

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5017

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2010

DELAY/ CANCELLATION OF FLIGHTS

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Elangovan Shri T.K.S.;Jagannath Dr. M.;Kashyap Shri Virender;Mohan Shri P. C.;Nirupam Shri Sanjay Brijkishorilal ;Panda Shri Baijayant;Sinh Dr. Sanjay;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.;Viswanathan Shri P.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been frequent delay/cancellation of flights of various airlines in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last six months airline-wise;
- (c) whether a good number of air passengers have been compensated for flight delays, cancellation and denied boarding by way of refunds or by rescheduled flights, according to data released by the Civil Aviation Sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, flight-wise and month-wise during the last six months; and
- (e) the measures being taken by the Government to ensure that airlines stick to their time schedule and minimize inconvenience to air passengers?

Answer

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

(a):- Scheduled airlines generally operate the flights as approved. However, at times the flights are delayed/cancelled due to ATC, watch hour restrictions, weather, technical reasons, mandatory security checks, etc. beyond the control of the airlines.

(b):- Yes, Madam.

(c) & (d):- The information is being collected.

(e):- Two separate meetings were held for On Time Performance at Delhi and Mumbai airports with the representatives of airlines, concerned airport operator, Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Airports Authority of India and Bureau of Civil Aviation Security wherein, the following has been decided:

- (i) In the morning flights, i.e. the first flights out of Delhi, all the airlines would close their gates and take a push-back at least 15 minutes before scheduled time of departure.
- (ii) For the aircrafts, which are arriving into Delhi from other destinations and are turning around for departure, ATC will try its best to provide a slot close to their scheduled time of departure.
- (iii) Under no circumstances, push-back would be taken without closure of gates.
- (iv) Once the permission for push-back has been granted by ATC, the permission would be valid only for next 5 minutes. If the aircraft has not been physically pushed back within this period, the permission would automatically get cancelled and the aircraft would fall back in the queue and would be considered for push-back in the next available slot as per the queue.
- (v) If the aircrafts, which are arriving into Delhi from other destinations and are turning around for departure, are not able to do so as per their scheduled departure and as per the procedure mentioned herein above, they would be rescheduled to the next available vacant slot, as per the dynamic mechanism adopted by the Air Traffic Controller.
- (vi) As per Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) circular Air Transport Circular 10 of 2009 dated 21.10.2009, Airlines not adhering to the approved time slots shall be liable to lose the historicity in the next schedule.