

(b) to (e) Rs. 79.27 crores has been sanctioned for the development of works such as extension and resurfacing of runway for operations of AB-300 type of aircraft, extension and resurfacing of the existing apron, construction of a new link taxi track, a new isolation bay, a new fire station of cat-IX, a new cargo complex and a new car park area besides provision of Cat-IILS and construction of a new boundary wall around the newly acquired land with perimeter road on the inner side have already been completed. Works such as construction of a new technical block cum control tower & other ancillary building for better management of air traffic is in progress and likely to be completed by December, 2004. The work for construction of a new centrally air-conditioned terminal building of 500 passenger capacity is likely to be completed by May, 2005. The delay was caused due to the fact that the work awarded to the earlier contractor had to be rescinded due to unsatisfactory performance.

Airworthiness Check Schedule

2107. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any monitoring agency to check/inspect the level of maintenance of private carriers and to maintain the safety standard of national carriers;

(b) if so, the details of schedules of inspections etc.; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal to provide a better airworthiness check schedule for better safety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has laid down requirements for approval of an organisation for maintenance of aircraft in the country. Such organisations have to meet the requirements in terms of manpower, literature, facility and quality system. These organisations are periodically required to carry out audit/scheduled inspection to ensure that maintenance of aircraft is carried out as per laid down standard. Besides, DGCA also carries out safety audits, surveillance inspections and spot checks at regular intervals. As and when deficiencies are found, corrective measures are taken by DGCA.

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(c) The DGCA ensures, on a continuous basis, strict compliance of safety norms by all air operators, including private operators by way of safety audits. Besides, spot checks on maintenance activities are also carried out by the DGCA. DGCA also keeps updating the Civil Aviation Requirements/Circulars to strengthen aviation safety aspect. To provide better airworthiness schedule for enhancement of air safety aspect, Government is running two international training programmes for the officials of DGCA and airlines *viz.* Co-operative Development of Operational Safety & Continuing Airworthiness Programme (COSCAP) and European Union-India-Training Programme.

Investigation against Jet Airways

2108. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 103 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th July, 2004 and State:

(a) whether the investigation pertaining to Jet Airways regarding alleged legality and status of ownership rights, sources of funding the airlines inspite of heavy losses and financial bungling has been concluded;

(b) if so, the outcome of the findings of the investigation; and

(c) the action taken by Government against the airlines based on the above findings, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The matter is under examination of the Government.

Multiple Designated Carrier Status

2109. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently some initiatives have been taken to prepare an open sky policy that would usher in greater air connectivity between India and the Asian countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof specially the steps taken to ask the Asian nations to grant India the multiple designated carrier status and other related reciprocal rights?