensure that pilots don't drink during duty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL):

(a) 39 cases have been reported to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) from January 2009 to December 2009 where pilots/co-pilots were found alco-positive during pre-flight breathalyzer test.

(b) Action is taken as per Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR), Section 5, Series F, Part 3, Issue I dated 13.11.2009 which stipulates that any crew member found alco-positive during pre-flight breathalyzer test is kept off flying duty for at least four weeks and the employer company initiates disciplinary proceedings against him.

(c) The CAR referred to above also lays down procedure for post/flight medical examination which is carried out within the stipulated duty hours. Serving of alcohol in domestic flights is not permitted.

Shortage of pilots in the country

†4162. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is an acute shortage of pilots in the country;

(b) the shortage of pilots against the sanctioned strength in Indian Airlines and Air India;

and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.