

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3379  
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012  
AIRCRAFT FUMIGATION  
McLeod Smt. Ingrid

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

- (a) whether, in clear violation of the laid down guidelines, caged rats are being gassed to death by various airlines to test the efficacy of their aircraft fumigation;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this matter?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) & (b): Aircraft fumigation is carried out by the concerned airline. DGCA does not grant such permission to any airline. As informed by Air India, they were using caged rats as the indication for the effectiveness of the fumigation. Other airlines Jet Airways, Jet lite, Spice Jet and Indigo etc do not use caged rats to test the efficiency of their aircraft fumigation.

(c): As informed by Air India, they have advised fumigation agency to discontinue this practice due to objections raised by PETA (People for Ethical Treatment of Animals) and to use Gas Concentration Meter to measure the effectiveness of fumigation. Accordingly they have discontinued the practice of using caged rats to test the effectiveness of fumigation w.e.f. November 2011.