

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.: 2028**

(To be answered on the 22 nd September 2020)

**FUNCTIONAL AIRPORTS IN THE COUNTRY**

2028. SHRI PRASUN BANERJEE

SHRIMATI NUSRAT JAHAN RUHI

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

- (a) the total number of functional airports in the country;
- (b) whether Air India operates its flights from these airports, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether a number of people lost their job in aviation and related sector during the last three years, specially post 23rd March, 2020, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard and also to ensure payment of full salary to the employees of private airlines?

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**

**(Shri Hardeep Singh Puri)**

- a) The total number of functional airports in the country at present is 125.
- (b) Air India operated flights from 56 airports in the pre-COVID-19 period. The list of these airports is attached as Annexure. The reasons for not operating from other airports include, inter alia:
  1. The airstrip may not be compatible with the type of aircraft in the Air India fleet.
  2. Air India subsidiaries i.e. Air India Express and Alliance Air may have operations there.
  3. Operations there may have sub-optimal commercial and operational viability.
- (c) Based on inputs received from stakeholders, the impact of Covid-19 on employment in aviation sector is as follows:
  1. The employment at airlines has reduced from 74,887 as on 31 Mar 2020 to 69,589 as on 31 Jul 2020.

2. The employment at airports has reduced from 67,760 as on 31 Mar 2020 to 64,514 as on 31 Jul 2020.

3. The employment at ground handling agencies has reduced from 37,720 as on 31 Mar 2020 to 29,254 as on 31 Jul 2020.

4. The employment at cargo operators has reduced from 9,555 as on 31 Mar 2020 to 8,538 as on 31 Jul 2020.

(d) Some of the measures taken to support the aviation sector include, inter-

1. Domestic air services have been restarted in a calibrated manner. Initially one third (33%) of the summer schedule 2020 was allowed to be operated which was subsequently increased to 45% on 26 Jun 2020 and then to on 02 sep 2020.

2. Operation of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) flights were allowed without the above-mentioned restrictions.

3. As on 17 Sep 2020, in exclusive air-links or Air Bubbles have been established with **Afghanistan**, Bahrain, Canada, France, Germany, Iraq, Japan, Qatar, Maldives, Nigeria, UAE, UK and USA. These are temporary arrangements aimed at restarting international passenger services while regular international flights remain suspended due to COVID-19. In addition, under the Vande Bharat Mission (VBM) international flights are operating on many other sectors.

4. Promoted private investments in existing and new airports through the PPP route.

5. Adequate care taken to ensure that cargo terminals at all major airports were operational, whenever required.

6. GST rate reduced to 5% for domestic Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) services.

7. Encouraging Indian carriers to increase their share in international air cargo traffic.

8. Route rationalization in the Indian airspace in coordination with Indian Air Force (IAF) for efficient airspace management, shorter routes and reduced fuel consumption.

The salaries paid by private airlines to their employees is determined by their respective management. The salaries have to be in consonance with applicable laws.

Annexure

Statement referred to in reply of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2028 for answer of  
22.09.2020

List of airports where Air India flights were being operated (pre-COVID-19 period)

S.NO.	ONLY AI (DOMESTIC)
1	AGARTALA
2	AHMEDABAD
3	AIZWAL
4	AMRITSAR
5	AURANGABAD
6	BAGDOGRA
7	BENGALURU
8	BHOPAL
9	BHUBANESHWAR
10	CALICUT
11	CHANDIGARH
12	CHENNAI
13	COCHIN
14	COIMBATORE
15	DEHRADUN
16	DELHI
17	DIBRUGARH
18	DIMAPUR
19	DURGAPUR
20	GAYA
21	GOA
22	GUWAHATI
23	HUBLI
24	HYDERABAD
25	IMPHAL
26	INDORE
27	JAIPUR
28	JAMMU
29	JAMNAGAR
30	JODHPUR
31	KHAJURAHO
32	KOLKATA
33	KUNNUR
34	LEH
35	LUCKNOW

S.NO.	ONLY AI (DOMESTIC)
36	MADURAI
37	MANGALORE
38	MUMBAI
39	NAGPUR
40	NANDED
41	PATNA
42	PORT BLAIR
43	PUNE
44	RAIPUR
45	RAJKOT
46	RANCHI
47	SILCHAR
48	SRINAGAR
49	SURAT
50	TIRUPATI
51	TRIVANDRUM
52	UDAIPUR
53	VADODARA
54	VARANASI
55	VUJAYWADA
56	VIZAG