

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:279  
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2013  
DECLINE IN AIR PASSENGERS  
Bais Shri Ramesh

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

- (a) whether the number of air passengers in the country has declined during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the extent of decline registered during each of the last three years along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION ( SHRI AJIT SINGH )

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

STATEMENT TO BE LAID IN REPLY OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION (#) NO. 279 FOR ANSWER ON 29.08.2013 REGARDING 'DECLINE IN AIR PASSENGERS'.

(a) and (b): Details regarding number of passengers carried by scheduled domestic airlines and corresponding growth during the year 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and current year (up to July) are as follows:

Year	Passenger Carried	%Growth
(In million)		
2009	43.80	#
2010	52.00	+18.70
2011	60.70	+16.60
2012	58.80	-3.04
2013	35.88	+1.20
(up to July)		

The decline in the passenger traffic in 2012 is mainly attributed to the following reasons:

- (i) Economic slow-down
- (ii) Increase in airfares due to sharp rise in the prices of ATF and higher operating costs, and
- (iii) Suspension of flights by Kingfisher Airlines.

(c): The Government has taken several measures like persuading State Governments to reduce VAT on ATF, allowing direct import of Aviation Turbine Fuel by Indian Carriers as actual users, permitting foreign airlines to participate upto 49 percent in the equity of scheduled air transport undertaking, allowing ECB for working capital requirement of airline industry for a period of one year subject to a total ceiling of US \$1 billion and tax concession for parts of aircraft and testing equipment for third party maintenance, repair and overhaul of civil aircraft to promote civil aviation.