

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1804
(To be answered on the 1st August 2024)**

INTERRUPTIONS OF FLIGHT DUE TO COLD WAVE

1804. DR. M K VISHNU PRASAD

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the problems faced in flight operations from airports such as flight delays and cancellation of many flights in January 2024 due to cold waves in North India, particularly in Delhi and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for disruptions in flight operations at Delhi Airport during the cold waves;
- (c) whether the Government has held anyone accountable for these disruptions and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it is true that technical facilities are not available/adequate at the airports of the country as per commitments of the Government due to which the operations of flights have been affected during the cold waves and if so, the details and status thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a): Problems were faced in flight operations, including flight delays, and cancellation of flights in January, 2024 due to the severe fog/cold wave conditions in North India, including Delhi.

(b): The reasons for disruption in flight operations at Delhi Airport during the cold wave are as follows:

i. Prevalence of severe fog condition.

ii. Due to some aircrafts not being capable to land in CAT III conditions and some pilots not being CAT III certified.

(c) & (d): Show cause notices were issued to M/s Air India and M/s Spicejet Ltd for not operating with adequately qualified and current CAT III certified pilots and based on their replies, Rs. 30 Lakh each penalty has been imposed

on M/s Air India and M/s Spicejet Ltd for deploying non qualified CAT III certified pilots during the fog window.

Following are the 06 airports in India where Runway is certified for CAT III operations as per the details below:

- i. Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi**
- ii. Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport, Lucknow**
- iii. Jaipur International Airport, Jaipur**
- iv. Sri Guru Ram Das Jee, International Airport, Amritsar**
- v. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata**
- vi. Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru**
