

De-recognition of Air India Trade Unions

129. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Air India employees were dismissed/suspended and two trade unions involved in the two-days strike which started on 25 May were derecognized for their participation in the strike;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Air India trade unions had called for another strike from 12 June in protest against the disciplinary action taken against the striking employees and trade unions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and what steps were taken by Government to avert the strike?

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

(a) and (b) All India Aircraft Engineers' Association (AIAEA) and Air Corporations Employees' Union (ACEU), the two unions of erstwhile Indian Airlines went on a flash strike on 25.5.2010. All efforts were made by the Management to convince the Union/Association representatives and members to call off the strike, but they did not pay heed. The Management was compelled to take action and depending upon their extent of participation, a few employees were terminated, reverted, suspended and also the aforesaid striking Union/Associations were de-recognised.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. General Secretary, AIAEA of de-recognised Union gave a strike notice for 12.06.2010. The matter was seized in conciliation proceedings and on 9.6.2010 during conciliation proceedings, they had agreed not to resort to strike.

Status of Airports

130. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of airports in India;

(b) the number of airports under construction; and

(c) how many airports have been given the status of international airports?

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

(a) There are 457 airports/airstrips in the country, out of which 115 airports are owned and managed

by Airports Authority of India (AAI). In addition, airports at Delhi, Mumbai and Nagpur have been leased out by the AAI to the Joint Venture Companies (JVCs) of AAI. Three Greenfield airports at Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Cochin have been developed through Public Private Partnership (PPP).

(b) Government of India have given in-principle approval for setting up of 12 Greenfield airports in the country.

(c) 17 Airports have been declared as International Airports.

MIHAN project at Nagpur

131. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Multi-Model International Cargo Hub and Airport (MIHAN) Project at Nagpur is running behind schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action Government is contemplating in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL):
(a) to (d) There is no such schedule. However, consequent upon approval of the Union Cabinet, the Nagpur Airport was transferred to MIHAN India Pvt. Ltd., a Joint Venture Company (JVC) comprising Maharashtra Airport Development Company and Airports Authority of India on 7th August, 2009 with their equity holding of 51% and 49% respectively. The JVC, which functions under Government of Maharashtra is responsible for further development and operation of the Airport as a part of the MIHAN project. The Government is monitoring the progress made by JVC on a regular basis.

Loss suffered by AAI

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

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has sought compensation from Government for revenue loss suffered due to closure of commercial operations at Hyderabad and Bangalore;

(b) whether Government had earlier refused to issue Rs. 5000 crore worth of tax free bonds to help AAI to meet its shortfall in revenue; and