

(d) if so, whether FIRs have been filed against the officials of DGCA for misuse of free air tickets and violation of norms on a very large scale amounting to multi crore scam; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. No DGCA official has been issued any free air tickets between 2009 to 2012 to carry out safety inspection and surveillance job. However, as per data available with DGCA, 2784 number of tickets have been issued under Aeronautical Information Circular No. 2/1978 (AIC) to DGCA officers to carry out various official duties during 2009 to 2012.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, in one case, misuse of AIC 2/1978 by the then Private Secretary in DGCA was noticed and the matter was reported to Delhi Police along with departmental action in the matter.

#### **Replacement of DGCA with CAA**

468. SHRI N.K. SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to replace the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) with Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) on the lines of the US Federation Aviation Authority;

(b) if so, the reasons for replacing the DGCA with CAA and whether more powers will be given to CAA to strengthen aviation sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the further steps Government proposes to take to protect the interest of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K C. VENUGOPAL) : (a) to (c) It is proposed to set up the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) in line with the international standards and practices, capable of meeting safety and services requirements of passengers and future demands of aviation industry. Setting up of the CAA is being proposed to overcome the constraints presently faced by DGCA in terms of recruitment and retention of technical manpower and inability to quickly address ongoing operational issues due to lack of adequate administrative and financial authority as of now.

The proposed CAA would not only have the regulatory safety oversight functions of DGCA but also functions relating to certain economic regulations, consumer

protection and environment regulation. The proposed CAA would have adequate financial and administrative flexibility to meet functional requirements for an effective safety oversight capabilities over air transport service operators, air service navigation operators and operators of other civil aviation facilities, development and standardization of civil aircraft and aeronautics, matters relating to financial stress on safety of operations, consumer protection and environment regulation in civil aviation sector and for matters connected therewith and thereto.

**Permission for commercial air operations**

469. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH :  
SHRI SALIM ANSARI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a discernible rise in the number of applications seeking commercial air operations during the last one year; and
- (b) if so, the names of such applicants who have received Government's nod to start commercial operation in the country and names of those who are yet to receive Government permissions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL) : (a) Yes Sir. The details of the proposals for initial NOC to start Domestic Scheduled Air Transport (Passenger/Regional) Services received during 2012 and 2013 are as under:

Proposals received during 2012:

- (i) Deccan Charters Pvt. Ltd.
- (ii) Zav Airways Pvt. Ltd.

Proposals received during 2013:

- (i) Air Asia (India) Pvt. Ltd.
- (ii) Airone Aviation Services Pvt. Ltd.
- (iii) Zexus Air Services Pvt. Ltd.
- (iv) Freedom Aviation Pvt. Ltd.
- (v) Air Carnival Pvt. Ltd. and