

Change in the name of Hyderabad International Airport

2520. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government changed the name of Hyderabad International Airport from Rajiv Gandhi Airport to N.T. Rama Rao Airport without consulting the State Government;

(b) if so, whether any representations or protests have been received from MPs and public representatives; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in restoring the name of Rajiv Gandhi Airport at Hyderabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The name of the Domestic side of the Terminal at Hyderabad International Airport, has only been restored as N.T. Rama Rao Domestic Terminal as it was earlier known at Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad. The Hyderabad International Airport will continue in the names of both Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Late Shri N.T. Rama Rao.

International flights from Bhopal and Indore airports

†2521. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken by Government on the proposal of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for operating international flights from Bhopal and Indore and also for providing cargo handling facility in Indore; and

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken on the proposal of the State Government for resuming Bhopal-Delhi flight of Air India from Bhopal and Indore in the morning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Operation of any airline is a commercial decision of that airline and the Government does not interfere in the commercial judgement of the airlines for operations on any route. As per information provided by Air India, the international traffic potential between Bhopal and Indore to any international destination is not large enough to justify commencement of International flights from Bhopal and Indore. Indore Airport is already having functional international cargo facility under the outsourced model.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Air India has introduced morning flight on both Bhopal-Delhi and Bhopal-Mumbai sectors with effect from 16 November, 2014. In addition, Air India also operates an evening flight on Delhi-Bhopal and vv route. The current Air India Schedule to/from Bhopal and Indore to Delhi is as under:

Mumbai-Bhopal-Delhi - AI 633 DEP MUMBAI 0600 ARR/DEP BHOPAL 0735/0815 ARR DELHI 0935 (Daily Flight)

Delhi-Bhopal-Mumbai - AI 634 DEP DELHI 0600 ARR/DEP BHOPAL 0720/0800 ARR MUMBAI 0935 (Daily Flight)

Delhi-Bhopal - AI 437 DEP DELHI 1900 ARR BHOPAL 2020 (Daily Flight)

Bhopal-Delhi - AI 438 DEP BHOPAL 2055 ARR DELHI 2220 (Daily Flight)

Mumbai-Indore-Delhi - AI 635 DEP MUMBAI 0600 ARR/DEP Indore 0715/0750 ARR DELHI 0920 (Daily Flight)

Delhi-Indore-Mumbai - AI 636 DEP DELHI 1800 ARR/DEP Indore 1930/2005 ARR MUMBAI 2125 (Daily Flight)

Surprise checks by DGCA

2522. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided that Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) will continue its spree of surprise checks of airports as well as of all schedule, non-schedule and general aviation companies, foreign airlines and the aviation wings of State Governments;

(b) the number of surveillance checks as part of its oversight activity to ensure strict compliance of safety regulations have been carried out by the DGCA during the year and the result thereof; and

(c) the details of action taken against the erring airlines, if found, in serious violations of the laid down requirement of DGCA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) will continue its spree of surprise checks of airports as well as of all schedule and general aviation companies, foreign airlines and the aviation wings of State Governments.

(b) During the year 2014, a total of 69 surprise heightened surveillance checks were carried out covering scheduled operators/non-scheduled operators/private operators/