**National Assembly**

**Question No: 2120**

**Mr R A Lees (DA) to ask the Minister of Transport:**

With regard to the SA Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), (a) at which South African airports have the Instrument Landing Systems (ALS) not been operational and/or switched off in the period 1 January 2020 to 15 August 2021, (b) on what dates were the systems not operating, (c) what are the reasons that the systems were not operating, (d) what are the relevant details of the persons who have been held accountable for the systems not being operational, (e) what are the reasons that no person has been held accountable, (f) what are the relevant details of the persons and/or entities who were responsible for the maintenance of the ALS during the specified period and (g) what are the relevant details of the persons and/or entities who have been responsible for the maintenance of the ALS as at 15 August 2021? NW2407E

**REPLY**

The SA Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA), (a) During the period 01 January 2020 and 15 August 2021 the following Instrument Landing Systems were switched off / were non-operational:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **(a)**  **Station** | **Facility** | **Description** | **(b)**  **Unserviceable Dates** | **(b)**  **Serviceable Dates** | **(c)**  **Reasons why the systems were not operating.** | **(d) (e)**  **Details of the persons who have been held accountable for the systems not being operational** | **(f) (g)**  **what are the relevant details of the persons and/or entities who were responsible for the maintenance of the ALS during the specified period** |
| **FAPP** | ILS | FAPP ILS RWY | August 2020 | N/A | System unserviceable | Airport Management | The maintenance of ILS facilities is the responsibility of the airport management. |
| **FAKN** | ILS | KMIA ILS RWY 05 | 29-30 March 2021 | 31-Mar-21 | 25 days extension expired | The SACAA Flight Inspection Unit aircraft crashed on 23 January 2020 and the organisation went on a tender to source a service provider to conduct the calibration for its clients. The tender was approved, and an SLA signed in April 2020. The service provider appointed sub-contracted equipment and crew from a European company. Due to Covid-19 the service provider could not reposition the aircraft from Europe to South Africa due to Covid-19 travel restrictions. There were delays in obtaining a Foreign Operator Permit from the Air Service Licencing Council due to the Covid-19 outbreak.  All the major airports are equipped with modern based technology such as GNSS and RNAV approaches, in addition to the standard VOR approaches. So, being without an ILS doesn’t leave an airport stranded with traffic that cannot land in bad weather. They can also use the GNSS/RNAV approaches to achieve the same effect.  At the time of submitting this report all ILSes were operational and within the regulated parameters except for those where the owners opted not to calibrate. |
| **FALA** | ILS | Lanseria ILS RWY 05 | 27-Mar-21 | 18-May-21 | FALA Airport closed down due travel restriction |
| **FAOR** | ILS 03R | OR Tambo ILS 03R | 10-Aug-20 | 22-Aug-20 | Exemption Period Lapsed |
| ILS 21L | OR Tambo ILS 21L | 10-Aug-20 | 23-Aug-20 | Exemption Period Lapsed |
| ILS 03L | OR Tambo ILS 03L | 10-May-21 | 11-May-21 | Exemption not yet granted |
| ILS 21R | OR Tambo ILS 21R | 10-May-21 | 11-May-21 | Exemption not yet granted |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **FACT** | ILS 19 | Cape Town ILS 19 | 13-Aug-20 | 25-Aug-20 | Exemption Period Lapsed |
| ILS 01 | Cape Town ILS 01 | 13-Aug-20 | 26-Aug-20 | Exemption Period Lapsed |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **FALE** | ILS 06 | King Shaka ILS 06 | 06-May-20 | 02-Sep-20 | Maintenance failure that needed flight calibrations resulting in the equipment NOTAM'd off air |
| ILS 24 | King Shaka ILS 24 | 02-Jul-20 | 31-Aug-20 | Exemption Period Lapsed |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **FAEL** | ILS 29 | East London ILS | 16-Aug-20 | 12-Sep-20 | Exemption Not Granted |
| ILS 11 | East London ILS | 16-Aug-20 | 11-Sep-20 | Exemption Not Granted |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **FAPE** | ILS 08 | Port Elizabeth ILS 08 | 18-Aug-20 | 14-Sep-20 | Exemption Period Lapsed |
| ILS 26 | Port Elizabeth ILS 26 | 18-Aug-20 | 28-Sep-20 | Exemption Period Lapsed |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **FAGG** | ILS | George ILS 11 | 10-Jul-20 | 29-Aug-20 | Exemption Period Lapsed |
| ILS | George ILS 29 | 10-Jul-20 | 28-Aug-20 | Exemption Period Lapsed |