

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
Rajya Sabha**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2104
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20th March 2023**

CONGESTION DUE TO INCREASED FOOTFALL AT DELHI AIRPORT

2104. SHRI VIKRAMJIT SINGH SAHNEY

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is heavy congestion due to increased footfall at the IGI Airport, New Delhi and people have to wait in queue for hours in security checks;**
- (b) whether Government has any data about number of travellers from Punjab departing and arriving for domestic and international flights at IGI Airport, New Delhi;**
- (c) if so, details thereof; and**
- (d) whether Government is considering more international and domestic flights from Amritsar and Mohali in order to reduce footfall at IGI Airport, New Delhi?**

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

a): IGI Airport, New Delhi recently witnessed longer waiting time at various points in passenger processing due to an increase in the number of air travellers on account of seasonal variation in travel. A number of measures have since been taken and with continuous monitoring of the situation and augmentation of capacity at IGI Airport, Delhi the situation has improved.

(b)&(c): No such data is maintained. However, as per the records of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) during 2021-22, approximately 3.00 lakh domestic passengers moved from Punjab to Delhi and approximately 2.98 lakh domestic passengers moved from Delhi to Punjab by scheduled Indian operators.

d): For commercial flight operations, with the repeal of Air Corporations Act in March, 1994, the Indian domestic aviation was deregulated. It is, therefore, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject to compliance with the extant guidelines in this regard.

International flight operations are governed by bilateral Air Services Agreement(ASA) between India and the respective countries. In accordance with ASA, Indian designated carriers are free to mount operations to/from any international airport including Amritsar and Mohali to foreign destinations as per mutually agreed capacity limits. However, start of international flight from any point in India is purely a commercial decision of the airlines on the basis of economic viability of the route and other associated factors.
