

RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 27th November, 2012/6th Agrahayana, 1934 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No.61. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please allow the House to function. ...*(Interruptions)*... Question No.61. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): It is contempt of Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*... We are much concerned about it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Venkaiahji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Why are they afraid of a debate? ...*(Interruptions)*... Why are they not agreeing for a debate? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, see the Ruling Party Members. ...*(Interruptions)*... They themselves are not allowing the House to run. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow the Question Hour to proceed. ...*(Interruptions)*... No other business can be taken up at this time. ...*(Interruptions)*... Question No.61. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will name you if you come here like this. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please don't bring posters here. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please don't bring posters here. ...*(Interruptions)*... The House is adjourned till 1200 hours.

The House then adjourned at two minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Diversion of AI Express flight

*61. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an incident of diverting an Air India Express flight from Abu Dhabi to Thiruvananthapuram instead of landing in Kochi and the agitated passengers protesting, leading the pilot to trigger a plan hijack alarm etc;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the incident; and
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) On 19.10.2012, Air India Express flight No.IX-4522, which was operating from Abu Dhabi to Kochi, was diverted to Thiruvananthapuram due to inclement weather at Kochi. While the aircraft was waiting for weather to improve at Kochi, and for arrival of the new set of Cockpit, and Cabin Crew, three passengers entered the cockpit, threatened and abused the cockpit crew. Finding the situation out of control, the Commander sent a distress signal at around 0900 hrs. to the ATC informing that there was a hijack situation on board. On this a meeting of the Aerodrome Committee was convened. The Commander narrated the incident that had occurred on board to the Committee. The Commander lodged a police complaint at Thiruvananthapuram Police Station and an FIR No 1239 dated 19.10.2012 was registered under sections 342/294(b)/323/506(2)/34 of the Indian Penal Code.

On the arrival of a fresh set of cockpit and cabin crew at 1145 hrs. the flight finally departed for Kochi at 1400 hrs.

The Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) are also conducting an inquiry in the matter from security and air-safety angle respectively.

Steps taken for making the Yamuna river pollution free

†*62. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the allocation of funds made during the last three years till date to make the Yamuna river pollution free, year-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has issued instructions to Government expressing concern over pollution in the Yamuna river;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Central Government has taken any steps to clean the Yamuna river as per the orders of the Supreme Court; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.