

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5094  
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2000  
AIR INDIA PILOTS  
RAVI PRAKASH VERMA

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item under caption `Air India Pilots just love to Blackmail` appearing in the `Indian Express` dated March 30, 2000;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to tackle this situation in future?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. Flight No. AI 700 flying between Dubai and Cochin on Feb.14, 2000 made an unscheduled landing at Mumbai due to medical emergency of one of the passengers. In view of the airplane having landed at Mumbai which is Air India's base, the first officer refused to operate the flight to Cochin by taking recourse to clause 4.2 of DGCA circular No.A/C 28 of 1992 on Flight and Duty Time Limitation for flying crew which states that `The Air Carrier shall give each flight crew upon return to base from any flight or series of flight, a rest period that is atleast twice the total number of hours of his flight time while he was away from the base`.

Air India flight No. AI 129 was cancelled on account of Commanders who were scheduled for flight, falling sick at last minute and due to shortage of captains for replacement at short notice.

(c): The Management has had a constructive dialogue with the Pilots.