

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 45
(To be answered on the 2nd February 2017)

INFRASTRUCTURE AT AGARTALA AIRPORT

45. SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

लागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the infrastructure and equipment at Agartala airport are sufficient to handle more flight, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is demand to start Air India direct flight from Delhi-Agartala- Delhi;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of airports which are renovated and developed as model airports, in the country;
- (e) the details regarding time frame for this work and cost of the same; and
- (f) whether the Government proposes to develop Agartala airport as an international airport and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

लागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): Yes, Madam. The present demand at Agartala Airport is 0.92 million passengers per annum (MPPA) against its existing capacity of 1 MPPA. The existing terminal building can cater to present demand and can also handle more flights by management of slots or spreading the operation time.

(b) & (c): At present, Air India operates two daily flights between Kolkata and Agartala and provides connectivity between Agartala and Delhi via Kolkata. Flight operations in the domestic sector are deregulated and it is upto the airlines operators to provide air services to specific places depending upon their operational resources, commercial viability and traffic demand. Presently, Air India has no plans to start a direct flight on Delhi-Agartala route due to non-availability of resources.

(d) & (e): There is no such concept of model airports at present. However, development and upgradation of airports is a continuous process which is undertaken by Airports Authority of India (AAI) and other private airport operators based on the operational demand, traffic projections, availability of land free from all encumbrances, grant of mandatory clearances, etc. The time frame and cost for such projects are determined on case to case basis.

(f): In order to upgrade Agartala Airport to international standards, AAI has accorded administrative approval and expenditure sanction of approximately Rs. 438 crores and has also appointed Project Management Consultant for construction of a new Integrated Terminal Building with a capacity of 1000 domestic and 200 international peak hour passengers.