GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 805
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8th December 2025)

TECHNICAL GLITCH IN DELHI ATC TOWERS

805.	SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE

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

(a) the results of the root-cause analysis of the technical glitch that occurred on 6th November, 2025 at Delhi airport Air Traffic Control (ATC) towers;
(b) details of the last systems upgrade undertaken before the incident;
(c) the total number of trained communication navigation and surveillance (CNS) engineers currently employed at Delhi ATC; and
(d) frequency of upgradation of the Aeronautical Message Switching System?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

 (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a): High latency in the processing and delivery of Air Traffic Service (ATS) messages to Air Traffic Management Automation System (ATMAS) and other stakeholders was observed at Delhi International Airport on 06.11.2025 at 11:00 Hrs IST. Airports Authority of India (AAI), in coordination with the technical support team, jointly analyzed the issue and restored the system on 08.11.2025. The suspected reasons include issues with core switches and database servers. To improve the system performance, existing core switches and database servers have been replaced with the upgraded versions. The system is now functioning normally.

(b): The existing Automatic Message Switching System (AMSS) System at Delhi Airport was commissioned in October, 2020. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) undertakes the upgradation of the system as per the extant policy and no system upgradation was due prior to the incident.

(c): At present, a total of 193 manpower are deployed at Delhi ATC to manage the existing Communication, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS)/ Air Traffic Management (ATM) facilities.

(d): As per existing policy, AAI adheres to a structured framework for the

maintenance and upgradation of Communication, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) systems. It follows International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) global standardized procedures for equipment lifecycle management which encompasses routine maintenance, performance monitoring, and timely replacement or upgradation of systems. These activities, including system upgrades, backups, and redundancy checks, constitute regular and routine functions carried out by AAI to ensure operational reliability, safety, and continuity.

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