

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 815

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27th July 2026

**IMPLEMENTATION OF ALTERNATE MECHANISMS FOR
INTERNATIONAL AIR CARGO AMID GLOBAL MARITIME AND
AIRSPACE DISRUPTIONS**

815. SHRI KESRIDEVSINH JHALA

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

- (a) whether Government is developing strategic, long-haul direct-flight air corridors to key international markets to systematically bypass traditional conflict-prone transit hubs;
- (b) structural modifications being introduced to the air freight station policy to decentralize international cargo processing and clear bottlenecks at major exit gateways;
- (c) whether Government has issued directions to the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security to enforce seamless trans-shipment rules that eliminate mandatory re-screening for international transfer cargo; and
- (d) temporary fiscal reliefs, such as warehousing demurrage waivers, are being worked out to protect Indian exporters from financial penalties caused by geopolitical rerouting and flight delays?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

(a) No such proposal is under consideration of this Ministry. However, the start of direct international flights from any point in India is purely a commercial decision of scheduled airlines on the basis of passenger demand, availability of slots, economic viability of the route and other associated factors.

(b) The Ministry of Civil Aviation issued Policy Guidelines for setting up AFSs in India on 28.10.2014, with the objective of strengthening air cargo logistics infrastructure, reducing dependence on congested airport cargo terminals, reducing dwell time and logistics costs, improving hinterland connectivity and facilitating trade and exports. Review of policies and regulatory frameworks is a continuous process based on the operational experience, stakeholder feedback and evolving requirements of the air cargo sector.

(c) Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), the security regulator of civil aviation sector in India, has issued a revised framework for handling and security of transshipment cargo which enables transfer cargo secured at the originating airport to be processed through dedicated transfer cargo facilities without re-screening, subject to prescribed security safeguards.

(d) To mitigate the impact of geopolitical situations, the Ministry of Civil Aviation coordinates with airports and cargo terminal operators, and timely advisories are issued by Airport Operators for tendering cargo only against confirmed airline bookings, thereby preventing cargo accumulation and consequential demurrage at terminals. In cases of flight disruptions, measures such as Back-to-Town (BTT), Return-to-Origin (RTO), rerouting through alternate airlines and bonded trucking facilitates clearance of cargo.
