

**Title:** Need to investigate into purchase of very hitech ground navigational equipments and their efficacy.

DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI (PEDDAPALLI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I draw your attention and the attention of this august House to the precarious state and the very low safety status given by the international agencies for the Indian skies and Indian Airports. Till January this year, state of the art very hitech ground navigational equipment worth Rs.450 crore was lying idle at the two busy international Airports in India while safety status was taking a nose dive. The Indian Airports Authority and its Management miserably failed to convince the Air Traffic Control Unit for installation of the modern equipment, which resulted in downgrading the status.

After installation of the costly equipment, five aircrafts vanished from the radar screens at Delhi Air Ports in January, 1999 which led to almost very serious and fatal near misses.

I draw the attention of Ministry of Civil Aviation to conduct a thorough inquiry about all this and evolve procedures to avoid vanishing of aircrafts from radar screens and to order an investigation and fix responsibility as to from whom they had ordered such hitech equipment at such high cost which cannot prevent vanishing of aircrafts from radar screens.