

1	2	3
16.	Tamil Nadu (including Chennai & Pondicherry (U.T.))	1245503
17.	U.P.	104705
18.	West Bengal (including Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Calcutta)	71392
19.	Delhi	102576
Total		1279894

Mid Air Disaster

*90. SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a major mid air disaster was averted over Delhi skies during January, 1997, when an Indian Airlines plane carrying him among other passengers from Bombay came dangerously close to an Air India aircraft;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to ensure non-recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) On 4.1.97 the Commander of Indian Airlines flight IC-168 reported a miss with an Air India flight AI-308.

(b) to (d) The investigation into the incident conducted by Directorate General of Civil Aviation has revealed that Air India aircraft had overtaken the Indian Airlines aircraft at 60 NM (Nautical Miles) before Delhi, maintaining a vertical separation of about 3000 ft and hence there was no risk of collision between the two aircraft.

(e) DGCA has advised Airports Authority of India (AAI) to take the following measures :-

(i) Air Traffic Controllers should strictly follow the laid down ATC procedures and instructions.

(ii) Standard phraseology should be used while giving instructions to aircraft.

(iii) Frequent proficiency monitoring of ATC staff in association with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation officers should be carried out.

(iv) Modernisation of Air Traffic Services of Bombay and Delhi airports should be made operational expeditiously.

(v) Proper maintenance of navigational communication and landing facilities should be ensured.

Tata-Singapore Airlines Joint Venture

*91. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tata-Singapore Airlines joint venture has recently been approved by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) contrary to the declared Government's policy decision of not allowing foreign airlines equity participation in Indian domestic airlines sector;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof and the decision taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether representation have also been received in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) the impact of induction of such a large capacity Tata-Singapore Airlines venture on Indian domestic Airlines; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to safeguard the interests of domestic airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) The Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) had recommended the joint venture proposal of Tata-Singapore Airlines. Since the modalities for permitting foreign equity and NRI equity participation in the domestic air transport services are under formulation, the Government has decided to re-examine the proposal after the said modalities are formulated.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. It has been represented that the proposal should not be approved as it would adversely affect the interests of the existing domestic air operators in general and national carriers in particular.

(e) It is difficult to make any categorical assessment of likely impact on Indian domestic airlines at this stage. However, a report by Indian Airlines speaks of sickness as a result of possible over capacity.

(f) Government is conscious to safeguard the interests of the domestic airlines and appropriate steps would be taken whenever required.

Employment Casual Employees in Railways

*92. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the rules followed while employing casual employees in his Ministry;

(b) whether these rules have been violated during the last three years; and