

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 1481
(To be answered on the 9th March 2017)**

INCREASE IN NUMBER OF AIR PASSENGERS

1481. MOHAMMED FAIZAL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has received any report of increase in the number of air passengers to Lakshadweep;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a) to (c): The growth during April to January 2016-17 from April to January 2015-16 has been reported 3.6%. However, Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG) with a view to achieve better connectivity of air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of RDG issued by Government. Lakshadweep has been included in the Category II of the RDG, which mandates airlines to operate 10% (of the capacity deployed on the Category-I routes) on Category II routes.
