

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3164
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2015
BAGGAGE THEFT CASES AT AIRPORTS
Hemamalini Smt.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of baggage theft reported at various airports in the country during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise and airport-wise along with the value of stolen baggage;
- (b) the number of cases solved along with the persons found involved therein and the number of cases still pending along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any airport staff have been found involved in these cases and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken against them; and
- (d) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to check such cases of baggage theft at the airports?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) to (c): Cases pertaining to theft of baggage at airports are reported by complainants to local police or brought to the notice of the airlines concerned. A statement showing the number of theft cases as reported at various airports/complaints lodged by Police during 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 (till February, 2015) is annexed. The incidents of theft are a law and order issue, and as a matter of fact the subjects of crime and Law & Order are state subjects, and Ministry of Civil Aviation has no control or mandate over this data/information. The local police, which is under the jurisdiction of the concerned State Government, register and investigate such cases. The relevant details/data, including the value of stolen articles, property/articles recovered, persons arrested, charge sheets/FIRs filed, status of cases on such thefts pending in courts, penalty awarded to convicts, etc. are maintained by the concerned Airlines/Local Police authorities, which are approached by the passengers in such cases for lodging a complaint of theft, etc.

(d): To prevent incidents of theft, the following measures have been taken:

- (i) Frisking of ground handling staff is being done while leaving airport.
- (ii) Use of Cell phones in the air side by ground handling staff has been prohibited.
- (iii) Deployment of airline security staff in the Baggage Make Up Area (BMA)/Baggage Break-up Area (BBA) and around the cargo hold area of the airline.
- (iv) Photo Identity Cards (PIC) of ground handling staff after completion of shift are being deposited at the airport.
- (v) Sharing of list of suspects with all the concerned agencies.
- (vi) Establishment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) help desk counters at the airports for receipt of complaint of theft from the passengers and to further hand over the complaints to the local police.