

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:367

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2014

AUCTION OF VACANT SLOTS AT AIRPORTS

Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the mechanism in place to ensure most efficient use of airport infrastructure in the country;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to auction vacant/departure slots and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any policy/guidelines and proposes to auction vacant slots in peak hours in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other steps being taken by the Government to optimally use airport infrastructure commercially?

Answer

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapati)

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

Statement in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred () Question No.367 for 04th August, 2014 regarding Auction of Vacant Slots at Airports

(a): To ensure most efficient use of airport infrastructure, Government has issued guidelines for slot allocation in October, 2012 and further modified in May, 2013 in line with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) World slot guidelines.

(b): No, Madam.

(c): There was a proposal to introduce auction for allocation of vacant slots in peak hours, on experimental basis in 2012. However, in light of the concern expressed by IATA that slot auctioning (Primary trading) which has never been implemented at any airport globally, is different from secondary trading of slots (which for instance is prevalent in Europe) and that adherence to the 80/20 rule alone ensures that airlines do not squat on slots and have to 'Use it or Loss it', it was decided not to go ahead with the proposal.

(d): Government has already taken various steps to optimally use the airport infrastructure such as wherever possible Integrated Terminal Buildings have been/ are being built instead of two separate terminals for International and Domestic operation to have optimum use of the area, the old Terminal Buildings have been/ are being converted / modified for cargo operations or administrative offices and steps have also been taken to enhance non-aero revenue at the airports to improve their operational efficiency.