

from China Aircraft Leasing Co. (CALC) for a lease period of 12 years. Lease of these 5 A320 aircraft has been planned as part replacement of its old A320/319 fleet which shall be phased out over the next 3 years. The 5 new A320 aircraft will be delivered in the year 2015.

**Cancellation of flights due to fog in Delhi**

2777. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of domestic and international flights cancelled due to fog in Delhi during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the reasons for failure in use of very high quality low visibility landing equipment during foggy conditions;

(c) the steps taken by Government to make Delhi airport a "Zero diversionary" one at the earliest; and

(d) the further steps taken by Government to look into the issues pertaining to international operations and modalities to deal with passengers stranded due to fog ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI G. M. SIDDESHWARA): (a) The total number of domestic and international flights cancelled due to fog and bad weather in Delhi are as under:

Year	International	Domestic
2011-12	10	75
2012-13	04	74
2013-14	30	167

(b) There was no low visibility landing system failure. The failure to use the system is primarily due to non-availability of trained pilots and non-deployment of certified aircraft to use such system.

(c) A technical committee was set up to conduct study of low visibility operations at Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport, Delhi to make Delhi a "Zero diversionary" airport without compromising safety of aircraft operations, prepare comprehensive documents on low visibility operations defining duties and responsibilities of all stakeholders and to look into the specific issues pertaining to operations and modalities to deal with stranded passengers during low visibility conditions. The committee has since submitted its report. All the stakeholders have been advised to implement the recommendations made by the committee.

(d) Following decisions were taken for compliance to look into the issues due to fog:

- (i) All airlines will have to ensure that aircraft deployed to/from Delhi during low visibility conditions are CAT-III compliant and both the commander and co-pilot are also CAT-III trained.
- (ii) Only CAT-III flight crew will operate the flights to/from Delhi in case weather predictions of CAT-III conditions. Failing to do so, such operations of the defaulting airlines will be stopped to/from Delhi during low visibility conditions.
- (iii) Airlines must take adequate care of providing basic amenities of water and refreshment to passengers during such conditions if the flights are delayed.
- (iv) All stakeholders should have better communication procedure so that level of interaction with passengers increases during the fog and they are aware of flight delays.
- (v) One representative each from Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) will interact with airlines, Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL). DIAL will organise conference on daily basis wherein fog forecast for the day and next day will be provided by IMD. All these decisions have been implemented with immediate effect.

**Air space agreement with Emirates and Etihad airlines**

2778. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has entered into an air-space agreement with Emirates and Etihad airlines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of flights a week Air India operates between Delhi - Dubai and between other Indian cities connecting with the gulf;
- (d) the details thereof, city-wise, sector-wise and flight-wise; and
- (e) the number of flights which have been sanctioned to Emirates and Etihad for the same sector and the passenger load they take every week, the details thereof, flight-wise?