

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2247
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12th February 2026)

FLEET INTEGRATION AT KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM AIRPORT

2247. SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of wide-body and narrow-body aircraft inducted during the last three years and their current route deployment, especially with reference to Kazi Nazrul Islam Airport, Durgapur in West Bengal;
- (b) the manner in which the Government is overseeing challenges related to aircraft availability, on-time performance and route rationalisation during fleet integration at the said airport;
- (c) the coordination mechanisms in place between the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and airline operators to ensure safety compliance during expansion at the said airport; and
- (d) the expected timelines for completion of fleet harmonisation and service standardisation?

ANSWER

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

(a) The number of wide-body and narrow-body aircraft inducted into the fleet of scheduled airline operators during the last three years is attached as Annexure. With the repeal of the Air Corporations Act, the Indian aviation sector has been fully deregulated, and airlines are free to operate flights and deploy capacity on routes based on their commercial viability and market considerations.

(b): The DGCA has a robust mechanism in place to monitor the induction of aircraft by airlines, On-Time Performance (OTP) and route rationalisation.

(c) The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has put in place a multi-layered oversight mechanism to ensure that safety standards are strictly complied with by airlines, particularly during phases of rapid expansion in fleet size and operations. All expansion activities, including induction of aircraft, increase in flight operations, route expansion and wet/dry leasing, are subject to prior approval by DGCA after detailed scrutiny of safety preparedness. DGCA conducts periodic and special audits, inspections and surveillance activities covering flight operations, airworthiness, training, safety management systems (SMS) and maintenance practices. DGCA

conduct meetings with airline management and key post-holders to review operational performance, safety indicators, and manpower adequacy and compliance status. In case of deficiencies, DGCA takes corrective and enforcement action, including issuance of show cause notices, operational restrictions or suspension of approvals and financial penalty, as necessary.

(d): The process of fleet harmonisation and standardisation of services is a commercial decision of the individual airline operator based on their business plan and the Ministry and DGCA does not directly interfere in this regard.

Number of wide-body and narrow-body aircraft inducted

Year	Wide Body	Narrow Body	Total
2023	8	104	112
2024	11	129	140
2025	0	95	95
2026 (As on 31.01.2026)	01	7	8

Note: Aircraft induction by the airline operators would be accompanied with re-delivery/export of their existing aircraft in line with expiry of the lease periods. The aircraft induction would therefore cater for increase in airline fleet as well as replacement of existing fleet over the time.