

(c) There has been no instance of aircraft crash in Air India's fleet during the last three years.

(d) and (e) DGCA has issued 'Civil Aviation Requirements' (CAR), Section 5 on AIR SAFETY providing for Flight Safety Awareness and Accident/Incident prevention programme, which is mandatory for all Airlines to adopted.

Due to consistent efforts in this regard, Air India is the first airline in the country and amongst the first 10 in the world to have the IATA Operational Safety Audit certification which is a benchmark of aviation safety norms.

#### **Reduction in free check-in weight by domestic Airlines**

162. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have agreed to the proposals of domestic airlines to reduce the free check in weight from 20 kg. to 15 kg. charge Rs. 250/- per kg. for excess baggage, hike in no show/cancellation fees, increase in reissue/date change of tickets to Rs. 1500/- from Rs. 500/- and charging Rs. 500/- for pre-booking of seats;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for accepting the request of private airlines for such a bonanza by DGCA causing hardship to passengers; and

(c) whether Government would reconsider the arbitrary decision of the DGCA favouring private airlines and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): (a) to (c) Modification in free check-in weight does not require approval from Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). On 27th June, 2013, DGCA has issued Air Transport Circular No. 3 of 2013 on 'Unbundle of services and fees by scheduled airlines' with a view to make basic fare more affordable and to provide consumer an option of paying only for the services which he/she wishes to avail.