GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION **LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 5318 (To be answered on the 3rd April 2025)

DIGI YATRA FACILITY

5318. SHRI M K RAGHAVAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that a large number of passengers are unable to use the Digi Yatra facility due to mismatch of singleletter surnames/initials recorded in Aadhaar and other official identity documents but expanded names are required during flight ticket booking through third party websites and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to standardize name formats between official identities and flight ticket booking platforms to prevent such discrepancies in the future and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any third-party entity has been involved in managing the data collected through Digi Yatra;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the measures taken to safeguard passengers data under the Digi Yatra initiative; and
- (e) whether the Government would incorporate passport as an identity document for Digi Yatra facility in domestic travel and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) to (e): There have been certain grievances reported regarding inability to use the Digi Yatra facility due to name mismatch in Aadhaar-based Digi Yatra identity credentials and the name given during booking of the air ticket. To prevent such discrepancies, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued Aeronautical Information Circular No. 09/2022 issued by DGCA on 18.04.2022, which provides that Digi Yatra credentials can be created by the passenger with a Government of India Identity that is possible to be validated digitally. These include Aadhaar, passports and e-passports. Presently, Digi Yatra supports passengers only with Aadhaar.

The Digi Yatra Central Ecosystem (DYCE) is built on the fundamental tenets of privacy by design/default and there is no central storage of passenger's Personally Identifiable Information (PII) data thereby mitigating the data loss, theft and leakage issues. Hence, no data is collected through Digi Yatra. All the passenger data is encrypted and stored in the passenger's smartphone wallet and shared only for a limited time duration with the origin airport where passenger ID needs to be validated. The data is purged from the system within 24 hours of the departure of the flight.
