

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:305  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2009  
INTERNATIONAL STATUS TO AIRPORTS  
Patel Shri R.K. Singh

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

- (a) the criteria adopted for giving any airport the status of an international airport;
- (b) the details of the facilities made available to these airports;
- (c) the airports which have been accorded the status of international airports so far;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to accord international status to more airports; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 305 FOR 10/12/2009 REGARDING INTERNATIONAL STATUS TO AIRPORTS.

(a) Declaration of an airport as an 'International Airport' needs fulfillment of certain parameters which meet the Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) stipulated by the Director General of Civil Aviation in India / International Civil Aviation Organization (Annex 9 Facilitation). These parameters are

- (i) Runway length should be 9000 feet or more to cater to at least medium capacity long-range aircraft or equivalent type of aircraft, as these aircraft constitute majority of aircraft used in international operations,
- (ii) Availability of Ground Lighting Facilities, Instrument Landing System, for operation of aircrafts at night,
- (iii) International sector traffic potential,
- (iv) Requirement/demand from Scheduled National/International Airline Operators,
- (v) Availability of Customs, Immigration, Health, animal and plant quarantine services,
- (vi) Bilateral agreement between the States (Nations) under which it may be offered as a point-of-call to foreign carriers for operations,
- (vii) International Cargo Complex, and
- (viii) Adequate size of terminal building to handle international and transit passengers. Based on the above parameters and approval of Union Cabinet an airport is declared international airport.

(b) Various passenger facilities made available at the International Airports belonging to Airports Authority of India (AAI) which include both airports and civil enclaves are; Bank / Money Exchange, Postal / telegram facilities, Air Insurance, Prepaid taxi service and car rental, Free passenger luggage trolleys, Tourist Information, Hotel Booking, Retiring room accommodation, Restaurant / Snack bars, Drinking water with disposable glasses, Duty Free shopping, Separate toilets for ladies, gents and physically challenged persons, Flight information display system with public address system, Passenger information and guidance signages, PCOs for local / STD / ISD calls (manned and unmanned), Reserved Lounge as per entitlement, Child care / infant lobby, Service for Lost & found property, Redressal of Grievance Cell in Duty Manager's office, Conveyor belts for baggage handling, Escalators and elevators, First aid facility, Car parking and car hailer and Entertainment TV etc. In addition, AAI has also provided Precision Approach Runways and associated facilities like Night Landing facilities, Instrument Approach Landing System, etc. with round-the-clock operations.

(c) So far, seventeen airports in the country have been accorded 'International Status'. These airports are Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Calicut, Chennai, Guwahati, Jaipur, Kolkata, Thiruvananthapuram, Bengaiuru, Hyderabad, Kochi, Delhi, Mumbai, Nagpur, Goa, Port Blair and Srinagar. Of these, eight airports, namely, Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Calicut, Chennai, Guwahati, Jaipur, Kolkata and Thiruvananthapuram belong to AAI and three Civil Enclaves, namely, Goa, Port Blair and Srinagar are maintained by AAI. AAI provides CNS / ATM services for five airports managed by Joint Venture Companies at Bengaiuru, Hyderabad, Delhi, Mumbai and Nagpur and for one private airport at Kochi. At Goa, Port Blair and Srinagar, which belong to Defence, AAI only maintains Civil Enclaves and CNS/ATM services are provided by Defence. In addition, Tirupathi airport has been declared as an international airport subject to the condition that the international airport may be made operational only after requisite facilities have been put in place.

(d) & (e) Grant of International status is an ongoing process depending upon airports modernisation, passenger demands and

operational requirements of airlines. Some airports are notified as Custom airports which can also cater to international flights. The Custom airports are Varanasi, Tiruchirapalli (Trichy), Patna, Mangalore, Lucknow, Gaya, Coimbatore and Pune (civil enclave).