GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CIVIL AVIATION LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1720 ANSWERED ON:10.08.2011 FAKE PILOT LICENCES

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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has directed the Directorate of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to examine all pilots licences issued in the past to get the root of one of the biggest scams to hit the aviation industry in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether an enquiry has been made in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government against the persons found guilty in this matter and to put in place a mechanism to ensure only qualified pilots are recruited?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (e):- After the incident of nose landing of Airbus 320 aircraft on 11.01.2011 by a pilot working in Indigo Airlines, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) scrutinized the examination history of the candidates and detected fake mark-sheet of the examination conducted by DGCA. Thereafter, DGCA conducted a drive to check the examination history of all candidates holding 1704 Airlines Transport Pilot Licence (ATPL) and 6331 Commercial Pilot Licence (CPL). In all 9 cases of CPL and 6 cases of ATPL were found to be procured by submitting fake mark-sheets. In all above 15 cases, the licences were suspended and cases were handed over to Delhi Police Authorities. 15 cases of pilots obtaining licence on the basis of forged flying records were also noticed and detected by Anti Corruption Bureau, Rajasthan and were handed over to Anti Corruption Bureau, Rajasthan. As a result of investigation by Crime Branch of Delhi Police, eleven pilots, five middlemen and three officials of DGCA were arrested for their involvement in the irregularity. All three officials of DGCA have been suspended. 15 pilots involved in forged flying records in Rajasthan have been arrested and their licences suspended. Licence issued to Rajasthan State Flying School, Jaipur has since expired and has not been renewed. The existing procedures in the Licensing Directorate of DGCA are strictly enforced. Result of DGCA examination submitted by the candidates are cross-verified with the Master result sheet from Central Examination Organisation dorganisation for verification. Before conversion of foreign licences into Indian licences, the licences are verified from the concerned regulatory authority of the State issuing the foreign licence.