

International status to Bagdogra airport

†2496. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government is considering for taking action on the long pending proposal for giving international status to Bagdogra Airport;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to downgrade Bagdogra Airport; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Suspension of Air India from Star Alliance

2497. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Star Alliance, the global grouping of airlines has suspended the national carrier's entry bid recently;
- (b) if so, whether the Star Alliance has stated that the Air India has failed to meet minimum joining conditions contractually agreed to in December, 2007;
- (c) if so, to what extent the allegations imposed by Star Alliance are factually correct and what would be the impact on Air India of such breaking alliance;
- (d) whether Government proposes to ensure that Air India joins the Star Alliance in the interest of carrier; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Star Alliance has recently informed Air India that its joining the alliance has been deferred.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.