GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. : 55 (To be answered on the 28th November 2024)

BOMB THREATS TO FLIGHTS

DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED ***55.** SHRI ANTO ANTONY

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has identified primary causes or sources of the recent bomb threats to multiple flights and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the counter-terrorism and emergency response measures are currently in place to ensure the safety of passengers and continuity of flight operations;
- (c) whether the Government is enhancing coordination with international security agencies to address such threats, particularly to strengthen intelligence-sharing mechanisms and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the regulatory measures or monitoring systems being considered to detect and deter future threats, including those propagated via social media and other digital platforms?

ANSWER

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION नागर विमानन मंत्री

(Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 55 FOR REPLY ON 28.11.2024 REGARDING BOMB THREATS TO FLIGHTS ASKED BY DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED AND SHRI ANTO ANTONY

- (a): In recent bomb threats to various flights, the primary sources of threat messages were social media ('X'), emails, phone calls and oral.
- (b): In order to deal with various security contingencies and to ensure the safety of passengers & continuity of flight operations, there are established contingency plans on Bomb Threat, Anti-Hijacking and Counter Terrorism.
- (c): India has bilateral agreements/MoUs with some countries for Cooperation in Civil Aviation Security, Deployment of In-Flight Security Officers and Sharing of Sensitive Information.
- (d): In the background of recent bomb threats to multiple flights, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), aviation security regulator in the country, has issued guidelines for objective assessment of threat. The indicative factor have helped BTAC in decision-making. Also, virtual assembly of BTAC through pre-generated video link has been set up. These have expedited BTAC response time. Further, advisories for compulsory 10% of secondary ladder point check-in for all flights, strict monitoring of non-scheduled flight operations, enhanced security measures and surveillance at cargo terminals were issued. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) has also issued detailed advisory on the responsibilities of social media intermediaries and consequential action, in case of failure, under various provision of IT Act.
