

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 1611**  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023)

**POLICY CHANGES FOR IMPROVING AIRSPACE USAGE EFFICIENCY**

1611. SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH

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

- (a) the details on the recent policy changes to improve the efficiency of airspace usage with the responsibility of the airlines in this sector;
- (b) the initiatives undertaken to simplify travel and lodging arrangements for religious pilgrims embarking on spiritual pilgrimages in the country; and
- (c) whether any immersive training programmes have been introduced to improve the skills and competencies of public service employees within the Ministry of Civil Aviation to ensure the better public essence?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a): Achieving the optimal utilisation of airspace is a continuous effort that requires collaboration among all stakeholders, including airlines. The Flexible Use of Airspace initiative, as an integral component of this effort, acknowledges the dynamic nature of air traffic and seeks to establish a framework for flexible and adaptive airspace management. To date, 129 conditional routes have been instituted as a tangible outcome of this initiative.

(b): To enhance ease of travel for passengers, the Government has launched Digi Yatra for biometric-based travel using Facial Recognition Technology. The main objective of Digi Yatra Service is to elevate passenger experience by eliminating the need for manual verification of ticket and ID at multiple touch points like entry gates, security check point and boarding gates and to achieve better throughput through existing infrastructure using a Digital Framework.

(c): As part of the Mission Karmayogi initiative, the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has launched the Immersive Training Programme (ITP), with an aim to provide field experience to the officials of MoCA. Under this programme, training with private entities such as airlines, airports, cargo, ground handling, general aviation, aerospace manufacturing, Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO), Flying Training Organisations (FTOs), Drones etc. is offered to the officials.

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