

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 531
(To be answered on the 25th July 2024)**

FLIGHT CANCELLATION

531. DR. M P ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government is aware of the difficulties faced by the expatriates due to the recent sudden cancellations of Air India Express flights from various airports in Kerala to the Middle East and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Government proposes to improve air connectivity and services for expatriates in the Middle East to prevent such issues from recurring and to ensure the reliability and consistency of Air India Express flight schedules in the future and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) Flight cancellations from airports including airports in Kerala to Middle East occasionally occur due to weather, technical, operational and miscellaneous reasons. In order to ensure appropriate protection of air travelers in case of flight disruption and in particular, flight cancellation and delays without due notice to the passengers booked on the flight, DGCA has issued Civil aviation Requirement (CAR), Section-3- Air Transport,-Series-M Part-IV on "Facilities to be provided to passengers by airlines due to denied boarding, cancellation of flights and delays in flights."

(b) Improving Air Connectivity is a continuous process. At present, the Government of India promotes more international operations by Indian carriers from non-metro points either directly or through their own domestic operations. Indian Airlines are free to select whatever markets and network they wish to service and operate within the ambit of bilateral agreements. The airlines provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. The start of international flights from any

point in India is purely a commercial decision of the airlines on the basis of economic viability of the route, availability of aircraft etc.
