

Lucknow and Guwahati in the month of September, 2018 for putting in place the system for “Playing Pre-recorded Music” .

(b) 02 agencies, each at Chennai, Goa and Lucknow airports and 03 agencies, each at Ahmedabad and Kolkata airports submitted their bids. However, the successful bidders did not come forward and withdrew their bids at Chennai, Goa, Ahmedabad and Kolkata airports thereby resulting in cancellation of the tenders. Tender at Lucknow airport has also not materialized and. the agency which submitted its bid at Guwahati Airport has also withdrawn the same subsequently.

(c) No timelines has been fixed for operationalization of the above system.

Huge losses due to aviation pacts with foreign airlines

1288. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that aviation pacts with foreign airlines resulted in huge losses to the national carrier;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that every time the foreign carriers obtained more points of call, it resulted in the loss to the Indian carrier as India got only less calls; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (d) Aviation pacts (Air Services Agreements) are not done with foreign airlines, but are entered into between Governments. The Government of India enters into negotiations with foreign governments to formalise such aviation pacts so as to enhance access and seat capacity, keeping in mind the short to medium term requirements of the international air travel market to and from India. Aviation pacts in the past have been done to meet requirements of improved air connectivity to and from India. Air India's losses, or those of any airline for that matter, result from a mismatch in costs *vis-a-vis* revenues. Grant of any additional point in India to a foreign carrier is to be negotiated on case to case basis. Points of call are determined between two countries as per Air Services Agreements. India is a large country and therefore other countries while negotiating, demand more points of call. Points of call in such cases are determined by taking into account the requirements of travelling public, tourism, commerce and trade etc. It is correct to state that excessive number of points of call in India may affect the development of hubs within the country.