GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.: 3042

(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18th December 2025)

INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES IN AIR INDIA CRASH

3042. SHRI MANISH TEWARI Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of recent international media reports alleging friction, lack of coordination and possible procedural lapses between Indian and U.S. agencies engaged in the investigation of the recent Air India crash that caused over 250 fatalities and if so, the details thereof:
- (b) whether the Government would furnish the chain of custody, access protocols and current status of the Flight Data Recorder (FDR) and Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR) and the procedure followed during their transfer, examination and evaluation by domestic and foreign investigators and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to conduct an independent, time-bound review of the investigation process to ensure transparency, eliminate conflict of interest, uphold global aviation-safety standards and restore public confidence; 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): Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) is conducting investigation as per the standards of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) which may have participation from the other states such as State of Manufacturer, State of Design, State of Registry, State of operator and any State which on request provides information, facilities or experts.;
- (b): Rear Enhanced Airborne Flight Recorder (EAFR) and front EAFR were recovered on 13.06.2025 and 16.06.2025 respectively. They were transferred to AAIB, Delhi on 24.06.2025 with all security protocols in vogue. Both EAFRs (Combined FDR & CVR, Front and Rear) are in custody of AAIB since its retrieval from crash site under constant security and CCTV surveillance.;
- (c) & (d): AAIB was established as an independent body in July, 2012, to ensure functional autonomy and independence in conduct of investigations in accordance with the Convention on International Civil Aviation. Further, AAIB conducts investigation as per Aircraft (Investigation of Accidents and Incidents) Rules, 2025.
