

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6037

ANSWERED ON:04.05.2000

SECURITY AT AIRPORTS

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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently got a survey conducted at airports in the country and found lacuna in the security system as reported in the Hindustan Times dated April 4, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether machines and equipments installed at various airports have been found unreliable and there is urgent need to install latest machines;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) other stringent steps the Government propose to take to provide security including latest machines at airports?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a) & (b) No such news item could be seen in Hindustan Times dated 4.4.2000. However, survey of 22 airports has been conducted jointly by Central Industrial Security Force(CISF), Bureau of Civil Aviation Security(BCAS)and Airports Authority of India (AAI) in order to assess the requirements for deployment of CISF in place of State Police personnel for security related functions at these airports.

(c) No, Sir. However, upgradation of equipment installed at the airports is a continuing process.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) After the incident of hijacking of IC-814, following measures have been taken to further strengthen security at the airports:

i)Deployment of CISF in place of State Police for security related 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.

vi)Replacement of old X-Ray machines and installation of new colour X-Ray machines wherever necessary so as to ensure that at least two X-Ray machines are available at every point.

vii)Modernisation and upgradation of security related technological set up at the airports is being done in a phased manner.