

Title: Reported insurance contract awarded by Indian Airlines without tender for 2003-2004.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): I want to highlight a serious issue against the Ministry of Civil Aviation. In the *Hindustan Times*, it is reported that in complete violation of the established norms, the Indian Airlines has awarded its annual insurance contract to New India Assurance company without inviting the tender. It is a serious issue.

Incidentally, it may be pointed out last year the Indian Airlines had paid Rs.200 crore as its annual premium. But it is yet to be known as to how much money the Airlines shall have to pay in the year 2003-04 as New India Assurance is yet to get a quote from the London reinsurance market. The Government may clarify the position in this regard. It is a very serious allegation.