Government of Chhattisgarh on 27.07.2013. Declaration of an airport as International Airport depends upon various factors like traffic potential, demand from airlines for operation of international flights, availability of the facilities like adequate runway length, availability of Customs, Immigration, Health and Animal and Plant Ouarantine services.

The proposal of State Government of Chhattisgarh for declaration of Swami Vivekanand Airport, Raipur as an International Airport was examined and it was observed that the traffic has not picked up at some of the recently declared international airports such as Imphal, Bhubaneswar, etc. Moreover, expected international traffic potential at Raipur Airport is also low and thus, the proposal was not found viable.

(b) VAT is a State subject and decision in this regard is taken by the State Government. Further, Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport service taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-East region. It is however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places including Raipur depending upon the traffic demand, commercial viability and availability of aircraft. As such, airlines are free to operate any where in the country subject to compliance of RDG issued by the Government.

Non-availability of slots to Indian carriers in foreign locations

1680. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Indian Carriers are able to utilise a mere half of the seats operated by foreign carriers to and from India, if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether Federation of Indian Airlines (FIA) has approached to Government regarding non-availability of slots in overseas locations despite having flying rights;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto; and
- (d) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to ensure that domestic carriers get adequate slots?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Sir, as per Summer Schedule, 2016, Indian air

carriers are utilising 263465 seats per week while the foreign air carriers are utilising 465504 seats per week to/from India. A country-wise detail of utilisation of seats by Indian and foreign air carriers is given in Statement (See below).

(b) to (d) Yes Sir. In December, 2015, Federation of Indian Airlines(FIA) has drawn the attention towards the non-availability of commercially and operationally feasible slots for Indian air carriers at Dubai International Airport. The issue of slot contraints at Dubai Airport has been taken up with the Dubai Civil Aviation Authorities by the Government.

Statement

Country-wise operations of Indian and Foreign Carriers as per summer schedule 2016

S1. 1	No. Country	Operation by Indian carriers (seats per week)	Operation by Foreign carriers (seats per week)
1	2	3	4
1.	Afghanistan	1695	3016
2.	Australia	1792	0
3.	Austria	768	0
4.	Bahrain	4326	9971
5.	Bangladesh	4494	9185
6.	Belgium	3946	0
7.	Bhutan	0	4412
8.	Canada	2051	1188
9.	China	1280	7756
10.	Egypt	0	576
11.	Ethiopia	0	9016
12.	Finland	0	891
13.	France	3648	5577
14	Germany	1792	15154
15.	Hongkong	5624	13766
16.	Iran	567	1650

160	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]	Unstarred Questions
1	2	3	4
17.	Iraq	0	1888
18.	Israel	0	1108
19.	Italy	1792	0
20.	Japan	1792	5362
21.	Kazakhstan	756	1271
22.	Kenya	0	2808
23.	Kuwait	5124	8950
24.	Kyrgyzstan	0	567
25.	Malaysia	756	31822
26.	Maldives	2254	1600
27.	Mauritius	0	2682
28.	Myanmar	600	540
29	Nepal	9914	4016
30.	Netherland	4102	2856
31.	Oman	15906	21000
32.	Pakistan	0	1965
33.	Qatar	9282	24658
34.	Russia	540	5628
35.	Saudi Arabia	23491	18445
36.	Seychelles	0	1310
37.	S. Korea	1024	1869
38.	Singapore	14028	33234
39.	Sri Lanka	5992	26736
40.	Switzerland	0	3304
41.	Taiwan	0	921
42.	Tajikistan	0	216
43.	Thailand	15883	20780
44.	Turkey	0	4718
45.	Turkmenistan	0	1730

465504

Total

Theft from baggages of passengers at IGI airport

263465

†1681. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of complaints have been received regarding theft from the baggages of passengers at IGI airport;
- (b) the details of theft of belongings of passengers at cargo terminals and other places of IGI airport in last three years; and
- (c) whether the Ministry is aware about the involvement of security personnel in getting stolen items out of the airport and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Incidents of thefts from the baggage of air passengers have been reported / registered at Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport, Delhi. The number of thefts cases reported/registered at IGI Airport, Delhi during 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 (till June, 2016) were 14, 67, 60 and 16, respectively.

The incidents of theft are a law and order issue, which is a State subject, and Ministry of Civil Aviation do not maintain these data/information. The local Police, which are under the jurisdiction of the concerned State Government, register and investigate such cases. The relevant details/data, including the value of stolen articles, property/articles recovered, persons arrested, charge sheets/FIRs filed, status of cases on such thefts pending in courts, penalty awarded to convicts etc. are maintained by the Local Police authorities.