

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Air Accidents in the Country

2416. SHRI RASHID ALVI:

SHRI P. RAJEEVE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) how many air accidents had taken place in the country in the last three years;
- (b) the nature of the accidents and the total loss incurred by Government; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to decrease the rate of accidents?

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

(a) There were six accidents in year 2007, six in year 2008, four in year 2009 and two in year 2010 to Indian Civil Registered Aircraft.

(b) In 12 accidents there were fatalities and in the rest there was substantial damage to the aircraft. Government does not maintain data regarding losses to airlines on account of accidents.

(c) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has taken number of steps like impressing upon all Scheduled/ Non – Scheduled/ General Aviation Operators to strictly adhere to the standard operating procedures for approaching and landing that would result in decent acceptable within the limitations of aircraft without compromising stopping distance requirements. Also, Civil Aviation Safety Advisory Council (CASAC) has been set up in the DGCA under the Chairmanship of Director General of Civil Aviation with 28 expert members from Industry who have made significant contribution. The Council has constituted 4 different working groups for (I) Operations, (II) Airworthiness, (III) Air Navigation and (IV) Aerodromes. Further, safety recommendations emanating from Investigation of incidents are followed up for implementation with the concerned agencies for preventing recurrence of such incidents in future. To avoid air accidents, various accident prevention programmes have been initiated by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), which include safety audits, surveillance inspections, dissemination of safety information,

issue of Air Safety Circular/ Civil Aviation Requirements, etc. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of United States of America had carried out an audit in 2009 to review DGCA's safety oversight capabilities. The FAA made some recommendations for their improvement. The steps taken by DGCA in this regard have been appreciated by FAA as there had been significant improvement in several areas of DGCA which included creation of an additional 427 Group "A" posts in DGCA in order to strengthen the safety oversight set – up in DGCA.

#### **Daily Flights from Surat in peak and off-peak seasons**

2417. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

(a) the demands for daily flights from Surat to Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Nagpur, Raipur, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad and Rajkot on domestic and international air routes during peak and off-peak seasons during the last three years and flights made available;

(b) the steps taken to meet the demands especially by Air India; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (c) Scheduled domestic air services to/from Surat are available from Delhi only, which are operated by Alliance Air. Since Surat is not an International Airport, therefore no international operation can take place.

Government has laid down route dispersal guidelines with a view to achieving better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-East region. It is, however up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by Government.

#### **Proposals for operation of New Airlines**

2418. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal for operation of new airlines;