

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:170

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2000

FAULTY ESCALATOR AT IGI AIRPORT

KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY;MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any thorough inquiry has been made into the episode involving death of a seven-eight years old girl on 1999 at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the steps taken and being the light of the enquiry report to prevent any such incident

(d) whether any sensors or other such equipment are provided for escalators at Airports and elsewhere to make the escalator automatically in cases of such incidents; and

(e) if not, therefore?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

(SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a):- Yes, Sir.

(b):- Enquiry Committee submitted its interim report on 7.2 the final report will be submitted by 31st March, 2000. As the interim report the findings of the inquiry committee are under:-

(i) The quality of the maintenance work by OTIS was upto the mark. Supervision and monitoring of this work by staff of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) was inadequate. As a result, the comb plate and the foot plate of the escalator were loosely held and got shifted under pressure creating a gaping hole resulting in the accident;

(ii) escalator was not upgraded;

(iii) The reaction of various functionaries present on the spot of accident was inadequate lacked sensitivity; and

(iv) The treatment meted out to affected persons was quite inadequate considering extraordinary nature of the accident.

(c):- The following have been taken by AAI to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future:-

(i) The escalator and other such equipments are upgraded;

(ii) Instructions for use of these equipments have been displayed prominently for the benefit of the users; and

(iii) staff of all the agencies at the airport have been given familiarisation training for use of the equipments and dealing with any unforeseen situation.

(d) & (e):- escalators at airports are provided with requisite safety devices which are being upgraded.