

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3402
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2010
NEW GROUND HANDLING POLICY
Muttamwar Shri Vilas Baburao

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has implemented a new ground handling policy at airports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has also sought the withdrawal of waiver of landing and parking charges for aircraft having seating capacity of less than 80 passengers or providing fiscal incentives for small aircrafts;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (e) the reasons for granting the concession;
- (f) whether the same is applicable to all the airports; and
- (g) if so, the detail thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) The new Ground Handling Policy had come into effect from October, 2007. The exit of non-entitled entities was however fixed on 31.12.2009. In the new Ground Handling Policy the competent authority has now further approved that:
- (i) All private airlines, including foreign airlines, may undertake self handling in respect of `passenger and baggage handling activities at the airport terminals` and `traffic service including the passenger check-in`, which require passenger interface, at all airports.
 - (ii) All cargo airlines, which have their own cargo aircrafts, may undertake self handling in their hub airports.
 - (iii) The limit for non-entitled entities be extended beyond 31.12.2009 up to 31.12.2010; and
 - (iv) Foreign airlines and private independent ground handling service providers not be permitted self ground handling/ground handling at joint user Defence airfields.
- (c)&(d) Yes, Madam. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has sought the withdrawal of waiver of landing charges for aircrafts having seating capacity of less than 80 passengers and being operated by scheduled domestic operators. Ministry of Civil Aviation has directed Airport Authority of India (AAI) to commission a study on the various aspects to get a clearer picture of the proposal.
- (e), (f) & (g) The waiver of landing chrges in respect of aircrafts with pasenger seating capacity of less than 80 seats and other concessions in Route Navigational Facility Charges (RNFC), 15% reduction i n Landing Charges for domestic flights etc. were allowed by Airports Authority of India w.e.f. February, 2004 as per the recommendation of Naresh Chandra Committee. These concession /incentives are applicable at all airports.