

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1392

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UPGRADATION OF ATC SYSTEM

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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to overhaul the Air Traffic Control (ATC) system to remove congestion at the airports thereby minimizing the waiting period for landing at the airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the airports where such an exercise is being undertaken; and

(d) the time-frame in covering all airports in the country for this type of overhaul?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) Upgradation of Air Traffic Control (ATC) system in order to reduce congestion at airports is a continuous process which is taken up by Airports Authority of India (AAI) on the basis of operational requirements. Steps taken by AAI inter-alia include construction of new high speed exit taxiways at Delhi and Mumbai, parallel taxi track at Delhi so as to reduce runway occupancy time and additional parking stands at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, procedures for simultaneous use of both runways at Delhi, cross runway operation at Mumbai, implementation of Dedicated Clearance Delivery Position & ban on general aviation aircraft at Delhi and Mumbai during peak period and improved ATC procedures.

(c) A project for networking of radars has been approved so as to bring down the number of area control centres and ensure more effective and better control over air traffic. In order to augment the capacity of airspace to handle more number of flights, Reduced Vertical Separation Minima (RVSM) has been introduced in India. Various ATC systems planned by AAI include Flight Data Processing System (FDPS) at Hyderabad & Mangalore, Voice Communication & Control System (VCCS) at Cochin, Mangalore and Calicut, new Instrument Landing system (ILS) at Silchar, Lilabari, Gaya & Kolkata, upgradation/replacement of ILS on requirement basis, installation/ replacement of Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) at 40 airports etc.

(d) These projects are scheduled to be completed during 2007-08.