

procedure for establishment of private airports for private use has been announced, (iv) Private domestic airlines have been permitted to fly on overseas routes subject to specified guidelines. Further, bilateral arrangements with other countries have been gradually liberalized to enable better international connectivity. (v) A new Flying Training Institute has been established at Gondia, Maharashtra. Further, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Udan Akademi has been restructured. These measures would help in putting in place better training infrastructure for skilled manpower in the aviation sector, (vi) The infrastructure at the airports, Air Traffic Control and Navigation is being constantly upgraded to meet the future demand of the airlines. (vii) to create a world class airport infrastructure upgradation/modernization of a number of metro and non-metro airports have been undertaken by Airports Authority of India (AAI) as well as through Joint Venture Companies, (viii) AAI has undertaken upgradation & modernization of 35 non-metro airports in the country in a time bound manner. In addition, 13 more airports have also been taken up for upgradation. (ix) AAI has also undertaken the modernization and expansion of the international airports at Chennai and Kolkata. (x) DGCA from time to time reviews and amends its regulations as per international standards and aviation requirements of the country, (xi) DGCA itself has been strengthened to meet international safety obligations. (xii) City side development of specific airports has been undertaken under Public Private Participation model. (xiii) A new policy for green field airports. (xiv) An Independent Regulatory Authority, namely, AERA has been established 12.5.2009 with the prime objective to create a level playing field and healthy competition amongst all major airports (Government-owned, PPP-based, private), regulation of tariffs of aeronautical services, protection of reasonable interest of users.

#### **European union emission trading scheme**

1126. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK :

SHRI SANJAY RAUT :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that under the European Union-Emission Trading Scheme airlines using EU airspace will have to pay a fee for carbon emissions that exceed a set cap;

(b) whether it is a fact that EU-ETS measures violated the Chicago Convention governing international aviation as also provisions of the WTO; and

(c) if so, the steps Government has taken to tackle this issue?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Ministry of Civil Aviation hosted an International Meeting on 29-30th September, 2011 at New Delhi of non-EU ICAO Council and other non-EU member states in which a Joint Declaration was adopted opposing the EU- ETS.

India thereafter took the lead to co-present a Working Paper (WP), which included the Joint Declaration, in the 194th Council Session of ICAO meeting held on 2nd November, 2011 which was adopted by the ICAO Council with minor editorial changes.

#### **Ombudsman system for rights of passengers**

1127. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to set up an ombudsman system to protect right of the passengers travelling by air; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the time by which the Ombudsman in the aviation sector could be set up?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) and (b) One of the means of settlement of disputes between consumers and providers in service sector is the institution of ombudsman. A Working Group has been constituted to examine feasibility of setting up Ombudsman for Civil Aviation Sector. It is not possible to indicate any time-frame in this regard at this juncture.

#### **RPOS at Rajkot and Vadodara**

1128. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has principally agreed to open and establish two new regional passport offices at Rajkot and Vadodara in the State of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of that proposal as on date;