

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has carried out meeting with the IPG and discussed various issues. Action is being taken on the issues raised during the meeting.

**Resentment over Appointment of COO of AI-Express**

1413. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Commercial Pilots Association have questioned the appointment of the Chief Operating Officers (COO) of Air India (AI) Express, since the man is with doubtful credentials and questionable integrity and for these reasons was removed by Directorate General Civil Aviation (DGCA) from the flight safety posts;

(b) whether newly appointed COO would be in a position to help in turnaround of AI; and

(c) if so, in what manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL) : (a) No, Sir. No such resentment has been officially expressed. However, the Board of Air India has reviewed the appointment of COO and decided to cancel it.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The COO would be required for overseeing operational performance of the Company, including Engineering, inflight, Commercial, operations and flight related safety issues.

**Rise in prices of food articles and manufactured goods**

†1414. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of inflation for common man in the country is too high to bear;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the rise in the prices of manufactured items has been found to be higher than food items in the country; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.