

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 526  
(To be answered on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018)

REVAMPING OF AVIATION SECTOR

526. DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is true that India is set to become the third largest aviation market in the world in the next 5-7 years and if so, whether it is experiencing problems of capacity constraints, increasing congestion and capacity shortages in terms of runway slots, terminals and so on;
- (b) if yes, the steps taken by the Government to address these problems affecting the growing aviation sector;
- (c) measures undertaken to resolve the structural problems in airport planning;
- (d) whether more private-public partnerships have been considered to develop and modernize airports across the country; and
- (e) whether a panel has been constituted which would explore ways to hive off Air Navigation Services into a separate entity and if yes, the details thereof?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): Yes, Madam. According to International Air Transport Association (IATA), India is set to become the third largest aviation market in the world by 2023. At present, Airports Authority of India (AAI) airports have the capacity to handle 15.5 crore passengers per year in aggregate. In financial year 2017-18, AAI airports handled 13.6 crore passengers and the passenger traffic is growing at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 17.5% for last three years. This is creating pressure on the existing infrastructure and some of the AAI airports such as Bagdogra, Patna and Pune are facing congestion during certain periods of the day, when the flow of passengers shoots up and exceeds the existing capacity of the airport terminals.

(b) & (c) : Government has embarked upon an ambitious NABH Nirman airport capacity expansion programme through which Government has proposed to increase the capacity of airports by 4 to 5 times to handle a billion passenger trips per year over the next 10 to 15 years. To meet the demand, AAI has embarked upon a Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) plan of Rs. 25,000 crores in next 4-5 years for development/modernization/upgradation of terminal buildings of AAI airports in the country. Development/upgradation of airports is a continuous process and is undertaken by AAI from time to time depending on the availability of land, commercial viability, socio-economic considerations, traffic demand/willingness of airlines to operate to/from such airports. Further, the problem of congestion at airports is being resolved through management of slot allocation/co-ordination with airlines to avoid bunching of flights. The Digi Yatra digital traveller program will also increase throughput and efficiency of existing airports.

(d): Yes, Madam. Government of India has accorded 'In-principle' approval for leasing out six airports of AAI viz. Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangaluru for operation, management and development under Public Private Partnership (PPP) through Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC).

(e): No, Madam. At present, there is no panel constituted to explore ways to hive-off Air Navigation Services into a separate entity.

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