

In spite of the international opposition and ICAO Resolution, because of the continued reluctance of the EU to withdraw the Scheme, another follow up meeting was held in Moscow on 21-22nd February, 2012 in which 32 countries participated. The countries present, adopted another Declaration on the EU-ETS this time, in which, a basket of retaliatory measures are available to all Governments as counter measures. Depending upon EU's response to the Moscow Declaration, appropriate retaliatory measures would be undertaken by all signatories to the Declaration including India and also by other nations joining.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. EU's possible penalties range from fines to stoppage of operations.

(d) The Government at all levels and through the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Ministry of Civil Aviation have already written to the EU separately informing India's opposition to the unilateral measure of the EU-ETS which is contrary to several international laws and Conventions including the Chicago Convention and UNFCCC.

Direct flights for Haj from Srinagar

967. SHRI G. N. RATANPURI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether steps have been taken to resume direct Haj flights from Srinagar;
- (b) whether the only international flight from Srinagar to Dubai was discontinued; and
- (c) by when should we expect flights to Jeddah, Dubai and other foreign destinations from Srinagar?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) Government is exploring the possibility of introducing direct Haj flight from Srinagar.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Air India currently offers same day connectivity between Srinagar and Jeddah, Dubai & other foreign destinations.

Kailash Mansarovar Pilgrimage

968. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is organizing pilgrimage to Kailash-Mansarovar between May and September, 2012;