

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 9
(To be answered on the 2nd February 2023)**

IMPACT OF 5G MOBILE SERVICE IN AIRCRAFT NAVIGATION SYSTEM

9. MS. RAMYA HARIDAS

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the concerns expressed by the global airlines upon rollout of 5G mobile services in the USA that could potentially interfere with the aircraft navigation system and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the deployment of 5G mobile services has led to the cancellation of flights between India and USA;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is in consultation with the US Aviation Authorities to assess the adverse impact of 5G mobile services on the safety of airlines and passengers and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

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

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of the concerns expressed by airlines and manufacturer of aircraft upon the rollout of 5G mobile services in the USA and its potential interference with the aircraft radio altimeters.

A total of 10 flights of Air India between India and United State of America (USA) were cancelled due to the deployment of 5G mobile services in USA. The details of which are as under:

- (i) 19th January 2022 - Sector: Mumbai to Newark to Mumbai and Delhi to Chicago to Hyderabad.
- (ii) 20th January 2022 - Sector: Delhi to Newark to Delhi, Delhi to Chicago to Delhi and Delhi to San Francisco to Delhi.

(d) In March 2020, the United States Federal Communication Commission (FCC) adopted final rules for launching 5G services in the USA in C-band (3.7-3.98 GHz) in December 2021 / January 2022. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of USA determined that the above launch would likely cause harmful interference to radar (radio) altimeters installed on aircraft and issued an Airworthiness Directive (AD) in December 2021 which prohibits certain operations when these aircraft are operated in the 5G C-band wireless broadband signal environment in the USA. The

AD has been mandated by DGCA for adherence by Indian operators while operating to the USA. The above AD also provides an Alternate Means of Compliance (AMOC) which has been approved by FAA and accepted by DGCA for Indian fleet.

Currently, Air India is operating to the USA with their Boeing B777 and B787 aircraft. The Air India fleet is in compliance with the above AD and the AMOC.

In addition, FAA has also issued another Airworthiness Directive or Boeing 787 fleet in likelihood of interference with 5G signals which has also been mandated by DGCA and complied by Air India on its fleet.
