GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CIVIL AVIATION LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3091 ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012 SCANNERS AT AIRPORTS Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Bhagora Shri Tarachand;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether scanners installed at major airports have failed the tests conducted by the security agencies to detect explosives;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, and;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to address the concerns of security agencies?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL)

(a) : No Madam. The scanners installed at major airports have not failed in explosives detection. Some tests were conducted by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) together with some intelligence agencies at a few airports. But in the absence of the testing protocols no definite conclusions could be drawn.

(b)&(c): BCAS have approached European Civil Aviation Conference(ECAC), who lay down specifications for various civil aviation related security-gadgets including scanners, in the matter. BCAS intend to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ECAC for sharing information and testing protocols. Conclusive testing of scanners at our airports can be done only after testing protocols become available with BCAS.