

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 2734
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18th August 2025)**

WILDLIFE THREATS AND PUNE AIRPORT EXPANSION

2734. DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI

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

- (a) whether Government aware of the frequent incidents of wildlife and bird intrusions near the Pune airport premises - including dogs, peacocks and even leopards;
- (b) the number of bird strikes and wildlife-related incidents at Pune airport during the last one year and specific cases involving passenger flights;
- (c) the measures the Ministry has taken to coordinate with the Indian Air Force, local municipal bodies and wildlife departments to ensure passenger safety and operational standards; and
- (d) status of runway extension, approval of new flight slots and upgradation of additional infrastructure to accommodate international services at Pune airport?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) & (b): The number of confirmed wildlife (bird and animal) strike incidents at Pune airport for the year 2024 and 2025 (till June) are as under:

	2024	2025
No. of confirmed bird strikes	39	11
No. of confirmed animal strikes (Dog)	1	1
Damages to aircraft	5	4

(c): Airports Authority of India (AAI), Pune has coordinated with Indian Airforce (IAF) and local Authorities to ensure safe environment for flight operations. Regular Airfield Environment Management Committee (AEMC) meeting also being conducted by IAF, Pune with all stakeholders for mitigation of wildlife

activities in the air and in the operational area. Additionally, AAI and IAF had coordinated with local authorities such as District Administration, Pune Municipal Corporation for maintaining safe environment for flight operations.

(d): AAI has requested for additional 35 acres of land from Ministry of Defense for parking bays of at least 4 Code-E type of aircraft and expansion of terminal building infrastructure as requested by the State Government.

Expansion and modernization of airport infrastructure is a continuous process for which, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and other Public Private Partnership (PPP) Airport Operators have embarked upon a Capex Plan from 2019-20 to 2024-25 of more than Rs.91,000 crore for the development /upgradation/modernization of various airports in the country to meet the growing demands of air traffic and passenger growth. Projects include new airports, expansions and modifications of existing terminals, additional passenger facilities, new terminals, expansions and strengthening of runways and aprons, and Air Navigation Services (ANS) works like control towers and technical blocks.

Pune Airport belongs to the Indian Air Force (IAF), while the Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains a Civil Enclave at this airport. The airside infrastructure and ATC services are managed by the IAF.
