

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1213
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2006
FAILURE OF MOMENTARY COMMUNICATION .
Deora Shri Milind Murl

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a momentary communication failure between the Air Traffic Control at IGI Airport and the Prime Minister's Aircraft on June 24, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details and the reasons for this lapse;
- (c) whether any probe has been ordered into the incident;
- (d) if so, the details and the findings thereof;
- (e) the follow-up action taken thereon; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to avoid such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the final phase of landing of Prime Minister's aircraft, communication was being given through specially designated Operational frequency provided at the control tower. The aircraft did not receive tower transmission for a period of 09 seconds only. The communication remained intermittent for a period of 04 minutes & 40 seconds. The incident occurred due to the intermittent contact in mike provided at the control tower which caused momentary failure of communication between the control tower and the aircraft.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The preliminary inquiry was conducted by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). The salient findings of the inquiry were that there were some technical defects in some equipments and monitoring of navigation aids was not done.

(e) As per the findings, two executives on duty were placed on suspension.

(f) To avoid recurrence of such incidents, instructions have been reiterated to all concerned with respect to handling of VVIP aircraft and additional guidelines circulated for strict compliance.