

(c) A solution from M/s Boeing, the manufacturer and certification of the said solution by Federal Aviation Administration, is awaited in DGCA to consider the safe return of the aircraft to service.

Rise in air passenger traffic

1908. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that airlines have posted 3 per cent rise in passenger traffic in May, 2019;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India has been amongst the fastest growing aviation markets in the world and saw double digit growth for more than four years until December, 2018;

(c) whether it is also a fact that induction of new aircrafts and discounts offered by the airlines have marginally lifted the passenger traffic; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) During May, 2019, passengers carried by Scheduled Domestic Airlines have witnessed a growth of 3.4% as compared to May, 2018.

(b) The country's domestic aviation market is one of the fastest growing in the world and saw double digit growth for more than four years in a row. According to International Air Transport Association (IATA) Report, for December, 2018, the Indian domestic passenger market, in terms of Revenue Passenger Kilometers (RPK), has posted the fastest full year growth for the fourth year in a row (18.6%), followed by China (11.7%).

The domestic air traffic has increased significantly during the last four years. The growth rate witnessed for domestic passengers during the last four years were 21.5%, 21.5%, 18.3% and 13.1% respectively during 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19. Three year Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) for domestic passengers handled at all Indian Airports taken together is 17.6%.

(c) and (d) The passenger traffic has increased because of various factors and these include, *inter alia*, induction of new aircraft and discounts offered by the airlines.