

(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.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) The year-on-year rate of inflation, based on wholesale price index, in the current financial year has been coming down as per details given below:

	Weights (%)	Apr-10	May-10	Jun-10	Jul-10	Aug-10	Sep-10	Oct-10
All Commodity	100.00	11.00	10.60	10.28	10.02	8.82	8.62	8.58
Food Articles	14.34	20.49	21.37	20.97	18.48	14.96	15.71	14.13
Manufactured Products	64.97	6.43	5.99	5.65	5.73	5.11	4.59	4.74

Government monitors the price situation regularly as price stability remains high on its agenda. Measures taken to contain prices of essential commodities include selective ban on exports and futures trading in food grains, zero import duty on select food items, permitting import of pulses and sugar by public sector undertakings, distribution of imported pulses and edible oils through PDS and release of higher quota of non-levy sugar. RBI has taken suitable measures to moderate demand levels consistent with capacity of the economy to maintain its growth without provoking price rise. Accordingly, the Repo rate and Reserve Repo rate increased to 6 per cent and 5 per cent respectively on September 16, 2010 from a level of 5.75 per cent and 4.50 per cent respectively. Further during their Second Quarter Policy Review on November 2, 2010 RBI raised the Repo rate and Reverse Repo rate to 6.25 per cent and 5.25 per cent respectively.

#### **Sending capital abroad through illegal means**

†1415. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amount of capital is being sent abroad usually every year through illegal means;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.