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Airports' Fuel Supply Is Sufficient

By The Moscow Times

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Moscow's major airports said Monday that they are no longer suffering fuel shortages, Interfax reported, and the prosecutor general opened an investigation into the supply situation.

"Deliveries stabilized on Monday, and we now have a three-day supply of fuel. The airport is operating normally, and departures are on schedule," a Sheremetyevo Airport representative said.

Domodedovo Airport said it also had three days' worth of fuel, while Vnukovo Airport said it had no problems with its fuel reserves.

The airports said last week that their fuel supplies had dropped to less than three days' worth.

The shortages were caused by a sharp decline in the production of airplane kerosene as producers concentrate on winter diesel fuel, the Federal Air Transportation Agency said in a statement Friday.

"Last week about 5,000 tons of aviation fuel was offered on fuel exchanges, although the demand was about 270,000 tons. In general, the normal situation is 30,000 to 70,000 tons of aviation fuel weekly traded on the exchanges," an aircraft market source told Interfax late last week.

The Prosecutor General's Office has opened an investigation to determine whether fuel producers or suppliers broke the law, the agency said Monday in a statement on its web site.

Main suppliers of fuel to the airports include LUKoil-Aero, Gazpromneft-Aero, Rosneft and TNK-BP, the Federal Air Transportation Agency said.

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