

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5011
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2010
INVESTIGATION OF AIR CRASHES
McLeod Smt. Ingrid

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to inculcate a system to independently examine black boxes in aircraft crashes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up a system of inquiry where the personnel of Indian Government agencies are present when the black boxes are examined in foreign countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to set up a system to cross-examine the reports compiled from examination of black boxes by foreign companies; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): The system of independently examining black boxes (Flight Data Recorders (FDR) already exists in the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), wherein black boxes are examined in DGCA's laboratory for most types of FDR. However, when the requirement for examining any different type of FDR arises, for which facility is not available with DGCA or when the recorders are badly damaged, these are sent to National Transport Safety Board (NTSB), USA or Bureau d' Enquetes et D'Analyses (BEA), France accompanied by the DGCA representatives.

(c) and (d): Indian Officials are invariably present when the black boxes are examined in foreign countries.

(e) and (f): The transcript prepared by the foreign agencies from the black boxes is examined in detail with other evidences such as wreckage analysis and validated before reflecting in the final investigation report.