

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Separate aviation security force**

*189. PROF M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is considering to raise a separate aviation security force for security at airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Ministry has taken steps to enhance security cover at civilian airports in the wake of security threat after the Pathankot attack and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU PUSAPATI): (a) and (b) To address the issue of creation of Aviation Security Force, a study was conducted in 2011, through a Study Team of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), which *inter-alia* recommended for creation of a dedicated Aviation Security Force. Accordingly, a proposal for creation of Aviation Security Force was drafted, and inter-Ministerial consultations were carried out. However, no decision has been taken for creation of such a force.

(c) The Aviation Security is dynamic in nature, and is reviewed from time to time based on various factors including threat perception. It will not be in public interest to place the details regarding such security measures in the public domain.

Demands of farmers at Budget meeting

*190. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during a recent Budget meeting, farmers' groups sought subsidised loans of ₹ 5 lakh at four per cent interest and higher Minimum Support Price for their crops, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what action Government has taken or proposes to take on the demands of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) As part of the pre-budget consultations for Budget 2016-17, demands were made to improve the lot of farmers, which included-subsidised credit, better irrigation and other inputs, higher support prices, support from Government to promote farm mechanization, dry land farming and the need to strengthen the marketing system. However, there was no specific demand for subsidised loans of ₹ 5 lakh at four per cent interest.