

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:777  
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2010  
AIR INDIA EXPRESS FLIGHT  
Das Gupta Shri Gurudas;Lingam Shri P.

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether an Air India Express flight IX-212 from Dubai to Pune hit an air pocket and was about to nosediving into the Arabian sea on May 26;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether initial investigation revealed that its commander was away from the cockpit, in the washroom, leaving the first officer to man the controls at that time;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken against the negligent pilots?

**Answer**

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

- (a) and (b): Air India Express flight IX 212 from Dubai to Pune on 26-05-2010 lost altitude. However, the situation was well handled by the Commander of the flight.
- (c) and (d): Yes, Commander was away from the cockpit.
- (e): Both the pilots are grounded for invesatigation. Based on the findings and recommendations of the investigation, appropriate action would be taken.