

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2009

ANSWERED ON:05.08.2010

AIR ACCIDENTS

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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of aircraft/ helicopter accidents have increased considerably in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details of such accidents during the last six months;
- (c) the details of casualties occurred in each accident separately;
- (d) the losses suffered by the Government and others in such accidents;
- (e) the details of the investigations conducted in each of these cases alongwith the outcome; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to avert such accidents in future?

Answer

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

(a):- No, Madam.

(b) and (c):- During the last six months two air accidents have occurred. While two persons died in the first accident to M/s. Yash Air Cessna 152 aircraft VT - MMM near Ujjain on 19.05.2010, 158 persons died in the second accident to M/s Air India Express Boeing VT-AXV at Mangalore on 22.05.2010.

(d):- The Government does not maintain any data regarding losses suffered by airlines due to air accidents.

(e):- Both the accidents are under investigation.

(f):-Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has taken number of steps like impressing upon all Scheduled/ Non - Scheduled/ General Aviation Operators to strictly adhere to the standard operating procedures for approaching and landing that would result in decent landing acceptable within the limitations of aircraft without compromising stopping distance requirements. Also, Civil Aviation Safety Advisory Council (CASAC) has been set up in the DGCA under the Chairmanship of Director General of Civil Aviation with 28 expert members from industry who have made significant contribution. The Council has constituted 4 different working groups for (i) Operations, (ii) Airworthiness, (iii) Air Navigation and (iv) Aerodromes. Further, safety recommendations emanating from investigation of incidents are followed up for implementation with the concerned agencies for preventing recurrence of such incidents in future. To avoid air accidents, various accident prevention programmes have been initiated by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), which include safety audits, surveillance inspections, dissemination of safety information, issue of Air Safety Circular/ Civil Aviation Requirements, etc. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of United States of America had carried out an audit in 2009 to review DGCA's safety oversight capabilities. The FAA made some recommendations for their improvement. The steps taken by DGCA in this regard have been appreciated by FAA as there had been significant improvement in several areas of DGCA in a short span of time, which included creation of an additional 427 Group 'A' posts in DGCA in order to strengthen the safety oversight set - up in DGCA.