

'In all, 15 bays, including 8 for chartered & 7 for spl scheduled flights, were activated'

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Total 15 bays were activated, including eight, for chartered flights, and seven for special scheduled flights for Maha Kumbh. The AAI also used technical areas of IAF airstrip to park aircraft during Kumbh.

"Since Feb 11, airlines have increased flight movements by multiple times due to heavy demand. We operated the airport round-the-clock in close-coordination with IAF, who were responsible for Air Traffic Control," Prayagraj airport director Mukesh Chandra Upadhyay told TOI.

"There were times when we made an aircraft land, de-board passengers with their full luggage, allow boarding of departing passengers, and final take off in 20-30 minutes," added Upadhyay.

To manage the passenger movement, on an average, AAI had deployed a team of



RECORD-BREAKING TAKEOFFS

DAY	SCHEDULED FLIGHTS	NON-SCHEDULED FLIGHTS	TOTAL FLIGHTS	TOTAL FLYERS
Jan 11	24	4	28	2,991
Jan 13 (Paush Purnima)	34	3	37	4,620
Jan 14 (Makar Sankranti)	38	8	46	5,266
Jan 29 (Mauni Amavasya)	42	5	47	6,209
Feb 3 (Basant Panchami)	62	1	63	9,601
Feb 11	86	71	157	13,963
Feb 12 (Maghi Purnima)	78	43	121	12,497
Till Feb 16	2,054	856	2,910	3,20,952
Feb 24	154	128	282	26,182
Feb 25	166	96	262	27,673
Feb 26 (Mahashivratri)	134	70	204	22,888
Total in last 10 days (Feb 17-26)	1,400	919	2,319	2,38,226
Total in 46 days	3,454	1,775	5,229	5,59,178

13 personnel for operation and terminal duty. "Five groups were formed with manpower enlisted from

Udaipur, Kolkata, Chennai, Leh, Dehradun, Delhi, Srinagar and Bhopal. Each group was deployed for 10 days

each. In total, over 60 personnel were assigned for Maha Kumbh duty," said a source in AAI.