GROWTH IN AVIATION SECTOR

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

(a) whether the country is witnessing an unprecedented growth in the aviation sector and if so, the details thereof;
(b) the details of various efforts being made by the Government to provide more facilities to the flight passengers;
(c) the number of new airports and terminals opened in the last twelve months; and
(d) the total number of operational civil airports in 2013 and as on date?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(a): Yes, Sir. Before Covid-19 pandemic, India was one of the fastest growing aviation market in the world. During the six-year period i.e. 2014-15 to 2019-20, Indian airports witnessed robust double-digit Compound Annual Growth Rate of 12.4% in terms of total passenger traffic. Post Covid, Indian aviation industry is again on the growth trajectory and the total passenger traffic has recovered to the tune of 96% during 2022-23 as compared to pre-covid.
To improve the aviation industry in the country, Airports Authority of India and PPP Partners have embarked upon a CAPEX plan of more than Rs. 91000 crore during FY 2019-20 to FY 2024-25 for development / upgradation / modernization of various airports in the country to meet the requirement of Air traffic / passengers growth which includes New Airports, expansions/ Modification of existing terminal, addition of new passenger facilities, New terminals, expansions / strengthening of existing runways, aprons, Air Navigation Services (ANS) work like control tower, technical block etc.

Facilities such as Inline Baggage, Digiyatra, Common Use Passenger Processing System, Common Use Self Service (CUSS) Kiosks and Baggage Reconciliation Systems have been made available at various airports.

The Government has also taken several measures to enhance the ease of travel for passengers such as capacity enhancement through infrastructural changes in existing terminals, installation and commissioning of additional X-ray machines for baggage check, deployment of additional manpower by CISF (Central Industrial Security Force), airlines and airport operators, co-ordination with airlines to avoid bunching of flights etc.

In the last twelve months, three greenfield airports namely, Mopa in Goa, Rajkot in Gujarat and Shivamogga in Karnataka have been operationalized. In addition, new terminals buildings at Rourkela, Chennai, Tezu, Kanpur and Port Blair airports have been developed.

Before 2014, there were 74 operational airports in country and as on date there are 149 operational airports in the country.

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