because it is not able to meet the requirement of Commanders for specific types of aircraft, this shortage of Commanders is met by hiring foreign pilots.

(f)   The number of pilots employed with Air India, including for Air India Express and Alliance Air is 1794. It include 56 foreign pilots.

Congestion in major airports of the country

1567. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a)   the average number of flights operating from each international airport in the country at present;

(b)   whether heavy congestions delay the planes to take off and landing at airports; and

(c)   if so, the steps being taken to reduce the congestion on major domestic/international airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Details are given in the Statement *(See* below).

(b)   Yes, Sir. At times when traffic density exceeds the runway handling capacity the delays take place.

(c)   The following steps have been taken to address the issues arising out of congestion and delays:

1.   Upgradation of Air Traffic Controller (ATC) Automation at Delhi.

2.   Advance Surface Movement Guidance and Control System (ASMGCS) has been installed at the airports in Delhi, Hyderabad and Bangalore.

3.   Instrument Landing System (ILS) CAT III B has been installed at three runways of IGI Airport, Delhi which permits operations of aircrafts upto Runway Visual Range of 50 meters.

4.   Low Visibility Take off has been made permissible at many airports.

5.   ILS at Kolkata has been upgraded to CAT II ILS.

6.   Slot allocation to scheduled airlines is made corresponding to the traffic handling capacity of concerned airports.

7. Clearance Delivery System (CDS) on a dedicated channel has been implemented at Delhi and Mumbai airports, to reduce congestion and avoid delays to the departing aircraft.

8. Additional ATC work positions have been opened at Delhi and Mumbai.

9. The Automatic Dependent Surveillance/Controller Pilot Data Link Communication (ADS/CDLS) system has been installed and put into operation at Delhi and Mumbai airports to enhance the area of surveillance, reduce congestion and remove the drawbacks of Height Frequency (HF) voice communications. This also provides direct controller-pilot communication link beyond the Very High Frequency (VHF) coverage area.

10. Performance Based Navigation (PBN) procedures have been implemented at Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad and Chennai.

11. To avoid delay to the aircrafts procedures have been designed for multiple use of runways at Delhi.

Statement

Average number of flights handled per day at international airports (April-December 2010)

(in Nos.)

Sl. No.	Airport	Aircraft movements*				
		INT'L	DOM	Total	GEN. Aviation	G. Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Delhi (DIAL)	200	486	686	55	741
2	Mumbai (MIAL)	187	473	659	36	695
3	Chennai	89	211	300	16	316
4	Bangalore (BIAL)	42	261	303	1	304
5	Kolkatta	37	218	255	4	259
6	Hyderabad (GHIAL)	38	186	224	3	227

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	Cochin (CIAL)	51	58	110	2	112
8	Ahemdabad	17	75	91	15	106
9	Guwahati	1	72	72	14	86
10	Trivandrum	46	21	67	3	70
11	Nagpur (MIPL)	1	40	41	25	66
12	Goa	9	54	63	3	66
13	Calicut	38	9	46	0	47
14	Jaipur	7	33	40	10	49
15	Srinagar	0	24	24	2	27
16	Amritsar	12	12	24	2	26
17	Portblair	0	18	18	0	18

* Aircraft movements include both landing & take off

Lucknow and Varanasi airports runway project scam

†1568. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a)   whether Government is aware of Lucknow Varanasi airports runway scam;

(b)   if so, the details thereof;

(c)   whether it is a fact that embezzlement of crores of rupees has been done in Varanasi and Lucknow airports runway project by showing exorbitant increase in prices;

(d)   if so, the details thereof;

(e)   whether the matter has been investigated into and responsibility has been fixed;

(f)   if so, the complete details thereof and the persons found responsible for the scam; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.