

(a) whether co-pilot of a Air India Jumbo refused recently to fly the aircraft (AI 130) from Heathrow to Bombay after all the passengers have bearded the aircraft;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Air India to avoid the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The co-pilot of AI-130 of 28.10.90 refused to fly the aircraft from Heathrow to Delhi.

(b) The co-pilot refused to fly because according to him he would have exceeded the Flight duty Time Limitation contained in the Indian Pilots' Guild's agreement with Air India. The commander of the flight was willing to fly. This caused a loss of over Rs. 8 lakhs in foreign exchange to Air India.

(c) Air India has reported this incident to DGCA. The DGCA is taking appropriate action under Aircraft Rules, 1937.

[*Translation*]

Allotment of Contracts of Stalls to Unemployed Graduates

2003. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry give priority to the young unemployed graduates in giving contracts of catering vending and book-stalls under self-employment policy;

(b) if so, the number of contractors under the said category in Delhi and Moradabad divisions;

(c) whether the Government propose to

formulate some new policy in order to give encouragement to the young unemployed graduates; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) Extent policy for awarding catering/vending and bookstall contracts provides for preference to unemployed graduates along with other categories.

(b) 18 bookstall contracts in Delhi Division and one vending and 3 bookstall contracts in Moradabad Division have been awarded.

(c) Not yet.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

International Balloon Mela

2004. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the highly successful Six International Balloon Mela of 1990 organised in 10 cities of India (Clarity 2.12.1990); and

(b) whether the Government have any plans to encourage Ballooning in India and if so, the details of the work-plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Such activities would need to be supported primarily from private resources.