

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 975  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018)

**HARASSMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AT AIRPORTS**

975. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR

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

- (a) how many complaints have been received by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) from persons with disabilities regarding harassment at airports and their status;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the BCAS regards passengers with disabilities as a higher security risk;
- (c) whether the BCAS has tested millimetre wave technology for Indian conditions, as a replacement for present scanners, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) what steps have been taken by Government to ensure that persons with disabilities are not harassed at airports while security checking?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): During the year, 2018, no complaint has been received by Bureau of Civil Aviation Security(BCAS). However, the representations received in the past in the matter of the problems faced by the physically challenged persons at airports were considered by Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security(BCAS), the regulatory authority for Civil Aviation Security in the country. Upon due consideration of the issues related to screening of physically challenged persons at airports, BCAS, after consultation with the stakeholders concerned, issued suitable amendments in October, 2017 to the Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for Screening of Passengers with Special Needs and Medical conditions. The said SoP and the related amendments are available on the website of BCAS (<http://www.bcasindia.nic.in/law/inform.html>).

(b): No, Sir.

(c): No, Sir. However, a trial run test of whole body scanners was conducted at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport for performance evaluation from security point of view. The trial run was made optional for passengers. The full-body scanner works on the Millimeter Wave (MM) Technology and has privacy filters. No full-body scanner is presently operational at the IGI Airport.

(d): The SoP issued by BCAS which is referred to in the reply to Part (a) above, takes care of the needs of passengers with disabilities.

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