

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 334
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6th February 2023)

SECURITY AND SAFETY LAPSES OF AIR PASSENGERS

334. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA

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

- (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a number of security and safety lapses of air passengers recently; and
- (b) if so, the measure being taken to ensure that air travel is safe and secure and the airlines comply with the regulations specified under Civil Aviation Requirement?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) and (b) The security and safety of air passengers is ensured through an established security architecture and systematic safety oversight process in place which is a continuing process. The compliance of Rules and Civil Aviation Requirements are monitored through an Annual Surveillance Plan (ASP) which inter-alia includes surveillances, spot check and regulatory audits.

In addition, special audits are also carried out as per the risk perceived. Findings of audits, surveillances and spot checks are followed up with the concerned operator for compliance. After due verification only observations are closed.

The compliance of the action taken by the operator is verified during the next audit/surveillance. In case of any violations/non-compliance to regulations detected during audit/surveillance, enforcement action including financial penalty is imposed by the DGCA.

Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), the security regulator has taken the following measures for secure air operations:

- (i) Compulsory screening of passengers and their hand baggage during Pre-embarkation Security Check (PESC) by ASG/ APSU.
- (ii) Screening of registered baggage / cargo.
- (iii) Time to time SLPC by Airlines (10 % daily and 100% during the time of Security Alert)
- (iv) FIR registration against the passengers found violating aviation security norms.
- (v) Show Cause Notices to stakeholders, if any violation is found.
- (vi) Monitoring of implementation of norms through regular Security Audits/

Inspections.

(vii) Alertness of stakeholders is checked through Overt/ Covert Tests.

(viii) Preparedness of stakeholders is checked through Mock Exercises on approved Contingency Plans from time to time.

(ix) After noticing and verifying the security violations committed by Air Asia, SpiceJet and M/s Bird Worldwide Flight Services (India) Pvt. Ltd., their security programmes were suspended temporarily for certain specified periods.
