

- (b) the number of Indians Air India has been able to bring back under Vande Bharat Mission and lift foreigners from India to their respective countries;
- (c) the revenue that Air India has generated through this Mission;
- (d) whether it is a fact that social distancing has not been followed in Vande Bharat flights; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Vande Bharat Mission consists of special repatriation flights operated by Indian carriers and chartered flights operated by both Indian and foreign carriers. As on 31.08.2020, the total number of inbound and outbound special repatriation flights undertaken by the Air India group was 4505. Out of a total of about 11 lakh Indian nationals repatriated till 31.08.2020, about 4 lakh passengers were carried by Air India group into India. In addition, Air India group also carried about 1.9 lakh outbound passengers (including foreigners) to foreign destinations from India.

(c) The revenue generated by Air India group from Vande Bharat flights upto 31.08.2020 is ₹ 2556.60 crore.

(d) and (e) Air India/Air India Express have followed all guidelines issued by Government of India in all passenger service processes like Aarogya Setu check, body temperature scanning, social distancing in check-in, boarding, de-boarding, baggage delivery etc. Air India/Air India Express have also provided mask, visor and sanitizer to all its passengers and PPE kit to middle seat passengers.

Air India plane crash at Kozhikode, Kerala

323. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of passengers and crew died and injured in the aircraft crash involving Air India recently at Kozhikode;
- (b) whether the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder were recovered from the crash site, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any enquiry has been ordered, if so, the details thereof;

- (d) by what time, the enquiry report is expected; and
- (e) whether any lesson learnt from the 2010 Mangalore crash, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) M/s Air India Express Ltd aircraft B-737 VT-AXH was involved in an accident on 07.08.2020 at Kozhikode airport. Out of the total of 190 persons on board the aircraft, 21 persons (including the 2 pilots) succumbed to the injuries sustained in the accident. As on 14.09.2020, there are five (5) persons who are still receiving medical attention at hospitals.

(b) The Flight Data Recorder (FDR) and Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR) have been recovered from the crash site.

(c) and (d) The Director General, Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) under Rule 11 of the Aircraft (Investigation of Accidents and Incidents) Rules, 2017 has appointed an Investigator-in-Charge assisted by other Investigators to inquire into the circumstances of the Air India Express crash at Kozhikode Airport on 7th August, 2020 by order dated 13.08.2020 and submit the report to AAIB preferably within five months from the date of order. The Investigator-in-Charge will determine the probable cause and contributory factors leading to this accident.

(e) The salient steps taken by DGCA based on the outcome of the investigation of 2010 Mangalore crash include:—

- (i) Mandatory provision of RESA of dimension 240 meters by 90 meters and its periodic maintenance.
- (ii) Emphasis on regular maintenance of the runway strip to prevent the soil erosion.
- (iii) Mandatory friction testing at regular intervals.
- (iv) Deployment of RIV (rapid intervention vehicle) at airports situated in difficult terrain.
- (v) Provision for Window of Circadian low while calculating the Flight duty period has been introduced.
- (vi) In order to manage flight crew fatigue, provision for the controlled rest in seat during the flight with a flight duration of more than three hours has been introduced.

- (vii) Instructions have been issued for the Pilot Monitoring to identify the subtle incapacitation of the Pilot flying and procedure for taking over of the flight controls.
- (viii) For enhancing the operational safety, instructions have been issued for encouraging crew to go-around if for any reason, the approach is unstabilised and same is non-punitive.
- (ix) Instructions have been issued for all the airline operators to establish the tail wind and cross wind limitations based on the aircraft manufacturer guidance taking into consideration the runway surface conditions and weather conditions.

Data on evacuation under Vande Bharat Mission

324. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons who have been evacuated under Vande Bharat Mission; and
- (b) whether Government has any data regarding the number of persons still to be evacuated and till when, the Vande Bharat flight to be continued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Vande Bharat Mission consists of special repatriation flights operated by Indian carriers and chartered flights operated by both Indian and foreign carriers. As per information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), till 31.08.2020, more than 11 lakh Indians (excluding land border crossings) have returned to India under the Vande Bharat Mission.

The number of persons awaiting repatriation is dynamic and the number of special repatriation flights is planned accordingly. As India enters into Air Bubble arrangements with different countries, the Vande Bharat Mission gets subsumed into this new arrangement.

Funds sought by airline operators

325. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed the losses accrued by the Civil Aviation sector in the country due to the imposition of the lockdown leading to no flight operations and the details thereof;