

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:417
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2016
Wi-Fi Services in Flights
Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of global practice with regard to use of mobiles, laptop and other electronic gadget during on flight and off flights;
- (b) whether air travellers would soon be able to access wi-fi services on flights over the Indian air space, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Indian carriers have already begun preparations for the same, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken in this regard?

Answer

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapati)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS

(a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED (*) QUESTION NO.417 REGARDING "WI-FI SERVICES IN FLIGHTS" DUE FOR ANSWER ON 15.12.2016. ;

(a) : Chicago Convention facilitates the use of radio equipment when crossing over multiple jurisdictions. Many countries have already given rights to satellite service providers for In Flight Connectivity in aviation sector. ;

(b) : Providing on-board Wi-Fi services in Indian airspace involves amendment of provisions of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and Indian Telegraph Rules made there under. The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has already moved a proposal for providing in-flight connectivity for voice, data and video services for consideration of the Committee of Secretaries. ; ;

(c) & (d) : The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) / Director General Civil Aviation (DGCA) has not issued any instructions to Indian carriers for initiating preparations for in-flight connectivity. However, MoCA has requested DoT to amend the Indian Wireless Telegraph Rules with a view to allow international flights to provide on-board wi-fi services.