

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5128
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2000
SECURITY AT AIRPORTS
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;RAMESH CHAND TOMAR;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned `Airport Security fails self-test` as reported in the Statesman dated February 2, 2000;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of Government thereon;
- (d) whether surprise checks would be conducted at all the airports to test check the security there;
- (e) if so, whether all the airports have been provided with modern equipment to check bags and baggages; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The news-item mainly refers to certain security lapses at Ranchi airport.

(c) Matter has been taken up with the State Government of Bihar for beefing up security at the airport. Besides, meanwhile CISF has been deployed in place of State Police, for security duties at Ranchi airport in addition to certain other airports. The other measures taken to beef up security at the airports are as under:

i)Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force(CISF) in place of State Police for security duties at the operational airports in a phased manner. The CISF has already taken over the security duties at Patna, Jaipur, Guwahati, Vadodara, Port Blair, Rajkot, Ranchi, Agartala, Bhopal, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad.

ii)Frisking of passengers and hand baggage at the time of entry into sterile area has been tightened. Ladder-point secondary frisking has been introduced.

iii)Strict control on access to the airports is being ensured by comprehensive review of Photo Identity Cards to restrict the number of pass-holders.

iv)Deployment of Sky Marshals on flights at random basis as an added safety precaution.

v)Raising of the perimeter wall to the prescribed height at all the operational airports.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) & (f) New coloured X-Ray Baggage Inspection Machines are being installed in place of old machines at the airports. Modernisation and upgradation of other security related equipment at the airports is being done in a phased manner.