

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2608  
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2014  
WASTAGE OF TIME AND FUEL DURING LANDING  
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

- (a) whether aeroplanes have to hover above the airports thereby wasting fuel due to delays in getting clearance for landing from Air Traffic Controller;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to lay any new policy in this regard by which time and fuel can be saved; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL)

- (a): No, Madam.
- (b): Does not arise.
- (c) & (d): Government has already taken following steps to reduce delays in landing:
  - (i) Restructuring of Indian Airspace by means of Upper Airspace Harmonization with Single Upper Area Control Centre in each of the four FIRs, Viz Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.
  - (ii) Implementation of Central Air Traffic Management (CATFM) which will result in balancing the air traffic capacity and demand, thereby eliminating delays in the air and on the ground.
  - (iii) Performance Based Navigation (PBN) Standard Instrument Departures (SIDs) and Standard Terminal Arrival Routes (STARs) have been implemented at metro airports to streamline air traffic and reduce delays to the minimal.
  - (iv) Reduced spacing of 3 NM has been introduced in Terminal airspace at Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore and Hyderabad.
  - (v) Radar integration has resulted in implementation of reduced horizontal spacing of 40 NM along some major ATS routes.
  - (vi) Three runway operations at IGI airport, Delhi have reduced the delays to minimal.
  - (vii) Cross runway operations have been implemented at Mumbai airport to address the delays to landing aircraft and save fuel.
  - (viii) Airport Collaborative Decision Making (A-CDM) has been successfully implemented at Delhi and Mumbai to reduce delays.
  - (ix) Constitution of National High Level Policy Body to implement Flexible Use of Airspace (FUA) which will enhance Air space capacity and shortens air-routes resulting in reduction in delays.
  - (x) Continuous Descent Operation (CDO) has been implemented at Mumbai, Ahmadabad, Hyderabad and Delhi.