

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2204
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2002
AIR ACCIDENT DUE TO IGNORANCE OF ENGLISH
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;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 `Pilots ignorance of English leads to crashes` appearing in the Statesman dated July 7, 2002;
- (b) if so, whether inadequate knowledge of English of Kazakhstan aircraft pilots led to crash of Boeing 747 on November 12, 1996 over Charkhi Dadri;
- (c) if so, whether the recommendations of Lahoti Commission have been implemented in toto; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a):- Yes, Sir.

(b):- The Court of Inquiry observed in its record that lack of proficiency of the flight crew of Kazakh aircraft in conducting radio telephony communication in English language and their difficulty to comprehend Air Traffic Controller (ATC) instructions in English contributed to the accident.

(c) and (d):- The recommendations of the Court of Inquiry have been accepted by the Government. Most of these recommendations have already been implemented and Government is seized of other recommendations.