

tions are taking place? If it is correct, what are the steps contemplated by the Government to stop this?

MR. SPEAKER: What are you going to do to increase the speed?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, it is for the hon. Member to judge the speed. As I have said myself in my previous answer to a supplementary because of private sector, there is so much of business cutting by them like- legally they are not supposed to carry any letter. But they carry it under the clause of 'document' and such other things. There are a lot of concession given in their own why I do agree that it is a tough competition in the market. But as far as the speed is concerned, I have said that we are at reasonably good speed. I am not saying that we are the fastest. But we are reasonably at good speed. I have received in my Department - I stand for correction if it is not correct that the accurate information is not given that delays are 4 to 5 per cent in our case.

Again, as per my information, I do not think that any private courier is returning the money. This is as per the information given to me. But we are returning the money if it is not delivered within 24 hours. We return some part of the money so that the subscriber feels that he has not utilised the Speed Post service and it is by the normal post the letter has gone. All these concessions and the other ethics are being maintaining. That difference is there. If the hon. Member is of the view that our speed is less, I will try to give more power to the speed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI TEJSINGH RAO BHOSLE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Five places have been brought under the National Network in Maharashtra and the Point to Point Service is for 7 cities. I would like to know if the cities having a population of one lakh will be brought under it?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, neither the population nor the distance

may be the criteria for its determination. The parameters of it are traffic and revenue. We are upgrading this service where much a situation exists. The decision is take after taking into consideration the totality of the situation at a particular place otherwise as the hon. Member has said that in some places we lag behind the private sector, their is no doubt that the speed of our Speed Post is slow in some areas. If we open the service to compete with it and do not deliver the articles in time, then the very purpose of this service will be defeated. Therefore after keeping all the aspects in mind, we are looking as to how this service can be extended.

[*English*]

investigations into crash of A-320 Airbus

* 165 **SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI.** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the details of progress of the investigations made so far in the crash of A-320 Airbus in Bangalore in 1990;

(b) whether any responsibility has since been fixed, and

(c) the number of A-320 airbuses in operation alongwith the routes on which these are being operated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK). (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the table of the House

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The report of the Court of Inquiry alongwith governments decision thereon was tabled in the House on 10.1 1991.

(c) there are eighteen A-320 aircraft at present with Indian Airlines which are operating on the routes as under -

Bombay - Ahmedabad
 Bombay - Calcut
 Bombay - Goa
 Bombay - Coimbatore
 Bombay - Vadodara

Calcutta - Guwahati
 Calcutta - Bangkok
 Calcutta - Dhaka
 Calcutta - Kathmandu
 Calcutta - Bangalore

Delhi - Ahmedabad
 Delhi - Guwahati - Imphal
 Delhi - Guwahati - Agartala
 Delhi - Ahmedabad - Vadodara -
 Delhi
 Delhi - Pune

Hyderabad - Bangalore
 Hyderabad - Delhi
 Hyderabad - Bombay

Madras - Bangalore
 Bangalore - Ahmedabad
 Bangalore - Trivandrum
 Bangalore - Goa

- Bombay - Delhi
 - Bombay - Karachi
 - Bombay - Nagpur
 - Bombay - Varanasi -
 Lucknow - Bombay

- Calcutta - Agartala
 - Calcutta - Madras
 - Calcutta - Ranchi - Patna -
 Delhi

- Delhi - Karachi
 - Delhi - Lahore
 - Delhi - Kathmandu
 - Kathmandu - Varanasi
 - Delhi - Lucknow
 - Delhi - Bangalore

- Madras - Bombay
 - Madras - Colombo
 - Trivandrum - Male
 - Calcut - Sharjah
 - Bombay - Colombo

**SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHAN-
 DURI** Sir, out of the 62 recommendations
 made by Justice Bhat, nine were to be re-
 ferred to the Airbus Industries. I would like to
 know from the hon. Minister whether all
 these recommendations have been imple-
 mented, particularly the recommendations
 nos. 29 and 39 which referred to the design
 changes. I would also like to know whether
 the Minister considers our Airbus safe in
 view of the fact that all the recommendations
 have not been implemented and Air France
 and Air Inter have banned the use of an
 equipment called Vor-Dme—the VHF Omni-
 range distance measuring equipment after
 the recent accident and that we do not have
 ILS facilities. Therefore all our Airbuses

MR SPEAKER If you ask too many
 questions then there will not be a reply.

**SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHAN-
 DURI** Sir, there are two parts. One is per-
 taining to the recommendation which was to
 be referred to the Airbus Industries. Second
 part is about certain equipment which has
 been banned because of the recent acci-
 dent, by the Air France. My question is—
 are our Airbuses safe in view of the fact that
 in the absence of this equipment and in ab-
 sence of the ILS facility?

MR SPEAKER No, no ILS is different.
 Please make your question very, very pointed.
 Otherwise you will not get a pointed reply.

**SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHAN-
 DURI** Sir, it is connected with one of the recom-
 mendations. There are two pointed ques-
 tions regarding safety.

SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK. Sir, the Court has made 62 recommendations. We have accepted about 46 recommendations and 16 recommendations have not been accepted. These recommendations were not accepted, broadly for reasons of impracticality on technical and administrative grounds. So, we have already implemented 33 recommendations and 13 recommendations are under process.

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI. My question is not yet replied. I have asked specifically about recommendation no. 29 and 39 which has been referred to Airbus Industrie.

MR SPEAKER. This is what happens when you bring too many questions in one question. You have to ask a pointed question.

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI. No, Sir, I have asked a pointed question.

MR SPEAKER. Please do not argue like that.

SHRI M O H FAROOK. The recommendations which involve technical modifications by the Airbus Industrie or which involve long term measures are pending for implementation.

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI. Is it a fact that a CBI team has gone to USA in connection with the kickback of about Rs 260 crores? If so, what is the progress?

SHRI M O H FAROOK. The purchase deal of A 320 aircraft is being investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation in a regular case registered on 29.3.1990 for offences of cheating, misconduct, bribery, corruption etc. Most of these investigations are to be conducted in India and they have been completed. Investigations are also to be conducted in UK, USA and Switzerland. These processes are going on and in 1991-92, the district court of Illinois and Washington State Government have executed letters of rogatory issued by the Indian court for

recording deposition of witnesses. Two CBI officers were present during that time in the court.

SHRI ANANTHA VENKATA REDDY. Is it a fact that the court in Chicago and US agencies have made some observations about the structural defects in A-320 aircraft? If so, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps he has taken regarding structural defects.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA). Mainly this matter is being dealt by the CBI which comes under the Home Ministry and the matter is under investigation. So, I will not be in a position to answer about every detail of this particular investigation. But certainly the process is under way.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV. The Minister's attention must have been drawn to the A-320 crash in France. The French government has set up an investigation committee and they have pointed out three major defects in A-320 aircraft. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether in view of those recommendations of the French committee, the Government is taking necessary steps to rectify those three major defects so that the crash may not be repeated in our country.

SHRI M O H FAROOK. It is true that on the follow up of the Starsbourg crash, there are some recommendations. The DGCA has advised the Indian Airlines to apprise their pilots in the operation of A 320 aircrafts to ensure probable crew coordination procedures. The second thing is that a general circular was issued on the aspect to all A-320 pilots for their information and guidance. Thirdly all examiners' instructions and check pilots of A 320 aircrafts are also advised to check their items during in route or proficiency checks.

Telecast of 'Ekta yatra'
* 166 KUMARI UMA BHARTI Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state