

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will take up the Tamil Nadu issue today. ...*(Interruptions)*... We will take up the fishermen issue today. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Sir, Nido Tania, a student from Arunachal Pradesh was killed in Delhi. ...*(Interruptions)*... Police has not taken any action. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, our demand is that the Government should announce a judicial commission headed by a retired Supreme Court Judge to look into the matter. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House is adjourned till 1200 hours.

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

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARED QUESTIONS

Faulty weather radars on A320 aircrafts

*281. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has received representation from pilots' association belonging to Air India that if the existing weather radars fitted on A320 aircrafts are not replaced they could result in major accidents;

(b) the details of the defect reports filed by pilots pointing out the faulty weather radars;

(c) whether this defect is also costing the airline in terms of money and delays because pilots tend to divert the plane on a circuitous route in order to be extra cautious to avoid clouds; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government to solve this major problem?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) Indian Commercial Pilot Association (ICPA), had raised issues regarding "Unreliable Weather Radar" with the Management of Air India.

(b) The most common defects reported by the pilots were intermittent, unreliable and unserviceable weather Radars, which show no echoes, weak echoes or ground echoes etc.

(c) There have been no diversions due to weather radar defects. In case of a suspected malfunction of Weather radar system in flight, a pilot has to follow the recommended procedure as per the flight manual. Due to redundancy of weather radar system in these classic A320 aircraft, the probability of such occurrence is very minimal.

(d) For issues affecting flight safety, the manufacturer or regulatory authority comes out with advisory circulars and mandatory modifications. Though one radar system is sufficient for safe operation, these aircrafts have two independent radar systems for redundancy and safety. Since there is no safety issue in this case and as there are no such mandatory modifications recommended from manufacturer/DGCA in respect of weather radar, no action is proposed to be taken.

Usages of virtual currencies

*282 DR. CHANDAN MITRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has examined the issues associated with the usages, holding and trading of virtual currencies including bitcoins under the extant legal and regulatory framework of the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by Government in the matter keeping in view the use of these virtual currencies in money laundering, terror financing, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) The Reserve Bank of India is presently examining the issues associated with the usage, holding and trading of Virtual Currencies, including bitcoins, under the extant legal