

Plastic free airports

938. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to make airports in India plastic free;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are such model airports in the country; and
- (d) if so, the names of such airport, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Requirement of pilots and aircraft maintenance engineers

939. SHRI KALPATARU DAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total requirement of pilots, aircraft maintenance engineers as on date and for the next five years;
- (b) how many Indian pilots/aircraft maintenance engineers have been working, at present;
- (c) how many foreign nationals have been given licences and are working in such capacity in the country; and
- (d) the details of Government's plans to meet the present and future deficit of such professionals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (d) This Ministry does not maintain any such data. However, as per Civil Aviation Requirement Section 3 Series C Part II issued by DGCA, Scheduled Operator Permit (SOP) holders are required to employ sufficient number of crew but not less than 3 sets of crew per aircraft. The SOP holders are required to employ

adequate number of Aircraft Maintenance Engineers. The actual requirement of Pilots and Engineers is primarily determined by airlines depending on complexity of operations, types of aircraft in fleet, operational systems. Further, the future requirement also depends on the expansion plan of airlines which is a commercial decision under the ambit of the airlines and cannot be accurately assessed.

Foreign pilots (Captains) are employed under the provision of Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorisation which has been approved by the Government only till 31.12.2016. A total number of 285 foreign Pilots (Captains) are employed by various Aviation companies as on 30th September, 2014 and at present 9 Foreign Aircraft Maintenance Engineers are employed by various Aviation companies.

Fare refund to passengers for flight delays

940. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued directions to no frills carriers to refund fare to passengers for the flights delayed for hours;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the DGCA has also ordered the airlines to refund to the customers the amount charged from them for food and beverages as the rules required the airlines to offer the same free of cost to the passengers on the ground during delays; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Direction was issued on finding violation of Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) by one of the carriers. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) received a complaint regarding the deficient services on a particular flight on 16.06.2014. The scheduled departure time of the flight was 19:05 hrs from Mumbai and arrival at Delhi 21:15 hrs. However, the flight took off at 23:36 hrs with a delay of approx, 04 hrs. 31 mins.

(c) and (d) DGCA initiated an enquiry to find out the reason for delay and improper passenger services. Based on findings and recommendations of the enquiry report, following directions were issued to the carrier: