

Hijack of Indian Airlines Plane

952. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH
(DEORIA):
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:
SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI B. DEVARAJAN:
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI PARASRAM
BHARDWAJ:
SHRI PREM CHAND RAM:
SHRI RAM CHANDRA
GHANGARE:
SHRI SUBRATA
MUKHERJEE:
DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an Indian Airlines plane was recently hijacked at Lucknow;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the investigations made into it; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes sir.

(b) The hijacker was carrying a small cloth bag in which he had kept his lunch box. He entwined white thread around two wooden pieces turning them in the form of table tennis balls and kept them inside the lunch box. These ball like objects were used later by him to project the threat of the bomb.

(c) The hijacker has been arrested and a criminal case registered against him by the Police.

National Food Processing Policy

953. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to formulate any national Food processing Policy;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the policy is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The policy will address issues relating to accelerated growth and development of Food Processing Industries with a view to augment employment opportunities and incomes, both in rural and urban areas, reduce post-harvest losses, establish productive linkages between industry and farmers, increase exports of processed foods and generally support the productive efforts of agriculture and allied activities. Action has been initiated for formulating the policy.

[Translation]

Reaction in Bangladesh on Ayodhya Developments

954. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI KRIP CHALIHA:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent communal flare up in Bangladesh resulting in large scale attack on minority communities in the wake of Ayodhya developments;