

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO : 104  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018)**

**MID-AIR COLLISION AT THE BORDER OF INDIA AND BANGLADESH**

\*104. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is a fact that two private airlines came too close for comfort before averting a mid-air collision at the border air space of India and Bangladesh recently;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the collision was averted after the Air Traffic Control in Kolkata instructed one plane to move away from the other aircraft that had come at the same level;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that many such incidents had been reported in the past; and
- (d) if so, the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Suresh Prabhu)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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Statement referred in reply to Part (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Starred Ques. No. 104 regarding "Mid-air collision at the border of India and Bangladesh" to be answered on 19.12.2018.

(a) & (b) On 31.10.2018, two private airline flights were on a reciprocal track, which could have led to the breach of separation while flying in Bangladesh airspace. However timely corrective action taken by Air Traffic Controller in Kolkata avoided emerging situation.

(c) Till date, 9 such incidents have been reported to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in 2017 and 2018, in this region.

(d) Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) was approached by Airports Authority of India (AAI) for conversion of various bi-directional ATS routes passing through Bangladesh airspace connecting Kolkatta, into pairs of uni-directional routes (inbound and outbound). In March 2018, CAAB accepted to bifurcate Guwahati-Agartala ATS route. Unidirectional route (R472) in that sector has been established and implemented since March 2018. Similar proposals for conventional and now Performance Based Navigation (PBN) routes between Kolkata and Dhaka with further connectivity to Guwahati have been declined by the CAAB.

AAI holds monthly ROC meetings to ensure situational awareness amongst the aviation stakeholders.

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