

[17 August, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

Equity support for IA and AI

1330. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to provide higher equity support for the two public sector airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the equity base of the two airlines is too low given their ambitions and the competition in the sector; and

(d) if so, whether these airlines plan to enhance their equity base?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) The question of increasing the equity base of Air India and Indian Airlines is linked to their aircraft acquisition proposals. Keeping in view the capital intensive nature of the business, the current equity base of the two airlines is not considered adequate.

Services at Delhi and Mumbai airports

1331. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the customer satisfaction level at Delhi and Mumbai Airports is much below the international standards;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what steps Government propose to take or have taken so far to further improve the services at these airports so as to bring them at par with international standards;

(d) whether some other airports like Amritsar would also be developed similarly; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) On the basis of the recent study commissioned by Airports Authority of India (AAI), the Customer Satisfaction Index for Mumbai and Delhi Airports on a comparable basis

of International Air Transport Association (IATA) Global Monitoring Survey based on 18 parameters, Mumbai and Delhi Airports were rated at 2.3 and 2.6, respectively as against World Average of IATA survey of 3.7 (against a scale of 0-5).

(c) To improve the services at the various airports in the country, works are being undertaken under the Airport Initiatives Scheme. Government has also taken up restructuring of airports of Delhi and Mumbai through joint venture route to bring them at par with international standards.

(d) and (e) Upgradation of airports is a dynamic process. At Amritsar airport development works for construction of new terminal building and other infrastructure facilities is being taken-up for which the projected date of completion is March 2005.

Night-landing facility at Hubli airport

1332. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given approval for establishing night-landing facilities at Hubli airport; and

(b) if not, by when it will be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Night landing facilities are already available at Hubli airport.

Regulation of professional bodies

1333. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to introduce amendments to the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949; Company Secretaries Act, 1980 and Cost and Works Accountants Act, 1959, to regulate the professional bodies;

(b) whether Government have received complaints, against the professional bodies during the last three years;