

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 829

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27th July 2026

**ADVANCED AVIATION TECHNOLOGY, SAFETY AND FUEL PRICE
SUPPORT**

829. DR. SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK

SHRI MAYANKKUMAR NAYAK

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

(a) whether the successful validation of the country's first Point-in-Space instrument approach procedure has significantly improved all-weather helicopter accessibility in remote areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the successful completion of the first phase of the Char Dham helicopter operations in the year 2026 with zero incidents;

(d) the manner in which Government proposes to implement the indigenous GAGAN-based precision approach technology in the commercial aircraft fleet during the current year; and

(e) the benefits accrued to Indian airlines following the creation of the ₹10,000 crore Fuel Price Stabilization Fund by the Cabinet?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Yes, India has successfully completed the validation and approval of the country's first Point-in-Space (PinS) Instrument Flight Procedure for helicopters. The PinS concept enables helicopters to conduct instrument flight operations to locations where conventional instrument approach procedures are not feasible, thereby improving accessibility during adverse weather conditions, particularly in remote and hilly regions.

(c): The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), in coordination with the Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA), Airports Authority of India (AAI), India Meteorological Department (IMD), helicopter operators, and other stakeholders, implemented a comprehensive safety oversight and regulatory framework to ensure safe, efficient, and orderly helicopter operations during the first phase of the Char Dham Yatra-2026.

The first phase of helicopter operations was conducted from 19 April 2026 to 26 June 2026 for the pilgrimage to Kedarnath, Badrinath, Gangotri, and Yamunotri.

(d): DGCA has issued Operations Circular (OC) No. 3 of 2016 - Aircraft and Operator Approval for RNP-APCH down to LNAV, LNAV/VNAV and LPV minima using GNSS augmented by SBAS (GAGAN). USA - WAAS, Europe - EGNOS and India - GAGAN are some of the SBAS systems that have been certified for RNP-APCH down to LNAV, LNAV/VNAV and LPV minima.

(e): The Government has approved a one-time budgetary support not exceeding Rs. 10,000 crore for Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to provide Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) price stabilisation support to Scheduled Indian Airlines due to exceptional fuel price volatility arising from the West Asia crisis. However, Indian scheduled airlines may choose to opt for the support as per their operational requirements and commercial decisions.
