

Increase in airlines passengers

180. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand for air travel continues to be high as airlines reported over 18 per cent jump in passengers traffic in June, 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that domestic passengers increased to 11.32 million in June, 2018 as compared with 9.56 million in June, 2017; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) All airports taken together in India handled 22.28 million domestic passengers (sum of embarked and disembarked passengers) in June 2018 as compared to 18.92 million domestic passengers in June 2017, registering a growth of about 18 percent. Month-wise domestic passengers handled during June-October 2018 *vis-a-vis* June-October 2017 (in million) is given as under:

Month	2018	2017	% Change
June	22.28	18.92	17.8%
July	22.94	18.86	21.6%
August	22.34	19.12	16.9%
September	22.26	18.86	18.0%
October	23.25	20.56	13.1%

(c) and (d) All airports taken together in India handled 11.08 million embarked domestic passengers in June 2018 as compared to 9.48 million embarked domestic passengers in June 2017, registering a growth of 16.9 percent.

Proposal for clearance of new airport terminal at Vijayawada

181. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) when was the proposal submitted for the Environment, Forest and Climate Change clearance of new terminal at Vijayawada with an estimated cost of ₹ 500 crores;

(b) what are the reasons for delay in getting approval from the Expert Appraisal Committee of that Ministry; and

(c) by when the approval of AAI is going to be acquired and by when the project would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has submitted the proposal to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) on 27th June, 2018.

(b) The approval from the MoEF&CC involves examination of proposal by the Expert Appraisal Committee, granting of Terms of Reference, preparation of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environment Management Plan (EMP) report, public hearing etc. The proposal for clearance in respect of new terminal building at Vijayawada airport has already been examined by the Expert Appraisal Committee, which has granted Terms of Reference and has issued directions to prepare EIA-EMP report on the subject along with the public hearing.

(c) The whole process of obtaining clearance/approval as mentioned above, takes about 9 to 12 months. AAI is likely to receive the EIA report by March, 2019 and the project is expected to be completed by March, 2022.

Shortage of pilots/air traffic controllers

†182. SHRI LAL SINGH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortage of trained pilots and air traffic controllers is being felt for safe aviation service in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government is contemplating on taking any step to address such shortcomings; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) There is a shortage of type rated Pilots-in-Command in the country. To cover the shortage of type rated Pilots-in-command, the validation of foreign licenses is done by DGCA under the provisions contained in Rule 45 of Aircraft

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.