

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:267  
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2010  
CONGESTION AT AIRPORTS  
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

- (a) the average number of flights operated in a day from each of the international airports in the country at present;
- (b) whether there has been overcrowding resulting in delay in take-off and landing of aircraft; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken to decongest the pressure at major domestic/ international airports?

**Answer**

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

(a), (b) & (c): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement in reply to parts (a), (b) & (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred ( ) Question No. 267 for 12.08.2010 regarding congestion at airports.

(a): The average number of flights per day (landings and take off) operated during the year 2009-10 from the international airports were Chennai (308), Kolkata (238), Ahmedabad (107), Goa (68), Trivandrum (73), Calicut (49), Guwahati (86), Jaipur (63), Srinagar (25), Amritsar (25), Port Blair (16), Mumbai (666), Delhi (684), Bangalore (287), Hyderabad (222), Cochin (114) and Nagpur (56).

(b) & (c): Slots are staggered as per guidelines prescribed by International Air Transport Association (IATA) in consultation with stakeholders, including airport operators. However, at times flights get delayed for takeoff and landing due to following reasons:

- (i) Inability of airlines to adhere to their schedule due to operational, commercial or technical reasons resulting in bunching of flights.
- (ii) Weather phenomenon like fog, thunderstorm, dust storm and heavy rain etc.
- (iii) Due to VVIP movements, emergency landing etc.

In order to reduce the congestion on ground and in the sky, Airports Authority of India has implemented the following additional steps:

- (i) In order to mitigate delays, DGCA circular dated October, 2009 on Procedure to be followed by Airlines, Air Traffic Control Units and Airport Operators has been implemented.
- (ii) Radar separation has been reduced to 3 nautical miles within approach.
- (iii) Performance Based Navigation (PBN) Procedures has been implemented at Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad & Chennai airports.
- (iv) ATM Automation System at Mumbai and Delhi are being further upgraded.
- (v) Cross Runway Operations at Mumbai and simultaneous use of two runways at Delhi has been implemented.
- (vi) Rapid Exit Taxiways have been constructed at Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai to reduce runway occupancy time.
- (vii) Additional sectors in ATC Units with additional control positions have been created.
- (viii) AAI has already undertaken the upgradation project at 35 non-metro airports to handle increased traffic at these airports.
- (ix) Advanced Surface Movement Guidance & Control System [ASMGCS] along with Surface Movement Radar is operational at Delhi airport.
- (x) ASMGCS is being implemented for Mumbai, Chennai & Kolkata airports.
- (xi) At the time of slot allocation during Winter and Summer Schedules, number of hourly movements is maintained in accordance with the runway capacity.
- (xii) CAT-II ILS has been installed at Kolkata.
- (xiii) Improved ATC Procedures have been framed and Clearance Delivery Position have been established at Mumbai and Delhi airports.
- (xiv) At Delhi airport, a third runway has been made operational.