

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4649
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2014
AIRPORT LANDING SLOTS
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the heavy congestion at the major airports of the country delays the allocation of landing slots to airlines thereby causing consumption of extra fuel and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has made any assessment on the total additional operational costs of the airlines due to circling time because of delay in allocation of landing slots; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures taken by the Government to reduce the extra operational costs of airlines arising out of congestion at airports?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Dr. Mahesh Sharma)

(a) No, Madam. There is no heavy congestion at major airports within the country except at Mumbai Airport. However, unavoidable congestion at times takes place at major airports due to (i) Non adherence of allotted slots by airline operators (ii) Unusual occurrences and (iii) Bad weather, fog, airspace restrictions etc.

(b) & (c) No such analysis has been made by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). However, the slots to scheduled domestic carriers are allocated by airport operators based on the available capacity and airlines are required to operate as per approved flight schedule. DGCA has issued Air Transport Circular 02 of 2013 dated 30.5.2013 on 'Procedure to be followed to mitigate flight delays`.