

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:776
ANSWERED ON:09.07.2009
EQUIPMENTS INSTALLED AT AIRPORTS
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the Category-III equipments installed at Delhi and other airports to cope with foggy weather this year;
- (b) if so, the results thereof;
- (c) whether Category-III equipments were not of much help as passengers had cautioned to face flight cancellation and hardships of cold weather as before; and
- (d) the corrective action proposed to be taken so as to minimise inconvenience to the passengers in future?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Instrument Landing System (ILS) CAT III-B was installed at Delhi Airport on runway 28 only. In year 2008, Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) had commissioned ILS CAT-III-B on new runway 29/11 which has been in operation since 13 December 2008. With commissioning of system on additional runway, during the westerly winds, both the runways, i.e. runway 28 and 29 are being used simultaneously during low visibility conditions for CAT-III-B operations at IGI Airport, New Delhi. This has increased the capacity of the Delhi Airport to handle aircraft in low visibility conditions.

(c) All airlines can not use the facility as it is not mandatory for domestic Scheduled Airlines to train their flight crew for CAT-III operations during low visibility conditions, which results in delay, diversion and cancellation of flights.

(d) Domestic airlines are persuaded from time to time to train their pilots to operate in low visibility conditions. Only such pilots, who are CAT III qualified, are being approved as Instructor/Examiner so as to ensure that more trained pilots are available for CAT-III operations to improve operational efficiency. Flight schedule of Domestic scheduled operation for fog bound airports are being approved on the basis of number of pilots trained by the operators for low visibility operations and the suitability of the planes for such operations.