

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1596
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2014
DISRUPTIVE INCIDENTS IN AIR INDIA
Nayak Shri B.V.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any disruptive incidents involving Air India staff including pilots have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Air India has conducted any inquiry into these incidents and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken against the erring employees; and
- (c) the steps taken or being taken by Air India to prevent such incidents in future?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Madam. There have been two disruptive incidents in the last three years and current year. Details are as follows:

i. The Indian Commercial Pilots Association (ICPA) went on strike from 0000 hrs of 27.04.2011 to 2200 hrs of 06.05.2011.

ii. Pilots represented by the Indian Pilots Guild (IPG) started reporting sick in a concerted manner from the night of 07th May, 2012. The agitation was called off on 3rd July, 2012 with the intervention of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court.

(b): (i): As a result of the agitation, recognition of ICPA was withdrawn, 06 line Pilots and 3 Executive Pilots were terminated and 07 pilots were placed under suspension. However, subsequently meeting were held by the pilots with the officials of the Ministry and the strike was called off. Management restored the recognition of ICPA and their officers were de-sealed. The letters of termination issued to the terminated pilots were also withdrawn, suspension revoked and they were offered to join back duties.

(ii): The services of 97 pilots, who were found to be involved, were terminated and IPG was derecognised. However, subsequently with the intervention of the High Court: the strike was called off on 3rd July, 2012. Meetings were held between the Management and IPG and also before the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner (C). A High Powered Committee of Air India considered the request for reinstatement of the terminated pilots and 84 pilots have been reinstated. Request of 13 Pilots for reinstatement has been rejected. The striking Pilots have not been paid wages and allowances for the period, they were on agitation on the principle of 'no work no pay'.

(c): The Management of Air India holds dialogue/ interaction on a regular basis with representative of Unions/Associations to ensure amicable solutions to their day to day Issues in order to maintain a congenial atmosphere at the work place and industrial harmony and peace.