

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2340
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2005
GROWTH IN AIR TRAFFIC
Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the expected growth in air traffic both domestic and international at metro airports following permission granted to foreign airlines to operate from India;
- (b) whether airports have adequate landing systems and otehr facilities to handle the growth in air traffic;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the arrangements in place at different airports in the country to handle landing and take off operations during the foggy conditions;
- (e) whether the Government has taken adequate and appropriate steps to ensure that pilots operating doemstic and foreign airlines are fully trained for using landing systems at the airports especially during foggy conditions; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) Currently the rate of growth in air traffic is about 23% for domestic sector and about 18% for international sector. A long term growth of 5% has been projected in both domestic and international sector.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has provided state-of-the-art Instrument Landing Systems (ILS) at most of the operational airports. Besides, at Delhi airport, Cat-III A ILS has been provided to operate flights in foggy conditions with a visibility range upto 200 meters. Its upgradation to Cat-III B is underway so as to facilitate operation of flights in a visibility range upto 100 meters. Action is in hand for provision of additional taxiways, rapid exit taxiways and parking stands at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai International airports.

(d) Various arrangements provided at Delhi airport to handle landing/ take off of operations inter-alia, include supply of additional foodstuff, mineral water, tea, coffee and beverages, forecasting of Meteorological Information regularly at an interval of six hours, provision of special counters to disseminate flight information, provision of additional chairs in all the terminals, prompt display of flight delays, positioning of additional personal for toilet cleaning, deployment of additional man power to look after congestion and customs Immigration X-ray machines and security. Besides, Airport Directors of Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Jaipur, Nagpur, Bhubaneswar, and Vadodara have been advised to gear up existing facilities like parking bays, safety services and increased watch hours for air traffic services to handle diverted air traffic from Delhi airport.

(e) and (f) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has prescribed qualification/ experience and training for pilots operating domestic airlines to undergo training for Cat-II/III operations. Only DGCA approved pilots are authorised to use ILS during fog. Various airlines are coordinated from time to time for expeditious training of their pilots for use of Cat-II/III ILS. Number of pilots as on 5-12-2005 trained for Cat-III A & B operations are as under:

Air India - 24, 06 for A-310 and 16, 15 for B-747; Indian Airlines - 48, 39 for A-320 only. Jet Airways & Sahara Airlines have trained 153 and 10 pilots respectively for Cat-II operations only.