

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 674
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29th July 2024)**

MONSOON MISHAPS AT AIRPORTS

674. SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the roofs or ceilings of the airports at Jabalpur, Delhi, Rajkot, Lucknow, Gwalior and Guwahati have malfunctioned during the rains this year, leading to leaking water and roof cave-ins;
- (b) whether the privatisation of Rajkot, Lucknow and Guwahati airports is not yielding benefits, if so, Government's response thereto;
- (c) Government's response on the roof-crash or malfunctioning at airports; and
- (d) the reasons for these happening frequently this year?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)

- (a) During heavy rain, forecourt canopy collapsed at Terminal 1D of Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi on 28.06.2024. Also, kerb area Canopy made of tensile fabric, a non-structural element tore at Jabalpur & Rajkot Airports on 27.06.2024 and 29.06.2024, respectively. At Guwahati Airport, a small portion of the false ceiling (ACP) sheet at the forecourt area outside the terminal building malfunctioned due to the excessive pressure of water and wind on 31.03.2024. Dripping of water from one city side skylight was also observed at Gwalior Airport. No major occurrence has been observed at Lucknow Airport due to rain.
- (b) Operations at existing Rajkot airport have been stopped on account of operationalization of the new greenfield airport at Hirasar (Rajkot) which has been developed by Airports Authority of India (AAI) in collaboration with State Government of Gujarat. Further, AAI has leased out its Guwahati and Lucknow Airports under PPP for operation, management and development as per the provisions of the respective Concession Agreement signed in this regard. Airports of AAI are leased out for their better management, utilising private sector efficiency and mobilising private investments. Airports have emerged as a nucleus of economic activities and have multiplier effect on the economy of the State. Revenue received by AAI from the leased airports is also utilised for the development of airport infrastructure across the country. Private Partners of

Lucknow and Guwahati Airports have paid approximately Rs. 612.44 crore to AAI as Per Passenger Fee (PPF) till May 2024. AAI has also received an amount of approximately Rs. 1308.27 crore from the Private Partner of these airport in the form of upfront fee towards the capital expenditure incurred by AAI at these airports prior to privatisation.

(c) & (d) This Ministry has constituted a High Level Expert Committee consisting of Structural Engineers from IIT Delhi to assess the incident at Delhi T1. Also, the Airports Authority of India has initiated investigations to determine the root cause of incidents at Jabalpur and Rajkot Airports. Further, all the Airport Operators have been directed to carry out a Third Party Audit of structural stability of airport buildings and associated infrastructures through a reputed Government Institution/Body such as IITs, NITs, CBRI, EIL etc. Since these incidents occurred following heavy downpour, all the Airport Operators have also been directed to carry out thorough evaluation of all civil, electrical and technical aspects of the building including the design, specifications and workmanship of the roof sheeting structure before the onset of monsoon every year.
