GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION Lok Sabha UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2345 (TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 13th March 2025)

SECURITY THREAT MASSAGES TO AIRLINES

2345. DR. SHASHI THAROOR Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

(a) the details of threats directed at airlines received from January 2024 to till date, month-wise;

(b) the number of flights delayed due to security threats directed at airlines received from January 2025 to till date, month-wise;

(c) whether the Government has taken measures to filter threatening calls and messages more efficiently and to make punishment more stringent, including longer sentences and putting the offenders on no-fly lists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (d): As per Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), aviation security regulator in the country, a total of 745 hoax bomb threats have been received by Airline Operators from January 2024 till 04.03.2025. The details of such threat messages received by airlines is attached as Annexure-A. A total of 04 flights were delayed due to security threat directed at airlines from January 2025 to 04.03.2025. Details are attached at Annexure-B. BCAS has mandated robust protocols for handling such threats in coordination with Law Enforcement Agencies, Central Security Agencies, CISF and stakeholders, leading to minimal impact on flight operations. Bomb Threat Contingency Plan (BTCP), a detailed contingency plan, is in place to handle such threats. As a part of BTCP, every airport has a designated Bomb Threat Assessment Committee (BTAC) which analyses the threat and takes action. In order to deal with hoax bomb threats, BCAS has issued advisories to all the Civil Aviation stakeholders in the country to ensure streamlined security measures and to prevent any unlawful interference with civil aviation. Aircraft (Security) Amendment Rules, 2024 has been published in the Gazette of India on 09.12.2024 to put hoax bomb threat messengers in No Fly List.

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Annexure-A

| S. No. | Month | Threats received by Airlines |
|-------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2024 | | |
| 1 | January | 8 |
| 2 | February | 7 |
| 3 | March | 2 |
| 4 | April | 0 |
| 5 | May | 5 |
| 6 | June | 21 |
| 7 | July | 2 |
| 8 | August | 12 |
| 9 | September | 8 |
| 10 | October | 615 |
| 11 | November | 45 |
| 12 | December | 3 |
| Total | | 728 |
| 2025 | | |
| 13. | January | 6 |
| 14 | February | 9 |
| 15 | March (upto 04.03.2025) | 2 |
| | Total | 17 |
| Grand Total | | 745 |

<u>Annexure-B</u>

| S. No. | Month | No. of flights delayed |
|-----------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | January | 0 |
| 2 | February | 3 |
| 3 | March (up to 04.03.2025) | 1 |
| Total | | 4 |