

**Sighting of a drone over IGI airport**

†338. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that flight operation were stalled for more than 40 minutes after the spotting of a drone at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport in Delhi on 20th August, 2017;

(b) the system in place for grounding the drones and initiating action against flying of drones in the restricted areas;

(c) whether action has been taken against the operation of the said drone; if so the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) No Sir. The flight operations were not stalled after sighting of the drone. The flight operations were suspended only for Runway 27, as the drone was reported in the approach path of Runway 27. However, normal flight operations continued at Runway 28 & 29.

(b) to (d) There is no system in place by Ministry of Civil Aviation for grounding drones flying in the restricted areas.

**High cancellation charges on air tickets**

339. SHRI RANVIJAY SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cancellation charges of air tickets are very high;

(b) if so, whether Air India is planning to reduce cancellation charges on air tickets; and

(c) whether any directives will be given to private airlines to reduce their cancellation charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (c) As per the prevailing regulations, airlines are free to establish reasonable charges/fees for the services being offered by them which include charges for cancellation of pre-booked tickets also. It has been observed that airlines

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

have made the cancellation charge time sensitive. The cancellation charges vary depending upon class of tickets *i.e.* economy and business, fare level and time before departure. As regard the same are not regulated by the Government under the provision of Sub-Rule (1) of Rule 135, Aircraft Rules 1937, airlines are required to fix reasonable tariff having regard to all relevant factors, including the cost of operation, characteristics of service, reasonable profit and the generally prevailing tariff. Air fare so established by the airlines is required to be published on their respective website under the provision of Sub Rule (2) of Rule 135, Aircraft Rules 1937.

Under the provision of Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR), Section - 3, Series M, Part - II titled "Refund of Airline Tickets to Passengers of Public Transport Undertakings", under no circumstances, the airline shall levy cancellation charges more than the basic fare plus fuel surcharge.

#### **Reduction of Carbon emission at airports**

340. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to reduce the Carbon emission by placing solar panels at the airports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, airport-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. solar panels have been installed at various airports regulated by Airports Authority of India and private agencies, for reducing carbon emission. The details of such airports are given in Statement.

#### *Statement*

##### *Details of the Airports where the solar panels have been installed*

Sl. No.	Airport	Capacity in KWp
1.	Ahmedabad	700
2.	Allahabad	300
3.	Amristar	400
4.	Bagdogra	50
5.	Bhopal	100
6.	Bhubaneswar	100