

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 112
(To be answered on the 2nd February 2017)**

NEAR MISS AIR INCIDENTS

112. **SHRI V. PANNEERSELVAM
SHRI C.N. JAYADEVAN
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB
PROF PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether there has been a steady increase in the incidents of near misses and other mishaps highlighting the precarious nature of aviation safety in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of such incidents happened during the last three years, year-wise;
- (c) whether the enquiry has been conducted to fix the responsibility for such increase in the incidents of misses and mishaps and if so, the details thereof and measures being taken to improve the infrastructure of Air Traffic Control (ATC) to check such mishaps;
- (d) whether the Government has formed a committee under Lalit Gupta to suggest measures for air safety;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the recommendations made by the said committee and the present status of the recommendations; and
- (f) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure safety of air passengers?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

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- (a) No Madam, There has not been a steady increase in the incidents of near misses and other mishaps.
- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above
- (c) All the incidents are investigated by Airprox Investigation Board constituted by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and these investigations are reviewed at DGCA for their completeness and processed for implementation of recommendations. Details of measures taken are given in

Annexure-I. The details of measures taken by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to improve the infrastructure of Air Traffic control (ATC) to check such mishaps are given in Annexure-II.

(d) & (e) No Madam, No such Committee has been constituted by the Government to look into the issue of near miss incidents.

(f) Safety measures taken by DGCA are given in Annexure-I.

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Following Safety Measures are taken by DGCA:

- ATCO's and Pilot proficiency checks are being carried out regularly.
- ATC services are being modernized to include conflict warning in the system to assist ATCO's.
- Coordination procedures of handing over from one unit to another have been laid out. Coordination of handing over traffic to adjoining FIR has been worked out & any deviation is being pointed out to the concerned units for taking corrective action.
- Whenever required, corrective training is being given to Pilots and Air Traffic Controller, and training procedures amended.
- Controllers are given training on ATC simulator at major stations and sensitized on the subject.
- Implementation of Safety Management System at airports to mitigate the risk of accident/ incident.
- Implementation of flexible use of airspace which will reduce traffic congestion in the airspace.
- Airlines have been directed to avoid use of similar / confusing call signs.
- One separate Directorate of Air Space and Air traffic Management in DGCA has been created in DGCA for better surveillance and regulatory functions in Air traffic Management (ATM).
- Case studies of Airprox /ATC incidents are discussed and analysed to avoid recurrence of such incidents.
- AAI had issued an Air traffic management circular on confusing call-signs, which is now incorporated in the ATS Manual Part-1 2015 4th Edition.

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Details of measures taken by AAI to improve the infrastructure of Air Traffic control (ATC) to check such mishaps are as given below:

- Advanced ATM Automation Systems have been implemented at 38 airports in addition to six Metro airports at Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru providing the controllers with advanced Safety nets, tools and safety features for enhancing safety and efficiency.
- AAI has installed 43 radars and 21 ADS-B across India for improved surveillance on movement of aircraft in continental airspace. Multiple radars/ADS-B data have been integrated at various airports/ ATC Centers which provides enhanced overlapping radar coverage enabling controllers to continuously see aircraft on their display.
- Eight number of Advance Surface Movement Guidance and Control System (A-SMGCS) are already operational at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Lucknow and Jaipur Airports and are under installation at Guwahati, Ahmedabad and Amritsar. A-SMGCS helps the air traffic controllers for better situational awareness of traffic on ground at the airport and helps them in prevention of any mishap at the airport.
- Automatic Dependent Surveillance – Contract (ADS-C) have been provided at Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Delhi for surveillance on aircraft flying over oceanic/remote airspace which helps ATCs in maintaining better situational awareness of traffic and prevention of conflict situations. Similarly Controller Pilot Data Link Communication (CPDLC) have been provided at these four airports for having digital communication with aircraft flying over oceanic/remote airspace.
- Data Link Communication System that helps in eliminating human errors and ensures enhanced safety and efficiency of operations are being used for issuing pre-departure clearance to aircraft via Data Link at 6 airports namely Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bangalore.
- Air Traffic Flow Management System has been introduced on trial basis to balance demand and capacity of air traffic.
- ATC Simulator have been provided at seven ATC centers (Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad) which are being used for imparting training to ATCs on traffic conflict management, emergency and unusual occurrence handlings.
- To enhance safety of aircraft operations, the upper airspace harmonization has been implemented at Chennai and Kolkata. Upper airspace harmonization of Delhi and Mumbai is planned.
- Flexible use of airspace between civil and Defence airspace is introduced to reduce traffic congestion in the Indian airspace.