

- (e) the measures proposed to be taken to resolve the crisis in Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Even though the legal merger of both the erstwhile companies have taken place in August, 2007, however, the HR Integration is still under progress, in terms of the report dated 31.01.2012 of the Justice Dharmadhikari Committee. Consequent to the acceptance of the recommendations of the Justice Dharmadhikari Committee, Air India has constituted an Implementation cum Anomaly rectification Committee which will oversee the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee and will also deal with the anomalies which may arise due to the implementation.

- (c) No, Sir.

(d) A Section of Air India pilots represented by Indian Pilots Guilds (IPG) started reporting sick in a concerted manner effective 1900 hours on 07.05.2012. The agitation was primarily against the decision of the Management to fulfil its commitment made before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 02.05.2012 regarding training of Pilots of the erstwhile Indian Airlines on Boeing 787 aircraft.

(e) The Management of Air India has de-recognized the Indian Pilots Guild (IPG) and the services of 98 Pilots were terminated. The Management of Air India has always been open to dialogue with the Unions and is in constant touch with them to redress their grievances, if any. Open House sessions are being conducted at every level to enable employees to come out with their grievances and their redressal. The issues brought out in Open House Sessions are dealt with in time-bound manner. A committee comprising of SBU Head MRO(Airframe), Director (Personnel) and ED(Project) & ED (IR Integration) have been constituted to look into the appeals of the terminated pilots on case to case basis.

Measures to fight fluorosis

492. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in the country affected with fluourosis, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the extent of population affected due to this and the short-term and long-term measures taken or proposed to be taken to remedy the situation in a timebound manner;

(c) whether there is any proposal before the Ministry to create a separate agency to tackle this problem; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As reported by the States as on 1.4.2012, there are 17,986 habitations affected with excess fluoride, in one or more drinking water sources, that remain to be provided with safe drinking water. It is estimated that 1.11 crore people are at risk as prolonged consumption of excess fluoride may lead to Fluorosis disease. In Andhra Pradesh, 332 such habitations are yet to be provided with safe drinking water and the population at risk is 2.08 lakh.

Under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), the State Governments are provided technical and financial assistance to supplement their efforts in providing safe drinking water in rural areas of the country. Upto 67% of funds provided can be utilized for tackling water quality problems and coverage with safe drinking water. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh is implementing projects based on alternate safe water sources in fluoride affected areas to supply fluoride free water to the affected population.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has given in principle clearance to set up Regional Fluorosis Mitigation Centres in Hyderabad and Gandhinagar to assist States in providing solutions to Fluoride and Fluorosis problems.

Increase in grant for construction of toilets

493. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has increased the grant for construction of toilets under the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) from Rs.4,600 to Rs.10,000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has allocated Rs. 36,000 crore for sanitation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?