

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1484
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2006
FLEETS FOR EXPANSION OF CARGO TRADE
Athawale Shri Ramdas;Ravindran Shri Pannian

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) The steps taken by the Government to improve Cargo Trade expansion at the various airports in the country during the last one year ;
- (b) Whether the Government proposes to convert some of their existing fleets into Cargo Aircraft ;
- (c) If so, the details thereof;
- (d) Whether Thiruvananthapuram International Airport will also be a base for Cargo Aircraft; and
- (e) If so, the details thereof ?

Answer

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

(a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) is handling international cargo at 4 metro airports viz. Delhi, Mumbai Chennai and Kolkata and at 4 non-metro airports viz. Nagpur, Guwahati, Lucknow and Coimbatore airports.

At Indira Gandhi International Airport Delhi, infrastructure development such as Air conditioned Public Waiting Hall with working paraphernalia, the Truck Dock Area of Centre for Perishable Cargo (CPC), modification of cargo terminal with facility to maintain ambient temperature.

At Amritsar airport construction of a Modern Air Cargo Terminal and Temporary Centre for Perishable Cargo (CPC) developed by PAGREXCO have been commissioned.

At Kolkata airport Phase-I of Integrated Cargo Terminal for export operation at a cost of Rs.49.66 crore has been commissioned.

Web based EDI in the export cargo processing has been implemented on 100% basis at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai airports. X-ray charges has been reduced. 20% discount on export handling charges has been introduced w.e.f. September 2005 for the export cargo by the exporters authorised agencies between 1000-1500 hours. Shifting of export cargo pertaining to 8 countries directly to bonded area has been allowed. M/s Cargo Service Centre (CSC) has been permitted to operate Reefer Dolly for moving perishable cargo loaded in the container from Centre for Perishable Cargo to the Aircraft Bay without levy of any additional charge on airlines/trade by CSC. A new policy has been developed for establishment of Centre for Perishable Cargo (CPC). A policy to develop domestic airports for international cargo handling by leasing space /land to interested organizations through open tenders have been formulated.

(b)&(c): Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines proposes to convert five B-737 aircraft currently being operated by Alliance Air into freighter aircraft. These 5 aircraft are being considered to operate with hub and spoke pattern. Indian Airlines plans to operate these freighter services with Nagpur as a hub and Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai(Via Bangalore & Hyderabad) as originating stations.

(d) & (e) No, Sir. However, if any scheduled airline wishes to make Thiruvananthapuram a base for cargo operation, AAI shall provide all necessary support.