

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:44

ANSWERED ON:27.02.2013

DELAY CANCELLATION OF FLIGHTS

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Jeyadurai Shri S. R.

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

- (a) the details of the domestic and international flights cancelled/delayed/diverted/rescheduled due to fog during the last year and the current year, airline-wise;
- (b) the losses suffered by the airlines due to fog related cancellations, delays, rescheduling and diversions during the above period, airline-wise;
- (c) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has taken note of the flight disruptions due to fog despite most airlines claiming to have CAT-III trained pilots;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by DGCA against those airlines which are not providing proper training to their pilots for CAT-H or in operations; and
- (e) the steps being taken to mitigate the hardships caused to the passengers in this regard ?

**Answer**

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a)to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 44 FOR ANSWER ON 27.02.2013 REGARDING 'LAY/CANCELLATION OF FLIGHTS' BY SHRI S.R. JEYADURAI; SHRI B.B. PATIL

(a) & (b): The details of the flights diverted due to fog during the years 2012 and 2013 are given at Annexure-I and those of flights cancelled due to weather conditions at Annexure-II.

The DGCA does not maintain any data on delayed/rescheduled flights due to fog nor on the losses suffered by airlines due to their flights having been cancelled/delayed/diverted/rescheduled due to fog.

(c), (d) & (e): There has been significant addition to the number of CAT-III trained pilots across the airlines in the year 2012 in comparison to the previous year. The number increased from 1288 in the year 2011 to 2082 in the year 2012. The airline-wise details of such pilots is given at Annexure-II. Despite this addition, the shortage of CAT-III trained pilots continues. Airlines have been directed by the DGCA to have adequate number of such pilots so that their flights do not get disrupted due to low visibility conditions. They have also been informed by the DGCA that while allocating the winter-slots to them, availability of CAT-III trained pilots and CAT-III compliant aircraft with them would be taken into account.

The Aeronautical Information Circular AIC-11 of 2009 issued by DGCA gives detailed guidelines, inter-alia, on airlines' duty towards their passengers in the event of any disruption of flights due to low visibility conditions. Appropriate action will be taken by the DGCA against the concerned airline, if it is found to be failing in its duties.