

Unavailability of weather radars with ATCs

875. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Meteorological Department sends the weather data to airports which is then followed by the Air Traffic Controller (ATC) for guiding aircraft;
- (b) the normal time that ATC takes to feed the weather data into their systems;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that ATCs doesn't have weather radars of their own as has been the case in other countries; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) It is done immediately on receipt.
- (c) In India, the weather radars are procured, installed, manned and maintained by India Meteorological Department, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India.
- (d) It is as per the existing guidelines and distribution of work.

Procurement of accident investigation kits

876. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is yet to procure accident investigation kits that are critical for crash probes, despite funds had already been allocated for the same;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

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

(a) to (c) Investigation equipments like camera, GPS, Compass, Magnifying mirror, small tool kit, face mask and other necessary equipment required for investigation are already available with Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and accident investigations have been effectively carried out using these equipment. However, procurement and upgradation of such equipment is a continuing process and requests for purchase and upgradation of equipment are considered as per the laid down procedures.

Branding make over of Air India

877. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the state owned carrier Air India has proposed to hire an International consultancy firm to give it a branding make over for the forth coming Commonwealth Games;