

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2660
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2014
AIRCRAFT SAFETY ISSUES RAISED BY ICPA
Mani Shri Jose K.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Commercial Pilots Association (ICPA) has raised several aircraft safety issues including the issue of faulty weather radars of Air India planes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any action has been taken by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri G. M. Siddeshwara)

- (a): Yes, Madam. Indian Commercial Pilot Association (ICPA), had raised issues regarding `Unreliable Weather Radar` with the Management of Air India.
- (b): The most common defects reported by the pilots were intermittent, unreliable and unserviceable Weather Radars, which show no echoes, weak echoes or ground echoes etc.
- (c) and (d): For issues affecting flight safety, the manufacturer and Regulatory Authority comes out with advisory Circulars and Mandatory Modifications. Though one radar system is sufficient for safe operation, these aircrafts have two independent radar systems for redundancy and safety. With improvement in Radar Technology, Airbus has now fitted the enhanced fleet of Airbus A320 family aircrafts with an advanced Single Weather Radar System with improved features. In order to have safe operation during monsoon / adverse weather conditions, restrictions have been imposed in the Minimum Equipment List (MEL) as well as circulars issued by DGCA wherein `weather radar must be serviceable` has been laid down.